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Sermon Notes

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The Harvest of Judgment

Revelation 14:14-20

The God of all the earth is a very patient God... the scripture portrays him as "slow to anger and abounding in love." He is called "long-suffering"... he waits and waits and waits... his judgment does not fall on sinners immediately.

But the Day of the Lord will most certainly come... it will not be put off forever. Though it seems like everything goes on as it always has, God is keeping a careful record of sins and there will come a day when his patience will run out and his righteous judgment will fall at last.

Romans 14:10-12 we will all stand before God's judgment seat. ¹¹ It is written: "'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.'" ¹² So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Many scriptures assert this about God...

A clear example comes in the famous passage in Genesis 15 when God makes his solemn covenant with Abraham concerning the future of his descendants

God showed Abraham the starry night sky... and made him the timeless promise, "So shall your offspring be." Abraham believed that promise from God, and God credited it to him as righteousness. But then God made another promise... the promise about the land:

Genesis 15:7-8 He also said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it." ⁸ But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?"

Abraham was not being disrespectful, and God dealt with him in sovereign grace... A thick and dreadful darkness came over Abraham... and God made this solemn promise:

Genesis 15:13-14 "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. ¹⁴ But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.

But then God gave Abraham the TIMETABLE for the Jews possessing the Promised Land:

Genesis 15:15-16 You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶ In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."

Did you hear that?? He said the sin of the Amorites, who were dwelling in the land, had not yet reached its FULL MEASURE!

God was allowing the wicked pagan Amorites, who dwelt in that land, to continue worshipping their idols, and following their pagan practices, and sacrificing their children to demons... there was a MEASURE of the FULLNESS of their sins, and God was waiting for that measurement to be reached. That is the patience of God

So it is all over the world, with both individuals and nations... God is waiting patiently... not idly, for he records all the slightest actions and inclinations of the heart. And though God is patient, our days are NUMBERED

Another plain example: Belshazzar's Feast

The wicked king of Babylon, Belshazzar, was giving a feast in which he and his nobles drank toasts to the gods of wood, stone, and metal... and they used the sacred vessels stolen from the Jewish temple to do it... suddenly a spectral hand appeared and began writing on the plaster on the wall over a lampstand, and the king was horrified as he watched the writing being done. And he could not understand, but Daniel was called in to the hall to read it aloud and explain it. And the message was powerful and stark: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, PARSIN... "NUMBERED NUMBERED WEIGHED DIVIDED..."

Your days are numbered, you have been weighed in the scales of God's justice and found wanting, and you will be judged accordingly."

ALL OUR DAYS ARE NUMBERED, and the day is coming when we will give an account for how we have lived. That day marks the end of God's silent patience.

God's patience is intended to give unbelievers time to repent... now in this present age, it is to allow them time to come to faith in Christ.

Romans 2 makes it plain what the outcome of God's patience will be... God is not sitting idly while people stubbornly go on in sin:

Romans 2:4-6 do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance? ⁵ But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. ⁶ God "will give to each person according to what he has done."

All over the world, day after day, unrepentant sinners are going on in the same patterns of sin they have always done... and no apparent judgment falls

- Unscrupulous businessmen are crafting new ways to defraud people with crooked financial schemes
- Corrupt politicians and national leaders are abusing their positions of governmental power and lording it over the people they are ruling
- Urban gangs are initiating new foot soldiers by forcing them to commit random acts of murder
- Drug addicts are resorting to burglary to sustain their destructive habits
- Internet pornographers are filming the next enticing videos to entrap people
- Terrorist cell groups are plotting their next acts of mayhem to make their political and religious points
- Ordinary unconverted people are pursuing their worldly pleasures without a single thought of thankfulness to God their creator
- Unsaved teens are swimming in social media, trying to make connections with peers to feed their egos and their lusts
- Secularists and sexual deviants on the college campus are indoctrinating the next crop of college students on their unbiblical worldviews

This river of sin continues seemingly unchallenged, as though there is no holy God, no Ten Commandments, no gospel of Jesus Christ, no Judgment Day, no just wrath of God

How wrong they all are! The Day of Judgment is approaching... a day in which the sharp sickle of judgment will be put to them all, and their time on earth will be over

That day is depicted in two clear and powerful images at the end of Revelation 14... the double image of a wheat harvest and a grape harvest. The day of judgment on all the earth!

It is imperative for us to see that day coming... and flee to Christ to find refuge.

I. Two Different Harvests or One Told Two Ways?

A. Two Parts to the Text: the Grain and the Grapes

1. The second is clearly referring to God's wrath falling on the wicked
2. Look at verses 19-20

Revelation 14:19-20 The angel swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath. ²⁰ They were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed out of the press, rising as high as the horses' bridles for a distance of 1,600 stadia.

