



I THESSALONIANS

Part Forty-Nine: "I Thessalonians 5 - Paul's Instruction in Readiness"

1 Thessalonians 5:1-5 - READY THINKING

1. The believer doesn't need signs. 1.

- a. This is written to believers. *brethren*
- b. Our comfort comes from God's Word, not from current events. *But*
- c. Believers are curious about when the Rapture will happen. *of the times and the seasons*
- d. Believers do not need to know when the Rapture will happen. *ye have no need that I write unto you*

2. The Day of the Lord will be sudden. 2-3.

- a. It's imminence is known to every believer. *For yourselves know perfectly*
- b. The Bible clearly warns us that Christ is coming. *that the day of the Lord so cometh*
- c. The Bible repeatedly compares Christ's return to a thief breaking in. *as a thief in the night*
- d. The unbeliever is not anticipating Christ's return.

1) They are striving for peace without Christ's return.

For when they shall say, Peace and safety

2) Just when they think they've attained peace they will suffer destruction.

then sudden destruction cometh upon them

3) This sudden destruction will change everything. *as travail upon a woman with child*

4) There is no escape from this sudden destruction. *and they shall not escape*

3. Only the unprepared will be caught by surprise. 4-5.

- a. Believers are not floundering in the darkness of unbelief. *But ye, brethren, are not in darkness*
- b. The Day of the Lord will not be as a thief to the believer.

that that day should overtake you as a thief

c. It is essential that we be conscious of our identity in Christ.

1) Know who you are.

a) You are a Bible believer, in the light of faith. *Ye are all the children of light*

b) You are born again, with a new nature. *and the children of the day*

2) Know who you are not.

a) You are not condemned. *we are not of the night*

b) You are not in the darkness of unbelief. *nor of darkness*