

I. The world will experience the Day of the Lord (v. 1-3)

A. The exact timing of these events we cannot know

“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” (Matthew 24:36)

B. To the world it will be a sudden surprise

C. The peace and safety on earth will be destroyed

“The great day of the Lord is near – near and coming quickly. Listen! The cry on the day of the Lord will be bitter, the shouting of the warrior there. That day will be day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom.” (Zephaniah 1:14-15)

D. It will grow in intensity

E. It will be inescapable

“How shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation.” (Hebrews 2:3)

II. We are called to walk in the light (v. 4-8)

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light” (Ephesians 5:8)

A. We believe that the Day of the Lord will come

“So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.” (Matthew 24:44)

B. We are called to be different from the unbelieving world

C. We are to live fully awake lives

“Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” (Ephesians 5:14)

D. We are to exercise self-control

E. We are protected by our faith in Christ

“For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world even our faith.” (I John 5:4)

F. We are surrounded by the love of Christ

“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.” (I John 4:16)

G. We are grounded in the hope of Christ

III. We are called to salvation (v. 9-11)

A. God does not desire to bring his wrath upon us

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him.” (John 3:36)

B. God desires to give us salvation in Christ

C. God gives us a life in relationship with him

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.” (John 17:24)

D. God gives us encouragement to live for him