

School of Prophecy – Part 2

July 10, 2016

Lesson 5: The Day of the Lord

Joel 2:1-2, 11, 30-32 NKJV - *Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain!*

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD is coming, for it is at hand:

²A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. A people come, great and strong, the like of whom has never been; nor will there ever be any such after them, even for many successive generations.

¹¹The LORD gives voice before His army, for His camp is very great; for strong is the One who executes His word.

For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible;

Who can endure it?

³⁰“And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. ³¹The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. ³²And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as the LORD has said, among the remnant whom the LORD calls.

Acts 17:31 NKJV - *Because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.*

I Thessalonians 5:1-8 NKJV - *But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. ²For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. ³For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. ⁴But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. ⁵You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. ⁶Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. ⁸But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.*

I. The Day of the Lord

A. Biblical Definitions of the Day of the Lord

1. The Day of the Lord is the Day of Vengeance upon a Christ-rejecting world.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-8 NKJV - *⁷And to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, ⁸in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

2. The Day of the Lord is a day in which God will deal with the wickedness of humanity, as every soul will face God as the ultimate righteous judge.

2 Timothy 4:1 NKJV - *I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom.*

3. The Day of the Lord can refer to a single day or sometimes, it is referred to as a period of time.
4. The Old Testament prophets referred to the Day of the Lord as a day of great judgment that would affect the physical world, as God judges the proud and the arrogant.

Isaiah 13:9-11 NKJV - *Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and He will destroy its sinners from it. ¹⁰ For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be darkened in its going forth, and the moon will not cause its light to shine. ¹¹ "I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.*

5. Jesus made a reference to the "Day of the Lord" in the Olivet Discourse, as He alluded to the prophecy of Joel.

Matthew 24:29 NKJV - *Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.*

6. The Day of the Lord is a day of healing and restoration for the nation of Israel, as Christ becomes enthroned in her midst.

Zephaniah 3:14-15 NKJV - *Sing, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, oh daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away your judgments; He has cast out your enemy. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall see disaster no more.*

7. We must also note that the Day of the Lord is connected to the events of "The Great Tribulation," for that period is referred to as the "Day of Wrath."

Revelations 6:15-17 NKJV - *And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! ¹⁷ For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"*

B. The Purpose of the Day of the Lord

1. Even though the Day of the Lord is the execution of judgment, it is also a time of God defending and redeeming Israel from all of her enemies.

Joel 3:14-16 NKJV - *Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. ¹⁵ The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. ¹⁶ The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; the heavens and earth will shake; but the LORD will be a shelter for His people, and the strength of the children of Israel.*

Romans 11:26-27 NKJV - *And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; ²⁷ For this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins."*

2. It will be a day when Almighty God is exalted and all the idols of the heathen will be destroyed.

Obadiah 1:15 NKJV - *For the day of the LORD upon all the nations is near; as you have done, it shall be done to you; your reprisal shall return upon your own head.*

Isaiah 2:12 NKJV - *For the day of the LORD of hosts shall come upon everything proud and lofty, upon everything lifted up, and it shall be brought low.*

3. Another purpose is that God will be revealed as the righteous God of all the earth.

Isaiah 56:1 NKJV - *Thus says the LORD: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, for My salvation is about to come, and My righteousness to be revealed."*

Psalms 46:10-11 NKJV - *Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! ¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah*

Romans 2:5-6 NKJV - *But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, ⁶ who "will render to each one according to his deeds."*

II. The Day of Salvation

A. The Judgment that Brings Salvation

1. When Jesus Christ died on the Cross, He provided escape from the Day of Judgment.

1 Thessalonians 5:9-11 NKJV - *For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. ¹¹ Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.*

2. The Old Testament prophet gave us a wonderful illustration of the suffering servant.
God poured out judgment on His own Son!

Isaiah 53:4-5 NKJV - *Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.*

3. It is faith in the finished work of Christ on the Cross that saves us from God's wrath and gives us peace.

Romans 5:1-2 NKJV - *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

4. Today is the Day of Salvation. Now is the time to be saved and avoid the coming Day of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 6:2 NKJV - *For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*