

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan**I THESSALONIANS 5*****I Thessalonians 5***

"But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness" (Thessalonians 5:1-5)

I Thessalonians 5 covers the subject of the "Day of the LORD" as it relates to the previous verses in the previous chapter 4:1-18. Paul has just written to them about the "Rapture" of the believers who will be alive when the Lord Jesus comes after His own in the clouds. This word, translated "caught up," is the Greek word ***harpadzo***. The Latin word root is "***Rapt***," which is in English ***to snatch away, to catch away***, hence, translated ***caught up***. Paul wrote this to comfort and not to scare or disturb the Thessalonian believers by what he was sharing with them.

In chapter five, he speaks of the "***Day of the LORD***." Notice the word Lord is in all capital letters, "LORD," and that is on purpose. This is a reference to a day that the Old Testament prophets used often. Thirteen of the sixteen prophets speak of "***The Day of the LORD***." This event, or series of events, is talked about in past, present, and prophetic/future terms. The Day of the LORD is most widely associated with the prophet Joel. I would suggest you read that short but instructive book of prophecy when you are able to do so.

The Day of the LORD is usually a time of Judgment and God's wrath being poured out on a sinful people, and in I Thessalonians 5, the future ultimate fulfillment is in view. This day was not to be feared or to be an event or time of concern as the Apostle said, that it was not for them, but for those who would not be delivered from it. It is a dreaded day in the Scriptures when the stored-up wrath of God from when time began and Satan tempted man to sin. The ultimate fulfillment of the Day of the LORD will be during the days the Lord Jesus called the "Great Tribulation."



ON THE WAY

Prayer and Action Steps

Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness to those who belong to You. Thank You that because of our sure relationship with You, we do not need to fear the coming judgment. You are our Savior. May my life be a life of purity and godliness as I look for Your soon coming. Amen