

The Day of the Lord - part 1 - 1 Thess 5:1-3 \*1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. <sup>2</sup> For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

\*1 Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you.

<sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.

<sup>3</sup> While 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.

\* Scripture is from K.IV and NASU

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# The Day of the Lord – part 1 – 1 Thess 5:1-3

<sup>2</sup> For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

 Atrol [pers pron nom masc pl αὐτός] yourselves, emphasizes unique identity

 γὰρ [conj γάρ] intro of explanation, cause, reason for, because

 ἀκριβῶς [adv ἀκριβῶς] accurately, exactly,

 ölδατε [verb ind perf act 2 pl elöῶ) you know, perfect, so have come to know facts

 ὅτι [conj ὅτι] that, used here to show what they knew

ή ήμέρα [art+noun nom fem sing ήμέρα] (art is only in Byz Grk text) the day, specific **kupiou** [noun gen masc sing kúpiog] of the Lord's, gen of reference to the person, His **ú**ç [adv úç] as, in such a way, like, intro to the quality of an example... **k**λéττης [noun nom masc sing kλéττης] lit: thief, metaphor: selfish leaders, upprotected exorts.

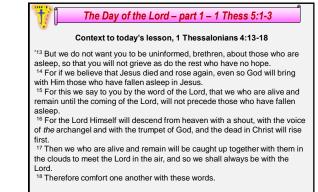
unexpected events.. έν [prep ἐν] in, by, at νυκτὶ [noun dat fem sing νύξ] night

οῦτως [adv οῦτω] in this manner, in this way thus, so ἕρχεται· [verb ind pres mid/pass 3p sing ἕρχομα] is coming

### \* My literal translation

Because yourselves accurately have come to know that the day of the Lord, like a thief at night, in this way is coming.

\* English is NASU 1995 \*\* close to original word order, ital ine Text Form 2005 & (NA28)



\* Scripture is NASU

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The Day of the Lord – part 1 – 1 Thess 5:1-3 <sup>3</sup> For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, όταν [conj ὅταν] temporal particle at the time that, whenever, when **γὰρ** [conj γάρ] giving an explanation, for, you see, λέγωσιν, [verb subj pres act 3p pl λέγω] they say **Εἰρήνη** [noun nom fem sing εἰρήνη] peace καὶ [conj, καί] and, even, also, indeed, to coordinate or emphasize items άσφάλεια, [noun nom fem sing ἀσφάλεια] secured from falling, firmness, safety TÓTE [adv TÓTE] then, at that time αἰφνίδιος [adj nom masc sing αἰφνίδιος] sudden, unforeseen, unexpected aύτοῖς [pron pers dat masc pl αὐτός] them, emphasizes identity, themselves ἐφίσταται [verb ind pres mid 3p sing ἐφίστημι] comes on (suddenly), happen without revious warning όλεθρος, [noun nom masc sing όλεθρος] destruction ruin \*\* My literal translation For, when they say peace and safety, then sudden destruction comes on them \* English is NASU 1995 yzantine Text Form, 2005 & (NA28) cized 6 ek is By



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## The Day of the Lord – part 1 – 1 Thess 5:1-3

#### Things to observe in these verses

- These believers had come to correctly know the facts about both the sequence 1. and quality of the events of the coming "day of the Lord". 'But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you'
- These believers only had a short exposure to Paul's teaching, and the Old 2. Testament scriptures, but that was enough to come to know these facts
- The 'but' of 5:1 is in contrast to the 'but' in 4:13... They had to be taught by Paul 3. the information about the sequence and quality of the Rapture event
- 4:13 and 5:1 both have the address being to 'brothers', this is common by Paul 4. when he teaches, to give those taught a personal family relationship to himself. 5. Pronouns, 'you' and 'they', are used to distinguish between 'you' believers who
- know the facts about the 'day of the Lord', & 'they' who do not know these facts. 6. 3 facts are given about the coming 'day of the Lord', two are of human perspective and then one of God's perspective.
  - > People are unprepared for the 'day of the Lord', focus is peace and security
  - People are surprised by the sudden unexpected arrival of the Lord's day
  - People will not have anyway to escape the day of the Lord, a double negative
  - is used to point this out in the Greek. 'also no, they do not escape'

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#### Note: 6 times in 1 Thess is this Hope on Him & His Coming

- \*1:3 ... steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ
- \*1:10 ... you are waiting for His Son in Confident Hope
- \*2:19 ... in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming

\*3:13 ... so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints. \*4:16 ... For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven ... and the dead in

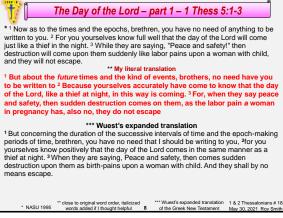
Christ will rise first.<sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.

