

1.

LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT—9

“Falling Asleep With The Lights On”

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Introduction: _____

I. FIRST, NOTICE THE MEANING OF THE DAY OF THE LORD (1 Thessalonians 5:1-2).

A. First, notice how it is described in the Old Testament.

B. Secondly, note how it is displayed in the New Testament.

II. SECONDLY, NOTE THE MESSAGE OF THE DAY OF THE LORD (1 Thessalonians 5:3-5).

A. First, there is the response of excitement for the unsaved, but judgment will come suddenly (5:3).

B. Secondly, there is the response of expectation for the saved, because they will be raptured (5:4-5).

III. THIRDLY, CONSIDER THE MANDATE OF THE DAY OF THE LORD (1 Thessalonians 5:6-11).

A. First, the teaching of the Day of the Lord exhorts us (5:6-8).

1. First, Paul exhorts us (believers) NOT to have the posture of the unsaved, which is characterized by sleep (5:6-71).

2. Secondly, he exhorts us (believers) TO have the position of the saved, which is characterized by sobriety (4:7b-8).

B. Secondly, the teaching of the Day of the Lord _____ us (5:9-11).

1. First, our excitement is a result of our being _____ and ready (5:8b).

a. First, we are armed with a _____ (5:8b). “... *putting on the breastplate of faith and love* ...”

b. Secondly, we are armed with a _____ (5:8c).

(1) What the “*helmet of salvation*” _____ mean.

(2) What the “*helmet of salvation*” _____ mean.

2. Secondly, our excitement is a result of our being _____ and realistic (5:9a).

While many good folks differ on this matter, it is with confidence we share the Pre-tribulation rapturist view of the Rapture. Several reasons why we hold this view:

2.

- 3.**
- a. First, because of the _____ of the church (Colossians 2:17-19).
 - b. Secondly, because of the _____ of the Great Tribulation (Revelation 3:10; Philippians 3:20).
 - c. Thirdly, because of the _____ of Christ's imminent return (1 Corinthians 15:51-58).
 - d. Fourthly, because of the _____ of the seven churches (Revelation 3:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:9).

3. Thirdly, our excitement is a reaction to our _____ as children of God (5:9b-10).

4. Fourthly, our excitement is revealed by the _____ of personal comfort (5:11).

CONCLUSION: In the light of these encouraging word and challenging words, there flows two exhortations:

1. To you who ARE saved, just because you are secure in the Lord Jesus, don't become _____.

2. To you who ARE NOT saved, don't put off salvation and remain _____.