

1 Thessalonians Overview

- Apologetical Theme
 - Ecclesiastical Theme
 - Eschatological Theme
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The Thessalonian Problem

Frenzied/ Fearful watchfulness.....leads to.....laziness.

-Problem appears in 1 Thessalonians
(4:11-12)

-More prominent in 2 Thessalonians.
(2:1-2)
(3:6-15)

Future Events

(7 years)
Tribulation

(1,000 years)
Millennium

“The Day of the Lord” (verse 2)

- The Battle of Armageddon is “the day of the Lord”.
- Is it possible that “the day of the Lord” includes a longer time period?

In the day of FDR, the Tennessee Valley Authority built many public works.

- Does “the day of the Lord” include the seven-year Tribulation?

(1 Thess 5:2)

- Does “the day of the Lord” include the thousand-year Millennium?

(2 Peter 3:10; Zeph 3)

Is the timing of the day of the Lord a surprise to both believers and unbelievers?

*Therefore **be on the alert, for you do not know** which day your Lord is coming.*

– Matthew 24:42

***Be on the alert then, for you do not know** the day nor the hour.*

– Matthew 25:13

*But of that day or hour **no one knows**, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. Take heed, **keep on the alert; for you do not know** when the appointed time will come.*

– Mark 13:32-33 (parallel in Matthew 24:36)

*Therefore, **be on the alert—for you do not know** when the master of the house is coming, whether in the evening, at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning—*

– Mark 13:35

*But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have allowed his house to be broken into. **You too, be ready; for** the Son of Man is coming **at an hour that you do not expect**.*

– Luke 12:39-40 (see also Peter's question in v.41; parallel in Matthew 24:43-44)

(5:4) “But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief.”

overtake

1. a. to seize, win, attain, make one’s own
b. to seize with hostile intent, overtake, come upon
c. to catch, detect

 2. to grasp, find, understand
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What does Paul mean by “sleep” in 1 Thessalonians 5?

Literal:

-sleep (zzzz.....)

Metaphorical:

-death

-failure to watch for Christ’s return

The Business of Christian Living (5:12-22)

-Love your brothers (12-15)

-Accept your circumstances (16-18)

-Apply the Word of God to your life (19-22)