

1 Thessalonians: Holiness & Hope in a Hostile World

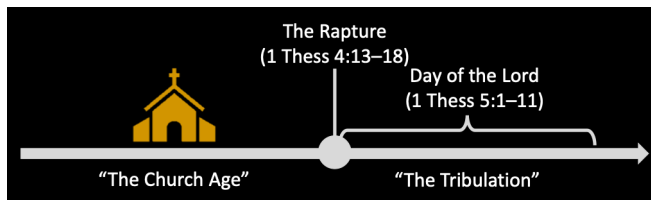
Lesson Seventeen • 1 Thessalonians 5:4-11 Daytime People in a Nighttime World

Are You Ready for the Lord's Return?

Don't live in your PAJAMAS! Live as daytime people in a nighttime world.

Since we don't know *when* Jesus will return but *that* He will return suddenly, we are to live in a state of readiness for His return.

But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.
1 Thessalonians 5:4-6



How to Live as Daytime People in a Nighttime World

1. Remember Your IDENTITY in Christ!

Your Identity in Christ

You are no longer in darkness of sin but are children of LIGHT (v. 4-5).

Don't Live in Your Pajamas! Why It Matters

We should live with HOPE not FEAR since the Day of the Lord will not come upon us with surprise like a thief in the night (v. 4).

2. Recognize Your DUTY in Christ!

Your Duty in Christ

- Stay AWAKE in a nighttime world (v. 6).
- Stay SOBER in a nighttime world (v. 7-8).
- Stay ARMED in a nighttime world (v. 8-11).

Don't Live in Your Pajamas! Why It Matters

Living in a state of READINESS for the Lord's return enables us to guard against spiritual apathy and vulnerability.

Takeaway

Encourage and BUILD UP one another with the certainty of Christ's coming and salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11

COMMUNION

Remembering Jesus' Death, Resurrection and Return

Followers of Jesus Christ (those who trust Christ for salvation, identify with Christ in baptism, and commit to Christ's body in membership of a local church of like faith and practice) are invited to participate in Communion located at the four tables in the auditorium. **After you take the bread and cup back to your seat, PLEASE WAIT so we may eat and drink together.** The bread and juice represent the body and blood of Jesus when He died on the Cross and reminds us who our Lord is, what He has done for us, is doing for us, and will yet do for us when He returns. Come, Lord Jesus, come!