

## **Major Event: Pre-Tribulation Rapture**

### **Lesson 2: Not Destined for Wrath**

**Scriptures:** I Thessalonians 5:1-11; Revelation 3:10; 2 Peter 2:6-9;  
2 Thessalonians 2:6-8

**Central Text:** I Thessalonians 5:1-11

*1 Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you. 2 For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. 3 While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape. 4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief; 5 for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness; 6 so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober. 7 For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we are of 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, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.*

#### **Suggested Subjects for Teacher to Cover:**

- The nature of the church as the Bride and Body of Christ (by way of review from previous lessons).
- The church is not destined for wrath (I Thessalonians 5:1-11).
- The purpose of the Great Tribulation judgments: To judge nations and cause Israel to “Shuvv” and say “Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord”(Matthew 23:39).
- God’s deliverance of believers from past judgment. (2 Peter 2:6-9).
- The work of God the Holy Spirit in indwelling church age believers and restraining evil (see notes below).

#### **Suggested Attributes for Teacher to Cover:**

1. **Of God:** Grace and Mercy. Our God is Salvation.

**Suggested Reading for Parents and Child at Home:** I Thessalonians 5:1-11

**Notes:** The church is not found mentioned after Revelation 3. In Rev. 3:10 Christ promises the church at Philadelphia they will be kept from the hour of testing. This, however, does not support a partial rapture view as I Thessalonians 4:13-17 clearly teaches that all of the church is raptured at the same time. The terms elect and saints are not equivalent to church. Believers such as Ruth and Joshua were saints and elect but not part of the Bride of Christ- His church which, even at His earthly ministry He said was yet future (Matt. 16:18). The church was instituted after the resurrection of Christ and before His final eschatological plan for Israel and the nations was complete, therefore, a pretribulation rapture is further supported. Also, it is not unusual for God to rescue believers from impending judgment on the world: Noah, Lot, Rahab (2 Pet. 2:6-9). The work of God the Holy Spirit in the church is unique (compare John 14:16 16:7; Acts 1:5; 1 Cor. 12:13) He indwells each and every Church Age believer. He also restrains sin in the world. 2 Thess. 2:6-8 tells us that He must be taken away before the Antichrist is revealed. Therefore, it follows that those whom He indwells must also be taken away lest we think God will leave His Bride on the earth without His Holy Spirit to endure the Great Tribulation (Rev. 6:17).