



How To Be: Part Two

...continued from May 2023.

The Day of the Lord

(1 Th 5:1-4 KJV) But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. {2} For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. {3} For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. {4} But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

Verse 1 states that there is no need to write about the times and the seasons related to the day of the Lord. What is the Day of the Lord?



‘Times’ is the Greek word chronos, meaning ‘a space of time.’ “Seasons’ is the Greek word Kairos, meaning ‘occasion-set or proper time.’ We know that we can’t know the space of time AND the set occasion of proper time of Day of the Lord. That is a fact. Is the Day of the Lord the end of the world?

I’ll bet ...

I’ll bet you a dollar to a donut that the following short list all seemed like the end of the world to those present:

- The 72AD (so we’re told) burning of Rome.

- The more recent, world-wide mud floods.
- World War I.
- Germany’s second defeat in World War II.
- The Holocaust.
- Black Death.
- African Slave Trade.
- 9/11.
- The Crusades.
- The Great Depression.
- Rise of Communism.
- Japan’s grave losses due to the World War II Atomic bombings.
- Orchestrated pandemics during the recent 200 years or so.

Also, notably, election of opposing governmental leaders, introduction of new and daunting laws and fears, skeptical safety concerns related to home and family, mass hysteria related to newly introduced social revolutions, demise of landmark societies and standards thought to be indestructible, broadcasted facts and figures claimed to be absolute proof of biblical quips and facts, unending wars, mass genocides, over-reaching fam-

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ines, diseases and abstract weather patterns, personal sicknesses, family problems, financial debt and uncertainty—all lead to a single conclusion—that the end is near.

The End is Near

If we could listen in on the voices issuing from catastrophic events, surely we'd hear them say, 'the end is near.' During the USA Soviet Union Cold War, countless households built underground bunkers for their own safety and protection. Many movies documented use of these frail attempts of seclusion and avoidance. Newspaper oracles broadcasted the voices of their gods, making claims of the near end. Out of all of these, we are still here. The end wasn't near, no nearer than a few days ago that is. Quite honestly, when the human soul is involved, the sentiment from any situation could be twisted and turned into facts and fears of impending doom—and usually is.

Many followers of Nietzsche claim their dead leader's 1882 belief that God is dead. This German philosopher made this statement thrice in *The Gay Science*. The fol-

lowers continue a theology without a theos (god). Based on the hordes of followers it assumes, surely this boldness ushered in the beginning of the end.

Or what about Klaus Schwab and today's World Economic Forum who have also declared on November 29, 2022 that God is dead. They believe that their leaders have acquired divine powers to rule over humanity. They have announced that a new one world religion has arrived and it unites all of humanity. They believe that 'Jesus is fake news.'

In 1966, *Time* magazine published a cover story called "Is God Dead?" The bold red words were placed on a stark black background. Simon Raven, *The Survivors*, states "He has no control in it or over it. God, as God, is dead."

At the root of godless philosophies, many, including George Hammond, believe God doesn't exist. Hammond stated, "God is not dead. He is just not God."

These and many others abound in all major world philosophical forums includ-

ing world religions, social organizations and Sunday churches. And, many heads of the popular social medium outlets grope under their conference tables and snivel at their feet. If one were to collect the numbers and review them for impact, the end of a godless world has begun and ended many times over.

Under iron-clad Roman rule, surely the first Century Church Christians thought that the return of Christ was upon them. This thought was so prevalent that they had to be warned against the forged belief. We are to adhere to the identical warnings.

The Day of the Lord

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{4} But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

The day of the lord will come as a thief in the night. They shall say, 'peace and safety.'

Sudden destruction will come upon them who are saying 'peace and safety.' They shall not escape.

Christians are not in darkness.

The day of the lord shall not overtake Christians.

The thief shall not overtake Christians.

The day of the Lord is a period of time when the Lord God will rule, will deal out his wrath, will overtake satan, will confront the thief, and will bring forth light. His people need not worry about the timing of this day, their safety or their salvation. God is the only one who knows the timing—no man ever shall. God has guaranteed his family's safety; God has guaranteed YOUR salvation.

Peace and Safety

All could admit that, in our day and time, we do not have any semblance of peace and safety. In fact, we are overcome with instability, chaos and catastrophic fears. We are inundated with historic haunts and future demonic possibilities. Let us not play into the thief's hand by thinking peace and safety abound—they do not.

They Shall Not Escape

Upon the heels of reality's outpouring of peace and safety comes death and destruction that *they* shall not escape. Christians shall not be present; Christians shall not be overtaken by darkness or God's wrath. No well-devised bunker, underground tunnel system, tiny home, rock cliff, airplane, auto, vehicle or conveyance shall save *them*. Of this God's Word is clear.

I shall diverge for a moment.

People who have the ability to put on faith and love, and the hope of salvation, are people of light and of the day. Except for a wolf in sheep's clothing, darkness and night can never allude

faith and love, and hope of salvation. Dark and night will endure God's wrath. 'Wrath' refers to God's punishment. Christians will never have to endure God's wrath/punishment. This is a fact of Christian-living. These words are supposed to edify and comfort Christians.

End Times Exhortations:

(1 Th 5:1 KJV) But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

Verse 1 contains a negative exhortation—But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

(1 Th 5:5-6 KJV) Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. {6} Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

In contrast, verses 5-6 contain positive exhortations—

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Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. {6} Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.

We are not to be soon shaken in mind [nous - understanding].

One of the most powerfully significant passages regarding the return of Jesus Christ and the day of the Lord is in 2 Thessalonians 2:

(2 Th 2:1-4 KJV) Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and *by* our gathering together unto him, {2} That [To the end that] ye be not soon [quickly] shaken in [from] mind [your understanding], or [nor] be troubled [frightened], neither by spirit [spirit-communication], nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ [kurion – lord] is at hand. {3} Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man

of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; {4} Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

Verse 1:

Sets a standard of belief as the gathering together and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. This belief is to rule over our understanding of the ‘end times.’

Translated ‘the day of Christ,’ is a forgery, it should be ‘the day of the Lord.’ These 4 verses begin talking about the coming of our lord Jesus Christ, but the subject quickly changes to the day of the Lord, a totally different event.

Verse 2:

Contains a grave mistranslation that misguides most Bible students. The word ‘Christ’ is not in the text; the word ‘lord’ is. The day spoken of in verse 2 is the Day of the Lord, not the day of Christ.

More to follow.

Much Love in Christ,

Jerry D. Brown