

## A Home Security System – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

How many of you have a home security system?

Are you a Christian, then you too have a home security system!

Maybe not on your earthly home, but you do on your heavenly one!

Scripture speaks of a heavenly home that Jesus is now preparing for us. That when He returns one day, He will take us to be where He is! **John 14:1-3**

Scripture speaks of treasures that are being stored up and protected in this heavenly dwelling, awaiting our arrival! **Matthew 6:19-20**

Scripture speaks of a heavenly security system that will safely & securely bring us into this heavenly dwelling! **2 Timothy 4:18**

What a joy we have, a confidence we share, an anticipation that is rising, knowing that we have a home, an inheritance, a security for our eternity!

This realization is what the Apostle Paul is trying to get across to these Thessalonian Christians here in the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of his letter! But...

The anticipation of this glorious day of Christ's return, & the reception of their heavenly home, led them to want answers from God that He has not revealed!

Christians have always been fascinated with the coming "Day of the Lord", and with "when" it will occur so that we can be prepared for it!

Paul addresses this by saying **"Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you."** – Vs 1

They wanted to know the exact time of Jesus' return, but Jesus himself had already said that he didn't even know the day or the hour! – **Matthew 24:36**

Paul had nothing else to write to the Thessalonians concerning this b/c the teaching of Jesus was clear! The time is unknown except to the Father!

Paul continues, **"For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night."**– Vs. 2; Matt. 24:43-44; 2 Pet. 3:10; Rev. 3:3, 16:15

So when people say that they know when Christ will return – they are wrong!

Even when they say things like "it will be in our lifetime" or "the time is close", it's nothing more than people trying to declare what God has not revealed!

We must not presume upon God! Remember what Peter declared about time in **2 Peter 3:8** – **"But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, & a thousand years as one day."**

So if Paul is choosing not to speak about the "when" of Christ's return, what is he trying to communicate to the Thessalonians about the day of His coming?

That it is coming, so be prepared for it! This is where Paul takes the thief analogy further with the analogy of the woman in labor pains – **vs. 3.**

A thief may never come to your home, but labor pains will come upon the pregnant woman! The Day of the Lord is coming and it will be sudden!

This day will bring both destruction & blessing, both wrath & salvation!

Which side will you be on? Will you be ready when this day does come?

A home security system is put in place to prepare for the day when a thief may break in! The pregnant woman packs a bag so that she is ready to leave when labor comes! How are we preparing in such ways for the Day of the Lord?

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to live as "children of light!" For this is what it means to prepare, to be on guard, ready for Christ's coming- **Vs. 4-8.**

We must be "awake"- alert! We must be "sober"- responsive! We must live by faith! We must put our hope in the promises of God! We must receive the gospel of Jesus Christ for our salvation!

Our heavenly home security system is found in that **"God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with Him!"**- Vs. 9-10

Our eternal peace and security can only be found in what Jesus Christ has already done for us & the confidence that that brings of what lies ahead!

I won't lie to you, the Day of the Lord will literally be "hell" for those who are not prepared to meet Christ! But for those of us who are, heaven is our eternal destination! Are you ready for that day? It could come at any time!

Put in place your eternal home security system – Christ! The price for it has been paid, simply receive it by faith & live in response to what He has done for you, and that which He will bring to completion when He comes again!

Jesus is coming, we don't know when, but will we be ready when He does?

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