

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

1) 06 March	1Thessalonians 1:1-10	Commended
2) 13 March	1Thessalonians 2:1-12	Shared
3) 20 March	1Thessalonians 2:13-20	Response Required
4) 27 March	1Thessalonians 3:1-13	Encouraged
5) 03 April	1Thessalonians 4:1-12	Demonstrated
6) 10 April	1Thessalonians 4:13-18	Promised
7) 17 April	Matthew 28	Risen
<b>8) 24 April</b>	<b>1Thessalonians 5:1-11</b>	<b>Returning</b>
9) 01 May	1Thessalonians 5:12-28	Living
10) 08 May	2Thessalonians 1:1-12	Enduring
11) 15 May	2Thessalonians 2:1-12	Observing
12) 22 May	2Thessalonians 2:13-17	Praying
13) 29 May	2Thessalonians 3:1-18	Waiting

**INTRODUCTION**

- What and when is the DAY OF THE LORD?
- Is the DAY OF THE LORD the same as the Rapture?
- Is the DAY OF THE LORD the same as the DAY OF CHRIST?
- Or was it in 70 A.D. when the Jerusalem Temple was destroyed?

Passage	Comments
1Thes 5:1-2	<p><b>The “Day of the Lord” Comes as a Thief in the Night</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Day of the Lord</b> equates to judgment..... <b>2Pet 3:10</b> So, this is not the Rapture event or the Day of Christ.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ More than likely, the Day of the Lord is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Christ at the end of the 7-year Tribulation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The 1<sup>st</sup> incidence of the Day of the Lord is in <b>Isa 2:12</b>, and there are 20 references in the OT, &amp; 5x in the NT.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Add a few others for the coming of the “Son of Man”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• In contrast, the <b>Day of Christ</b> is used 3x in the NT (<b>1Cor 1:8; Phil 1:6, 10; 2:16</b>) and could easily refer to the Rapture of the Lord’s church; and the “<b>Day of the Lord Jesus</b>” is used once (<b>1Cor 5:5</b>).                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ We also have the “day of redemption” (<b>Eph 4:30</b>); the “day of God” (<b>2Pet 3:12</b>); the “last day” (<b>Jn 6:39</b>); the “great day” (<b>Jude 6</b>); and “that day” (<b>2Thes 1:10</b>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Context determines whether this special Day refers to a near term fulfillment of judgment (e.g., Assyrian or Babylonian or Roman destruction) or an event at the end of time; or even a partial near term fulfillment with culmination just prior to the Great White Throne Judgment.</li> </ul>

**Bible Dictionary Definition:** The “**Day of the Lord**” is an eschatological term referring to the consummation of God’s Kingdom and triumph over His foes and deliverances of His people. It begins at the second coming and will include the final judgment. It will remove class distinction (**Isa 2:12-21**), abolish sin (**2Pet 3:11-13**), and will be accompanied by social calamities and physical cataclysms (**Matt 24; Luk 21:7-33**). It will include the millennial judgment (**Rev 4:1-19:6**) and culminate in the new heaven and the new earth (**Isa 65:17; 66:22; Rev 21:1**)

5:3	<p><b>There is PEACE &amp; SAFETY before KABOOM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibly the peace &amp; safety referenced here alludes to the first 3.5 years of the 7-year tribulation, then the “labor pangs” could be the final 3.5 yrs, which they cannot escape from alludes to God’s Wrath in the 7 Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls</li> <li>• We cannot be dogmatic but only speculative since Christ was intentionally vague about the end times ..... <b>Mat 24:44</b></li> <li>• Remember, God even keeps Satan in the dark</li> </ul>
5:4-7	<p><b>We are Sons of Light – So Be Alert and Sober and Pray</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are to be awake, alert, and in control ..... <b>Rev 16:15</b></li> <li>• Shame on us if we live without thinking of the future</li> <li>• The wicked do not consider the consequences of their fate, actions, or lifestyles..... <b>Lam 1:9; Hag 1:5-7</b></li> </ul>
5:8-10	<p><b>The Secret of Faith, Hope, and Love → Protection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v8. Soberness or self-control is highlighted for the 2nd time                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ WE NEED TO DO SOME THINGS</li> </ul> </li> <li>• We are not “designed” or “appointed” for judgment or wrath</li> <li>• Christ’s death made it possible for us to be with Him whether we are alive or dead when He comes for His Church</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
5:11	<p><b>Encouragement is a GOAL – BUT HOW?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Therefore encourage one another and build up each other”                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Tell others what a great job they are doing</li> <li>♦ Don’t be silent with your honest praise of others</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**SUPPORTING NT PASSAGES ON THE DAY OF THE LORD**

