1Thess #113

God’s love and justice ensure we do not see the wrath to come.

Let us open up in 1Thessalonians chapter five.

1Thes 5:4 But you, brothers *and sisters,* are not in darkness, so that the day would overtake you like a thief;

[1Th 5:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/5/s_1116005) for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

[1Th 5:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/6/s_1116006) so then, let’s not sleep as others do, but let’s be alert and sober.

[1Th 5:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/7/s_1116007) For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk, get drunk at night.

As I have taught you recently the Apostle Paul is in the process of waking up some of the Bels who had gone astray.

He is using language that has great contrasts as examples to differentiate between Unbels and Bels.

To also differentiate about the divine power and light of Christ and the darkness and confusion of Satan’s cosmic system.

[1Th 5:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/8/s_1116008) But since we are of *the* day, let’s be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

Sobriety is used in scripture to not only speak to staying away from intoxication but to keep a steadfast mind, to have a balanced and organized lifestyle.

/[1Th 5:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/9/s_1116009) For **God has not destined us for wrath**, but for **obtaining salvation** through our Lord Jesus Christ,\

[1Th 5:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/10/s_1116010) who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him.

[1Th 5:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/11/s_1116011) Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, just as you also are doing.

Very interesting that the Apostle Paul is speaking on two types of deliverance, with a stronger emphasis on deliverance from the Tribulation.

/First, because of what Adam did to us and the whole human race, we are appointed to wrath, in the sense of everlasting separation from GOD, spiritual death. The second and stronger emphasis is to wake up these Bels that the wrath of the coming Tribulation is not for CA Bels. \

Every person ever born had an appointment with the wrath of GOD, in the sense of final judgement.

Jesus took our place in that appointment into wrath and reschedules us with an appointment to obtain salvation.

/Rom 5:19 For as through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so also **through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous**.

Jesus Christ paid the debt for all mankind; it was a substitutionary spiritual death.\

Jesus died in our place.

Jesus Christ died for us as a substitute, because in eternity past the appointment with the wrath of GOD was proclaimed valid and unchangeable. It was decreed as a legal sentence and the declaration in the divine courtroom of heaven was passed.

That sentence of judgment could not be changed our cancelled. The wrath or judgement had to be fulfilled, you can not by-pass the justice system of God.

 REPEAT

It is not about love – love can not satisfy the justice system of GOD.

/Jhn 3:16 “For **God so loved the world**, that **He gave His only Son**, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life.

For God (Father) did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation. God’s love is always active yet the justice system could not be ignored.\

God the Father’s perfect plan had to be filtered through HIS justice system. That is the portion of the Bible many pulpits and emotional Christians never fully digest.

God’s love alone was not the saving element in HIS plan.

God the Father’s plan was already decided in eternity past - all the legal details were complete.

/1Thes 5:9 - *God has not destined (tithēmi) us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation;*

The Apostle Paul still using interesting contrasts – God appoints or has established; the Father’s plan is in view (completed in eternity past).\

TETH-A-ME, is a definitive word used for something already established, in fact it could mean a law or standard already laid down…….ordained.

God set that legal standard down.

Yet look what Paul states…

/1Thes 5:9 - *but for obtaining salvation;*

Appoint or ordain emphasizes God’s sovereignty but obtain is a word that emphasizes human effort.The Greek noun, *peripoiēsis,* meaning to purchase or receive that which is yours.\

PERRI-POY-ISIS, meaning some form of effort or thought is in view to obtain what God did for you already.

Together, they show that the full scope of salvation involves both divine initiative and human thought to acknowledge that which was done for you.

Jump over to 1John chapter four RF.

/The Apostle Paul is speaking in terms of both salvation but in the deeper context, the fact that because of our free will decision to accept Christ we are saved from any and all wrath – judgment for eternity and the Tribulation ahead of us. God the Father’s perfect plan satisfied the justice system of heaven, while allowing God’s love to flow freely to those who accept HIS precious SON as Lord and savior. \

God’s perfect plan was that Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity would be the only legal substitute for the sins of mankind.

God filtered everything through HIS justice system and the verdict was pure righteousness would be the only substitute for fallen man. That process was handled first at the Divine Justice System then brought through the Divine Decree and God’s plan became fully established.

/Rom 5:8 But **God demonstrates His own love toward us**, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom 8:32 **He who did not spare His own Son**, but **delivered Him over for us all,** how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?\

The heart and love of God is that no one perish and we all come to have eternal life – yet the judicial side of God had to be satisfied as well.

Look what the Apostle John writes to Bels as he is warning them against false teachers and cosmic counterfeits;

1Jhn 4:4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

[1Jo 4:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/4/5/s_1163005) They are from the world, therefore they speak *as* from the world, and the world listens to them.

The world will always tell us half-truths, full blown lies and lead us toward counterfeits.

/[1Jo 4:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/4/6/s_1163006) **We are from God**. **The one who knows God listens to us**; the one who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

The true Bel seeks knowledge from the WORD of God. The plan of God becomes clear to them because they have chosen a path of positive volition. \

God is love…just as He is many other attributes, such as justice, truth and righteousness.

