Letter to the Thessalonians:

To the church of the Thessalonians:

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your entire spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful, and He will do it.

-Paul-



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- 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, so that this day should overtake you like a thief.
- 5 For you are all sons of the light and sons of the day; we are not of the night or of the darkness.
- 6 So then, let us not sleep as the others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.
- 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night; and those who get drunk, get drunk at night.
- 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.

9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1 10 ... to await His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead—Jesus our deliverer from the coming wrath.

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- 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

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Goal:

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Goal: That we would be a people who are prepared for any trial and tribulation that may lie ahead of us.

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Question 1:

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Question 1: If your ______ is taken from you; income health comfort freedom reputation family food supply all of the above possessions life

Will you still rejoice in the Lord?
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Question 2:

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Question 2: What are you doing today to arm yourself in order to be better prepared for that Day?

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1 Peter 4: 1 Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, 2 so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.

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12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial that has come upon you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed at the revelation of His glory.

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First, from the context of this verse ...

"wrath" = God's eternal wrath on the unsaved.

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Second, from the context of this whole passage ... "wrath" = God's wrath on the unsaved in the DOTL.

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Third, we must distinguish between God's wrath and God's judgment/discipline on family of God.

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Fourth, we must distinguish between God's wrath and "tribulation".

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1 Thessalonians 3: 2 we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith,

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- 1 Thessalonians 3
- 4 For indeed when we were with you, we kept telling you in advance that we were going to suffer affliction; and so it came to pass, as you know.

John 16

33 I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation.

But take courage; I have overcome the world!"

Acts 14

22 ... "We must through many tribulations to enter the kingdom of God.

Revelation 2 (Smyrna)

10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Matthew 24

- 21 For at that time there will be great tribulation, unmatched from the beginning of the world until now, and never to be seen again.
- 22 If those days had not been cut short, nobody would be saved.
- But for the sake of the elect, those days will be cut short. 23 At that time, if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There He is!' do not believe it.
- 24 For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders that would deceive even the elect, if that were possible.
- 25 See, I have told you in advance.

Matthew 24

- 27 For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.
- 29 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 the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.' [Isaiah 13:10, Isaiah 34:4, Joel 2:10]
- 30 At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn.
- They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.
- 31 And He will send out His angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

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Revelation 12

- 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying:
- "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ.
- For the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down—he who accuses them day and night before our God.
- 11 Thore hore conquered him by the blood of the Lemb
- 11 They have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.
- And they did not love their lives so as to shy away from death.
- 12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them!
- But woe to the earth and the sea;
- with great fury the devil has come down to you, knowing he has only a short time."

Revelation 13

7 Then the beast was permitted to wage war against the saints and to conquer them, and it was given authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation.

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Sixth, many scriptures show that the God's wrath on the wicked and His deliverance of the saints will happen at the same time. 2 Thessalonians 1

6 After all, it is only right for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, 7 and to grant relief to you who are oppressed and to us as well.

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- 9 They will suffer the penalty of eternal destruction, separated from the presence of the Lord and the glory of His might, 10 on the day He comes to be glorified in His saints and regarded with wonder by all who have believed, including you who have believed our testimony.

Matthew 13 (Parable of the Wheat and Tares)

- 24 Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.
 25 But while everyone was asleep, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and slipped away.
 26 When the wheat sprouted and bore grain, 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.

- Matthew 13 (Parable of the Wheat and Tares)
- 28 So the servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'
- 29 'No,' he said, 'if you pull the weeds now, you might uproot 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 into my barn."

Matthew 24

- 37 As it was in the days of Noah, so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man.
- 38 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark.
- 39 And they were oblivious, until the flood came and swept them all away.
- So will it be at the coming of the Son of Man.

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Seventh, the Lord knows how to rescue the godly and hold the unrighteous for judgment.

- 2 Peter 2
- 4 For if God did not spare the angels when they sinned, but cast them deep into hell, placing them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment;
- 5 if He did not spare the ancient world when He brought the flood on its ungodly people, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, among the eight;
- 6 if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction, reducing them to ashes as an example of what is coming on the ungodly;
- 7 and if He rescued Lot, a righteous man distressed by the depraved conduct of the lawless 8 (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)—

2 Peter 2

9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment,

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Habakkuk 3 17 Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, 18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. 19 GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places.

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