

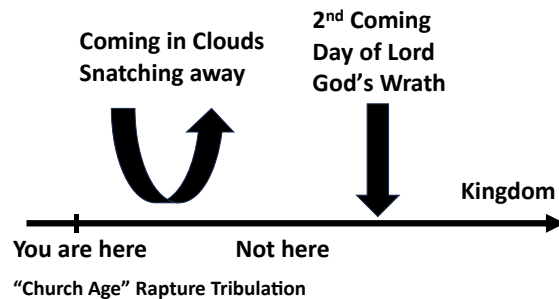
2 Thessalonians 3: Worthy of the Kingdom
“Am I Walking Worthy?”
January 21, 2024

Summary of future things in 1 & 2 Thessalonians

The “snatching away” of believers is the next thing to happen. *You didn't miss it.*

The day of the LORD happens after that, and you have been chosen for *deliverance from its wrath.*

Therefore, walk in a manner worthy/fitting of those who understand these things (*comforted, yet not asleep*). Just because Jesus might come back tomorrow, does not mean we can live like there is no tomorrow.



➤ **What was the problem in the church there?**

Some of them had quit working and supporting themselves because they were expecting Jesus to come get them any second. With all this extra time on their hands, they were busying themselves with other people's affairs.

“unruly” (v. 6) and “undisciplined” (v. 11) life

In defiance of good order; military term, not at one's post; music term, without rhythm

“doing no work at all” (v. 11)

“busybodies” (v. 11) *to pay attention to matters that do not concern one; undue curiosity*

➤ **What was the standard acceptable behavior?**

8 nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we kept working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you;

9 not because we do not have the right to this, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, so that you would follow our example.

Paul did not exercise his right to be supported in the ministry in order to show them how they should support themselves. See **1 Cor 9; Matt 10:10; Luke 10:7; 1 Tim 5:17,18**

➤ **How were they to handle it?**

Recognize that the offending ones are brothers in Christ, vv. 6,15

Keep aloof from them, v. 6,14

Take special note of them, v. 14

If not willing to work, then not to eat, v. 10 (NOT if *unable* to work)

Exhort them to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread, v. 12

Do not regard him as an enemy, v. 15

Admonish him as a brother, v. 15

➤ **Practical applications for us?**

Do we sometimes have an inclination to one or more of these attitudes?

“I don't have a savings account because I'm expecting Jesus to come back any day now.”

“Little things bother me that don't seem to bother anybody else.”

“I'm not planning for retirement because I'm not going to need it because I'll be raptured.”

“I'm not interested in my health because my body should make it till Jesus comes back.”

“I'm just hanging on till Jesus comes back and some days I don't think I'm going to make it.”

The worthy walk means not living in survival mode, but in thriving mode.