

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

### **Intro ☞ Beautiful day ☞ Lord has made ☞ Pray to not take for granted where we live**

Good morning church! Not only is it a beautiful day but it is the day that the Lord has made. I just want to say that when we moved here 6 years ago, I prayed to God to never let me take where we live for granted. God has given us a beautiful land to dwell in and we can rejoice in the goodness of his creation.

### **Summary of 1 Thess. ☞ Next week Pastor Steve will close us out**

Well I want to catch us up briefly with the book of 1 Thessalonians. We are coming to an end here next week when Pastor Steve closes out the final section of 1 Thessalonians.

### **Young church ☞ Encouraging them ☞ Paul set up church 2-3 years prior ☞ retreated**

As you may know Paul is writing this letter to the young Thessalonian church to encourage them in their faith journey. It was but a couple of years prior that Paul established and set up the church in Thessalonica and then had to retreat, possibly to evade the persecution that may have been taking place by the pagan jews that lived in that community.

### **Paul longs to be with them ☞ Hindered by Satan ☞ Worried ☞ Paul's motives**

Paul is explaining to them in his letter that he longs to be with them again in person but is being hindered by Satan. Paul was worried that the pressures from the culture and community would convince them that Paul was only in it to gain fame, prestige or money and that they may abandon all that Paul has taught them and return to their former ways of living.

### **Sent Timothy ☞ Report ☞ Good report**

Paul sent his companion Timothy to get a report on how the church was doing. When Timothy returned, Paul was pleased to hear that the church was thriving. Though they were young and inexperienced believers, they clung to the teachings of Paul about the Gospel message.

### **Confusion about 2<sup>nd</sup> coming ☞ Paul assures that Christ will return in his timing**

Paul learns that there is confusion about the timing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ and so Paul corrects this matter with them through their letters. Paul also reassures them that Christ will indeed return for them in his timing.

### **Paul teaches how to live ☞ God's will is sanctify ☞ Flee from sexual immorality**

Paul also continues to teach them how a believer is to live. That God's will for their life is to be sanctified and that they should flee from all sexual immorality.

### **Good report on how they love one another ☞ Keep doing this more and more**

He also learns that they are doing a great job of loving one another and encourages the church to continue doing this.

### **We pick up in chapter 5 of 1 Thessalonians verses 1-11**

## 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

### 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, <sup>2</sup> for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

<sup>4</sup> But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup> You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. <sup>6</sup> So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. <sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>10</sup> He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. <sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

### If you recall back □ beginning of 1 Thes. □ concerned □ 2<sup>nd</sup> coming □ Perished

If you recall back in the beginning of 1 Thessalonians, the young church was concerned and even questioning the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ. People in the church congregation had misunderstood Christ's return as being within a timeframe that would take place before people perished from the earth.

### Paul corrected □ Christ would return □ Eternal salvation not earthly

Paul corrected the young church early in on this letter that Christ would indeed return, and His return would save them from an eternal death not necessarily an earthly death.

Pastor Steve set the table on the topic of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ and how those events will unfold.

### Bible clear □ Christ will return □ 1800+ OT & 1 of 30 NT references to 2<sup>nd</sup> coming

The Bible is clear that Christ will return. There are over 1,800 Old Testament references to Christ's second coming, where the New Testament speaks of Christ's second coming at a ratio of one out of every 30 verses.

### Many have disagreed □ Events leading to 2<sup>nd</sup> coming □ Not dividing □ loose grip

Many Christians have disagreed about what events will lead up to the return of Christ and this is one of those topics that isn't worth dividing over. As Pastor Steve discussed last week, this is a loose grip topic.

### Less disagreement after Christ returns

There has been less disagreement however over what will happen once Christ does return.

We read last week in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 that:

1. Christ will return visibly, with a loud command.
2. There will be an unmistakable cry from an angel.
3. There will be a trumpet fanfare such as has never been heard.
4. Believers in Christ who are dead will rise from their graves.
5. Believers who are alive will be caught up in the clouds to meet Christ.