\*5:23 Now 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.

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<sup>24</sup> Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass...

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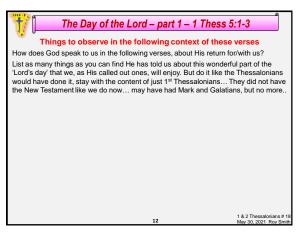
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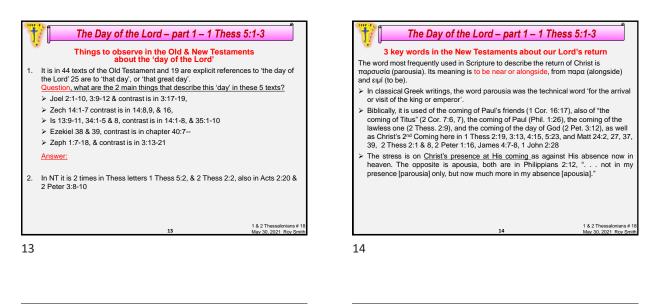
### Things to observe in the preceding context of these verses

- 1. These believers had turned toward the living God and away from idols
- These believers had believed the words they were given about God 2.
- God had made these believers to be outstanding examples of His new in kind 3. called out ones.
- These believers had a focus on the coming of our Lord but not some details of His coming to take them to be with Him.
- Paul tells them what he had from the Lord, specifically about those who are 5. asleep now as believers coming with the Lord when He returns to gather His called out ones unto Himself. 4:15 ... 'by the word of the Lord'
- 6 Paul tells them that we our Lord's called out ones will be with our Lord forever Paul tells them to comfort one another with this information

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ipture is from NASU 1995





The 2<sup>nd</sup> word for Christ's return is άποκάλυψις (apokalupsis), It is made up of άπό and καλύπτω, and means a laying bare, making naked, or in a broader sense, to uncover, to unveil, and hence reveal.

- > The title of the last book of the Bible, as indicated in Rev. 1:1, is this very word.
- Like parousia, it is used for the coming of Christ in the air (1 Cor. 1:7; Col 3:4; and 1 Pet. 1:7, 13), and for the return of Christ to earth (Luke 17:30; 2 Thess. 1:7; and 1 Pet. 4:13).
- The importance of apokalupsis is that it speaks of the future manifestation of the glory of Christ, when at the rapture the Church will see Him as He is (1 John 3:2), and when at the revelation the world will behold His power and His majesty.

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# 4 major positions among premillennialists as to the time of the rapture of the Church.

(1) The rapture will precede the Tribulation and no member of the true Church will enter into any part of it. That is, the rapture will be pretribulational.

> This is the position held to be correct by Holly Hills Bible Church

(2) Some members of the Church will be raptured before the Tribulation, but believers who are not spiritually mature, or who are not "ready," or "watching" will be forced to endure all or part of its purifying fires in order that their lives may be purged of all dross. That is, there will be a <u>partial rapture</u>.

(3) The Church will be raptured at a point midway through the Tribulation period, generally associated with the resurrection of the two witnesses and the seventh trumpet of Revelation 11, before "wrath" and "great tribulation" are poured out upon the earth. That is, the rapture will be midtribulational.

(4) The Church will go through the entire Tribulation period, the rapture and the revelation of Christ to earth being one simultaneous event at the end of the seven year period. That is, the rapture will be posttribulational.

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The 3<sup>rd</sup> word for Christ's return is έπιφάυεια (epiphaneia), from έπί and φαυής to bring forth into the light, to cause to shine, to show, hence an appearing.

- Classic Greek used to express daybreak or dawn, or the appearances of deities.
- In the New Testament, it is found in the writings of Paul: 2 Thess. 2:8; 1 Tim. 6:14; 2 Tim. 1:10; 4:1; 4:8 and Titus 2:13. In Acts 27:20 it is used of the reappearing of stars and in Luke 1:79, it is used of Christ's incarnation.
- > 1 Tim. 6:14 and 2 Tim. 4:8, at least, refer to the rapture.
- Titus 2:13 seems to bring into contrast two expectations of Christ, "the 'blessed hope' of Christ's return for us, and the 'glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ,' which will change the 'present world' of Titus 2:12 to millennial conditions."
- The importance of the word is in the fact that Christ's coming will be a positive manifestation and a visible reality.

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