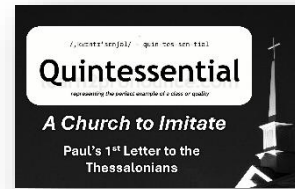




PASTOR BOB
November 9th, 2025



SURPRISED *or* NOT SURPRISED?

Expecting Jesus' Return

1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11

- *Surprise Parties*
- *Two Groups of People*

To Avoid Being Surprised...

1. BE _____ of JESUS' RETURN vss. 1-5

- *Informed of Its* _____ vss. 1, 2; (Cp. 4:16, 17 w/ Mt 24:30, 31)
Contradictory or Complementary?
- *Informed of Its* " _____ " vs. 3; MATTHEW 24:37-39
- *Informed of Our* " _____ " vss. 4, 5; MATTHEW 24:42-44

Many Know but Don't Care!

To Avoid Being Surprised...

2. BE _____ for JESUS' RETURN vss. 6-11

- *Prepare Your* _____ vs. 8; MATTHEW 25:1-5
 - *Replace Fear with* _____
 - *Replace Self-Indulgence with* _____
 - *Replace Despair with* _____
- *Prepare with* _____ vs. 9

Tribulation is Man _____ *Man*
Wrath is God _____ *Man*

 - *Rescued from Wrath* 1 THESSALONIANS 1:10
 - *Two Harvests* REVELATION 14:14-20
- *Prepare for the* _____ vs. 9; MATTHEW 24:32, 33, 36, 42

➤ *Next Week: Signs of the Season*

Until Jesus Returns

➔ *Mature in Your* _____, _____, & _____ 1 THESS 1:3

Grace Sermons can be heard on the internet at www.GraceGardenGrove.org/sermons

LIFE GROUP STUDY NOTES
SURPRISED *or* NOT SURPRISED?
Expecting Jesus' Return

Sermon Review:

- What kind of person are you regarding surprises...do you like surprises or not?
- Do you think Scripture teaches that informed Christians will not be surprised at the Lord's second coming since it is described as "a thief in the night"?
- Where does the idea originate that the second coming of Jesus is split into two events? Do you think the Lord's coming is split into two separate events or does Scripture point to one event?

GOING DEEPER "*According to the Bible...*"

Answer the following questions from what the Bible says in the indicated passages....

- **Read 1 Thessalonians 15:1.** What "day" do you think Paul has in mind when he writes about "*the day of the Lord*"? Do you think he thinks this day is split into two different events? Explain.
- **Read 1 Thessalonians 5:4** If Paul taught the second coming of Jesus is split into two events (a rapture and then later His full return), why would Paul say this event will not surprise Christians like the coming of a thief...that they can expect and prepare for it?
- **Read 1 Thessalonians 5:9.** If, as some say, Christians will go through the great tribulation, how can Paul say that we are not appointed to suffer wrath? What is the difference between "tribulation" and "wrath"? How can the vision in Revelation 14:14-20 help clarify this issue?
- **Read Matthew 24:30-33.** What event is being described in verses 30 and 31? What is the lesson of the fig tree pertaining to this event? **Read Matthew 24:36-39 and 42-44.** How are these statements different from verse 32 and 33? Are they contradictory or complementary? Explain.
- **Read Matthew 24:29-31.** According to Jesus, when does His return and gathering of the elect happen in relation to the time of distress...*before or after*?