### 1 Thessalonians 5:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, <sup>2</sup> for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

**Paul begins □ times and dates □ Church perplexed by delay □ Not when but that**

Paul begins by focusing in on times and dates. Because the Thessalonica church had already expected Christ to return, they were perplexed by the delay. Paul encourages them not to worry about when Christ will arrive but that he will arrive.

**Paul uses a couple of phrases in verse 2 for us to note.**

The first phrase is **"the day of the Lord."**

**This small 5 worded phrase holds a lot of additional information for us.**

**Many have people have predicted □ All of the many have been wrong**

Many people have speculated or predicted when the return of the Lord will be. And many people have gotten it wrong.

**Focus □ the day of the Lord □ 2 characteristics □ 1. Overthrow of God's enemies**

The focus here is on "the day of the Lord." This "day" has multiple characteristics as described in the Bible. It is associated with the ultimate overthrow of God's enemies.

**Isaiah 13:9-11**

<sup>9</sup> See, the day of the LORD is coming  
—a cruel day, with wrath and fierce anger—  
to make the land desolate  
and destroy the sinners within it.

<sup>10</sup> The stars of heaven and their constellations  
will not show their light.

The rising sun will be darkened  
and the moon will not give its light.

<sup>11</sup> I will punish the world for its evil,  
the wicked for their sins.

I will put an end to the arrogance of the haughty  
and will humble the pride of the ruthless.

**Zephaniah 1:14-18**

<sup>14</sup> The great day of the LORD is near—  
near and coming quickly.

The cry on the day of the LORD is bitter;  
the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry.

<sup>15</sup> That day will be a day of wrath—  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of trouble and ruin,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and blackness—

<sup>16</sup> a day of trumpet and battle cry

## 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

against the fortified cities

and against the corner towers.

<sup>17</sup>“I will bring such distress on all people that they will grope about like those who are blind, because they have sinned against the LORD.

Their blood will be poured out like dust and their entrails like dung.

<sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD’s wrath.”

In the fire of his jealousy the whole earth will be consumed, for he will make a sudden end of all who live on the earth.

### **This day □ Day of the Lord □ Salvation**

This “day” in “the day of the Lord,” will be a day of salvation as we read in 1 Thessalonians 5:9, but it will also be a day when God’s wrath puts extended pressure on his enemies. (Isaiah 3:16–24; Jeremiah 30:7; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 2:16)

### **Other phrases □ day of the Lord □**

There are other phrases used in scripture for the “day of the Lord.” The New Testament refers to these days as a day of “wrath,” day of “visitation,” and “the great day of the Lord Almighty.”

### **Terrifying judgements from God for sinfulness of world □ Falls in two parts**

These are terrifying judgements from God for the overwhelming sinfulness of the world. The future “day of the Lord” that unleashes God’s wrath falls into two parts:

1. The seven-year tribulation period (Revelation 19:11–21)
  - i. Tribulation – A period of great suffering
2. The 1,000-year millennium

### **End of events □ 1,000 years apart □ Peter refers to end of 1,000 □ Final DOTL**

The end of these two events are 1,000 years apart and Peter refers to the end of the 1,000-year period in connection with the final “day of the Lord” (2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 20:7–15).

It is here that Paul refers to that aspect of the “day of the Lord,” which concludes the tribulation period.

The last part of 1 Thessalonians 5:2 speaks of the phrase, “a thief in the night.”

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

### **This phrase not meant for rapture □ Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of judgement**

This phrase is never meant to refer to the rapture of the church, but of Christ's coming in judgment on the day of the Lord.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> coming □ swift & sudden □ No opportunity for last minute bargaining**

Christ's second coming will be swift and sudden. There will be no opportunity for last-minute repentance or bargaining. The choice we have already made will determine our eternal destiny.

