

THAT DAY!

3-26-23

End Times Resolved:

#1 Twinkling of an Eye – Rapture

- 1Thess.4:13-18
- 1Cor.15:51-52

(ONE SECOND LATER)

#2 Thief in the Night – God's Wrath

- 1Thess.5:1-4
- 1Thess.5:9

1 Thessalonians 5:2 (ESV)

For you yourselves are fully aware that **the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.**

Interpret: You are fully aware no one knows when Jesus is coming back to judge the earth, because **“THAT DAY” will come like a thief in the night.** **Important Lesson: “THAT DAY” of God’s Wrath and coming judgement on the earth comes in an instant after the Rapture.** Last week in Thessalonians C.4, we learned that the Rapture comes unexpectedly in the twinkling of an eye. **In other words, believers are caught up in the twinkling of an eye and an instant later God’s judgement comes on unbelievers like a thief in the night.**

1 Thessalonians 5:3 (ESV) **WE ARE NOT HERE!**

While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

Unexpectedly on “THAT DAY” the world-wide Great Tribulation will come, and no one will escape. We look at the terrible times to predict when Jesus is coming back, but the Bible points out that it is when people are saying, “peace and security,” that sudden destruction will come. Granted God is moving mightily in the world today; however, Tranquility will precede “THAT DAY” which brings sudden destruction. But no one knows when Jesus will return! However, the Bible gives extensive attention to “THAT DAY “which is called THE DAY OF THE LORD which a time of God’s wrath!

THE DAY OF THE LORD is a unit which includes the 7-year Great Tribulation. Sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman.

Isaiah 13:8 (ESV)

They will be dismayed:

pangs and agony will seize them.

They will be in anguish like a woman in labor.

Jesus warned us about the great tribulation!

Matthew 24:21 (ESV)

Then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be.

Peter also prophesied about the great tribulation!

2 Peter 3:10 (ESV)

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

THE DAY OF THE LORD will end when Jesus returns after the 7-year great tribulation has run its course.

Revelation 19:11 (ESV)

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire.

DONE!

Judgement is coming, but God has something different for believers; But you! This “BUT YOU” is extremely important!

1 Thessalonians 5:4 (ESV)

But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief.

Believers will not participate in “THAT DAY” of the Lord.

“THAT DAY” will not overtake us by surprise—“like a thief” overtakes his victim. We will not be surprised because “THAT DAY” will not come upon us!

God’s Wrath will come! However, as believers, we have full assurance that we will “never” suffer God’s Wrath!

1 Thessalonians 5:9 (ESV)

For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

We are the chosen, God’s very own. We are secure and tranquil looking to Jesus. We are confident in Christ’s finished work which cannot be canceled. This fact should be our motivation to always be alert and encourage believers and warn unbelievers.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV)

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

The closing statement on the Rapture in C.4 used these very same words. We should be encouraged and encourage others because God has not destined us for wrath.

The basic grasp of these truths will lead us in individual growth as well as overall collective growth because our eyes are on Jesus and eternity! Our focus changes!

2Peter 3:11 (NIV)

Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be?

“THAT DAY” is coming! We are encouraged that Jesus is supreme to all things on heaven and earth. Our message is not of condemnation but an invitation to eternal joy and deliverance.

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.