

## 1 Thes. 5:1-11

### I. His coming will be a joy, so live in light of His coming (1-10)

What Paul wants them to know:

#### A. The timing of His coming is unexpected, but you will not be surprised (1-7)

1. Don't worry about the timing of His coming, because it will be unexpected (1-3)
  - a Brothers, you have no need for me to write to you concerning the times and the seasons (1)
  - b Reason: The coming will be unexpected and they will not escape (2-3)
    - 1) You know that the coming will be unexpected (2)
      - a) For you yourselves know accurately: (2a)
      - b) The day of the Lord will come unexpectedly (2b-c)
        - (1) As a thief [comes] in the night (2b)
        - (2) In this way the day of the Lord will come (2c)  
Jesus Himself taught this in Mt 24:43
    - 2) Destruction will come unexpectedly and they will not escape (3)  
Destruction will come on those who are not prepared
      - a) Destruction will come on them unexpectedly like labor pains (3a-c)
        - (1) Destruction will come suddenly when they feel secure (3a-b)
          - (a) When they are saying "peace and security" (3a)
          - (b) Destruction will come upon them then suddenly (3b)
        - (2) Just as the labor pain to the pregnant woman (3c)
      - b) And they will certainly not escape (3d)
  2. But you won't be surprised, so live as "day people" (4-7)
    - a But you won't be surprised because you are "day people" (4-5)  
Christians are not unprepared
      - 1) You won't be caught by surprise (4)
        - a) But you, brothers, are not in darkness (4a)
        - b) Result: That you would be surprised by the day (4b-c)
          - (1) As a thief [catches you by surprise] (4b)
          - (2) That the day would catch you by surprise (4c)
      - 2) Reason: You/We are of the day, not of the night (5)
        - a) Pos: For all of you are sons of light and sons of day (5a)
        - b) Neg: We are not of the night or of the darkness (5b-c)
          - (1) We are not of night (5b)
          - (2) Neither [we are] of darkness (5c)
    - b Therefore, let us live as the "day people" that we are (6-7)
      - 1) Therefore: Let's have a watchful lifestyle as appropriate for the day (6)
        - a) Neg: Let us not be asleep (6a-b)
          - (1) Therefore, let us not sleep (6a)
          - (2) Like the rest (6b)

- b) Pos: Let's be awake and sober (6c-d)
  - (1) But let us be awake/aware (6c)
  - (2) And let us be sober/self-controlled (6d)
    - cf. 1 Pet. 4:7-8

- 2) Reason: Night people do night things (7)
  - a) For those who sleep, sleep at night (7a)
  - b) And those who get drunk, get drunk at night (7b)

**B. Therefore: Let us live the sanctified life Christ has given us (8-10)**

- 1. Let us live a sanctified life according to God's character and resources (8)
  - a Let us live decently in the light (8a-b)
    - 1) Being of the day (8a)
    - 2) Result: Let us be sober/self-controlled (8b)
  - b By being clothed with God's armor/characteristics (8c-d)
    - cf. Eph. 6:12-18 Armor of God
    - cf. Isa 59:17 God's Armor
    - 1) Being clothed with the breastplate of faith and love (8c)
    - 2) And [being clothed with] the helmet of hope of salvation (8d)
- 2. Reason: God's grace has rescued us for His sanctified life (9-10)
  - a Neg: For God has not appointed us for wrath (9a)
  - b Pos: But He has planned and purchased our salvation (9b-10)
    - 1) But [He has appointed us] into experience of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ (9b)
      - "experience" could be translated preservation or possession of salvation
    - 2) Specifically: He died so that we may live with Him (10)
      - a) The One who died on our behalf (10a)
        - Who died in our place
      - b) Purpose: So that the living and dead may live together with Him (10b-d)
        - (1) No matter if we are (physically) living or dead (10b-c)
          - (a) Whether we are awake (10b)
            - Those living and watchful
          - (b) Or we are asleep (10c)
            - Those who had already died
        - (2) So that we may live together with Him (10d)

**II. Therefore: Encourage and build up one another (11)**

What Paul wants them to do:

- A. Encourage one another (11a)
- B. And build up one another (11b-c)
  - 1. And one of you build up the other one (11b)
  - 2. Just as you are doing (11c)