

gospel encouragement

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

1 Thessalonians reminds us to continue doing what we already know and are already doing. Chapter five answers the Thessalonians' question about the future return of Jesus Christ in judgment: What will happen to us on the day of the Lord?

I. *You are not in darkness—so God's wrath is not coming on you (vv. 1–4).*

A. God's judgment will be unexpected (v. 3).

B. God's judgment will be sudden and final (v. 3).

II. *You are children of light—so keep awake and be sober (vv. 5–8).*

Them	Us
Darkness	Light
Night	Day
Sleeping	Awake
Drunken	Sober

III. *You are not destined for wrath but salvation—so encourage and edify one another (vv. 9–11).*

Gospel comfort: Jesus' coming judgment reminds that he has saved us from sin and death. It is a message of our certain victory and vindication in Christ.

Jesus has saved us from God's wrath to live with him (cf. 1:10).

Gospel motivation: Jesus' salvation calls us to live Christlike lives. It is a call to fight sin: unbelief, selfishness, and despair.

Jesus has saved us for God's will to live for him.