### **As a parent □ Ultimatum □ If you don't by the time I get to 1 □ 3-2-1 □**

As a parent we are always looking for new tools to inform our kids on the seriousness of our requests. Often we give ultimatum...if you don't by the time I get to 1 then you will be disciplined. 3-2-1... "Okay fine I'll obey" The countdown of Lord is taking place right now, we don't know when it will hit zero and we won't have a chance to bargain when the time is up.

Matthew 24:42-44

<sup>42</sup> "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

### **Intruder illustration breaking into our MV house**

When I was in middle school, we lived in Maple Valley on the westside. One night our whole house was awoken by a loud thud followed by our golden retriever going ballistic over the sudden sound.

What we discovered was a thief who had broken into our house through the window over the kitchen sink. The thief jumped to the ground, snatched my mom's purse and fled out the front door with our dog on his tail. I will never forget running out to the living room, arriving at the same time as my parents and seeing the door still swinging closed after being flung open and rebounding off the wall of the house by the exit of the thief. I remember feeling the wet footprints from the intruder with my bare feet. The break in was swift and sudden.

### **Experience can cause me to imagine □ swift & sudden return of the Lord**

That experience can only cause me to imagine the swift and sudden return of the Lord like a thief in the night. Instant chaos will ensue.

Matthew 24:19-27

<sup>19</sup> How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! <sup>20</sup> Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. <sup>21</sup> For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

### The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

<sup>22</sup> "If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. <sup>23</sup> At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. <sup>24</sup> For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. <sup>25</sup> See, I have told you ahead of time.

<sup>26</sup> "So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the wilderness,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. <sup>27</sup> For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

**DOTL □ Future event □ God intervenes in world affairs □ Predicted in OT □**

The "day of the Lord" is a future time when God will intervene directly and dramatically in world affairs. Predicted and discussed often in the Old Testament (Isaiah 13:6-12; Joel 2:28-32; Zephaniah 1:14-18), the day of the Lord will include both punishment and blessing. Christ will judge sin and set up his eternal kingdom.

1 Thessalonians 5:3

<sup>3</sup> While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

**Other translations □ Peace and security □ False prophets □ bright future**

Other translations use the term peace and security. Just like the false prophets of old deceptively forecast a bright future, despite the imminence of God's judgement, so people will do this again in future days just before the final day of the Lord's destruction.

**2<sup>nd</sup> coming □ terrible for ungodly □ Destruction will overtake □ happy/pleasure**

Christ's coming will be terrible to the ungodly. Their destruction will overtake them while they dream of happiness and please themselves with vain amusements.

Jeremiah 14:13-14

<sup>13</sup> But I said, "Alas, Sovereign LORD! The prophets keep telling them, 'You will not see the sword or suffer famine. Indeed, I will give you lasting peace in this place.'"

<sup>14</sup> Then the LORD said to me, "The prophets are prophesying lies in my name. I have not sent them or appointed them or spoken to them. They are prophesying to you false visions, divinations, idolatries and the delusions of their own minds.

There will be no means to escape the terror or the punishment of that day.

**Happy to righteous □ children of the light**

That day will also be a happy day to the righteous, however. They are not in darkness; they are the children of the light.

**Scripture is clear □ No one knows the Lord's return □ suddenly □ Pose questions**

The scriptures are clear that no one knows when the Lord will return and that even believers will be surprised. The Lord will return suddenly and unexpectedly. These first three verses in this section pose the questions:

1. Are you ready if the Lord were to return today?
2. If the Lord were to return today, how would He find you living?

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

3. If you were honest with yourself, and the Lord was to return today, would you be hesitant and nervous or are you ready?

4. How would your life change if you were to live each day like it were your last?

1 Thessalonians 5:4-5

<sup>4</sup> But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup> You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.

Children of light are those who belong to God and receive his salvation.

