

"This We Declare"

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

March 24, 2013

"he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved." (Ephesians 1:5-6, ESV)

God Has Predestined His Children Not To Wrath But For Salvation Through Jesus Christ, (vs. 5: 9)

- II We must pay much closer attention to how we put into practice what we say we believe, (vs. 4: 1 – 5: 28)
- B. The revelation of God requires that His children be informed about the reality of the last day, (vs. 4: 13 – 5: 11)

7. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Require Any Special Revelation; It Is Plain, (vs. 5: 1-2)

2.1) God Has Already Made You Fully Aware Of The Day

"You Are Fully Aware (Perf.Act.Ind)-

"The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly. "I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds." (Jeremiah 23:20-22, ESV)

2.2) God Has Already Set The Day Of His Return

"Day Of The Lord Will Come"-

"And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs. For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty. ("Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!")" (Revelation 16:13-15, ESV)

2.3) God Has Already Told You He Will Not Announce The Day

"Like A Thief In The Night"-

"Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. Therefore stay awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning – lest he come suddenly and find you asleep." (Mark 13:33-36, ESV)

1) "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. 2) For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 3) For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 4) Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. 5) Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming." (Matthew 24:36-42, ESV)

- 1) We cannot guess at what time Christ will return; we must live as though it is now.
- 2) God has given us an example of what His judgment will be like; Noah.
 - 3) Life was going on as it normally did before God's judgment.
 - 4) There will be no natural distinction between persons at the judgment; only supernatural.
 - 5) Stay Awake! Be On Guard! Heed The Warnings!

How are you letting the promise of the coming day impede the work you have been assigned to do?

8. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Require Present Events As A “Trigger”, (vs. 3)
9. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Protects The Child Of God From Surprise, (vs. 4)
10. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is An Ontological Matter Not Just Theological, (vs. 5)
11. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Must Make Distinctions Between Persons, (vs. 6-7)
12. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is Not Escapism But Marching Orders, (vs. 8)
13. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Mandates The Active Declaration Of The Gospel, (vs. 9)
14. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Focus On The Timing Of The Day, (vs. 10)
15. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Focuses On The Building Of Christ’s Church More & More, (vs. 11)

C. The revelation of God requires that His children are found blameless at the Lord’s return, (vs. 5: 12 – 28)

III We must pay much closer attention to why we must live with self discipline under God’s word, (2 Ths. 1: 1-3: 18)

- A. The wrath of God is a very present reality for those who do not believe the gospel, (vs. 1: 1 – 12)
- B. The wrath of God is a very present reality governed by the ordained decrees of God, (vs. 2: 1 – 17)
- C. The wrath of God is a very present reality that must be avoided even in its temporal aspects, (vs. 3: 1 – 18)