

High Point Bible Study
July 5, 2017
“End Time Prophecy” pt. 2
1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

I. Christ Will Return (1-3)

A. In God’s Timing “About the times and the seasons: Brothers, you do not need anything to be written to you.” (1)

B. Unexpectedly “For you yourselves know very well that the Day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.” (2) Jesus used the same illustration (Matt. 24:42-44) to emphasize the need to be alert. He also emphasized the unknown hour of His coming (Mark 13:32).

C. Unavoidable “When they say, “Peace and security,” then sudden destruction comes on them, like labor pains come on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.” (3)

1. **The unrighteous will be surprised** (Matt. 24:37-44 **“But as the days of Noah were...”** cf. Gen. 6:5, 11). Unbelievers will be surprised by Christ’s return because they are **“in the dark”** (4), of the **“night”** (5), **“sleep”** (6), and **“drunk”** (7). Non-believers are spiritually impaired; they do not perceive the truth and are not alert to spiritual things.

2. Judgment will come suddenly (Matt. 24:27)

3. Signs will foreshadow the birth of a new era much like labor pains foreshadow the birth of a baby (Isa. 66:8; Zech. 12:10; Matt. 24:8)

4. The guilty will not go unpunished (Jer. 30:7; Matt. 24:22)

II. Christians Are Not to Be Surprised (4-5)

A. Awake “So then, we must not sleep like the rest, but we must stay awake and be serious” (6)

1. Concern **“So then”**

2. Contrast **“...we must not sleep, like the rest...”**

3. Concentration **“...we must stay awake...”**

4. Capable **“be serious”**

B. Atypical “For those who sleep, sleep at night and those who get drunk, are drunk at night” (7)

C. Assured “put the armor of faith and love on our chests, and put on a helmet of the hope of salvation” (8)

1. A Spiritual Soldier Acknowledges a State of War

2. A Spiritual Soldier Prepares for Battle

3. A Spiritual Soldier Trusts In The Correct Armor

- a. Faith – “put on the armor of faith...”
- b. Love “and love”
- c. Hope – “a helmet of the hope of salvation”

III. Christian’s Are to Be Encouraged

“For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him. ¹¹ Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up as you are already doing.” (9-11)

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