John 12:35-36

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. <sup>36</sup> Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light." When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

**Jesus refers to self as the light** □ **During ministry on earth** □ **Predicting death**

In this section of John, Jesus is referring to himself as the light. This is while he was doing his ministry on earth and is predicting his earthly death that is coming soon.

**Paul encouraging church** □ **Be ready** □ **Not Children of dark** □ **Children of light**

Paul is now encouraging the Thessalonian church to be ready for the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ but not as children of darkness but as 'Children of the Light'.

1 Thessalonians 5:6

<sup>6</sup> So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober.

**Begins with 'so then'** □ **Application of what was just taught**

This verse begins with the words, 'so then.' This tells us that we now need to apply whatever is to come following the teaching that preceded it.

**Paul exhorts church** □ **don't be like sleeping believers**

In this case, Paul encourages the Thessalonian church to not be like believers who are asleep to the coming day of judgement.

**Impossible to catch Christians unprepared** □ **Possible to adopt lifestyle of unaware**

While it is impossible for the day of the Lord to catch Christians unprepared, it is possible for them to adopt the same lifestyle as those who will be caught unaware.

The Bible tells us in...

Colossians 3:1-4

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

<sup>1</sup> Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

It is hard for Americans today to think about heaven. We get too earthbound.

**Other cultures/times □ not the case □ So much to distract us today**

In other cultures or other periods of times this isn't necessarily the case. We have so much to distract us from heaven.

**Mud hut □ Africa □ Christian □ Long for 2<sup>nd</sup> coming □ pains of life**

If you live in a mud hut in Africa somewhere and you become a Christian, you are going to long for the coming of Christ because you are experiencing the pains of life on a regular basis.

**Today □ heaven not as good of option as Disneyland □ Thrill to thrill □ high to high**

For us today in our modern culture, heaven doesn't even seem as good of an option as Disneyland. We are so use to running from one thrill or one high to another.

**Pains of life leveled out □ Medical advancements numb pain □ Death is hidden**

The pains of life have leveled out with all of the modern medical advancements we have numbed the pains of life. Even facing death has been hidden from us in many ways today.

This makes it easy for us to forget about heaven and become earthbound.

This is important for us as believers to think about and reflect upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ.

Am I living a lifestyle that is prepared for the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ?

Or

Am I living amongst unbelievers and blending right in with them?

**My life communicate □ value of life in Christ □ Popular accessory? Remove when challenged?**

Does my life communicate to unbelievers the importance and value of a life in Christ or have I made my savior an accessory to my life to flaunt when it is popular but remove when I am persecuted or challenged?

Paul suggests in the latter part of verse 6 that we should be awake and sober.

**Awake & aware □ world around us □ return of our Lord □ any day**

Are we awake and aware to the evil in the world around us and the immanent return of our Lord that could happen at any moment?



1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
The Day of the Lord  
March 17, 2024  
Sermon - 7

**Sober minded? ☐ Numb the world around us?**

Are we sober minded, or do we numb the world around us with anyone or anything that will distract us from the Lord?

**Think of sober ☐ alcohol ☐ Other distractions ☐ devices? Status? Careers? Families? ☐ ahead of Christ?**

Typically, when we think of the word sober, we link that to alcohol. But what other things do we latch onto to distract us from our obedience to the Lord. Could it be our electronic devices, our social status, our careers or even our families that we put ahead of Christ?

**There is a cost that is associated with being a follower of Jesus.**

**Luke 14:25-27**

<sup>25</sup> Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: <sup>26</sup> “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

**1 Thessalonians 5:7-8**

<sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

**Thess ☐ overly watchful ☐ neglected other responsibilities ☐ Not to cease watch**

Though the Thessalonians were, if anything, overly watchful to the point of neglecting other Christian responsibilities as we saw in Paul’s letter earlier in chapter 4:11-12, they were not to cease watching altogether.

