

SHARPENING YOUR SWORD

1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11 — AN INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

Session 9 Homework — Mar 2, 2022

FOR THE LEADERS

> 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-5 THE DAY OF THE LORD (PART ONE)

Continuing his apostolic instructions, Paul knows he does not need to write the Thessalonians concerning the timing of the Lord's coming, for they had been taught already that He will come as a thief in the night and sudden destruction catching many people unexpectedly (vv 1-3). Such should not be the case for Christians, however, for they are children of light and children of the day. Therefore they should be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation (vv 4-8). Knowing that God has appointed them to obtain salvation through Jesus Christ, they know that whether dead or alive they will live with Christ. Being given such hope, they should encourage and edify one another (vv 9-11).

Our objective for this passage is to understand the unexpected nature of the coming of the Lord (vv 1-5) and how we should prepare for that event (vv 6-11).

> Be sure your group has a basic grasp of the text (above). The key questions are #1-2 to review the book's theme, key verses, and objectives from the last session (4:9-18); #6 for personal application; and #8-9 to contrast the characteristics of the godly and ungodly in light of the Day of the Lord.

BY WAY OF REVIEW

1 Review the theme and key verse of 1 Thessalonians:

Holiness in view of the coming of Christ

“And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do
for you,

so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father,

at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints” (1 Th 3:12-13).

2 1 Thessalonians 4:9-18 continues Paul’s instruction to the church. He urges them to increase more and more in brotherly love, even though they had been taught by God to love one another and had done so (vv 9-10). Further, he urges them to lead quiet lives, mind their own business, and to work with their own hands so as to “walk properly before outsiders” (vv 11-12). Finally, Paul addresses the matter of believers who have died. He did not want the Thessalonians to sorrow over them as others who have no hope. This leads to a description of the Lord’s coming for His saints, especially as it relates to how those who are alive at His coming will not precede those who have died. Indeed, when the Lord comes from heaven, the dead in Christ will rise first, and we who are alive and remain will at that time be caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air and to “always be with the Lord” (vv 13-18). What were the objectives for studying this passage?

1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-5 THE DAY OF THE LORD (PART ONE)

3 Read 1 Thessalonians chapter 5 daily to prepare for your study.

4 In verse one, define “the times and the seasons.” Why didn’t Paul need to write to them about this?

> times Strong’s G5550 (Gk. chronos):

> seasons (or epochs) Strong’s G2540 (Gk. kairos):

5 What span of time is the Apostle referring to in verse 2? And what did the Thessalonians already know about it?

6 What will the people on earth be saying when the “sudden destruction comes” (v 3)? What do you learn from the following Old Testament verses regarding that same message? And how does this apply to our world today?

> Jeremiah 6:14

> Jeremiah 14:11

> Ezekiel 13:1-5, 10-12, 14-16

7 Why will the Day of the Lord not overtake Christians as a thief (vv 4-5)?

8 From the following verses, name the characteristics of people who are “...of the night... of darkness” (v 5):

> John 3:19-20

> 2 Corinthians 4:3-4

> 2 Corinthians 6:14

> Ephesians 4:17-18; 5:8

9 From the following verses, name the characteristics of children of light or children of day:

> Colossians 1:13

> John 8:12

> John 12:46

10 The Day of the Lord should be understood as a span of time rather than a single 24-hour day. The Day of the Lord stretches from the rapture of the Church, through the 7-year Great Tribulation, the Great White Throne Judgment, and ends with the recreation of the New Heavens and Earth, i.e., eternity future. What do you learn about the Day of the Lord from the following verses?

> Ezekiel 30:3

> Joel 1:15; 2:1,11; 3:14

> 2 Peter 3:10

> Revelation 6:15-17