***Lesson Twenty-One***

**1 Thessalonians 5:4-8**

**A Call to Spiritual Alertness**

**1.** In v. 4 Paul speaks of those who are ***in*** ***darkness*** (*skotos*—#4655). Then in v. 5 he refers to two groups . . . those who are ***sons of light*** (*phōs*—#5457) ***and sons of day*** and those who are ***of night*** and ***of darkness***. What does Paul mean by using the contrast of ***light*** & ***darkness*** and ***day*** & ***night***?

**2.** In v. 4 Paul speaks of those who are ***overtaken*** by ***the day***. What ***day*** is he referring to?

**3.** In v. 4 when Paul speaks of ***the day overtaking you like a thief***, what does the word ***overtake*** (*katalambanō*—#2638) mean as Paul uses it here?

**4.** Then, having stated in v. 5 that ***we are not of night nor of darkness***, in v. 6 Paul proceeds to instruct us on what we, as Christians, should be doing . . . ***so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober***.

 **a.** What does the term ***sleep*** (*katheudō*—#2518) connote in this passage?

 **b.** Who are the ***others*** that Paul refers to in v. 6?

 **c.** What does the term ***alert*** (*grēgoreuō*—#1127) mean, as used in this passage?

 **d.** What does the term ***sober*** (*nēphō*—#3525) mean, as used in this passage?

**5.** What is the purpose of Paul’s statement in v. 7 when he refers to ***sleeping*** and ***getting drunk***?

**6.** In v. 8 Paul uses the imagery of a Roman soldier’s battle attire in reference to ***the breastplate of faith and love*** and ***a helmet of the hope of salvation***.

 **a.** What is significant about ***the breastplate*** being ***of faith and love***?

 **b.** What is significant about the ***helmet*** being ***of the hope of salvation***?

**7.** In Ephesians 6:10-17 Paul more extensively instructs on ***the full armor of God***. What are the similarities and differences between the armor that Paul describes in Ephesians 6:10-17 and in 1 Thessalonians 5:8?

**8.** What do ***the breastplate of faith and love*** and ***a helmet of the hope of salvation*** have to do with keeping us ***sober***?