3. No doubt that depicts God's wrath falling on the rebels and unrepentant sinners of the earth... a terrifying image
4. But what about the first image... the Son of Man reaping the grain with his sharpened sickle
5. Is that talking about the same thing or a different harvest

B. Many Commentators Think it Refers to the Final Ingathering of the Righteous

1. They divide this text into two portions... the ingathering of the saints and the crushing of the wicked
2. Many images of harvest refer to the salvation of the elect

Matthew 9:36-38 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Also... in John 4, after witnessing to the woman at the well, Jesus speaks to his disciples of the Samaritan town that was coming toward them:

John 4:35 Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.

3. Charles Spurgeon sermon

1876 sermon, "The Harvest and the Vintage"

“The first thing to be done, at the coming of the Lord, is to gather to Himself His own people – the wheat which He Himself sowed, the precious grain which He watered with His bitter tears and His bloody sweat.”

Spurgeon made much of the harvest being ripe... the fact that the elect have been developed into maturity by the word of God

“When the Lord Jesus comes, every child of God will be found to be ripe for heaven. There is a great deal of greenness and sourness in us while we are in the blade and in the ear; but when we are dried – when the wheat has become mellowed by the ripening influences of autumn – then shall we be as sweet, ripe corn for the Lord of the harvest to gather into His garner. Some of you do not feel very ripe at present; but you may rest assured that you will not be harvested until you are fully ripe. The Lord will not reap one ear of His corn green; and He has a secret way of preparing His people for heaven when He has prepared heaven for them. The righteous will be perfectly ripe in that day.”

C. However... Two Scriptures Imply this is Speaking of the Same Thing... the Judgment on the Wicked

Joel 3:13-14 Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow-- so great is their wickedness!'¹⁴ Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

Matthew 13:24-30 Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field."²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away.²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.²⁷ "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'²⁸ "'An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'"²⁹ "'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them.³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

D. Either Way... Judgment Day is Coming and the Son of Man is Going to Separate the Wicked from the Righteous

Matthew 3:12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

II. The Glorious Reaper Harvests the Earth (vs. 14)

Revelation 14:14 I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one "like a son of man" with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand.

A. The Son of Man Identified

1. For the second time in the Book of Revelation, John refers to the "Son of Man"
2. The first time was in Revelation 1, where he saw Jesus walking among the seven golden lampstands
3. This phrase definitely comes from Daniel 7

Daniel 7:13-14 "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

4. John uses the exact same phrase: "ONE LIKE A SON OF MAN"
5. The phrase "son of man" refers to the HUMANITY of Christ
6. The fact that he COMES ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN, and enters into the presence of God and received from him authority GLORY and sovereign power, and especially receives the right to be WORSHIPED by every nation on earth means that he is DIVINE... he is the GOD-MAN
7. Here in Revelation 14, he is depicted as sitting on a CLOUD
 - a. In the Old Testament, whenever you see clouds connected with God, he is bringing judgment on the wicked

Psalm 97:1-5 The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice. ² Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. ³ Fire goes before him and consumes his foes on every side. ⁴ His lightning lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles. ⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.

8. This is the very text that Jesus alluded to at his trial before the Jewish leaders:

Matthew 26:64 In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

B. The Son of Man Glorified

1. Jesus is sitting on this white cloud, in a position of judgment, wearing a golden crown
2. The crown represents his perfect and sovereign rule over all nations
3. The true glory of Christ is his role as judge of all the earth, of every individual person who lives on earth

John 5:22-23 the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son,²³ that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father.

In other words, the fact that the Father has entrusted all judgment to the Son means he deserves as much HONOR as the Father does... amazing! The Father deserves honor as God, to be worshiped and served as the highest and most worthy being in the universe... that is the very honor and glory God reserves to HIMSELF and will not share with another

BUT he does share it with his Son! He wants his Son honored with the same honor with which he is honored!

Philippians 2:9-11 God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is his unique glory as the Son of Man:

John 5:26-27 as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself.²⁷ And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

C. Another Text Asserts the Whole Earth Will Be Assembled Before Christ for Judgement

Matthew 25:31-32 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory.³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

Thus we see in Revelation 14:14 the exquisite and supreme glory of Christ in his divine role as judge of all the earth... he will swing his sharpened sickle to harvest the people of the earth

III. When the Grain is Ripe, the Harvest Will Come (vs. 14-16)

Revelation 14:14-16 I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one "like a son of man" with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand.¹⁵ Then another angel came out of the temple and

called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, "Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." ¹⁶ So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

A. The Angelic Exhortation

1. The fact that the Son of Man harvests the earth at the exhortation or command of an angel is hard for many commentators
2. It makes some of them think the "Son of Man" on the white cloud cannot be Jesus, for it seems strange that he is waiting for the word of an angel to swing his sharpened sickle
3. However, it would be even harder to explain why the Son of Man sitting on the cloud with the golden crown is an angel
4. The angel's exhortation to Christ to swing his sickle is no command... it is more of a display of Christ's submission to his Father, and the angel being a messenger from the Father to begin the harvest of all the earth thus ending human history
5. The ultimate authority is the Father... he alone has the authority to set times and dates

Acts 1:7 "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority."

