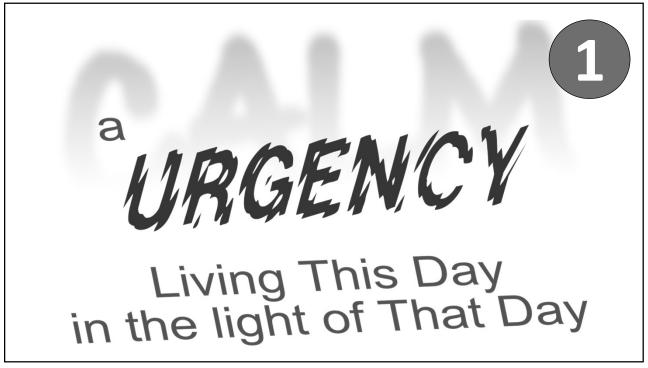
# INTRODUCTION DAY OF THE LORD



3

# Reasons we are HESITANT to study:

- 1. "I already saw the movie." (underestimating the variety of issues at hand)
- "This is the stuff cults like to key in on." (thinking it is dangerous to our spiritual health)
- 3. "There is so much disagreement, we'll just fight about it. (fearing that we shouldn't talk about "religion & politics")

Δ

# Reasons we are HESITANT to study:

- 4. "It doesn't matter, as long as I just believe." (post-modern thinking)
- 5. "It will all pan-out in the end anyway." (thinking that knowing won't make a difference)
- 6. "Let's focus on practical things instead." (disconnecting from the blessing of loving His appearing)

5

# **2 Timothy 4:8**

Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

## **Revelation 1:3**

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

**ESV** 

7

# Reasons we SHOULD study:

- 1. God has chosen to reveal much (but not all)
- 2. Our lives make more sense when we have a "big story" to be part of.

Q

Psalm 103:15-16

As for man,
his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower
of the field;
for the wind passes over it,
and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

**ESV** 

9

# Reasons we SHOULD study:

- 1. God has chosen to reveal much (but not all)
- Our lives make more sense when we have a "big story" to be part of.
- 3. We need to have a biblical urgency that "hastens Christ's coming."

# 2 Peter 3:11-13

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

**ESV** 

11

# 2 Peter 3:11-13 (continued)

But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

# Reasons we SHOULD study:

- God has chosen to reveal much (but not all)
- Our lives make more sense when we have a "big story" to be part of.
- 3. We need to have a biblical urgency that "hastens Christ's coming."
- 4. All of us need help overcoming the temptation of instant gratification.

13

# Reasons we SHOULD study:

5. In times of distress and persecution, we need a strong hope to hold on to.

# 1 Peter 1:13

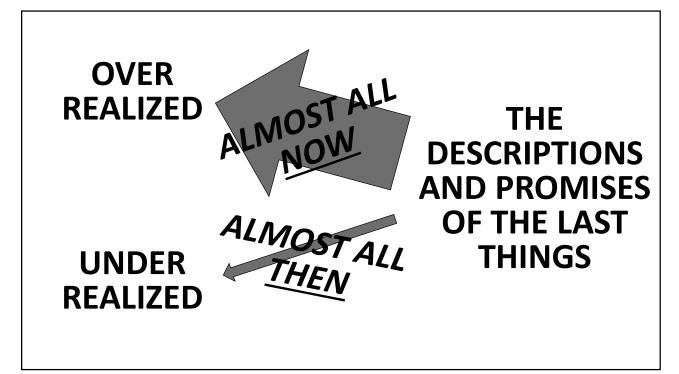
Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

**ESV** 

15

# Reasons we SHOULD study:

- 5. In times of distress and persecution, we need a strong hope to hold on to.
- 6. It is all too easy to slip into unbalanced thinking without realizing it. This impacts how we view the promises of God in the Bible.



17

# Eschatos + ology

last + the study of

# THE DAY OF THE LORD

19

# Joel 1:15

Alas for the day!
For the day of the LORD is near,
and as destruction from
the Almighty it comes.

Joel 2:1-2a

Blow a trumpet in Zion;
sound an alarm
on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants
of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD is coming;
it is near,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness!

**ESV** 

21

Joel 2:11c

For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome; who can endure it?

Joel 2:28-29

"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit."

**ESV** 

23

## Joel 2:30-32a

"And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

Joel 3:14

Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

**ESV** 

25

### **Amos 5:18**

Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,

# Isaiah 13:6

# Wail, for the day of the LORD is near; as destruction from the Almighty it will come!

**ESV** 

27

# Isaiah 13:9

Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it.

**Zephaniah 1:14-15** 

The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of
the day of the LORD is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.
A day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,

**ESV** 

29

# Jeremiah 46:10a

That day is the day of the LORD God of hosts, a day of vengeance, to avenge himself on his foes.

### **Ezekiel 13:3-6**

Thus says the LORD God, Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing! Your prophets have been like jackals among ruins, O Israel. You have not gone up into the breaches, or built up a wall for the house of Israel, that it might stand in battle in the day of the LORD. They have seen false visions and lying divinations. They say, 'Declares the LORD,' when the LORD has not sent them, and yet they expect him to fulfill their word.

31

### **Ezekiel 30:2-3**

"Son of man, prophesy, and say,
Thus says the LORD God:
'Wail, 'Alas for the day!'
For the day is near,
the day of the LORD is near;
it will be a day of clouds,
a time of doom for the nations."

### **Obadiah 15**

For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations.

As you have done, it shall be done to you; your deeds shall return on your own head.

**ESV** 

33

# Malachi 4:1-3

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings."

# Malachi 4:1-3 (continued)

"You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts."