**Self-controlled ☐ problem for church ☐ Panic with Parousia ☐ Spiritual sobriety**

Being “self-controlled” was a problem to the church of Thessalonica. To counteract what might become a state of wild alarm or panic, Paul urges self-control as a balance for impulses arising from distorted views in the Parousia another term of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ. Undue eschatological or end times was a serious problem; spiritual sobriety was the cure.

**Pastor Steve ☐ Past predictors of 2<sup>nd</sup> coming ☐ Remembering Y2K**

Pastor Steve talked of several of the past predictors of Christ’s return or Armageddon. Many of us might also remember the Y2K stir that took place 24 years ago.

**Illustration ☐ Y2K senior project ☐ viewpoints**

In fact, I was even interested at the time in all the hype, more from a curiosity standpoint. My senior year of high school took place in 1999 and I thought it would be fun to delve into the Y2K topic as it was being hyped up at the time to present the viewpoints of what could happen when the clock struck midnight on turn of the millennium.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

**Intrigued by pandemonium**

I was honestly intrigued by the mild pandemonium that was already being reported on midway through the final year of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**September 9<sup>th</sup>, 1999 claims ☐ Teacher flight**

I remember claims that the international code for the modern day computer chips to shut down was 9-9-9-9. So the worry was that on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 1999 planes would fall out of the air, business would shut down, cars would stop working and the appetizer to the downward spiral would begin 3 months early. I remember telling this to my English teacher and she had a flight booked on September 9<sup>th</sup> of that year and was considering a flight change.

**Delivery truck driver ☐ mom's work ☐ Could still be down there**

My mom had a delivery truck driver who had been building a bunker in the hills somewhere that he was going to move into after resigning from his job that August.

**Doesn't take much ☐ Pandemonium ☐ Paul wanted to prevent ☐ Spiritually sober**

It doesn't take much for pandemonium and chaos to set in. Paul was trying to prevent this in his letter to the church by warning them to be awake and sober minded but to be self-controlled and not panic.

**Paul ☐ Compare and contrast ☐ DOTL ☐ unbelievers ☐ believers**

We can see here; the Apostle Paul compare and contrast the Day of the Lord between the unbelieving world and the believing church:

<b>The Unbelievers - The World</b>	<b>The Believers - The Church</b>
Asleep	Awake
Deceived	Aware
The unbelievers have a false sense of security	Acute sense of urgency
Jesus comes as a thief	Jesus comes as the savior
In the Darkness	In the Light
Children of the night	Children of day
Drunk	Sober
Naked and defenseless	Clothed and protected
Destroyed with God's wrath	Covered in God's grace

**Paul exhorts church ☐ sober minded ☐ Faith & love = breastplate ☐ Hope = helmet of salvation**

Paul encourages the church to be sober by putting on faith and love as a breastplate and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

**Paul circles ☐ ingredients ☐ 1:3 ☐ Faith, love, hope**

Paul circles back to the ingredients at the beginning of his letter where he introduces the concept of faith, love and hope.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

1 Thessalonians 1:3

<sup>3</sup>We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Paul □ Christian life in military terms □ alertness □ proper equipping □ vital organs**

Paul pictured the Christian life in military terms as being a life of soberness or alertness and proper equipping. The breastplate covers the vital organs of the body.

**Faith □ protection against temptations □ trust in God's promised plan/truth □**

Faith is an essential protection against temptations, because it is trust in God's promised plan, and truth. It is unwavering belief in **God's word that protects us from temptation's arrows.**

**It is unbelief that characterizes all sin. When believers sin, they have believed Satan's lie.**

**Love for God is essential, as perfect love for him yields perfect obedience to him.**

**Other places in scripture □ breastplate, shield, helmet □ represents righteousness**

Other locations in scripture, the warrior's breastplate, the soldier's shield and the helmet has been used to represent righteousness.

Isaiah 59:15b-17

The LORD looked and was displeased  
that there was no justice.

<sup>16</sup>He saw that there was no one,  
he was appalled that there was no one to intervene;  
so his own arm achieved salvation for him,  
and his own righteousness sustained him.

