An Argument, An Identity, and A Game Plan

I Thessalonians 5:1-11

July 28th, 2019

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I Thessalonians - Paul teaching and encouraging a beloved community of believers!

Setting the scene: I Thessalonians 4:16-18

A loud command!
The voice of the arch-angel!
Trumpet call of God!

Article 24: The Reign of God

We place our hope in the reign of God and in its fulfillment in the day when Christ our ascended Lord will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. He will gather his church, already living under the reign of God according to the pattern of God's future. We believe in God's final victory, in the end of this present age of struggle between good and evil, in the resurrection of the dead, and in the appearance of a new heaven and a new earth. There the people of God will reign with Christ in justice, righteousness, and peace.

"The coming of the Lord will be like a thief in the night" --Jesus, Paul, and Peter Sudden Surprising Separating

But "when" Lord?

--Not for you to know...

It's a useless argument, one to be dismissed.

Not even the angels in heaven know, only the Father.

Rather than expend any energy trying to know when, we must instead be READY!

v. 4-5: An Identity to be embraced!

We who believe are "sons" of Light! Sons and daughters of the Day!

We are now the "light of the world" also! Just like Jesus!

Can you express the Fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life?

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness and Self-control

Also Colossians 3:12-17

V. 6-8: A Strategy to Employ!

Self-Control

FAITH and LOVE as a breastplate

HOPE of Salvation as a helmet

Something breaks your Heart?
Apply Faith to protect yourself!
Someone hurts you?
Apply Love to them (even in conflict)!
Our Enemy hassles you?
Apply our Hope to protect your mind!

v. 9-10-11: Encourage and build each other up!

The end of the story is already written for us and our enemy!

Let's live like that today!

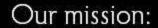
When Peace Like a River Verse #4:

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend; even so, it is well with my soul.

Verse 3:

My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!





To be a magnet, drawing people who need Jesus to know and grow in him.

REACH · TEACH · CARE · PRAISE · BLAZE

Prayer Family this Week Matt, Jen and Lily Yoder



