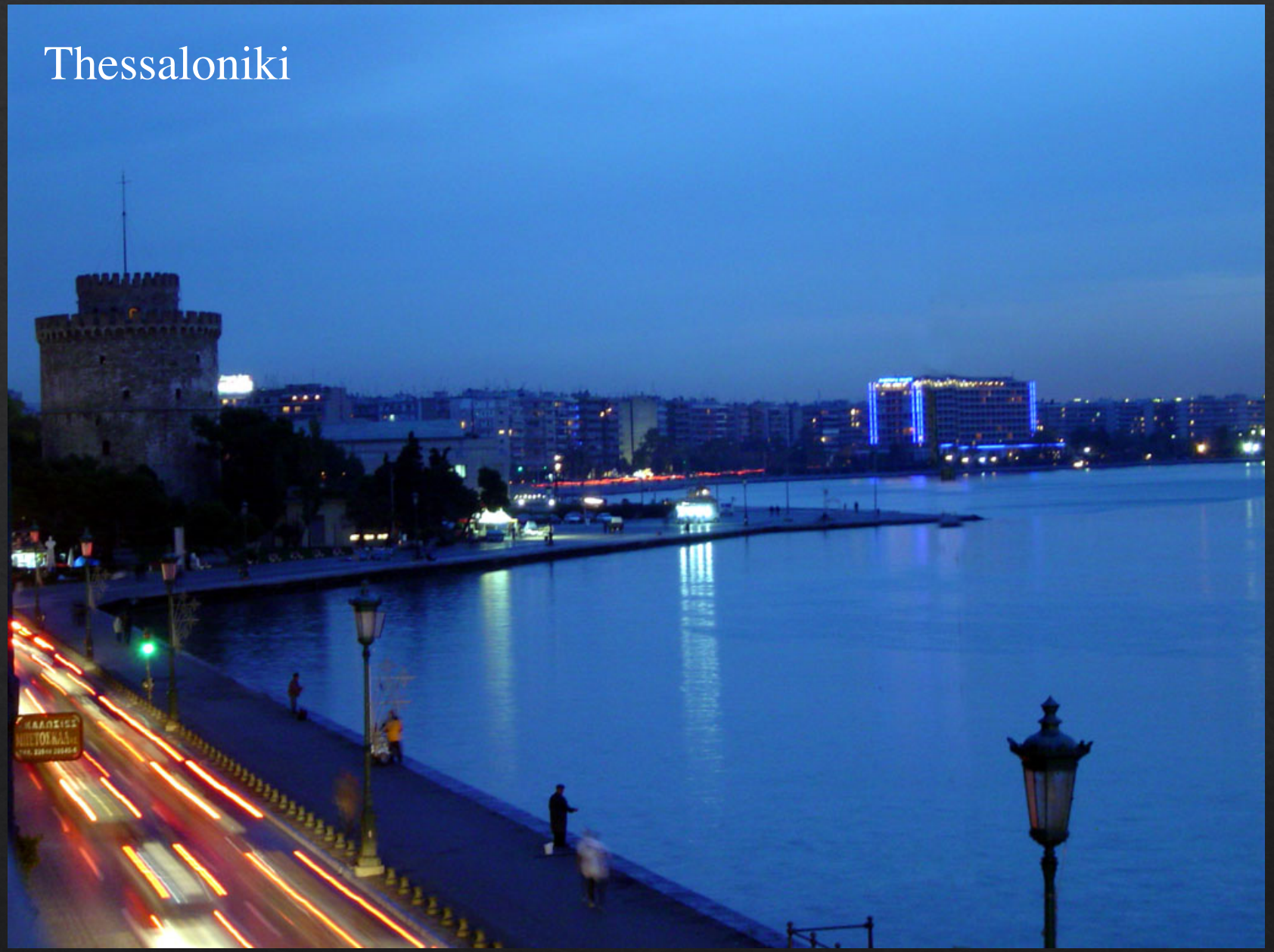
1 Thessalonians

Jesus is coming, so excel still more!

Bible Survey VI
University of ACTS
2/2/25

Thessaloniki




Thessaloniki Population
2021 census
• Municipality 319,045
AD 50
• 200,000 people


Adriatic Sea
Sea
Claudiana
Masio Scampa
Lychnidos
Heraclea Lyncestis
Traianoupolis
Adrianople
Caenophrurium
Dyrrachium
Philippi
Melantias
Kypsela
Byzantium
Edessa
Neapolis
Aproi
Rhegion
Brindisi
Apollonia
Florina
Amphipolis
Perinthus
Pella
Aenus
Thessaloniki
Pydna
Aegean
Sea
Ionian Sea
VIA EGNATIA
Via Egnatia
Via Appia
secondary course
or connected roads
sea route
100
200
300 km
50
100
150
200 mi

Purpose / Theme

- Purpose
  - To praise them for their steadfastness under persecution
  - To instruct them concerning holy living
  - To correct any misunderstanding, especially about the second coming of Christ
- Themes:
  - Each chapter ends with reference to second coming of Christ.
  - Emphasis on Faith, Hope, Love 1:3, 5:8
  - Possible Theme Title: “Jesus is coming, so excel still more!”
- Key Verses:

  …and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you; so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints. 1 Thes. 3:12-13

Jesus is coming, so excel still more!