<sup>17</sup>He put on righteousness as his breastplate,  
and the helmet of salvation on his head;  
he put on the garments of vengeance  
and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak.

Ephesians 6:10-17

<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup>Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup>Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup>and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

**Our future salvation is guaranteed, nothing can take it away.**

Romans 13:11

<sup>11</sup>And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10

<sup>9</sup>For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>10</sup>He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.

**Same wrath ☐ 1:10 ☐ refers to God's eternal wrath ☐ Not temporal wrath ☐ Trib**

This is the same wrath referred to in chapter 1:10. In this context, it appears obvious that this wrath refers to God's eternal wrath, not his temporal wrath during the tribulation period.

Romans 5:9

<sup>9</sup>Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

2 Thessalonians 2:13

<sup>13</sup>But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

**WORSHIP TEAM BACK UP**

1 Thessalonians 5:11

<sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

**End of long race ☐ Legs, throat, body ☐ aches/stop ☐ friends/fans/exhortation**

As you near the end of a long race, your legs ache, your throat burns and your whole body cries out for you to stop. This is when friends and fans are most valuable.

**Encouragement ☐ finish line ☐ Believers are to exhort one another**

Their encouragement whelps you push through the pain to the finish line. In the same way, Christians are to encourage one another.

**Encouragement ☐ Right time ☐ Finishing and collapsing ☐ Observe ☐ supportive ☐ Words or actions**

A word of encouragement offered at the right moment can be the difference between finishing well and collapsing along the way. Look around you. Be sensitive to others' need for encouragement, and offer supportive words or actions.

**What to conclude from section?**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

So, what is it that we can conclude from our section in Paul's letter here today? What encouragement can we glean from the great Apostle Paul.

1. Christ will return.
2. We are in a period where this could be any day.
3. For the unbeliever the day of the Lord will be dreadful but for the believer a wonderful rejoicing
4. We need to be awake and alert to what is going on around us!
5. We need to be watchful, sober-minded and self-controlled!
6. We need to have on our armor as we will face all sorts of deception, and perversions of the word as the Day of the Lord draws near.

**First time ☐ Not a threat ☐ A promise ☐ His word is true and can be trusted**

If you are hearing this message this morning for the first time, I assure you that the words of the Lord found in scripture are not a threat, they are a promise. His word is true, and it can be trusted.

**Belief about death ☐ End of us ☐ Heaven for all ☐ OT have stood test of time**

Many people foolishly believe that when we die our bodies go into the ground and that is the end of us. Some believe that everyone will experience heaven no matter what our belief is. The prophetic words of scripture in the Old Testament have stood the test of time about who Jesus is, when he would be born, how he would die, that he would be resurrected and many more.

**DOTL will ring prove just as true**

The truth of what the scriptures say about Day of the Lord will ring just as true.

**Are you ready for when this day comes?**

**If not, you can be this morning!**

**God's directive for salvation**

God asks you to simply believe in your heart and confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and Savior. The Bible says that if you do this, the Lord promises to save.

**Sanctification moving forward ☐ Holy Spirit ☐ Redemption to death**

From this point on the Holy Spirit will begin to sanctify your life. A process begins in which you will want to serve and obey the Lord in the way that you live your life. This takes place until you pass from this world and are made perfect in Christ Jesus.

**Lets Pray!**

Home Group Questions:

1. Are you ready if the Lord were to return today?
2. If the Lord were to return today, how would He find you living?

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

March 17, 2024

Sermon - 7

3. If you were honest with yourself, and the Lord was to return today, would you be hesitant and nervous or are you ready?
4. How would your life change if you were to live each day like it were your last?
5. Does the topic of 'end times' scare you or comfort you? Why?
6. In what ways has the Holy Spirit sanctified you or maybe is still sanctifying you in former worldly ways of living? How difficult was it/has it been for you to live this area of your life differently?