

Short New Testament Letters From God: If Tomorrow Never Comes - Am I Ready?

February 5, 2023

A.M. Sermon Notes

“Short New Testament Letters From God: If Tomorrow Never Comes - Am I Ready?”
(1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

Introduction

Our 2023 Bible studies will spring from “Short New Testament Letters.” Every Sunday, we will study and apply God’s Word. So our fourth Bible study in this series, “If Tomorrow Never Comes,” comes from the Short New Testament letter of 1 Thessalonians... Today we will be in 1 Thessalonians, chapter 5, verses 1-11.

Study God’s Word

- A. Jesus is coming back (1-2)
- B. We don’t know when (2-3)
- C. The unsaved will be caught off-guard (3; 7)
- D. Christ-followers should expect it (4-6)

Apply God’s Word

1. Put on the breastplate and helmet (8)
2. Receive salvation through Jesus (9)
3. Encourage one another (11)

4. Build each other up (11)

Conclusion

Jesus will one day return to earth. When he does, there will be those who are following him, and those who are not. When he comes back, those who know him, will spend eternity in heaven with him. Those who do not will be eternally separated from Him. And when Jesus comes back, if you have not already put your belief and trust in Him, you won't have time to make that decision at that point. It will be too late. So I beg you to ask yourself this question right now, "If tomorrow never comes, am I ready?"

Applying Today's Sermon to Your Life

1. Our 2023 Bible studies focus on Short New Testament Letters from God (Galatians-Philemon, James, 1/2 Peter, 1/2/3 John, Jude and Jesus' letters in Revelation 2-3). Our Verse-of-the-Week for the next 5 weeks is James 4:14-15, Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." How can these verses help free us from worrying?
2. Do you believe that Jesus will return to the earth one day? Why or why not? Are you concerned when that will happen? Should you be?
3. We learned from our Bible study that those who are unsaved will be caught off-guard when Jesus returns. Will you be caught off-guard? What could you do today to change that?
4. As Christ-followers, how should we live in light of the fact that Jesus will be returning at some point?
5. The breastplate and helmet are meant for protection in battle. What does it mean to put on the breastplate and helmet as Christians?
6. What are you doing to encourage and build other Christians up? Who specifically could you encourage and build up this week?

VERSE OF THE WEEK: 14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. 15 Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that. - NIV 1984