

WILL WE BE READY?

- **The Day of the LORD** will be a day of great joy for the one who is ready. However, we must observe a **tragic irony** that has its roots in the Old Testament. Many will look forward to the day of the LORD (see Amos 5:18 below) but will not be ready for the day of the LORD. Amos prophecies that for these people “that day will bring darkness, not light.” These people are religious, but apostate, which means that although they may “read aloud” the prophecies, in reality they rebel against the truth. They neither hear the words nor keep the words. For these people, this great day of anticipation turns into a day of terror and mourning at the divine judgment of God.
 - **Please note the context below in 1:7, 10-11:** Christ commanded John to write to the churches immediately after the announcement of his return to Earth. **Christ commands John to write so we will be ready.**
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Day of the LORD ...

- (Revelation 1:7 ESV) Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, **and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.**
- (Revelation 1:10–11 ESV) I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, **“Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches,** to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

Day of the LORD ...

- (Amos 5:18–22 NLT) **What sorrow awaits you who say, “If only the day of the LORD were here!” You have no idea what you are wishing for. That day will bring darkness, not light.** 19 In that day you will be like a man who runs from a lion— only to meet a bear. Escaping from the bear, he leans his hand against a wall in his house— and he’s bitten by a snake. 20 Yes, the day of the LORD will be dark and hopeless, without a ray of joy or hope. 21 **“I hate all your show and pretense— the hypocrisy of your religious festivals and solemn assemblies.** 22 I will not accept your burnt offerings and grain offerings. I won’t even notice all your choice peace offerings.

Day of the LORD ...

- (Malachi 3:1–2 NLT) “Look! I am sending my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. Then the Lord you are seeking will suddenly come to his Temple. **The messenger of the covenant, whom you look for so eagerly, is surely coming,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. 2 “But who will be able to endure it when he comes? Who will be able to stand and face him when he appears? For he will be like a blazing fire that refines metal, or like a strong soap that bleaches clothes.”**

Day of the LORD ...

- (2 Peter 3:10–14 ESV) But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, **and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.** 11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, **what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness,** 12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! 13 But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 14 **Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.**

Day of the LORD ...

- (1 Thessalonians 5:1–6 NLT) Now concerning how and when all this will happen, dear brothers and sisters, we don’t really need to write you. 2 For you know quite well that the day of the Lord’s return will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night. 3 **When people are saying, “Everything is peaceful and secure,” then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman’s labor pains begin. And there will be no escape.** 4 But you aren’t in the dark about these things, dear brothers and sisters, and you won’t be surprised when the day of the Lord comes like a thief. 5 For you are all children of the light and of the day; **we don’t belong to darkness and night. 6 So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded.**