**The Day of the Lord**

**Introduction**

1. The scriptures speak of a certain day referred to as, ***“the day of the Lord.”***
2. This is a common theme of scripture, and must therefore be a subject we are familiar with.
3. Despite the clarity in scripture, there are many false concepts concerning this day.
	1. **While there is reason to give attention to refuting these doctrines specifically, it is also profitable to simply look at the facts concerning that Day.**
	2. What are the facts?
4. **The scripture gives us limited (to a certain extent), but clear information concerning that Day. What is the day of the Lord? When is the day of the Lord? How do we prepare for the day of the Lord? 🡪**
5. What? (is the day of the Lord?)
6. Old Testament
	1. Judgment against Babylon – **Isaiah 13:1, 6-10**
		1. Destruction
		2. Melted hearts
		3. Pain
		4. Flames
		5. Wrath and fierce anger
		6. Darkness
	2. Judgment against Egypt – **Jeremiah 46:7-10**
		1. Destruction
		2. Vengeance
		3. Devour
		4. Blood spilled
	3. Even Israel is not exempt (unfaithful) – **Amos 5:4, 18-20**
		1. **A desire to see their enemies destroyed. (Enemies destroyed because of wickedness. Opposition to God.)**
		2. Israel would receive the same if there wasn’t repentance from sin.
	4. Deliverance of faithful people – **Joel 2:32; 3:18**
		1. It is not simply a term of destruction and horror.
		2. **It widely depends on the standing with God. (Faithful/unfaithful)**
7. New Testament
	1. OT applied “Lord” to Jehovah God. The NT refers to the Day of the Lord as Christ’s day.
		1. **1 Corinthians 1:8; 5:5; 2 Corinthians 1:14; Philippians 1:6, 10; 2:16**
			1. ***“the day of our Lord Jesus Christ”***
			2. ***“the day of the Lord Jesus”***
			3. ***“the day of Jesus Christ”***
			4. ***“the day of Christ”***
		2. Sometimes simply referred to as ***“the Day”*** – **cf. Romans 13:12**
		3. The day of Jesus Christ because of His return – **Acts 1:9-11** (Jesus ascended, and will return.)
			1. Return for judgment and salvation – **2 Thessalonians 1:6-10**
				1. Tribulation/Rest
				2. Flaming fire, vengeance – On those who don’t obey
				3. Glorified – in those who believe
			2. Separation – **Matthew 25:31-33, 46**
				1. Sheep = those who serve the Lord by caring for brethren = right hand
				2. Goats = those who didn’t serve the Lord by not caring for brethren = left hand
				3. Sheep/right = everlasting life; Goats/left = everlasting punishment
			3. Same standard = no mistakes in judgment – **John 12:44-48**
8. When? (is the day of the Lord?)
9. Secret things belong to God
	1. **Deuteronomy 29:29** – God only discloses the things we need to know. If He said nothing about it, we must not need to know.
	2. **Some try to determine the exact date of “the day of the Lord.” (They have always failed, and always will.) 🡪**
10. Unknown Time
	1. **Acts 17:30-31** – There is an appointed day.
	2. **Matthew 24:36** – Only God knows the day and hour. Not even Jesus or the angels.
	3. **1 Thessalonians 5:1-3** – It will come suddenly!
		1. **As a thief** – He does not broadcast when he will break in.
		2. **As labor pains** – Although they can give an estimated day, the exact time and day is impossible to know.
11. How do we prepare? (for the day of the Lord?)
12. Don’t doubt.
	1. **2 Peter 3:3-9** – scoffers who doubted His coming and mocked the promise.
		1. They forget the judgment in the days of Noah.
		2. God promised, and He delivered.
		3. The day is coming! Be ready!
	2. Understanding the day is definitely coming, we must be prepared 🡪
13. Live Righteously.
	1. **2 Peter 3:10-15** – Because all physical things will pass away, and the world will be judged, we must look for that day **(v. 12)**.
		1. **(v. 11)** – holy conduct and godliness (reverence before God)
		2. **(v. 14)** – be found in peace (peace with God) (Spotless and blameless; sin)
		3. **(v. 15)** – every day available is a day to prepare.
	2. **1 Thessalonians 5:4-10** – Those who are prepared are ***“the sons of the day.”***
		1. Not a reference to the specific day, but a synonym for ***“sons of light.”***
		2. **Colossians 1:13** – delivered from darkness and now in light.
		3. **(v. 6-8)** – Those of the day and light are sober (clear mind/serious) and watchful (continually prepared).
			1. **Faith and love** – must trust in God, and love Him with faithful obedience.
			2. **Hope** – protects us and helps us endure. We push through, and endure because we have salvation waiting.
	3. Obey the gospel if you haven’t already **– 2 Thessalonians 1:8; Mark 16:16** (Implications of the day of the Lord.)
		1. The day of the Lord will be salvation for some.
		2. For most, it will be condemnation.

**Conclusion**

1. The day of the Lord is a surety. God will send His son, and all will be judged.
2. This is not something we can take lightly. Our eternal whereabouts will be sentenced on that day.
	1. Although, our eternal whereabouts are being determined now, by our actions.
	2. Are you prepared for that day?
3. The day is coming, and Jesus has given us all we need to know to be prepared. Are you?