

Sons of the Day

Lesson 18: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-28

May 5, 2019

Outline of the Letter

- 1:1-4 Introduction
- 1:5-3:13 Gospel ministry (**Faith**)
 - 1:5-10 The gospel among the Thessalonians
 - 1:5 The coming of the gospel
 - 1:6-10 The response to the gospel
 - 2:1-16 Gospel ministry by Paul
 - 2:1-6 The gospel in word
 - 2:7-12 The gospel in deed
 - 2:13-16 Results of gospel ministry
 - 2:17-3:13 Mutual love in the gospel
 - 2:17-3:5 Motivation for the sending of Timothy
 - 3:6-13 Timothy's report and Paul's response

Outline of the Letter

- 4:1-5:22 Godly living (Love and Hope)
 - 4:1-12 Living to please God (**Love**)
 - 4:1-8 **Love for God: Sanctification**
 - 4:9-12 **Love for believers**
 - 4:13-5:11 The coming of the Lord (**Hope**)
 - 4:13-18 The coming of the Lord for believers
 - 5:1-11 The day of the Lord for unbelievers
 - 5:12-22 Exhortations (**Love**)
 - 5:12-15 **Towards believers**
 - 5:16-22 **Towards God**
- 5:23-28 Conclusion

Lesson Outline

- 5:23-28 Conclusion
 - 5:23-24 Prayer
 - 5:25-27 Final commands
 - 5:28 Blessing

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3

¹Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you. ²For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just **like** a thief in the night. ³While they are saying, “Peace and safety!” then destruction will come upon them suddenly **like** labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

- They vs. you
 - The day of the Lord is in reference to unbelievers
 - Judgment is not anticipated by unbelievers
- Two metaphors
 - Thief – unexpected
 - Labor pains – sudden

1 Thessalonians 5:4-11

⁴But you, brethren, are not in **darkness**, that the **day** would overtake you like a thief; ⁵for you are all sons of light and sons of **day**. We are not of **night** nor of **darkness**; ⁶so then let us not **sleep** as others do, but let us be **alert** and **sober**. ⁷For those who **sleep** do their **sleeping** at **night**, and those who get **drunk** get **drunk** at **night**. ⁸But since we are of *the day*, let us be **sober**, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of **salvation**. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining **salvation** through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are **awake** or **asleep**, we will live together with Him. ¹¹Therefore **encourage** one another and **build up** one another, just as you also are doing.

- Contrasts

- Darkness/light
- Sleep/alert
- Drunk/sober

- Armor

- Protecting the heart – faith and love
- Protecting the mind – hope

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

¹²But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction, ¹³and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. **Live in peace** with one another.

- Requests in relation to leaders
 - Appreciate
 - Esteem in love
- Characteristics of leaders
 - Diligently **laboring**
 - Having charge
 - Giving instruction
 - **Working**

1 Thessalonians 5:14-22

¹⁴We urge you, brethren, **admonish** the unruly, **encourage** the fainthearted, **help** the weak, **be patient** with everyone. ¹⁵**See** that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always **seek** after that which is good for one another and for all people. ¹⁶**Rejoice** always; ¹⁷**pray** without ceasing; ¹⁸in everything **give thanks**; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. ¹⁹Do not **quench** the Spirit; ²⁰do not **despise** prophetic utterances. ²¹But **examine** everything *carefully*; **hold fast** to that which is good; ²²**abstain** from every form of evil.

- Types of believers needing help
 - Unruly – admonish
 - Fainthearted – encourage
 - Weak – help
- Be patient with everyone
- Our relationship to God
 - Rejoice
 - Pray
 - Give thanks

1 Thessalonians 5:23-28

²³Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

²⁵Brethren, **pray** for us.

²⁶**Greet** all the brethren with a holy kiss.

²⁷I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren.

²⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

- Sanctification is a key theme
 - Related to the Lord's coming
 - God will bring it to pass
- We should ask others for prayer

Summary

- The day of the Lord should lead us to holy living and being alert
 - Believers are destined for salvation, not wrath
 - Leaders are to be esteemed in love for their labor
 - Be gentle and patient with believers who need help
 - Give thanks to God in all circumstances
 - God will be faithful to sanctify us
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- To be effective, the Gospel must come with more than words
 - We should rejoice in, and thank God for, other believers
 - We should be most concerned about the faith of other believers
 - The Lord's return needs to be a comfort to us