- Mat 24:42.** “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on **what day your Lord will come**.”
- Mat 24:44.** So you also must be ready, because the **Son of Man will come at an hour** when you do not expect him.
- Mat 25:13.** “Keep watch, because **you do not know the day or the hour**.”
- Mark 13:35.** “Therefore keep watch because **you do not know when the owner of the house will come back**”
- Luke 12:39.** But understand this: If the owner of the house had **known at what hour the thief was coming**, he would not have let his house be broken into.
- Luke 12:40.** You also must be ready, because the **Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.**”
- 2Pet 3:10.** But **the day of the Lord will come like a thief**. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid waste. [This is definitely Post-Mill]
- Rev 16:15.** “I come like a thief! **Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him**, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed.”

**Note:** These Gospel passages could allude to the Rapture, but they seem to allude more to the Post-Mill event when Jesus suddenly casts Satan & his hordes of minions into the Lake of Fire, & proceeds with the Great White Throne Judgment prior to creating the New Heavens & Earth.

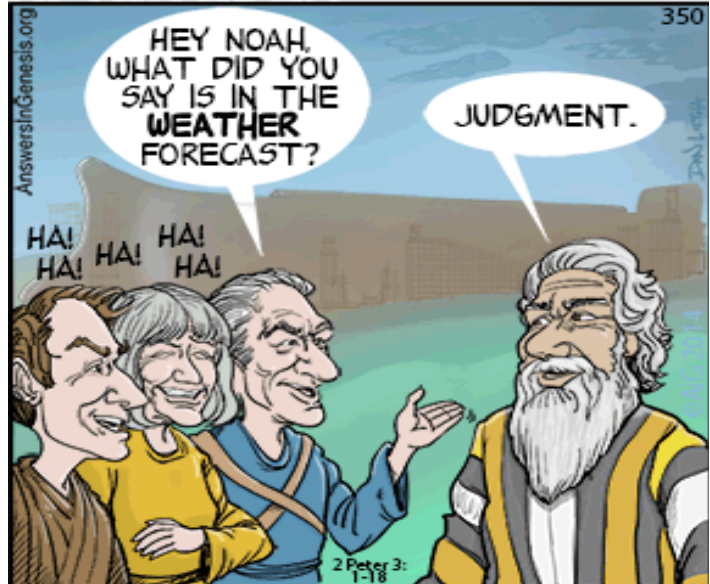
**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- The Rapture and the Day of the Lord are 2 separate events, 7 years apart, assuming the teachings of the Pre-Trib Rapture, the Pre-Mill return of Christ, & the Post-Mill reconstruction of the earth are correct
- In the end, God accomplishes His mission – to enable us to stand blameless before Him. So, be a Pan-Mil – Things will Pan out in the end.
- Why is this head knowledge so important? As **Col 1:10** emphasizes, we can be more fruitful as we increase in the knowledge of God, for sound doctrine not only saves/protects us from deception and eternal harm but also saves/protects others as well ..... **1Tim 4:16**

**NEXT WEEK: 1Thes 5:12-28.** How should we “keep watch” for the Lord’s eminent return?

**AFTER EDEN**

by Dan Lietha



**“For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying, and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark” (Mt 24:37-38)**