

Sermon Supplement from October 29

Eschatological Faithfulness In The Meantime | 1 Thess. 5:1-11

Warm Up

- Why do you think Christians have always obsessed over end times events?
- What are your thoughts about the importance of eschatology (the doctrine of end times)? Why?

Dig In

Read verses 1-5 | Eschatological Understanding

- What do you think about the “two misses” (fascination with speculation or mindless dismissal) in the study of eschatology? What causes people to tend toward either of these sides?
- In what ways might a deep study of end times prove valuable and profitable?
- What is involved in “the day of the Lord”(v. 2-3)? See Isaiah 13:6-13; Zephaniah 1. Why is this term important for our understanding of the end times?
- What great comfort is found for Christians in verses 4-5?

Read verses 6-11 | Eschatological Faithfulness

- What is Paul getting at with the analogies of sleepy and drunk vs alert and sober in verses 6-8? What does 1 Peter 1:13 add to this understanding?
- How do verses 9-10 help us understand the importance of the Gospel in our eschatology? What comfort is found for Christians in these verses?
- Verse 11 is a restatement of 4:18. Why do you think Paul reiterates this command here? What does Hebrews 10:24-25 have to say about this?

Wrap Up

Eschatological faithfulness balances an intense hope for the future with intensely faithful living in the present. Talk about practical ways we can practice each of the following:

- Study eschatology but avoid the two misses?
- Live differently from a world that thinks this is all there is.
- Avoid overvaluing temporal things and experiences.
- Don't despair over injustice and pain – there will be a day when God settles accounts.
- Encourage other believers and warn those who do not know Jesus.

(Bible Reading Guide and Resources on Other Side)

Weekly Bible Reading Guide – In order to help you engage with God’s Word and our Sunday sermons, we suggest using the exercises below as part of your personal Bible reading and study for the coming week.

Next Week’s Sermon Text - *1 Thessalonians 5:12-28*

Study Exercises (*use as you have time*)

1. Read the text at least 5 times (in different translations if possible)
2. Answer some basic investigative questions such as: *What are important terms or concepts? What is the tone? What is emphasized, repeated or related? Are there significant comparisons or contrasts? What verses or ideas jump out at you?*
3. Make a list of terms, people, places, or ideas that you need to research further? Use a study Bible, Bible dictionary, or digital resources to help you understand these.
4. In your own words, what is the big idea of this text?
5. Consult 1 or more of the resources listed below. How does this expand your understanding of the text?
6. Apply It: What are the major points of application from this text? How does what you have learned impact the way you think, feel, or act?

Resources

- A good Study Bible such as the ESV Study Bible, MacArthur Study Bible, Faithlife Study Bible (free app),
- Video Introduction: Watch The Bible Project summary videos for 1&2 Thessalonians
- Study Guide: [1&2 Thessalonians and Titus](#) MacArthur Bible Study Guide
- Basic Commentary: [1&2 Thessalonians For You](#) Ligon Duncan
- In-depth Commentary: [The Letters to the Thessalonians](#) Pillar New Testament Commentary, Gene L. Green
- In-depth sermon series: Visit gty.org to find John MacArthur’s verse by verse sermon series on these two books.