

How to Enjoy Life in the Last Days September 18-19, 2021

1 Thessalonians 5:1-5 (NLT)

Now concerning how and when this will happen, dear brothers and sisters, we don't really need to write you. For you know quite well that the day of the Lord's return will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night. 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. 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. For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night.

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<u>Jude</u> – Jude, the half-brother of Jesus, who once was a nonbeliever until he witnessed the resurrection of Christ, writes this letter to expose false teachers who had infiltrated the Christian community. He encourages all of us to stand for the truth.

Revelation – John, the gospel writer, was exiled to the island of Patmos where the Lord revealed to him the events of our future. This book reveals the events of the rapture, the 7-year tribulation, and the second coming of Christ. However, in the midst of all the judgement it ends with the ultimate hope of Heaven. Enjoying the Last Days Happens When I:



Listen to the right voices.

Jude 1:4 (TPT)

There have been some who have sneaked in among you unnoticed. They are depraved people whose judgment was prophesied in Scripture a long time ago. They have perverted the message of God's grace into a license to commit immorality and turn against our only absolute Master, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jude 1:8-10 (TPT)

In the same way, these sensual "dreamers" corrupt and pollute the natural realm, while on the other hand they reject the spiritual realms of governmental power and repeatedly scoff at heavenly glories. Even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil over the body of Moses, dared not insult or slander him, but simply said, "The Lord Yahweh rebuke you!" These people insult anything they don't understand. They behave like irrational beasts by doing whatever they feel like doing. Because they live by their animal instincts, they corrupt themselves and bring about their own destruction.

Jude 1:20-23 (NIV)

But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. Be merciful to those who doubt; save others by snatching them from the fire; to others show mercy, mixed with fear—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.



Learn from Christian examples, both good and bad.

Revelation 1:10-11 (NLT)

It was the Lord's Day, and I was worshiping in the Spirit. Suddenly, I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet blast. It said, "Write in a book everything you see, and send it to the seven churches in the cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

- Ephesus the <u>loveless</u> church
- Smyrna the <u>persecuted</u> church
- Pergamum the idolatrous church
- Thyatira the false doctrine church
- Sardis the spiritually asleep church
- Philadelphia the spiritually <u>alive</u> church
- Laodicea the <u>lukewarm</u> church

Revelation 3:5 (NKJV)

He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

1 John 5:5 (NKJV)

Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?



Live with <u>hope</u> in God's perfect timeline.

• The Rapture

Revelation 4:1-2 (NLT)

Then as I looked, I saw a door standing open in heaven, and the same voice I had heard before spoke to me like a trumpet blast. The voice said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after this." And instantly I was in the Spirit, and I saw a throne in heaven and someone sitting on it.

Revelation 5:12-13 (NLT)

And they sang in a mighty chorus: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered—

to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing." And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They sang: "Blessing and honor and glory and power belong to the one sitting on the throne and to the Lamb forever and ever."

- The righteous judgement of Israel and all unbelievers.
- The <u>real</u> victory

Revelation 19:11-16 (NLT)

Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war. His eyes were like flames of fire, and on his head were many crowns. A name was written on him that no one understood except himself. He wore a robe dipped in blood, and his title was the Word of God. The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed him on white horses. From his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod. He will release the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty, like juice flowing from a winepress. On his robe at his thigh was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords.

Our radiant home

Revelation 21:1-5a (NLT)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" ...

Memory Verse for September, 2021

1 Corinthians 9:22 (NIV)

To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.



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