

An aerial, high-angle photograph of a zebra crossing on a city street. The crossing consists of alternating black and white horizontal stripes. Several pedestrians are captured in motion, crossing the street. Their shadows are cast long and dark on the pavement, indicating bright, direct sunlight. The people are dressed in casual attire, including t-shirts, shorts, and trousers. One person is holding a black umbrella, and another is holding a blue patterned umbrella. The overall scene is busy and urban.

LAST DAYS LIVING

A STUDY IN I & II THESSALONIANS

**“Pleasing God with Our Watchfulness”
Part II**

I THESSALONIANS 5:8-11

⁴ Therefore we ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions that you are enduring.

⁵ This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering—⁶ since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, ⁷ and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels ⁸ in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

II Thessalonians 1:4-8

KEY POINT:

**We please God with our watchfulness
for His return.**

I. The Wrong Response to Christ's Return:
Seeking to Know the Date (vs. 1-3)

II. The Right Responses to Christ's Return:

A. Staying Alert (vs. 4-7)

B. Show self-control (vs. 8-10).

“The sober-minded believer has a calm, sane outlook on life.

He is not complacent, but neither is he frustrated and afraid. He hears the tragic news of the day, yet he does not lose heart. He experiences the difficulties of life, but he does not give up. He knows his future is secure in God’s hands, so he lives each day creatively, calmly, and obediently. Outlook determines outcome, and when your outlook is the uplook, then your outcome is secure.”



Warren Wiersbe
Be Ready

*praying at all times in the Spirit,
with all prayer and supplication.
To that end, keep alert with all perseverance,
making supplication for all the saints,*

Ephesians 6:18

“Jesus did not come merely to make salvation possible, but actually to save His people. He did not come to make redemption possible. He died to redeem people.

He did not come to make propitiation possible; He turned aside God’s wrath for each of His elect people forever. He did not come to make reconciliation between God and man possible; He actually reconciled to God those whom the Father had given Him. ...



James M. Boice
The Doctrines of Grace

He did not come merely to make atonement for sins possible, but actually to atone for sinners. ... Christ's work on the cross was not a hypothetical salvation for hypothetical believers, but a real and definite salvation for God's chosen people.

A redemption that does not redeem, a propitiation that does not propitiate, a reconciliation that does not reconcile, and an atonement that does not atone cannot help anybody.



James M. Boice
The Doctrines of Grace

But a redemption that redeems,
a propitiation that propitiates,
a reconciliation that reconciles,
and an atonement that atones
reveal a most amazing grace on
God's part and draw us to rest
in Him and in His completed
work, rather than our own."



James M. Boice
The Doctrines of Grace

*even as the Son of Man came not to be served
but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom
for many.”*

Matthew 20:28

*I am the good shepherd.
The good shepherd lays down his life
for the sheep.*

John 10:11

just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.

John 10:15

*For this reason the Father loves me,
because I lay down my life that I may take
it up again.*

John 10:17

*⁶ For while we were still weak,
at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.*

*⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous
person—though perhaps for a good person one
would dare even to die—⁸ but God shows his
love for us in that while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.*

Romans 5:6-8

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,

I Corinthians 15:3

And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

*⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator
between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,
⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all,
which is the testimony given at the proper time.*

I Timothy 2:5-6

*He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,
that we might die to sin and live to
righteousness. By his wounds you have
been healed.*

I Peter 2:24

*For Christ also suffered once for sins,
the righteous for the unrighteous,
that he might bring us to God,
being put to death in the flesh but made alive in
the spirit,*

I Peter 3:18

13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:13-14

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II. The Right Responses to Christ's Return:

- A. Staying Alert (vs. 4-7).
- B. Show self-control (vs. 8-10).
- C. Strengthen others (vs. 11).

*What then, brothers? When you come together,
each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation,
a tongue, or an interpretation.
Let all things be done for building up.*

I Corinthians 14:26