

# THE DAY OF THE LORD

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 / 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3

In 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 the Apostle Paul connects the timing of the Rapture to the coming of a period of time called *the day of the Lord*.

To correctly understand this passage, we need to define several important terms.

## **Day of the Lord<sup>1</sup>**

*The day of the Lord is an idiom used to emphasize the swift and decisive nature of the Lord's victory over His enemies on any given occasion.*<sup>2</sup> The day of the Lord to which the Apostle Paul refers in 1 Thessalonians 5:2 is the Great Tribulation, the time period Jesus described in Matthew 24:21-22a.

## **Wrath**

In this context, *wrath* refers to the day of the Lord (also 1:10, 2:16).

## **Darkness, Night, Sleep, Drunk**

A metaphor referring to people who lack knowledge concerning the coming of *the day of the Lord*.

## **Light, Day, Awake, Sober**

A metaphor referring to Christians who possess knowledge concerning the coming of *the day of the Lord*.

## **THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE DAY OF THE LORD SHOULD NOT \_\_\_\_\_ US (5:1-5)**

Unbelievers will be caught by surprise by *the day of the Lord*; they will not be prepared and they will not escape. Believers ought not be caught by surprise because we've been instructed about what to look for. When Paul was with the Thessalonians, he revealed two signs that will indicate *the day of the Lord* is near at hand (2 Thess. 2:1-3).

## **The First \_\_\_\_\_: The Apostasy of the \_\_\_\_\_.**

To apostatize means to reject the fundamental truths of Christianity such as the inspiration and inerrancy of Scripture, the Trinitarian nature of God, the substitutionary atonement and physical resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

## **The \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: The Identification of the \_\_\_\_\_.**

The man of lawlessness is the Antichrist. The man who signs a seven-year treaty with Israel is the Antichrist (Daniel 9:26-27). When that treaty is signed, the day of the Lord begins.

## **THE RAPTURE WILL \_\_\_\_\_ CHRISTIANS FROM THE DAY OF THE LORD / THE GREAT \_\_\_\_\_ (5:9-11)**

God has not destined Church age believers for *wrath*, that is, to go through *the day of the Lord*, but to obtain deliverance through our Lord Jesus Christ. That deliverance is the Rapture clearly revealed in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

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1 Jer. 46:10; Ezek. 13:5, 30:3; Joel 1:15, 2:1, 11, 2:31, 3:14; Amos 5:18-20; Obadiah 15, Zephaniah 1:7, 14, Malachi 4:5; Acts 2:20; 2 Peter 3:10.

2 Robert B. Chisholm, Jr., "Joel," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 1412.

## WE SHOULD BE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE SIGNS, BUT BE FULLY \_\_\_\_\_ IN SERVING JESUS IN OUR GENERATION (5:6-8)

In light of the revelation God has given us, we need to live clear minded lives characterized by faith in what God has revealed no matter how long it takes to be fulfilled. As we wait, we are to be about loving God and loving others and if we are in that generation in which *the day of the Lord* draws near, we need to maintain our hope in our deliverance no matter how dark and wicked those days are leading up to *the day of the Lord*.

### GRACE NEWS AND NEEDS

**Junior High / High School Summer Camp Signups.**

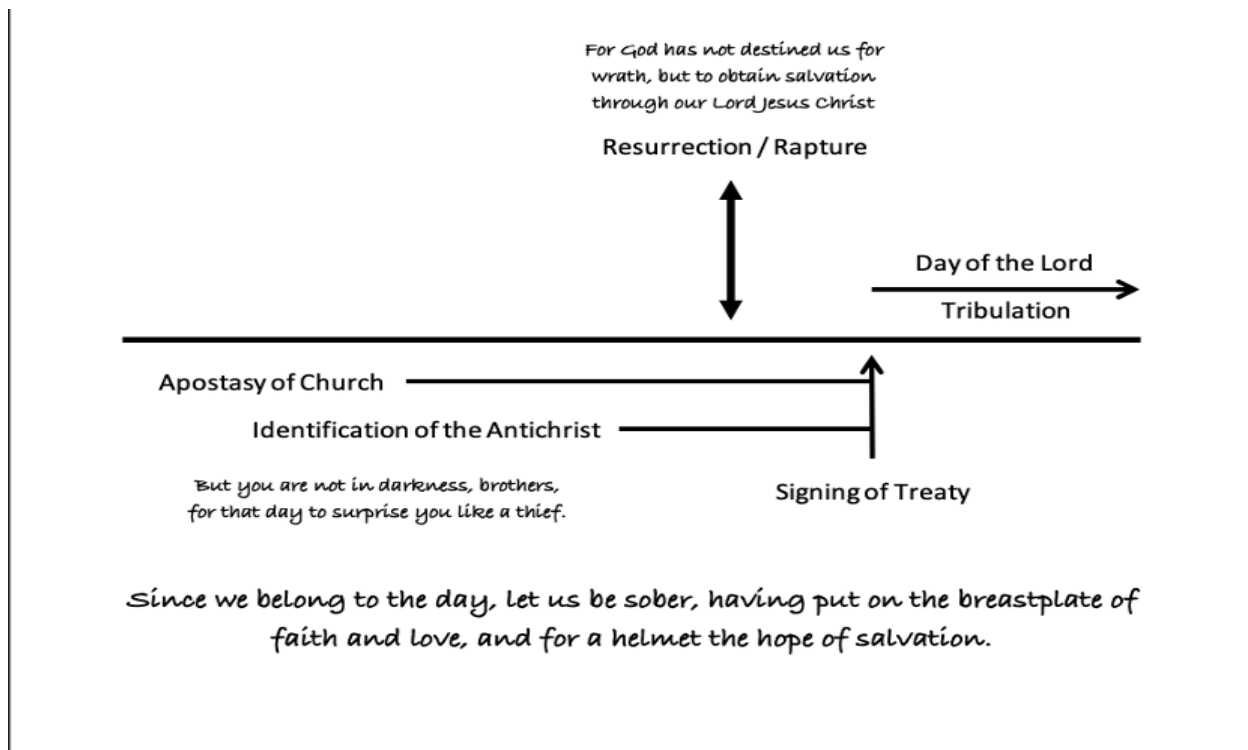
**Men's Horseshoe Tournament**, Today, 12 Noon, Signup on Patio.

**Orley Neller 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Card Collection**, Drop a birthday card in basket in foyer March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Blood Drive**, Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 12:30PM-6:30PM, Modular.

**Membership Class**, Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – April 21<sup>st</sup>, 10:00AM, Modular, No signup, just come.

**Good Friday Service**, Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:30PM.



**Ramona Pregnancy Care Clinic Walk for Life:** Signups to Walk and/or Sponsor on Patio.

**VOM Needs for March:** Dental Floss