



1 Thessalonians 5:8-11
The Day of the Lord—Part 3
Appropriate Church Clothing: From Sermon 3.27.22

Read *1 Thessalonians 5:8-11*

Review from Sunday's sermon: The Holy Spirit now has Paul finish up the teaching on the Day of the Lord and the contrast between the elect and the non-elect. Last week, we looked at the Distinctive nature of day (elect) people. These verses compare the distinct behavior that should be practiced and the distinct destiny that should motivate our obedience. We will continue to battle these old, earthly bodies. But, a Day is coming in which we will be free and our behavior will perfectly match our nature.

1. Note: To clarify—Just as Paul *was not* addressing night owls vs. early birds in the previous lesson, he is not talking about actual church clothes or attire, here. This is symbolic of conduct. Discuss.

2. What do the terms “Monergistic” and “Synergistic” mean? How do they apply to both salvation and sanctification? In what ways can we/do we impede or quench the cooperative process of sanctification? Monergistic means the work of one. It is the exclusive, sovereign work of God in election, rebirth, calling, and justification = salvation. Synergistic means the work of two or more. The earthly life in increasing, practical holiness is cooperative = the Spirit leading & us following. When we fall back into old thinking and sins, and fail to die to the old self, we impede the growth of holiness. See *Philippians 2:12-16*

3. Using this wardrobe analogy, what is the Christian told to “take off” and what is he admonished to “put on” instead, according to *Romans 13:11-14*? Off = works of darkness, revelry, drunkenness, lewdness, lust, strife, and envy. On = armor of light, proper walking, the Lord Jesus Christ
See also *Ephesians 4:22-24*. (off = old self. On = new self, righteousness, holiness)

4. Discuss the reality of just how foolish we look to God, self, and other day people when we try to look and act like the world. Various personal thoughts. It's like wearing wrong attire/shoes. We like to wear both and it's like showing up to work with two different shoes on. Analogy of the teenage girl who sneaks and takes an outfit her parents would never approve of at home and puts it on once out of the house. Or, the married man who takes off wedding band for the trip out of town.

5. From Question #9, in the study guide: Believer's mindset that we are always in a battle. Who/what are we battling? Enemy. World system. Our old self. Read *Ephesians 6:10-18*. List each piece of gear and what it means.

Belt of truth: Those things which put away tripping hazards in our walk.

Breastplate of righteousness: A Christ-honoring and Christ emulating holiness that guards the heart.

Footwear of the Gospel of peace: Our reconciliation to God, through Christ, directing our steps

Shield of faith: Trust in God during the battles, just as a soldier had to trust his shield.

Helmet of salvation: Not just being saved (although most important), it's understanding salvation and the strongest assurance of salvation, which Satan will want to weaken.

Sword of the Spirit: This one is clearly spelled out = the Word of God. Memorize some important ones.

Prayer & Alertness & Team: Being part of a team who look out for and support each other.

5a. Which item/items do you tend of neglect most often? What has been the result or challenge because of that? Various Personal Answers