

Children of Light

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

July 5, 2020

For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:9

I. CONCERNING TIMES AND SEASONS (Vss. 1-3)

- Some things in Scripture are hazy, some are crystal clear. Jesus' Second Advent will be sudden and unexpected by most (Vss. 1-2; Matt. 24:42-44; Luke 21:34-36; 1 Cor. 15:51-52).

II. AWAKE & SOBER (Vss. 4-8)

- There is no reason why Christ-followers should be found unprepared when Christ returns, unless we have grown dull to the word of God (Vss. 4-5; 2 Thess. 2:1-12).
- Christ-followers live in the light, not in the darkness. The Holy Spirit and the word of God shine light into our lives (John 14:17, 16:13; 1 Cor. 2:13; 2 Thess. 2:13).
- We must be vigilant and remain steadfast. We must live in the light, for that is where we belong (Luke 21:34-36).
- God has provisioned us well. Utilize his armor (Vs. 8; Eph. 6:10-20).

III. DESTINED FOR GLORY (Vss. 9-11)

- Christ-followers will never know the wrath of God. They will only see it from afar (Ps. 91:5-8; Matt. 25:31-46).
- Jesus' death covers both the living and the dead. Nothing will separate us from him (Rom. 8:37-39).
- Be encouraged and build one another up. In so doing, we can rejoice in all circumstances (Matt. 5:12; Rom. 5:3-4; Gal. 6:2; Phil. 2:17, 4:4).

KNOW: Given our current state of affairs, Christ-followers should be more sober now, and more keenly aware how quickly things can change. Regardless of any earthly circumstance, Christ-followers are bound for glory.

DO: Encourage one another and build one another up.

Suggested Reading:

Are These the Last Days? (Crucial Questions Series #20) by R.C. Sproul (LifePoint Library #CQ SPR)

Identity Theft: Reclaiming the Truth of Who We Are in Christ—edited by Melissa Kruger (LifePoint Library #248.4 KRU)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1. What is the overall theme of this section of Scripture?
2. What did Paul's readers in Thessalonica seem to be worried about based on Paul's teaching here?
3. What will it be like when Jesus returns according to our text?
4. How are believers different from non-believers in the manner in which they should wait for that day?
5. What are we destined for as Christ-followers? Why?
6. How do we encourage one another with this information as Paul has told us to do?