

Romans 13:11,12
NIGHT IS FAR SPENT; DAY IS AT HAND

- I. What time it is.
 - A. The “time” refers to the particular season in which we are living (cf. 8:18; 9:9; 11:5).
 - 1. While non-believers use only calendars and cycles, believers “know” what time and history mean.
 - 2. We are in the time between our Savior’s first and second appearances.
 - 3. We know that we are living in the last period of earthly history.
 - B. Our present time is characterized by “night” and “darkness.”
 - 1. God teaches us that unbelievers are “of darkness” (John 3:19; 8:12; Acts 26:16-18; Col. 1:13; I Peter 2:9; I John 2:8,9).
 - 2. Because God has given us light, we are strangers and pilgrims in this world.
 - a. “Our salvation nearer” is better translated “nearer is of us the salvation” referring to objective salvation.
 - b. Our full salvation will be realized when Jesus appears the second time.
- II. There is a powerful affect in the knowledge that Jesus appearing is soon: for it inspires us to holy living.
 - A. We realize that we are able to live as those belonging to the day and no longer to the night.
 - 1. We follow Him Who is the light of the world, and we know that we are not to walk in darkness (John 8:12).
 - 2. We are enabled to see the inconsistency of still living as in darkness.
 - B. It is “high time to awake out of sleep.”
 - 1. “High time” means that we are in an hour when we should be risen out of “sleep” (spiritual lethargy).
 - 2. We must shake ourselves awake and alert. When we nod off while reading, we must rouse ourselves and get fresh air.
 - C. Then we are willing to “cast off the works of darkness” and to “put on the armor of life” (i.e., weapons of light).
 - 1. This is clothing given us by God Who is light.
 - 2. The weapons with which we fight are salvation, righteousness before God, peace, and truth.