STUDYING THE BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Lesson 7 - The Coming of the Lord (continued) - 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Read the following verses in the New International Version or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets. Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.

1TH 5:1 Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, [2] for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3] While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

1TH 5:4 But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. [5] You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. [6] So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. [7] For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. [8] But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. [9] For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. [10] He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. [11] Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 7 - The Coming of the Lord (continued) - 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

- 61. When will the Lord return? (5:1-2)
- 62. How will the Lord return? (5:1-3)
- 63. What contrast is there between believers and non-believers? (5:4-8)
- 64. What should we do to get ready for the Lord's return? (5:6-8)
- 65. What roles should faith, hope, and love play in our lives? (5:8)
- 66. To what does God appoint believers? (5:9-10)
- 67. For what reason can we be assured of our salvation? (5:9-10)
- 68. How should a believer use this information to help others? (5:11)

Lesson 8 - Final Instructions - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

1TH 5:12 Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. [13] Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. [14] And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. [15] Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.

1TH 5:16 Be joyful always; [17] pray continually; [18] give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1TH 5:19 Do not put out the Spirit's fire; [20] do not treat prophecies with contempt. [21] Test everything. Hold on to the good. [22] Avoid every kind of evil.

1TH 5:23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. [24] The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

1TH 5:25 Brothers, pray for us. [26] Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. [27] I charge you before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers.

1TH 5:28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 8 - Final Instructions - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

- 69. How does God want us to regard church elders? (5:12-13)
- 70. How does God want us to treat each other? (5:13-15)
- 71. What attitudes represent God's will for us? (5:16-18)
- 72. How should we pray? (5:17)
- 73. When should we give thanks? (5:18)
- 74. What is God's will for us? (5:16-18)
- 75. How should we show respect for the Holy Spirit's presence in us? (5:19-22)
- 76. What does God want to happen inside us? (5:23)
- 77. For what reason can we depend on God? (5:24)

- 78. What kind of affection did Paul have for the Thessalonian Christians? (5:26)
- 79. Who was to hear the contents of this letter? (5:27)

Bibliography

New International Version Zondervan Bible Publishers

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DKM 10065 Sun Ridge Circle Rogers, AR 72756 USA