

30 Mins of Theology: The Day of the LORD

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Why this topic? > 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 2:19; 3:13; 4:15-17; 5:1-4, 23-24

Alternative Names > the day of anger/wrath of the LORD, that day, the day, day of..., day when...

- the day of (Jesus) Christ, day of our Lord Jesus (Christ)
- LORD = YHWH (God's name); 'Jesus is lord' links Jesus to God's Old Testament name



Characteristics of 'the Day' >

- Serious > judgment, reckoning, vengeance
- Coming > finality, new order
- Universal > Israel and other nations, all people
- Revelation > God's glory, rule, making Himself known
- Good > blessing, restoration, recreation

Selected OT Passages >

- Zephaniah 1:14-15, 18; 2:1-3, 10-11; Obadiah 15-17; Ezekiel 38:23; 39:21-22
- Malachi 3:1-2; 4:1-2; Zechariah 2:10-11; 14:7-9, 20-21
- Joel 1:14-15; 2:1-2, 11-14, 30-31; 3:14-21
- Isaiah 2:2-4, 12, 17-21; 13:6-13; 19:19-25; 25:6-9; 29:18-19; 30:26

In the New Testament > these elements are all manifested through Christ, who is coming to everyone, and He will judge, reign forever, reveal God's glory, bring blessing

- Romans 2:5-10, 16; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10; 2 Timothy 4:8; 2 Peter 3:9-15a
- Matthew 24:36-39; Acts 2:16-21; Philippians 1:6,10; 2:14-16; Revelation 16:14-15

The Day of the LORD...

Ushers in the new order, God's Kingdom, when He rules and His glory is fully revealed

- Fulfilment of covenant setup: 'I will be your God, you will be My people'
- Means other nations will also respond to Him
- But a few things have to happen for this new order to be established: judgment, reckoning (who's in/out), new creation
- These activities will be carried out by the coming Messiah/King, Jesus

Summary: deal with sin, restore/remake the faithful, establish God's rule

It's coming; can't be avoided (but doesn't have to be feared)

Don't know when; can't be predicted (but shouldn't be a surprise)

Will impact you forever; can't be overcome (but that's a good thing under the rule of a good God)

But *how* it impacts you will depend > Amos 5:18-20

- A mention of 'the day' is a call to check your allegiance: how are you responding to YHWH?
- Do you hope for that day? Do you hope for Christ's return? Or are you nervous about Him coming back and what He'll find in your life?
- Maybe 'the day' will be fine for you, but what about for the sake of those around you? Maybe you'd like Him to delay the day, so that you have time to extend the invitation to others to get on the right side of His rule (2 Peter 3:8-9)?

What to read next > Minor Prophets (especially Joel & Zephaniah), Isaiah 40-66, Matthew, 1 & 2 Thessalonians