



CLEAR THE AIR

BURNING ISSUES CONFRONTING CHRISTIANS TODAY

Persistent Questions on Prophecy and End Times

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13–18

STUDY GUIDE

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STUDY GUIDE • CLEAR THE AIR!
Persistent Questions on Prophecy and End Times
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WELCOME:
Fixing
Our Focus

Suggested icebreaker:
Ask each GG member what they know about the end times and how they feel about it.

WORSHIP:
Adoring
Our God

Suggested songs:

- [Days of Elijah](#)
- [Jesus, God's Righteousness Revealed](#)

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

LESSON AIM

1. GG members will see the urgency of sharing the gospel with others.
2. GG members will be aware of what will happen during the great tribulation.
3. GG members will worship and praise God, who is the just and righteous ruler of all creation.

INTRODUCTION

Many people want to know what will happen in the future. Believers know that there will come a time when Christ will return to establish and reign in His kingdom here on earth, then rule for eternity. But nobody really knows when this will happen. Will it be during our lifetimes, or will it happen hundreds or thousands of years from now? Many are also asking about the events that lead to Christ's return here on earth. Let's look at what the Bible says about this.

Are we living in the last days?

1. What does the term "last days" mean? What will happen at the end? (cf. Matthew 24:42-44; 1 Thessalonians 5:2)
2. In Hebrews 1:2, how are the last days different from previous times? According to this passage, when did the last days begin? (cf. Acts 2:16-17; 1 Peter 1:20-21)
3. These passages describe the last days: Matthew 24:10-12; 1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 3:1-5, 4:3-4. Do you see these things happening in our day and age?
4. Knowing that we are in the last days, what are some implications to those of us living during this time?

Application

1. How can you be vigilant during these last days and how can you let others prepare for what's ahead?

What will happen to us in the end times?

1. According to Paul in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, what will happen to believers when Christ returns?
2. Is the rapture and Christ's second coming the same event or two different events? Compare the description of the rapture in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:51-53 with Christ's second coming in Zechariah 14:2-5, 9; Matthew 25:31-32; Revelation 19:11-16.

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

3. Revelation 6-19 reveals what will happen during the great tribulation - a period of seven years before Christ's second coming. Is there a mention of the church on earth in this passage? What can you conclude regarding this and when the rapture will occur?
4. How can you describe the events related in these chapters of Revelation? How did Jesus describe them in Matthew 24:21? What do you imagine it will be like for people present on earth during the great tribulation?

Application

1. Knowing what will happen after the rapture and during the great tribulation, what should be your attitude toward friends and loved ones who still don't have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ?

What is our hope in these end times?

1. While the events described during the great tribulation are bleak, what are some things believers can hope for according to 1 Thessalonians 4:17-18, 5:9; Revelation 3:10?
2. What will Jesus Christ do to all people at the end of time, according to Matthew 16:27 and Revelation 22:12-13?
3. What can believers look forward to according to Revelation 21:1-4?

Application

1. How do you respond to God, who preserves believers, spares them from His wrath, and rewards them for their faith, and on the other hand, judges evil?

PRAYER ITEM

Praise and thank God for His love, mercy, and grace that we need not fear about the future, but instead have a sure hope that we will spend eternity with Him in worship. Pray that God will develop in us a heart for those who do not yet know Him personally, that we have a sense of urgency in sharing the gospel with them, in the hope that they may also share in the hope that we have in Christ.



Your feedback is important to us.

If you used this study guide in leading your growth group, please rate it at <https://bit.ly/GCFSGFeedback>. Thank you!



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Know Christ and Make Him Known

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