

DAY OF THE LORD

Introduction to Thessalonians

Day of the Lord

- ▣ Why discuss the “Day of the Lord” as an introduction to Thessalonians?
 - The day is alluded to continually
 - ▣ 1 Thess 1:3; 1:8-10; 2:19; 3:12-13; 4:13-18; 5:1-11, 23
 - ▣ 2 Thess 1:3-10; 2:1-10, 12
 - ▣ Probably also in 1 Thess 2:1, 8, 16; 3:5; 4:1-12
 - Knowledge of the day of the Lord is . . .

a presupposition . . .

which permeated their thinking.

Day of the Lord

- ▣ Where did the Thessalonians' get their mental image of "the Day of the Lord"?
 - From Paul (2 Thess 2:5)
 - From OT Scripture
 - ▣ Obadiah
 - ▣ Joel

What time period is it referring to?

Day of the Lord

Does the Day of the Lord refer to . . .

specific nations or all nations?

past historical events or future events?

▣ Answer:

“All of the above!”

It is a *generic* term!

Day of the Lord

Generic vs. Technical Term

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- ▣ A **Generic Term** refers to a group, frequently as would be understood in common language , (“Blue tooth” referring to a blue colored tooth)
- ▣ **Day of the Lord** . . .
 - ▣ As a technical term refers to a specific event in theological discussions
 - ▣ As a generic term refers to any day which is characterized in some way by the Lord

Day of the Lord

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Day of the Lord

What is **A** “Day of the Lord”?

▣ Characteristics

- ▣ The Lord’s *personal* intervention . . .
- ▣ to *set things right*

Judgment

- *First*: those who represent him
- *Then*: upon all nations

Blessing

- *First*: those who represent him
- *Then*: upon all nations

Day of the Lord

Thessalonians & **THE** Day of the Lord

- ▣ Looking for the future **ultimate reality**
- ▣ It permeated all that they were and did.
 - Turned to God from idols . . .
 - To serve a living and true God . . .
 - And to wait for his son from heaven

***What about US
and THE Day of the Lord??***

Day of the Lord

Our Proper Biblical Response

- ▣ Longing for things to be set right
 - 2 Tim 4:7 – 8
 - Titus 2:11 – 13

***It's about HIS APPEARING,
not our rapture!***

Day of the Lord

Our Proper Biblical Response

- ▣ **Carefulness** that we be found faithful
 - 1 Pet 1:17
 - 2 Pet 3:10–11
 - *Heb 10:30-31*

Act like those who will be giving an account!

Day of the Lord

Our Proper Biblical Response

- ▣ **Carefulness** that we be found faithful
- ▣ **Standard** of God's impending judgment
 - Weightier matters: justice, mercy, faith (Matt 23)
 - Judging others (Rom 14:12-13; James 4:11-12)
 - Complaining (James 5:9)
 - Pride (Jam 5:12)
 - Love (1 Pet 1:17-22; 4:4-8, 17; 1 John 4:16-18)
 - Endurance & Faith (1 Thess 4:4-5; 1 Tim 4:7-8)

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Our Proper Biblical Response

- ▣ *Carefulness* that we be found faithful
- ▣ *Response* to God's impending judgment
 - Endure suffering, with others (Heb 10:30-39)
 - Live for others (2 Cor 5:9-15)
 - Humility with respect to wisdom (1 Cor 3:10-19)