

WALKING OUT HIS WORD EACH DAY

The I Thessalonians Series #14

May 13th, 2018

TEXT: I Thessalonians 5:1-11

CONSIDER THIS: What do you know about what the Bible calls “**The Day of the Lord**”? The six most important dates in history are: 1. The creation of man (Genesis 1:26-27) ... 2. The fall of man (Genesis 3:1-19) ... 3. The virgin birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-15) ... 4. The death of Jesus (John 19:30) ... 5. The resurrection of Christ (Matthew 28:1-10) ... AND ... 6. The Day of the Lord. Christian, of all the greatest days just mentioned, it is #6, the Day of the Lord, which you will see personally. Amazing, but how much do you actually know about it? As we study I Thessalonians 5:1-11, we will see that understanding the Day of the Lord inspires and helps us to be **WALKING OUT HIS WORD EACH DAY**.

GOD’S WORD TEACHES US ...

I A DIFFERENT FOCUS (Verses 1-2)

- A) I Thessalonians 4:13-18 explains that imminent moment in time when Christ, in fulfillment of John 14:1-3, calls the church, (His Bride) to be “caught up” (verse 17, the word for “rapture” to be with Him in Heaven.
- B) In I Thessalonians 5:1 Paul uses the Greek term *peri de* (now about, now as to) which clearly indicates a transition to a new topic, **the Day of the Lord**.
- C) The new topic is **not** times and dates, for Scripture makes it clear that this information is off-limits to us (Matthew 24:36; Acts 1:6-7). Paul had taught the Thessalonians about the Day of the Lord in person when he had been with them (Acts 17:1-4).

Paul’s teaching in this letter about both the rapture of the church (4:13-18) and the Day of the Lord (5:1-11) probably was in response to their questions passed onto Paul by Timothy, who had recently visited Thessalonica and reported back to Paul in Corinth (I Thessalonians 3:2, 6).

II THE DAY OF THE LORD

- A) The **Day of the Lord** is directly mentioned 19 times in the Old Testament and 4 times in the New Testament. Many other verses refer to it indirectly.

The “Day of the Lord” gives expression to the glorious truth that God is the Sovereign Ruler of the universe and He presides over the destinies of people and nations. He has and will act directly in human history for the purpose of judging wickedness and destroying His enemies. On that day He will be triumphant and in all ways He will be vindicated and His people will be delivered from all danger and harm.

- B) The Jews looked forward to the Day, yet in this they, at times, deserved the rebuke of Amos 5:18-24.
- C) Think of “day” in Genesis 1:4-5. It included darkness and light. So with the Day of the Lord. It is a day of awesome judgment poured out in wrath by the Righteous Judge.

Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains.

They called to the mountains and the rocks. “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him Who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!

For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?

Revelation 6:15-17

- D) It is also a day of deliverance for God’s people and the catalyst for boundless blessing. It is a day when darkness and light stand in contrast (I Thessalonians 5:4-11).

NOTE: We will examine the events of this period in greater detail in our next study.

III A HEART CHECK FOR US!

- A) See I Thessalonians 5:2-3. Amazingly, as the 7 year tribulation nears the end and people have experienced the Anti-Christ, unprecedented natural disasters and many supernatural events, they will be caught unaware of what is about to happen. See also Matthew 24:36-39.

HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

- B) The period of the tribulation will be characterized by a spirit of false teaching, false prophecy and willing self-deception exponentially greater than anything we have seen before.
1. “Peace and safety”. I Thessalonians 5:3 reflects Jeremiah 6:13-15 and Isaiah 30:9-11.
 2. False teachers re-interpret events to satisfy people who don’t want to hear or know God’s truth (Matthew 24:11, 23-24).
 3. II Thessalonians 2:9-12 = people prefer to believe lies than to bow to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Are we not seeing a harbinger of people’s willingness to be deceived happening before our very eyes today?

4. Now see I Thessalonians 5:4-11. Our awareness of the glorious coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and how He will one day judge the living and the dead should act as a call upon us to have hearts and minds which are captive to the unchanging and unfailing Word of God and to be joyfully **WALKING OUT HIS WORD EACH DAY.**