

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Final

The Day of the Lord

During Paul's brief stay he taught them the church about the return of Christ and coming day of judgment. As the intense persecution increased Paul had to leave, yet in the relenting face of persecution some confusion set in because of his absence.

They had 3 basic questions:

1. What happens to Christians who die before the return of Jesus?
2. Was it possible that they had missed the Lord's return and were now living in the Day of the Lord?
3. What would be the signs indicating that the end of the age had come?

He answered question (1) in 4:13-18 and he will answer (3) in 2 Thessalonians. Question #2 is answered in 5:1-11 and that is where we will be today.

*1 Thess. 5:1-11ESV Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that **the day of the Lord** will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then **sudden destruction** will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us **keep awake and be sober**. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, **let us be sober**, having put on the breastplate of **faith and love**, and for a **helmet the hope of salvation**. 9 For God has **not destined us for wrath**, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. 11 **Therefore encourage one another and build one another up**, just as you are doing.*

Know what you need to know.

*5:1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have **no need** to have anything written to you.*

The Day of the Lord is a significant event, encompassing a period of time rather than just a single day, during which God's will and original purpose for His creation will be fulfilled. It is a time when God's judgment will be carried out, and His wrath will be poured out on those who have chosen to turn away from His Son. This period will also bring about a cleansing of the existing heavens and earth, paving the way for a new and glorious habitation of the redeemed saints living eternally under the righteous rule of Christ Jesus.

Verses 2 & 3 seem so appropriate for the unbelieving world today: *2 "... the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night (never a good) 3 While people are saying, "**There is peace and security**," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.*

John 3:18,19 NCV People who believe in God's Son are not judged guilty. Those who do not believe **have already been judged guilty**, because they have **not believed** in God's one and only Son. **19 They are judged by this fact: The Light has come** into the world, but they did not want light. They wanted darkness, because they were doing evil things.

4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.

*9 For **God has not destined us for wrath**, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.*

Mt. 24:36 ESV “But concerning that day and hour **no one knows**, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.

Acts 1:7 ESV “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 to be my witnesses everywhere... even unto the ends of the earth.

Peter addresses this powerfully:

2 Peter 3:1-4 ESV “... I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should **remember the predictions** of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, **3** knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. **4** 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.”

v. 8-13 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. **9** 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. **10 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. **11** Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, **what sort of people ought you to be in living in holiness and godliness,** **12** waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! **13 But according to his promise** we are waiting for **new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.**

Live how you were called to live.

6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

2 Thess. 2:1-3a ESV Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, **2 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. **3** Let no one deceive you in any way.

Love the way you were taught to love.

v. 8b“... put on the breastplate of faith and **love**, and for a helmet the hope of salvation...

v.11 **Therefore encourage one another and build one another up,** just as you are doing.