



“Belong to the Day”

October 25, 2020

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Part 10 of “Build to Last”

“But since we **belong to the day**...” -1 Thess 5:8

Thessalonians' Questions related to the End Times:

1. Q: What happens to Christians who die prior to the Lord's return?
A: You **will** see your loved ones again!
2. Q: Is it possible that we somehow missed the Lord's Glorious Return and we are now enduring the Day of the Lord?
A: God's Judgement and Wrath on the Day of the Lord will only come upon those who are **walking in darkness**.

How could a loving God allow a pandemic?

5:1-5, The Day of the Lord

5:6-8, Response to Jesus and Judgement

5:9-11, Our Future Hope

1. **The _____ of the Lord is coming _____ (5:1-5)**

“You have no need to have anything written to you.”

“Like a thief in the night”

Sudden Destruction

No Escape

2. _____ Up, _____ Up, _____ Up (5:6-8)

a. Keep _____

b. Be _____

c. Put on your _____

i. Breastplate of faith and love

ii. Helmet, hope of salvation

3. _____ under the _____ of Jesus Christ (5:9-11)

a. _____ Salvation

b. Awake or Asleep, _____ with him

Activity and Discussion for Families

How would you discuss and explain to a child that faith, love, and hope are like armor that protects her/his head and heart? Consider dressing up with a breastplate of some sort, and a helmet of some sort. :-)

Discussion Questions

What is the connection between 4:13-18 and 5:1-11?

How are the questions and concerns that prompted Paul to write this passage for the Thessalonians similar to or different from any questions you or others have today?

Dig Deeper: Grab a good study Bible that has notes, a concordance, or a cross-reference system and study ideas, words, and themes from this passage deeper.

What are the promise and threat implied by the “Day of the Lord”?

Why doesn't Paul go into details about the “times and the seasons”? How do you think knowing the exact hour of Jesus' return would affect people?

How does Paul contrast the fates of believers and unbelievers in this passage?

Explain how a firm hope in the future will enable you to live confidently today.

What does Paul mean by the statement, "God has not destined us to wrath"? What are some ways in which Christians have viewed this statement? (In this life, on the day of the Lord, or in hell for eternity)

What is the ultimate point of this passage? How does this message speak to the church today?

God, make us fully aware of the Day of the Lord. May the reality of your wrath and judgement cause us to reach out to others to share the hope of salvation and also for us to live differently in light of this truth. Help us delight fully in the fact that salvation has been obtained for us in Jesus and that we are children of light. May we be a people that always walk in the light. May we be awake to the spiritual reality of our day. Help us be sober-minded. As we look ahead to what lies before us this week, we put on the breastplate of faith and love, and put on the helmet of hope for salvation. Holy Spirit, encourage us and build us up for living in Christ each and every day, Amen.