

OUTLINE 02/22/26
The Day of the Lord
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (NIV)

Jesus is coming back, be ready!

Day of the Lord: a day inaugurating the eternal universal rule of God:

a. *in the Old Testament:* an eschatological day of ultimate judgment bringing final deliverance or doom — called also *day of Yahweh*.

b. *in the New Testament:* the triumphant day of Christ's return to earth in glory.

Miriam-Webster Dictionary.com

1. Christ will return suddenly.

¹ Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3

2. Christ will return, be ready.

⁴ But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. 1 Thessalonians 5:4-8

3. Christ will return in judgement.

⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11

How to Receive Christ:

"Dear Jesus, thank You for loving me even though I'm a sinner. I ask for your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sin and that You rose from the dead. I trust You as my Savior and follow You as Lord, from this day forward. Amen."

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Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean that "Christ will come like a thief in the night?"
2. In what ways does Paul tell us to be ready (vs. 4-8)?
3. How can we share the good news of salvation, encourage believers and yet warn unbelievers?