- Commendation (Ch 1)
- Reflection of Paul's ministry to them (Ch 2)
- Timothy's Report (Ch 3)
- Practical Instruction to "Excel Still More" (Ch 4)
- Dead in Christ (Ch 4)
- Day of the Lord (Ch 5)
- Practical Admonitions (Ch 5)

Work of faith
labor of love, and
steadfastness of hope 1:3
Imitators 1:6, 2:14
"Received the word" under less than ideal circumstances 1:6

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- Learn about the opposition that faced Paul "… amid much opposition" v2
- No flattering speech v5
- No glory seeking v6
- Came with a genuine heart of gentleness (mother, children, brother, father) v7-11
- Received the word of God for what it was v13
- Endured sufferings at the hands of own countrymen v14

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- Timothy, who is known as "… brother and God's fellow worker"
- Sent to: Strengthen and encourage FAITH
- He reports good news of their FAITH and LOVE
- What kind of review would we get?
- What kind of evidence do you suppose Timothy was looking for?

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Commandments!

- Abstain from sexual immorality
- No defrauding (to take away or withhold money, rights, property, cheat, swindle)
- Sanctification (3x)
- Excel still more (2x)
- Triad: Lead a quite life, attend to your own business, work with your hands (4:11)

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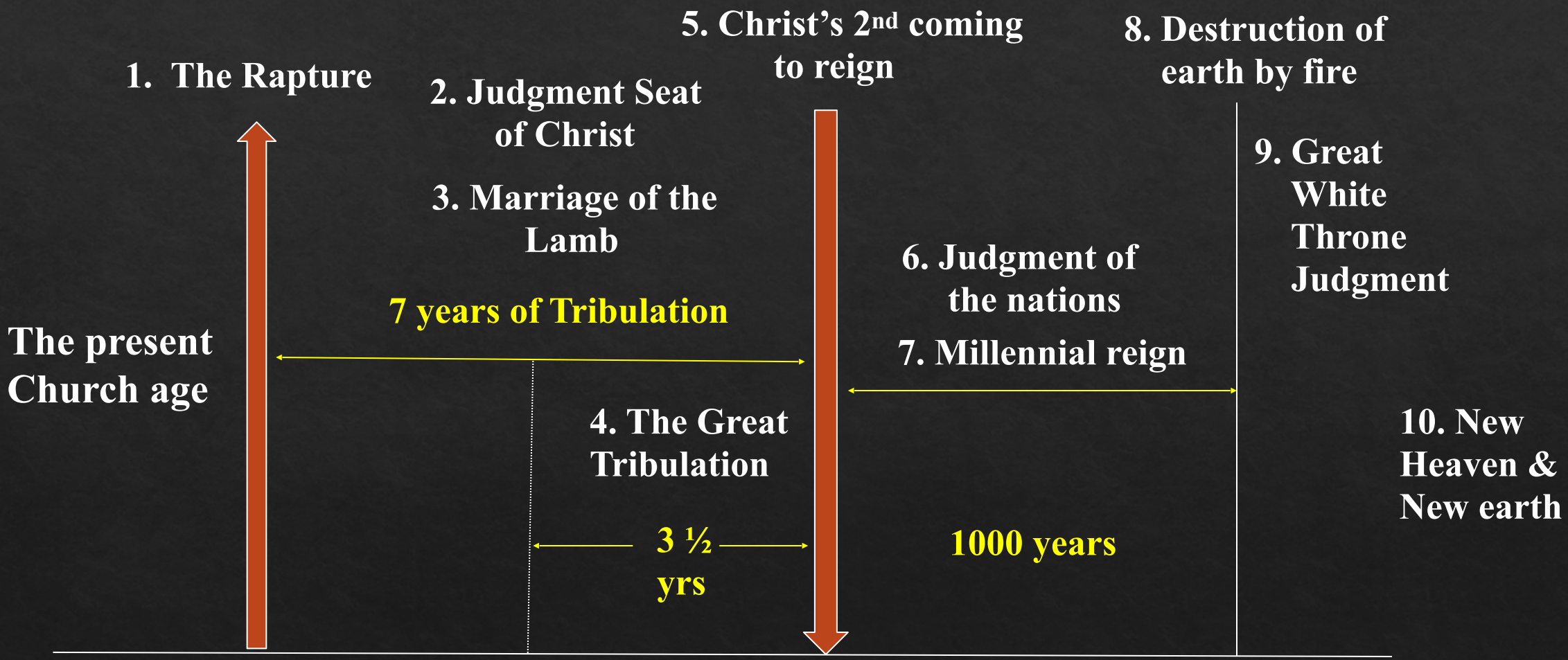
Rapture:
1Th 4:17 Then we who are alive and remain will be **caught up** together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.
*Sleep (v13, 14, 15)
*Not grief as the rest w/out hope
*Dead rise first
*We (v17) eminent expectation
*Caught up – in clouds (not earth)
*Forever with the Lord

End Time Events



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Day of the Lord:

- After Rapture
- Times and seasons v1
- Like a thief in the night
- "But you… alert, sober…"
- Christian armor
- Not destined for wrath v9
- Encourage one another!

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Appreciate those who labor
Live in peace
Admonish, encourage, help, be patient, rejoice, pray, give thanks…

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