

1 THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 5

Lesson 13: Comparing Watchers and Sleepers

1Thessalonians 5:1-11

4 March 2024

In the first eleven verses of chapter five we have a comparison between those who are looking for the return of the Lord and those who are not.

I. THEIR EXPECTATION DIFFERS

A. Watchers know the Lord is coming as a thief (v. 2).
A thief takes the valuables and leaves the junk.

B. The Sleepers expect peace and safety (v.3; Jer 6:14).

II. THE REWARD DIFFERS

A. Watchers are prepared to obtain salvation from coming wrath (v. 9).

B. Sleepers shall find sudden destruction, travail and no means of escape (v. 3).

III. THEIR CONDUCT DIFFERS

A. Watchers are alert and sober (v. 6).

B. Sleepers are asleep (Rom 11:13) and drunken (vv.6-7).

IV. THEIR POSSESSIONS DIFFER

A. Watchers have faith, hope, love, salvation and comfort (vv. 8, 11, Isaiah 59:17).

B. Sleepers have nothing.

V. THEIR CHARACTER DIFFERS

A. Watchers are children of the day and light (v. 5).

B. Sleepers are children of the night and darkness (v. 5).

1. They remain so because they hate the light (John 3:18-21).

2. Which is the word of God (Ps 110:105, 130).

3. And the Lord Jesus Christ (John 1:8-9).

VI. THEIR RELATIONSHIPS DIFFER

A. Watchers have a union with Christ (v. 10) and with one another (v. 11).

B. Sleepers, likened to a man in a drunken stupor (v. 7) can enjoy no manner of fellowship.

Note: The term “the day of the Lord” signifies the second advent of Christ, not the catching away of the church. (See Amos 5:18-20, Zephaniah 1:14-18, Joel 2:1-3, Jeremiah 30:7).

PERSONAL NOTES