B. The Angel from the Temple

1. The angel comes out from the temple to exhort Christ to swing his sickle
2. The temple is the source of God's commands, of God's rulership over the judgments of the earth

C. "The Time Has Come, the Harvest is Ripe"

1. This was the angel's precise wording
2. The time has come... everything is finished... all the elect have been converted, rescued from the wrath we all deserve...
3. The wickedness of the wicked has reached its full measure... the time has come!
4. Everything is timed out, measured out by the perfect plan of the Father... all the days ordained for the earth were written in God's book before one of them came to be

5. But as he said in Joel 3, there will come a time when wickedness will have reached its fullest extent

Joel 3:13 Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow-- so great is their wickedness!'

The last days will be a time of overwhelming wickedness such as the world had never seen up to that time:

2 Timothy 3:1-5 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴ treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God-- ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power.

The overwhelming majority of the world will be worshiping the Antichrist as god, and will have forsaken basic goodness and civility... they will be like the days before the flood:

Genesis 6:5 The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.

So, as the angel says to the Son of Man:

Revelation 14:15 "Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

There comes an hour in which everything God was waiting in human history for is completed...

2 Peter 3 tells us plainly why God is waiting, what he is waiting for:

2 Peter 3:9-10 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:15 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation

When all the elect have repented and trusted Christ, and when the wickedness of the rest of mankind has reached that maximum level in the reign of the Antichrist god they are worshiping, the wrath of God will fall at last. God will wait no more, and Jesus will swing his sickle

STOP!! Now is the day of salvation!! The final hour does not appear to be upon us quite yet...

The great preacher and evangelist George Whitefield was the most powerful and passionate proclaimer of the gospel in the last thousand years... he burned with zeal for souls. He would close his appeal very dramatically with these words:

"The attendant angel is just about to leave this threshold and ascend to heaven. And shall he ascend and not bear the news of one sinner among all this multitude reclaimed from the error of his ways?"

Then Whitefield would stop and stamp his foot and lift his hands and eyes to heaven and cry aloud, "Stop, Gabriel! Stop! Before you enter the sacred portals and carry with you the news of one more sinner converted to God!!"

2 Corinthians 6:2 "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

Now is the day of salvation! TRUST IN CHRIST!!!

But there will be a final day, there will be a final hour... there will be a final soul saved. That moment will come at last, and the door will be SHUT... like Noah's ark, when God shut the door... and everyone on the wrong side of the door perished.

D. The Son of Man Swings His Sickle, the Earth is Harvested

Revelation 14:16 So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

1. What a sublime and simple statement this is. No details at all. No particularly difficult stalks of wheat. His sickle is SHARP... perfectly sharp.

Hebrews 4:12 the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

2. The reaping is the end of earthly life.
3. Popular culture depicts a terrifying individual called the Grim Reaper: a hooded, black-robed character with no face, usually a skeleton, with a scythe dripping blood... death embodied

In WWI, the Dutch propaganda artist Louis Raemakers did a powerful cartoon after the German had brutally invaded Belgium and indiscriminately slaughtered thousands of civilians... it depicted a skeleton in tattered clothing scything down a multitude of human beings in a wheat field... he

entitled it, "The Harvest Is Ripe"... little did he or the world know that tens of millions of that war's victims had yet to fall, indeed would fall over the next four horrific years

4. But in the end, the true reaper is not grim, not impersonal... not a living skeleton... it is the Son of Man, Jesus Christ himself, who has the power to end human history with a single swing of his sharpened scythe... and not a single stalk will be left standing

Hebrews 9:27 man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment

IV. When the Grapes are Ripe, the Harvest Will Be Terrifying (vs. 17-20)

A. The Second Image: A Crushing of the Grapes in the Winepress

1. As we've already noted, there is little doubt that this is a vision of the wrath of God on the wicked

B. Initiated and Executed by Two More Angels

1. First, an angel comes from the temple... again, a picture of the initiation of judgment by God from his heavenly temple

Habakkuk 2:20 the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him.

