

CALVARY CHAPEL SOUTH BAY
MEN ^{OF} THE WORD
MEN'S MINISTRY
2021-2022

1 Thessalonians - "The Coming of the Lord"

Session 13

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3 (NKJV)

"Expect the unexpected"

Having comforted the church about the "coming of the Lord" in the last passage, Paul now admonishes them a bit. They didn't really need to have Paul tell them about all this, for they already knew it "perfectly" well; and that knowledge should cause them to live with a certain expectation that the Lord could return at any moment. This was not a new doctrine for the church. For the unredeemed, however, it's a whole other story. They act like all is well ("Peace and safety!"), and that they have nothing to worry about. Yet, "destruction" is coming upon them suddenly; unexpectedly. As you study this week's passage, ask yourself whether you are living in expectation of the Lord's return; and whether that belief affects how you live.

Personal Study Time Questions:

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-2

Why doesn't the Thessalonian church really need Paul to write to them about "the times and the seasons" (about the "day of the Lord")? What does Paul mean by the way he describes how the Lord's return will happen?

Scripture: John 14:1-3

How does this passage reveal how Paul can say that the church "knows perfectly" that Christ will return for His church?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:3; 4:18

What a contrast Christ's return will be for the lost versus the believer! What is that contrast according to these two verses? Even though the world says "Peace and safety," what does verse 3 say about what's coming upon them?

Scripture: Isaiah 13:6-9

Just to spur you on to witness to the lost, briefly write down all that Isaiah says they will be doing and feeling when the sudden destruction comes.

Group Discussion:

Consider your life as a whole. Would you say you truly believe the Lord could return at any moment? How does that belief affect your daily walk with the Lord? Knowing the destruction that is coming upon all that do not receive Jesus as Lord, and that it could happen at any moment, how should that affect your heart for the lost?

Hiding God's Word in your heart (Ps. 119:11):

"For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night."

1 Thessalonians 5:2