

"Just Wait Till Your Father Gets Home"

2 Thessalonians
October 13, 2013

III We must pay much closer attention to living with self discipline under God's word, (2 Ths. 1: 1-3: 18)

A. The wrath of God is a very present reality for those who do not believe the gospel, (vs. 1: 1 – 12)

5. The Gospel Promises The Real Proof Of Christ's Sovereignty At His Appearing, (vs. 7b – 8)

Message Emphasis: Many do not believe the warning that Christ will return to judge all people. The proof whether we believe this truth or not is found in whether we are willing to warn others about the judgment at Christ's return.

"He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:7-8, ESV)

7.1) Christ Will Return When You Least Expect It; So Be Ready

Our Text Says, **"When The Lord Jesus Is Revealed From Heaven"** – *"Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot – 1) they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, 2) but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all – so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed." (Luke 17:28-30, ESV)*

- 1) Many are consumed with "everyday" things & are unaware of imminent return of Christ *...people hardened by schedules*
- 2) God has appointed a day to judge all people – *"The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead." (Acts 17:30-31, ESV)*

Why should I anxious be? Lights appear on the shore, Storms will affright nevermore, For He is at hand today.

8.2) Christ Will Return For A Specific Reason; So Learn What That Reason Is

Our Text Says, **"Flaming Fire Inflicting (Pres.Act.Part) Vengeance" – 1)** *"For behold, the LORD will come in fire, and his chariots like the whirlwind, 2) to render his anger in fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. 3) For by fire will the LORD enter into JUDGMENT, and by his sword, with all flesh; 4) and those slain by the LORD shall be many." (Isaiah 66:15-16, ESV)*

- 1) Christ will come swiftly and destructively *...many see Christ coming to bring comfort & safety*
- 2) Christ will come to "render" judgment upon those who are not His – *"But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city." (Matthew 22:5-7, ESV)*
- 3) Christ will come because it is His divine nature to do so *...many believe Jesus can change His mind & do what He wishes*
- 4) Christ will come to destroy many – *"And another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over the fire, and he called with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, "Put in your sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe." So the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden outside the city *** (Isaiah 63: 3), and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle, for 1,600 stadia." (Revelation 14:18-20, ESV)*

****"I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their lifeblood spattered on my garments, and stained all my apparel." (Isaiah 63:3, ESV)*

All ye that fear Jehovah's name, His glory tell, His praise proclaim; Ye children of His chosen race, Stand ye in awe before His face,

8.3) Christ Will Return To Deal With Only Two Groups Of People; So Know Which Group Your In

Our Text Says, **"Those Who Do Not Know (Perf.Act.Part) God – 1)** *"Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? ...I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain." (Galatians 4:8-11, ESV)*

- 1) Being known by God is much more than mere religion *...many see Christianity as just a club to be in – no love of Christ*
"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others." (Matthew 23:23)

Our Text Says, **"Those Who Do Not Obey (Pres.Act.Part) The Gospel"** – *"For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, 1) walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with MINDS set on earthly things." (Philippians 3:18-19, ESV)*

- 2) There is no in between; either you belong entirely to Christ or not at all *...there is no such thing as "sort of obedient"*
"Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters." (Matthew 12:30, ESV)

Teach me, O Lord, Thy holy way, And give me an obedient mind; That in Thy service I may find My soul's delight from day to day.

*****What Must I Do To Be Saved? ***** **Message Directive:** Look to Christ for the salvation of your soul; ONLY in Christ will you escape the judgment of God upon sin. *"Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other." (Isaiah 45:22, ESV)*

"The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matthew 13:39-42, ESV)

6. The Gospel Promises The Real Judgment Of Those Who Do Not Believe In Christ, (vs. 9)
 7. The Gospel Promises The Real Glorification Of Christ When He Confirms The Testimony, (vs. 10)
 8. The Gospel Prepares The Real Faith Within The Life Of Every Believer, (vs. 11)
 9. The Gospel Prepares The Real Grace Within The Life Of Every Believer, (vs. 12)
- B. The wrath of God is a very present reality governed by the ordained decrees of God, (vs. 2: 1 - 17)
- C. The wrath of God is a very present reality that must be avoided even in its temporal aspects, (vs. 3: 1 - 18)