

SERMON NOTES

October 18, 2009

The Promise that Makes all the Difference

(1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

- I. **You know what you need to know, Christ is coming again!**
(v. 1) Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you.

- II. **You know that Christ will come without warning.**
(v. 2) For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.

- III. **Christ's return will catch many by surprise, and they will bear the consequences.**
(v.3) While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

- IV. **The profound change in your life has prepared you for this great event.**
(vs.4-5) ⁴But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief; ⁵for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness...

- V. **Live expectantly out of your new nature, not your old nature.**
*(vs.6-8) ⁶...so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober. ⁷For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we are of **the** day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.*

- VI. **Never lose sight of God's loving intention for you.**
(vs.9-10) ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him.