

Resource Notes From Our Talk On The Day of the Lord

A Definition:

The time when God intervenes again directly in history, primarily in judgement, to bring about the end of the world as we know it, in order to fully and finally establish His kingdom eternally.

Two Pitfalls to Avoid in This Discussion:

- Ignorance
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:13 “But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers”
- Obsession
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:1 “Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you.”

Calvary Chapel’s View: Pre-Tribulation, Rapture, Pre-millennial view

- Pre-Tribulation
 - This is with reference to a seven year period called the Great Tribulation. This will be a terrible time where God pours out his wrath and judgment on a world that has rejected Him and lives in rebellion against Him.
 - Matthew 24:21
 - Matthew 24:29
 - Revelation 3:10
 - Revelation 7:14
- Rapture
 - This is with reference to when the Lord comes to gather those who are alive and remain on the earth, in faith, waiting for Him. Because we are not destined for wrath (1 Thessalonians 5:9) the church will be “caught up” to be with the Lord and therefore will not have to endure the period of Great Tribulation.
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:17-18
 - 1 Corinthians 15:50-52
- Pre-millennial
 - This is the view that after the Tribulation there will be a 1,000 year period of peace and prosperity of the gospel where Satan is bound and believers reign with Jesus on the earth.
 - Isaiah 2:1-4
 - Revelation 20:1-10

Other Helpful Definitions and Bible Passages from the Conversation

- Eschatology – The study of end times
- 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2 “Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.” This Scripture is interesting because you can

see the coming of the Lord linked with our being gathered together to him and the distinction between this and “The day of the Lord” which was causing alarm.

- Acts 1:6 “So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”
 - This Scripture is worth noting because Jesus’ answers the burning question of His disciples before He leaves them at His ascension. He tells them that it is not for them to know the times or the seasons that are only known by the Father, but instead they are given a mission to be His witnesses throughout the earth.
 - This phrase “times and seasons” is exactly the phrase that Paul uses in 1 Thessalonians 5:1 when he encourages the believers to not get so caught up in trying to figure out the timeline, or to so easily get freaked out or misled by those who are saying it has already happened. Paul wants them instead to encourage one another with these words and continue in the mission.
- 2 Peter 3:4-10 “They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.” For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 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.”
- 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10

Other Resources for Deeper Study

- A free online chapter from Chuck Smith’s book Calvary Distinctives on the Rapture: https://www.img.sermonindex.net/modules/articles/article_pdf.php?aid=14977
- A fairly thorough resource on end times events organized around the resurrections that are mentioned in Scripture: https://www.blueletterbible.org/faq/don_stewart/don_stewart_138.cfm
- A free five teaching series by John F. Walvoord on the Rapture: <https://bible.org/series/rapture>
- A 2 hour Video of a round table discussion moderated by John Piper with Sam Storms, Douglas Wilson, and Jim Hamilton entitled “An Evening of Eschatology”. This is well worth your time to see a helpful, humble, charitable discussion among those who do

not agree but represent their interpretations respectively and respectfully.
<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/an-evening-of-eschatology>