

“This We Declare”

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

April 7, 2013

God Has Predestined His Children Not To Wrath But For Salvation Through Jesus Christ, (vs. 5: 9)

II We must pay much closer attention to how we put into practice what we say we believe, (vs. 4: 1 – 5: 28)

B. The revelation of God requires that His children be informed about the reality of the last day, (vs. 4: 13 – 5: 11)

8. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Require Present Events As A “Trigger”, (vs. 3)

3.1) Many Have A False Sense Of Security Because Nothing Is Happening **“Saying ‘Peace & Security’”-**

“Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot – they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all – so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. On that day, let the one who is on the housetop, with his goods in the house, not come down to take them away, and likewise let the one who is in the field not turn back. Remember Lot’s wife. Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it. I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed. One will be taken and the other left. There will be two women grinding together. One will be taken and the other left.” And they said to him, “Where, Lord?” He said to them, “Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.”” (Luke 17:28–37, ESV)

3.2) Many will Be Eternally Destroyed For The Hardness Of Heart **“Sudden Destruction Will**

Come (Pres.Mid.Ind)”- *“Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon, and they came to him with one accord, and having persuaded Blastus, the king’s chamberlain, they asked for peace, because their country depended on the king’s country for food. On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them. And the people were shouting, “The voice of a god, and not of a man!” Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last. But the word of God increased and multiplied.” (Acts 12:20–24, ESV)*

3.3) Destruction Is Not Circumstantial But Ontological **“As Labor Pains / Pregnant Woman (Perf.Act.Part)”-**

“Wail, for the day of the LORD is near; as destruction from the Almighty it will come! Therefore all hands will be feeble, and every human heart will melt. They will be dismayed: pangs and agony will seize them; they will be in anguish like a woman in labor. They will look aghast at one another; their faces will be aflame. Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it.” (Isaiah 13:6–9, ESV)

3.4) Many Are Trusting In A Last Minute Salvation That Isn’t Coming **“Will Not Escape (Aor.Act.Sub)”-**

“Thus you witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.” (Matthew 23:31–36, ESV)

1) “For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment; 2) if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; 3) if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; 4) and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); 5) then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority. 6) Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones,” (2 Peter 2:4–10, ESV)

- 1) As an example God has judged even the angels who have rebelled against Him.
- 2) As an example God judged the world at that time but saved Noah.
- 3) As an example God judged Sodom & Gomorrah but saved Lot & his family.
- 4) As an example Lot was grieved by the wickedness around him and proved his love of God
- 5) All these point to God’s judgment & preservation of His people.
- 6) Many will not heed the examples that God has given.

How are you missing the warnings that God has given by looking for the “initiating even.”

9. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Protects The Child Of God From Surprise, (vs. 4)
10. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is An Ontological Matter Not Just Theological, (vs. 5)
11. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Must Make Distinctions Between Persons, (vs. 6-7)
12. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is Not Escapism But Marching Orders, (vs. 8)
13. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Mandates The Active Declaration Of The Gospel, (vs. 9)
14. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Focus On The Timing Of The Day, (vs. 10)
15. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Focuses On The Building Of Christ's Church More & More, (vs. 11)

C. The revelation of God requires that His children are found blameless at the Lord's return, (vs. 5: 12 - 28)

III We must pay much closer attention to why we must live with self discipline under God's word, (2 Ths. 1: 1-3: 18)

- A. The wrath of God is a very present reality for those who do not believe the gospel, (vs. 1: 1 - 12)
- B. The wrath of God is a very present reality governed by the ordained decrees of God, (vs. 2: 1 - 17)
- C. The wrath of God is a very present reality that must be avoided even in its temporal aspects, (vs. 3: 1 - 18)