

W @ K L J P r a J @ r J O U r n a l

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

"...Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come."

1 Thessalonians 1:10b

DECEMBER 2 - 8, 2007

THE LORD'S DAY – This week we center our study on the small phrase found in **verse 10** at the end of **chapter 1**. The text itself explains that it is concerned with “Jesus”, “us”, and “the wrath to come”. Paul has just opened this Epistle by listing the traits that identify The Elect of God (**Verses 1-10a**). He illustrated what the life of a believer looks like by speaking to the example found demonstrated in the lives of the Thessalonians. He then winds up speaking to the hope that all true believers have; namely, deliverance through Jesus Christ. Paul explains that this deliverance is in Jesus Christ who we wait for to return to earth, for as he says, “we wait for His (God The Father) Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come”. Read **1 Thessalonians 1**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Ask the Lord to teach you from His Word this week.*

MONDAY –As I have mentioned before many people turn to Thessalonians when studying eschatology (the study of last things). The phrase in **verse 10** is often believed by people to be speaking of deliverance from God’s wrath in The Great Tribulation. Although it is true according to Scripture that Christians are exempt from experiencing the wrath of God, I believe this passage in its context is speaking about eternal wrath rather than the wrath God will bring in The Great Tribulation. The immediate context where Paul is discussing Divine election and salvation rather than eschatology point to the fact he is referring to eternal wrath against sin for as he mentions; we obtain salvation, rescue, and deliverance through Jesus Christ our Lord. Lord willing, at a future time we will get to matters concerning The Great Tribulation and end times events as Paul does get into their specifics as well in these Epistles. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Thank God that by His grace He has appointed you as a believer not to wrath, but to salvation and deliverance through Jesus Christ.*

TUESDAY – I would like to quote Albert Barnes as he comments on the return of Jesus and how it affects the lives of God’s children. Read this quote, along with the

Praise & Prayer	ADORATION Hallowed be Your name. (6:9)	AUTHORITY Your Kingdom come... (6:10)	APPEAL Give us this day... (6:11)	AQUITTAL Forgive us our debts... (6:12)	ASSISTANCE Deliver us from evil. (6:13a)	ADMIRATION For Yours is the Kingdom... (6:13)	Lord's Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

M a t t h @ W 6: 9-13

Scriptures listed: “This is one of the instances which demonstrate that the doctrine that the Lord Jesus will return to our world is fitted, when understood in the true sense revealed in the Scriptures, to exert a powerful influence on the souls of men. It is eminently adapted to comfort the hearts of true Christians in the sorrows, bereavements, and sicknesses of life, **John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 1Thessalonians 4:13-18; 2 Peter 3:8,9**; to lead us to watchfulness, and to an earnest inquiry into the question whether we are prepared to meet him, **Matthew 24:37-44; 25:13**; to make us dead to the world, and to lead us to act as becomes the children of light, **1 Thessalonians 5:5-9**; to awaken and arouse impenitent and careless sinners, **1 Thessalonians 5:2,3; 2 Peter 3:3-7**; and to excite Christians to self-denying efforts to spread the gospel in distant lands, as was the case at Thessalonica. Every doctrine of the gospel is adapted to produce some happy practical effects on mankind; but there are few that are more full of elevated and holy influences than that which teaches that the Lord Jesus will return to the earth, and which leads the soul to wait for his appearing”.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Dear God, help me to live a life that is pleasing to You and that shows in my behavior I am looking and longing for Your appearing.*

WEDNESDAY – As we begin to look beyond the event of the return of Jesus we find our text speaks about “*wrath to come*”. In the next several days we will look at the “*wrath*” itself as well as the blessed fact that as God’s Elect Children we have deliverance through Jesus. There is an unavoidable reality that people in their ignorant naivety (often purposeful) fail to realize and think about; namely, that there is a promised “*wrath to come*”. I think of The Apostle Paul’s words in **2 Corinthians 5** where he is speaking about the coming time of reckoning and judgment of ALL men and he says, “...*knowing, therefore, the terror of The Lord, we persuade men*”. My beloved, understand there is great wrath coming against ungodliness and sin and we must live with this mindset, that this life is temporary and the future life to come is forever. It is so important, to be waiting for His Son, to understand that this life isn’t everything. This safeguards us against living for materialism and worldly wealth, fame, luxury, etc... As Jesus said, “*a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions*” (**Luke 12:15**). This also helps us put environmentalism in proper place. As John MacArthur has said, “If you think we’re messing up the earth, wait till you see what Jesus does to it when He gets here.” Read **2 Corinthians 5:1-21**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Father, may I never forget that I deserve Your wrath, and praise You for salvation by Grace through faith in Jesus atoning death for me.*

THURSDAY –The Scriptures have much to say about Divine “*wrath*”. In this weekly study, we could never examine all the Scripture dealing with this topic.

The Greek word used in the text for “*wrath*” is orge which means “anger, wrath, indignation, movement or agitation of the soul, impulse, desire, any violent emotion, but especially anger”. People so quickly assume that all anger is sinful, while the Scripture is clear in saying that there is an anger that is not tainted with sin and furthermore we are to exhibit it (**Psalm 4:4, Ephesians 4:26**). God Himself exhibits a holy, righteous anger against sin for He is 100% holy and pure. Jesus spoke of the “*wrath of God*” and He said it “*abideth*” or literally that it “*remains*” on the man who does not believe Jesus Christ. Divine wrath is real; it exists and is being “*stored up*” against the ungodly who do not trust in Christ for salvation (**Romans 2:5**). It is a fearful thought to realize that unforgiven human beings, who die without Jesus Christ as their substitute for sins penalty and punishment will one day experience the fury, indignation, and wrath of The Divine, Almighty God against them for their sin and disobedience. Read **Romans 2:1-16**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: *God, help me to be angry at sin, especially the sin I see in my own life and remember Your offer of forgiveness to a repentant soul.*

FRIDAY – In speaking of the wrath of God we see that God’s coming, future wrath against sin will be displayed in righteous and just judgment as well as His wrath which “*remains*” and is currently “*on*” the person who “*believeth not The Son*” Jesus Christ (**John 3:36**). In **verse 10**, our text is speaking of God’s wrath that culminates in eternal punishment in hell for one’s sin that was never paid for in & on Jesus Christ. The text says so beautifully that we as believers wait for The Son, “...*even Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come*”. Jesus has delivered us as God’s children by bearing our sin and it’s punishment on Himself at the cross and He will deliver us in the future from any coming judgment for sin because He dealt with it, “*once for all*”. Read **Hebrews 10:11-14**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Dear Jesus, thank You for Your “once for all” sacrifice..*

SATURDAY –Make no mistake, as John the Baptist said, wrath is coming (**Matthew 3:7**) and it will be fierce, frightening, final, and forever. But the good news is found in the great promises of Scripture and of Almighty God which is stated by The Apostle Paul in **Romans 5:9** and **1 Thessalonians 5:9**. Let us live with this great understanding of God’s wondrous grace offered in the Gospel through Jesus.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Dear God, eternal thanks be unto You who by Your grace alone have made forgiveness not only possible, but effectual to us who believe.*