2. The first angel also has a sharp scythe... the implication is that angels are directly involved in the ending of human history
3. The second angel exhorts/commands this reaping angel to begin his work

Revelation 14:18 Still another angel, who had charge of the fire, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, "Take your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the earth's vine, because its grapes are ripe."

- a. This vintage is the grapes of wrath... the wicked rebels who refuse to believe the truth about Christ
- b. So this second angel is identified as "having charge of the fire"
- c. This probably links to the earlier vision in Revelation 8 of the angel scooping coals of fire from the altar in heaven and hurling them to earth in judgment as an answer to the prayers of the persecuted saints of God on earth
- d. The exhortation to the angel to take his sickle and reap is because the grapes are ripe... again, the days of grace and tolerance for the wicked of

the earth has come to an end at last... there will be no more delay at that point in history

- e. The CLUSTERS of grapes represent whole populations of people on earth... crowded cities, major and minor people groups, teeming nations

Joel 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

C. The Harvest is a Display of the Wrath of God

Revelation 14:19-20 The angel swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath. ²⁰ They were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed out of the press, rising as high as the horses' bridles for a distance of 1,600 stadia.

1. The crushing carnage depicted here is hard to read, hard to grasp, hard to understand
2. A winepress was used in ancient times to crush grapes and make wine
 - a. It was a big vat into which the clusters were thrown and the workers trampled them with their feet
 - b. As they stepped on the grapes, they were crushed and the juice flowed out into the vat...
 - c. The flowing of the juice from the crushed grapes is a picture of the flow of human blood from the carnage that will ensue at the swinging of this sharpened sickle
3. The winepress is identified as the wrath of God... the sinners are crushed by the overwhelming pressure of God's judgments
4. The flow of blood is gory and difficult to comprehend
 - a. The text says that blood came out of the winepress up to a height of a horse's bridle for a distance of 1600 stadia
 - b. 1600 stadia is almost 200 miles; the height described (a horse's bridle) is about four feet deep
 - c. The amount of blood is frankly impossible to accept literally... we don't know how wide it was, but if that pool of blood were merely 350 feet wide, it would require all the human blood presently on planet earth to fill
 - d. Some think this refers to the shallow brooks outside the city (like the Brook Kidron that carried sacrificial blood from the temple)

D. Outside the city

1. These words are very significant
2. The city is almost certainly Jerusalem, the city of God
3. The words “outside the city” refer to be rejected from fellowship with the people of God
4. Jesus was said to suffer outside the gates

Hebrews 13:11-12 The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. ¹² And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.

5. So also the New Jerusalem has all the sinners OUTSIDE the city

Revelation 22:14-15 "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

6. These sinners who are dying when the angel swings his sickle are eternally rejected, excluded from the New Jerusalem

E. The Final Battle?

1. This may well be referring to the final battle that will be fought between the forces of Antichrist and the armies of heaven who descend to protect the remnant of Christ’s people still alive on earth
2. That battle is called Armageddon, and we will learn more about it in Revelation 16-17... that is a place not far from Jerusalem where we are told the kings of the earth will assemble to do battle against the Lamb, Jesus Christ
3. This also represents the slaughter recorded in Revelation 19 in which Jesus descends from heaven with his holy armies and battles the Dragon (Satan) and the Antichrist and the forces of the world with the sword coming from his mouth... and the slaughter will be overwhelming... carnage almost immeasurable

Revelation 19:11-21 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in

fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. ¹⁷ ¶ And I saw an angel standing in the sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair, "Come, gather together for the great supper of God, ¹⁸ so that you may eat the flesh of kings, generals, and mighty men, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, small and great." ¹⁹ Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army. ²⁰ But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. ²¹ The rest of them were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.

V. Applications

A. I Have Already Pleaded with the Lost to FLEE TO CHRIST!

1. Do not misread the delay... as though Judgment Day will never come!
2. God's patience is to allow time for repentance
3. Every day people continue apart from Christ, they are storing up wrath for that great day

B. Embrace the Terrible Reality of Judgment Day

1. Keep in mind that the sins we see happening around us every day will not go unpunished
2. People will find forgiveness in Christ or they will stand accountable for every careless word they have spoken
3. Understand that history is heading toward that final Day
4. Know that, though that day will surprise the lost people, it should not surprise us

1 Thessalonians 5:2-6 the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled.

C. Embrace the Work of the Gospel

1. Do you have five non-Christians you know by name, that you are praying for by name, that you are willing to witness to?
2. Be willing to get into a conversation this week with a lost person
 - a. Ask them why they are alive? What is their purpose in life?
 - b. Ask them what their goals are, what they are living for, what they hope for in the future
 - c. Ask them what they think will happen when they die
 - d. Share Christ with them if they open up to you