[1Jo 4:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/4/7/s_1163007) Beloved, let’s love one another; for love is from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

/[1Jo 4:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/4/8/s_1163008) The one who does not love does not know God, **because God is love** (*agape*).

God is divine love, it is impersonal, unconditional – it is a love that freely flows between personal and impersonal. It is an abundant love that is not dependent upon human emotion.\

This love is the basis for real spirituality. Because it is the love that comes from a Christ-like nature and it can handle abuse and neglect the same way it can handle affection and friendship.

/[1Jo 4:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/4/9/s_1163009) By this **the love of God was revealed in us, that God has sent His only Son**into the world so that we may live through Him.

God’s love was absolutely incorporated into the plan in eternity past – yet the justice system was as well as all of the attributes of God.\

What many Christians do not like to acknowledge is that God’s justice system has to be addressed for God to have uninterrupted fellowship with mankind.

/[1Jo 4:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/4/10/s_1163010) In this is love, not that we loved God, but **that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation**(*hilasmos*)**for our sins.**

God’s love by itself was not the saving factor, God’s justice system demanded fulfillment, payment or judgement. \

HILL-AZ-MOSS, speaks to a process in which something or someone is satisfied or something comes to completion.

[1Jo 4:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/4/11/s_1163011) Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

This is why you often here the principle that everything is filtered through God’s justice system because it is a deciding factor in the nature and plan of God.

/ The righteousness, justice and veracity (divine truth) of God could not be ignored, this brought forth the judicial need for propitiation. That is, the integrity of God was satisfied or expiated. Propitiation means expiation (compensation or atonement). Propitiation is the Godward side of the work of Christ in salvation. God the Father is satisfied with the sacrificial ministry of our Lord on the cross.\

Go over to 2Corinthians chapter five.

For GOD to be who and what HE claims to be – HIS divine integrity can never be challenged. Therefore, a pure judicial process has to encompass God’s actions.

God never operates on emotions.

Because we know God is fully satisfied and every time HE looks upon a born again Bel (winner or loser), He sees the righteousness of Christ. So, we have no need to worry about wrath or judgement.

 REPEAT

/2Cor 5:19 namely, that **God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself**, not counting their wrongdoings against them, and **He has committed to us the word of reconciliation**.

God’s love is seen in the person and work of Jesus Christ. HIS love for us was the joy set before HIM (Heb 12:2), so that HE would endure the pain and humiliation. \

Jesus Christ is GOD….therefore, HIS love was on display for all to witness.

2Cor 5:20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Reconciliation is a judicial term. It is a satisfactory payment and peace offering, it brings and end to conflict or judgment.

/[2Co 5:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2co/5/21/s_1083021) **He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin in our behalf**, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

The perfect plan of God ensures anyone who believes upon the person and work of Christ, never faces the issue of judgement and wrath. \

In order for God’s love to be free to touch the lives of fallen man, the judicial process in heaven had to come to a full completion.

You can not stop a murder trial half way through and just tell everyone to love one another and that ends the case.

There is still a victim and still an unsolved crime.

That is not truth, honesty, justice or righteous. All the facts, evidence and judgment have to be laid open and dealt with for real justice to occur.

God is pure righteousness, pure justice and pure truth and HE can not overlook or associate with sin.

HIS divine love is woven into all HIS plans and HIS work, yet HE will never compromise HIS divine integrity;

/Titus 3:4 But when **the kindness of God our Savior** and **His love** for mankind appeared,

Rom 5:10 For if **while we were enemies we were reconciled** to God through the death of His Son, much more, **having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life**.\

To ignore the justice system and only focus on the love is only a portion of who GOD is and how HE operates.

Because God’s plan is perfect, we as Bels, reap the benefit of never having to be judged for our sins nor do we face the wrath of the coming Tribulation period.

Because the plan was perfect we share in the righteousness of Christ, which in turn entitles us to privileges in heaven.

As CA Bels we are given a royal commission and we are married into intimacy to TLJC for all of eternity.

The Church does not go into the 7 years of Tribulation.

/Rev 4:1 **After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven**, and the first voice which I had heard, like *the sound* of a trumpet speaking with me, said, “**Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things.”**

The Church is not mentioned again after chapter three within the book of Revelation.\

The analogy of the last Apostle of the CA – John, the one who completed the canon of scripture, being invited to be a witness in heaven is a reminder, that the church goes up into heaven before the Tribulation.

Once Apostle John is invited into the heavenly portion of the vision – he is told watch what will happen next.

The Apostle John is called up like a Rapture and he is to witness what happens after his ascension.

/From Revelation chapter one into chapter three, we see a focus on the Church. The introduction into chapter four is the invitation into heaven and what happens once the CHURCH is removed from the earth. After the introduction into chapter 4 the judgement on the earth unfolds from chapter five into chapter eighteen.\

The only hint to the CA Bels is seen in the wedding ceremony of the LAMB in chapter 19 - which is a recap of events before the 2nd Advent of Christ.

It is believed that the CA Bels, more specifically the winner Bels, ride back as part of the conquering army at the Battle of Armageddon.

/Rev 19: And **the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen**, white *and* clean, were **following Him on white horses.**

The CA Bels return to earth in glorious fashion as part of the army of the LORD at the 2nd Advent.\