



Morningside Church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Title: The Day of the Lord

Date: November 10, 2024

Scripture Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Notes:

[1 Thessalonians 5](#) is a continuation of the topic of the end times. [Chapter 4](#) ends describing what it will be like at the rapture ([1 Thess. 4:13-18](#)). The rapture ushers in 'the Day of the Lord'. The topic of the end times is not mere information, but consolation as well. The purpose for having a better understanding of the eventual end times is to have a better understanding on how we are to live today, in light of Jesus' certain return. Today's passage addresses three items regarding the Day of the Lord.

I. Information about the Day of the Lord ([1 Thess. 5:1-3](#))

The rapture ([1 Thess. 4:13-18](#)) ushers in the Day of the Lord. The Day of the Lord refers to the end-time period of God's judgement on the unbelieving world known as the great tribulation. Within this passage are three elements of the Day of the Lord.

The elements of the Day of the Lord are:

- It's *Unannounced* ([vs. 2](#)). It will come just like a thief in the night, empathizing its unexpected arrival.
 - How might you prepare for a thief's arrival?
 - How can we be ready for the Day of the Lord's arrival?
- It's *Inescapable* ([vs. 3](#)). Just as with labor pains, when it's time for the baby to come, there's no getting around its arrival.
 - As characteristic of labor pains, frequency and intensity increases. This speaks to the increasing intensity of God's judgement and the certainty of its coming.
 - As Christians, we won't be around during the great tribulation but will be raptured to heaven before it begins. So, why is there a need to prepare for the coming Day of the Lord if we aren't around when it arrives?
- *Destruction* ([vs. 3](#)). In Revelation 6-19, a description is provided of the details of the great tribulations. These include the breaking of 7 seals, blowing of 7 trumpets, and the pouring out of 7 bowls. All relating to God's judgement.
 - This destruction will arrive at the point when people think they have peace and are safety.
 - What are ways we can find things other than Christ for our peace and safety.
 - What are the dangers of doing so?



Morningside Church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Notes:

II. Anticipation of the Day of the Lord (1 Thess. 5:4-8)

Two types of individuals are described. Those who live in darkness (the lost) and those who are 'sons of light' and 'sons of day' (Christians). Those who live in the dark are oblivious to the impending judgement. But for those who are in the light, they are told to 1. Be alert ([vs. 6](#)), 2. Be sober (self-controlled) ([vss. 6 & 8](#)), 3. Guard Heart (breastplate of faith and love) ([vs. 8](#)), 4. Guard Head (helmet of the hope of salvation) ([vs. 8](#)).

- For the Christian, what does it look like to 'be alert'?
- Why is soberness/self-control important for the Christian to be ready for the end times?
- How are faith and love ("breastplate of faith and love") factors in guarding our heart?
 - What are we guarding our heart from?
- Why is it important to guard our head with the hope of our salvation?
 - What are we guarding our head from?

III. Destination on the Day of the Lord (1 Thess. 5:9-11)

Paul reminded the Thessalonians that as Christians they were not appointed to God's wrath but to salvation. The day of the Lord will be a great outpouring of God's wrath from the very start ([Rev 6:17](#)), and since Christians are raptured, they will be kept out of this worldwide hour of testing ([Rev 3:10](#)) (Blum).

- [1 Thess. 5:11](#) instructs us to encourage each other and build each other up. How can the events described in [4:13-18](#) and [5:1-11](#) be an encouragement?
- How can knowing what awaits those who are not Christians influence how we engage them?
- Who do you know that needs to know Jesus?