

Let Me Strengthen You



Our Joy and Crown!

The Nature and Result of Suffering



- The comparison of the Human Heart
 - Jews in Jerusalem
 - Gentiles in Thessalonica
 1. Murderous Intention
 2. Exclusive Control Over the Message
 3. At Enmity with God
 4. Dire Consequences

The Nature and Result of Spiritual War



- The companionship of the Human Heart
 - Attacked at First in Thessalonica (Acts 15)
 - Resisted in Later Efforts (Romans 15)
 1. Longing for Fellowship
 2. Recognizing What Counted
 3. In Harmony with the Lord's Coming
 4. Exciting Consequences

The Nature and Result of Second Coming



- 3 words are used in the Bible for Christ's Return:
- parousia (pa-roo-SEE-ah): coming and subsequent presence
- apokalupsis (apo-KAL-yoop-sis): unveiling, revelation
- epiphaneia (epi-FAHN-ee-ah): manifestation

4 Aspects of Parousia



1 - A Beginning - The Rapture

- Key Verses where it is used this way:
- 1 Corinthians 15:22,23
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- 2 Thessalonians 2:1
- James 5:7-8

4 Aspects of Parousia



2 - A Course of Action – The Judgment

- Key Verses where it is used this way:
- 1 Thessalonians 2:19
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23

4 Aspects of Parousia



3 - A Manifestation – The Power and Glory

- Key Verses where it is used this way:
- Matthew 24:3
- Matthew 24:27,37,39
- 1 Thessalonians 3:13
- 2 Thessalonians 2:8

4 Aspects of Parousia



4 - A Conclusion – The End of Time

- Key Verses where it is used this way:
- 2 Peter 3:4

Assessment



For Our Consideration

Assessment #1



Are you suffering today because of your stand with Christ and the gospel?

Assessment #2



In what ways do you make the journey more difficult?

- a. In what ways do you isolate your self?**
- b. In what ways do you become self-focused?**
- c. In what ways do you forget God in your struggle?**

Assessment #3



Do you know someone who struggling with their faith? Do you desire to be helpful?

a. In what ways do you reach out to them in love and acceptance?

b. In what ways do you encourage them? Visit? Cards? Phone calls? Prayer?

c. In what ways are you admonishing them with the truth?

Assessment #4



How does the promised return of Christ help us with our struggle?

Assessment #5



What do you need to do today to get on the right path? To better support someone who is struggling?

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