

“A Day In The Life Of A Christian!”
1 Thessalonians 5:6-11

Introduction:

1. Have You Ever Had A “Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day”?
 - In A Book Written By Judith Viorst, Alexander Sure Did! Here’s How It All Started:
 - “I went to sleep with gum in my mouth and now there’s gum in my hair and when I got out of bed this morning I tripped on the skateboard and by mistake I dropped my sweater in the sink while the water was running and I could tell it was going to be a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day!”
 - It Didn’t Stop There!
 - He Got Smashed In The Middle Seat Of The Car! There Was No Dessert In His Lunch Sack!
 - He Found Out He Had A Cavity When He Went To The Dentist’s Office!
 - He Truly Had A “Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day!”
2. Have You Ever Had One Of Those Days?
 - The Kind Where You Wish You Could Start It All Over Again!
 - The Kind Where You Wish It Would Quickly Come To An End!
 - Sometimes We Get These Same Kinds Of Days In Our Christian Life Too, Don’t We?
 - What Is The Solution?
 - Don’t Get Up In The First Place?
 - No!
 - We Find The Solution – Rather, The Prevention – To A Christian’s “Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day”!
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:6 - “Therefore let us **not** sleep, as do others; **but let us watch and be sober!**”
 - It Is To Be:
 - Awake! Alert! Alive!
 - This Is What Paul Is Telling These Thessalonian Christians To Be! Because, **They** Know What The Future Is Going To Be Like!
 - For Them! For Their Christian Family – Both Alive & Dead! And For The Rest Of The World!
 - Jesus Christ Is Going To Return Some Day!
 - But Until Then, There Are Going To Be Some Pretty Rough Days For You, Christian!
 - But, Through Your Lord Jesus Christ, You **Can** Be Prepared For A “Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day”! So:

1. Be Awake!

- 5:6-7 - “Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. / For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night!”
 - Why Should You Be Awake – “Not Sleep”?
- Because Sleep Is All Too Common!
 - “As Do Others!”
 - Spiritual Sleepiness & Laziness Is The Norm In This World & Even In The Church! Why Else Would The Lord Call Out To You & Me To “Wake Up!” (**IE:** Alarm Clock)
 - Romans 13:11 - “And that, knowing the time, that **now it is high time to awake out of sleep:** for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed!”
 - Not Just During A Service – But In Prayer! In Bible Study! In Service! In Witness!
 - How Sleepy Are **You** When It Comes To The Things Of The Lord!
 - Be Awake!
 - “Let Us Watch And Be Sober!”
 - Don’t Be Spiritually Lazy!
 - Proverbs 20:13 - “Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread!”
 - Because Sleep Reveals Your Real Character!
 - 5:7!
 - Those Who Sleep Are Those Who:
 - Have No Interest In Or Response To Spiritual Stimulus Given By God! It Means You

- Are Spiritually Unconscious!
- Those Who Are Drunk Are Those Who:
 - Are Filled Up & Intoxicated With Everything Other Than God And What He Provides To Fill & Satisfy!
- To Be Asleep Seems Minor To Being Drunk!
 - But They **Both** Belong To The Night! (5:5)
- Be Awake!
 - Because If You Are Asleep Or Drunk Spiritually, It Is A Dangerous Place To Be!
- And If You Are Not Awake, You **Will** Have A “Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day!”
 - Because “Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: / So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man!” (Proverbs 6:10-11) – Spiritual Poverty!

2. **Be Alert!**

- 5:8-9 - “But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - When You Become A Christian, You Have A Different Character Than Those Who Are Spiritually Asleep & Drunk! (See 5:5) – So, Be Spiritually Sober! Be Alert!
 - When A Person Is Drunk, They Are “Under The Influence!” / When A Christian Is Sober, They Are “Under Control” – God’s Control!
- Be Alert – Because There Is Danger!
 - Because You Are Of The Day, The Powers Of Darkness Will Attack You Any & Every Way They Can! The Bible Clearly Teaches That: “We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places!” (Ephesians 6:12)
 - This Is The Same Problem For Every Christian – No Matter Where Or When You Live!
 - So, Remain In The Armor Given To You By God!
 - Don’t Take It Off / Don’t Surrender It / Keep It On!
 - Your Breastplate Is One Of Faith & Love!
 - Your Faith In The Lord & Your Love For The Lord Will Protect Your Heart In Battle!
 - Necessary – Proverbs 4:23 - “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life!”
 - Your Helmet Is One Of Hope!
 - Your Hope In The Lord Will Protect Your Mind In Battle!
 - Isaiah 26:3-4 - “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength!”
 - Be Alert! Because This World Is A Dangerous Place For A Christian!
- Be Alert – Because There Is Deliverance!
 - When The Battle Seems Long & Fierce, Your Hope Can Turn To The Promise Of God To Deliver You!
 - Remember: “God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - You Don’t Need To Be Anxious!
 - Because, “Through Jesus Christ,” You Will Escape God’s Wrath Completely!
 - Many Believe That This Not Only Applies To Eternity, But To The Great Tribulation Also (5:3) – I Agree With This, And Believe That God Will Rescue Us Even From The Tribulation He Will Bring, As Well As From The Judgment To Follow!
 - But You Can & Should Anticipate The Return Of The Lord!
 - Because, “Through Jesus Christ” (And Him Alone) You Will Enjoy God’s Salvation Completely!
- And If You Are Not Alert & Sober, You **Will** Have A “Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day!”
 - Because The Danger & Discouragement You Face Will Make You Useless In The Battle!

3. **Be Alive!**
- 5:10-11 - "Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. / Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do!"
 - A Child Of God Has Been Given New Life Through Jesus Christ!
 - But Why Do So Many Remain Sleepy & Lifeless?
 - To You & To Me, Paul Says: "Look Alive, Christian!" – Because You *Are* Alive – In Your Savior, Jesus Christ!
 - And This Is The Greatest Comfort / Encouragement We Can Have & The Greatest Edification / Building Up We Can Give!
 - Be Alive – Because Of His Great Sacrifice For Us!
 - "Who Died For Us!"
 - It Is Only Through Christ's Death That We Become Alive!
 - What A Paradox / Mystery!
 - Our Life Comes From His Death!
 - Our Salvation Comes From His Sacrifice!
 - Our Peace Comes Through His Price!
 - Romans 5:10 - "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life!"
 - Be Alive – Because Of His Gracious Gift To Us!
 - "We Should Live Together With Him!"
 - What An Amazing Statement! What An Amazing Gift!
 - As Jesus Is Alive (And He Is Alive), We Also May Be Alive!
 - All That Jesus' Life Is, Our Life May Be As Well – Through Him!
 - This Is The Real Life / Abundant Life / Eternal Life Promised To All Those Who Trust In Him!
 - If You Are Not Alive, You Will Have A "Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day!" (I Can't Think Of Any Worse!)
 - Because There Is No Comfort In Death – Only In Life!

Conclusion:

1. Those "Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Days" Will Come!
 - The Christians At Thessalonica Had Their Fair Share!
 - But Only Through Christ, Can You Be Prepared!
2. So: Be Awake! Be Alert! Be Alive!
 - This Is A Day In The Life Of A Christian Should Be Like!
 - Is Yours?

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