

SERVE AND WAIT!

We are currently studying the Book of 1st Thessalonians by chapter, verse, and categorical bible doctrines.

In our lesson text, Paul connected two important features of believers during the Church Age of the New Covenant.

- (1 Thess.1:9) “**to serve** (doueo/ p.a.infin) a living and true God.”
- (1 Thess.1;10) “**To wait** (anameno/ p.a.infin) for His Son from heaven.”

We will study five aspects of “Serve and Wait.”
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1. Paul made living out the Christian life in the world remarkably simple: Serve the Lord and Wait for the Lord.

Paul explained earlier in (1 Thess.1:5-7) what qualified a believer to SERVE (saved, imitator, model).

(1 Thess.1:9-10) “How you turned to God from idols **to serve** living and true God and **to wait for** His Son from (ek+abl of separation) heaven, whom He raised from (ek+abl) the **dead**, that is Jesus, who rescues us from (ek+abl) the **wrath** to come.”

Please note the three prepositional phrases of (from) (ek+abl.) connected to WAIT.

- Church Age believers wait for God’s Son **from** Heaven.
- God raised Jesus **from** the dead (resurrection, ascension, and session) (Acts 2:33).
- Jesus Christ rescues Church Age Believers of the New Covenant **from** the Wrath to Come.

2. Paul also connected two articular present middle participles:

The Rescuer (ton rhuomai/ a.s.m) **of us** (Church Age Believers) and **to come** (tes erchomai/ abl.s.f) **from the wrath**.

Paul made a doctrinal statement regarding Church Age Believers:

- “**Jesus is The Rescuer of the Church Age Believer from (ek+abl) the Wrath to come.**”

Paul explains that Jesus will return for the Church as The Rescuer at His Second Coming. Paul will later explain this in (1 Thess.4:13-18).

- **Think how far these new believers have come in their knowledge of Bible doctrine from Greek pagan idolatry (2 Pet.3:18).**

3. Paul connected the ascension and session of Jesus to His Second Coming for His Church with this statement.

(1 Thess.1:10) “Whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.”

What connection does Jesus, in heaven, have with the Church, on earth, during this period of the Church Age?

Paul's Answer:

Jesus Christ is the Savior and The Head and The Rescuer of the Church .

(Eph.5:23, 32) “For the husband is the head of the wife, as **Christ** is also **the head of the Church**, He Himself being the **Savior of the body.**”

(Eph.5:25-28) “**Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church** and gave Himself up for her, **so that** He might sanctify her, cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or nay such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. So, husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself.”

Jesus Christ is coming back for His beloved Bride to Rescue her from the wrath to come and to rapture her into His presence which will end the Church Age.

4. Paul taught that when Jesus comes the Second Time:

(1 Thess.1:10) “He will **rescue** (ton rhomai/ p.m.ptc.asm) **us** (Church Age Believers) **from** (ek+abl of separation) **the wrath** (tes orge/ abl.s.f) **to come** (tes erchomai/ p.m.ptc.abl.s.f)”.

At the Second Coming, Jesus will be The Rescuer of all Church Age Believers. He will rescue us from “the wrath to come.” This is Daniel’s Seventh Week called The Tribulation (doctrinalstudies.com for further study). Be sure to read Jesus’ promise to His Church, (**Acts 1:9-11/ Rev.6-19**).

5. Jesus will rescue the church from the wrath to come just like He rescued the sinner from the wrath of Adam’s original sin. (Rom.5:12-21)

- This is not the wrath that Jesus paid for on the CROSS (John 3:36; Rom.5:8-11; Eph.2:2-3).

“He who **believes** in the Son has eternal life, but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, **but the wrath of God abides on him.**” (John3:36; John 3:16)

- This is not the wrath of the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev.20).

“**And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.**” (Rev.20:15)