

## The Profile Of A Healthy Church

### Message # 16

### SOBER UP!

1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

Dr. Larry Lamb – September 17, 2023

**Colossians 3.1-4** *Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. 2 Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. 3 For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all His glory.*

- The Return of Jesus for His church begins what the Bible calls “The Day of the Lord.”
- The catching away of the church called *The Rapture* will usher in the Day of Lord which begins the Great Tribulation and goes through the 1000-year reign of Christ.
- The Day of the Lord describes God's future judgment on the wicked.

**1 Thessalonians 5.1-3** *Now concerning how and when all this will happen, dear brothers and sisters, we don't really need to write you. 2 For you know quite well that the day of the Lord's return will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night. 3 When people are saying, “Everything is peaceful and secure,” then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman's labor pains begin. And there will be no escape.*

**Hebrews 2.3** *So what makes us think we can escape if we ignore this great salvation that was first announced by the Lord Jesus Himself and then delivered to us by those who heard Him speak?*

**1 Thessalonians 5.4** *But you aren't in the dark about these things, dear brothers and sisters, and you won't be surprised when the day of the Lord comes like a thief.*

**ARE YOU READY?**

**Colossians 1.13,14** *For He has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of His dear Son, 14 who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.*

**1 Thessalonians 5.5-7** *For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night. 6 So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. 7 Night is the time when people sleep and drinkers get drunk.*

⇒ **BELIEVERS** are associated with light, alertness, and soberness.

⇒ **UNBELIEVERS** are associated with night, sleep, and drunk on the lies of the evil one.

**REF 1 Thessalonians 5.8-11**

v. 8 Clearheaded – self-controlled, serious minded, calm, steady, and with priorities set. Always be on duty. v.9 Salvation is a gift.

v. 10 God's wrath was placed on Jesus at the CROSS. He died for people.

v.11 Encourage each other. The power of a Christian community.

**Ephesians 2.8,9** *God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.*

To those who are uncertain of their eternal destiny > your uncertainty or refusal to follow the Biblical Jesus may seem rational now, but the Bible says there will be a day when God says no to you. It will be too late. It's fearful to reject the Living God. The "Day of the Lord is Coming. **SOBER UP!**

To those who are saved > regardless of how perverse this culture becomes, persevere in faith, hope, and love. Love all people.

## **ARE YOU READY?**

**PRAYER OF SALVATION** - Jesus, I thank You that You came and died on the cross for my sins so that I can be forgiven. I am a sinner and in need of Your grace, mercy, and forgiveness. I turn from my sins and say "No" to a life of living for myself. I turn to You and say "Yes" to Your will for my life. I ask You now to save me from my sins. I open my heart to You and receive You as my Lord and Savior. Thank You for saving me and forgiving me. In Jesus' Name. Amen.