**ESV** 

35

# Malachi 4:5-6

"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

### 2 Peter 3:10

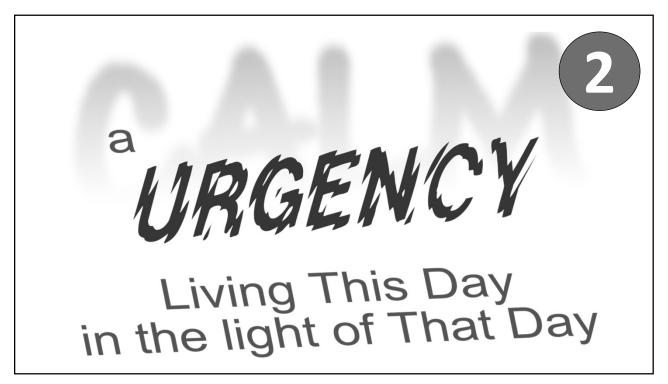
But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

**ESV** 

37

# THE DAY OF THE LORD "Fulfillment"

# PERSONAL ESCHATOLOGY



## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

**ESV** 

41

# Why do we have funerals?

Why do unbelievers die?

# Genesis 2:16-17

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

**ESV** 

43

# Why do we have funerals?

- Why do unbelievers die?
- Why do believers die if Jesus has won the victory?

# Why do we have funerals?

- Why do unbelievers die?
- Why do believers die if Jesus has won the victory?

Is there any hope at the funeral of an unbeliever?

[Sheol], [Hades], [Gehenna]

45

# **Matthew 25:30**

And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

# **Matthew 25:41**

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

**ESV** 

47

# Matthew 25:46

And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

# Mark 9:43

And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.

**ESV** 

49

## Mark 9:46-48

And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, 'where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.'

### Revelation 14:10-11

". . . he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night, these worshipers of the beast and its image, and whoever receives the mark of its name."

ESV

51

### **Revelation 20:10**

. . . and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

# Luke 16:26

"And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us."

**ESV** 

53

# Hebrews 9:27

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

# Why do we have funerals?

- Why do unbelievers die?
- Why do believers die if Jesus has won the victory?

Is there any hope at the funeral of an unbeliever?

- [Hades], [Gehenna]
- No 2<sup>nd</sup> chance, no universalism, no annihilation

55

# What is the hope at the funeral of a believer?

# Philippians 1:21-23

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.

**ESV** 

57



## 2 Corinthians 5:6-8

So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

**ESV** 

59



## Hebrews 12:22-23

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,

ESV

61

# 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

## 1 Thessalonians 4:15-16

For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

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63

# 1 Thessalonians 4:17-18

Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

# 1 Corinthians 15:20

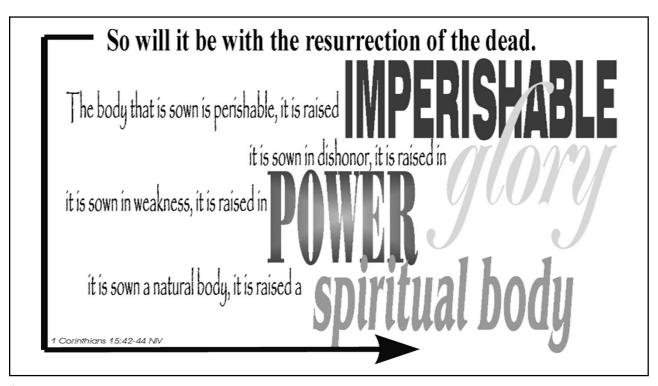
But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

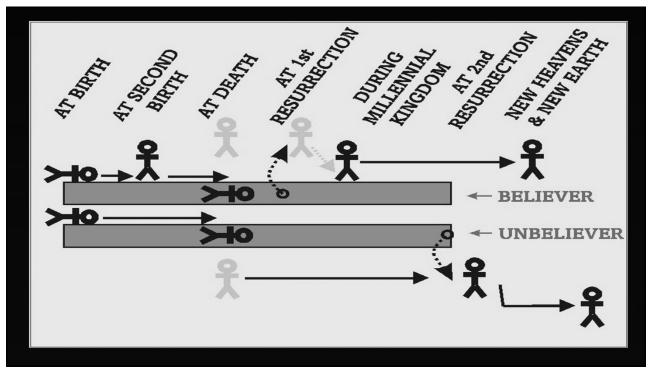
**ESV** 

65

# 1 Corinthians 15:42-44

So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.





## 1 Thessalonians 4:15-16

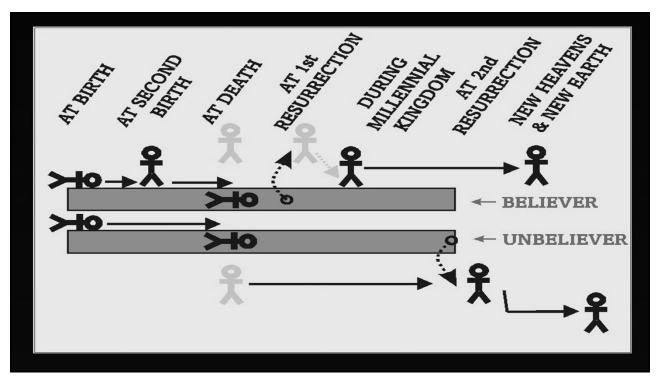
For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

ESV

69

### **Revelation 20:13**

And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.



71

# How shall we live with calm urgency?

URGENCY

Living This Day in the light of That Day

# CALM because of our hope at funeral of believer:

- God has a purpose and plan for the unveiling of our great salvation over time.
- Jesus will be with us through the end.
- When believers die, they are absent from the body and present with the Lord.
- Assurance based on Christ's resurrection that we will not just be "spirits" but whole people as God created us to be, with glorified resurrection bodies.

73

# How shall we live with calm urgency?



Living This Day in the light of That Day



