

“The Last Days”/Day of Lord

Review For Assurance

The Last Days/Day of the Lord

Defining to assure and provide exhortation

How is it used?

When are the Former Days?

**What do the Last Days
precede?**

What splits the two?

What doesn't follow

Goals:

- 1. Avoid confusions**
- 2. To watch and be ready**
- 3. Remind ourselves the urgency of the gospel**

How is it used

The exaltation of God's House - Isaiah 2:2-4

- In the last days
 - Mountain of God's house above all
 - All nations seek to go up to it
 - God's law flows outwards
 - God renders judgment → manifested in faith (2 Thess 1:3-5)
 - There is peace between the nations.
- We can point to examples readily

How is it used

Peter Points to Jesus and the Holy Spirit - Acts 2:14-24

- As people marvel at their own languages spoken by a Galilean, Peter says this is God's Spirit poured out in the last days → Quotes Joel 2:28-32
- Peter then points to Jesus, his miracles, and the events at the Cross.
- God raised up Jesus to end the terrors of death

How is it used

The Hebrew Writer Proclaims It's Here - Heb 1:1-4

- At one time, there were prophets
- In the "last days", he spoke to us through Jesus.
- The Hebrew writer describes the magnitude of Jesus' exaltation

How is it used

To Warn That It Will Be Difficult - 2 Tim 3:1ff

- There are difficult times ahead
 - Namely because of wicked people
 - The idea things go from bad to worse (vs 13)
- We are still to preach the word until the time no one will hear (4:2-3)

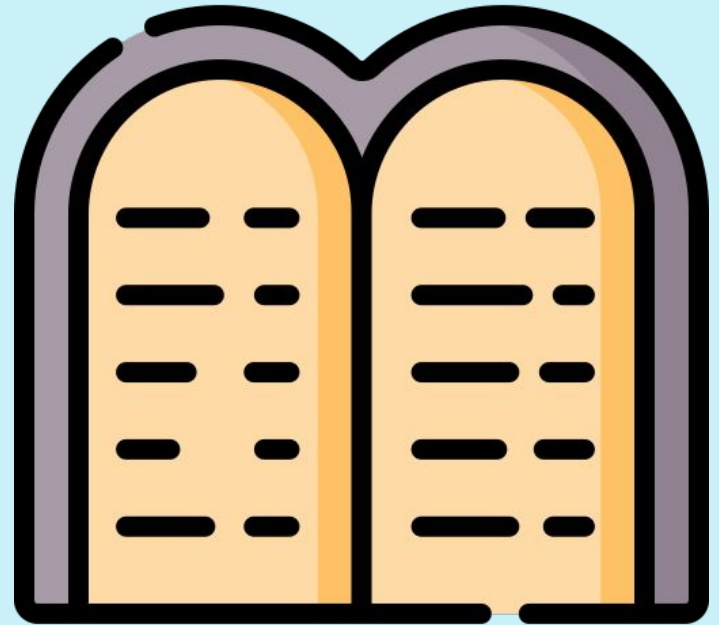
What were the “first days”

Often Speaks Regarding the Old Law

Isaiah 43:18-19 – Don’t remember the former for God is working something new

2 Cor 3 – Paul describes a new covenant versus an old covenant

Gal 3:23-24; 28-31 – The law was a tutor/guardian, but now it’s time to cast it off (Heb 8:13, 9:26)



The Day of the Lord

It's not a literal day, but a series event

- There are multiple “Day of the Lords”
 - Isaiah 2:12-18 - Judgment on idolatry & injustice (Amos 2:18-24, Zeph 1:2-11) with exile
 - Malachi 4:5 - Describes John the baptist arriving before the day of the Lord arrives
 - There are many used in the Old Testament, and some speak of Jesus coming/crucifixion as that event - Joel 2:10-14, 31
 - Used to describe what happens with Jesus' return (2 Thess 2:1-3)
 - 1 Thess 5:2 - Paul speaks it will come with destruction

Cycling Elements – From Prophecy

Former Days

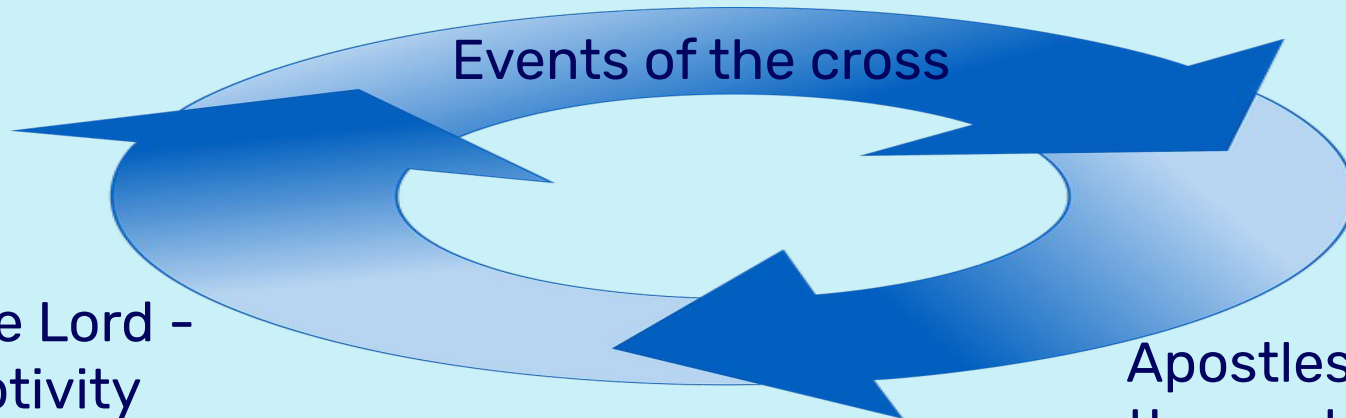
**Noted as temporary,
fading**

Coming of Jesus

**"The Kingdom of
Heaven is at hand!"
(Matthew 4:17)**

Day of The Lord

**Judgment to
something new**



Cycling Elements – Judge Cycle

Days of Difficulty

People give into idolatry, God brings an oppressor

Judge appointed

God raises up a deliverer that rescues them

Day of The Lord

After a climax, they bring a period of rest

God works wonders through them

Israel oppressed as a consequence of sin

They judge for so many years



The Last Cycle

Former Days

**Noted as temporary,
fading**

Coming of Jesus

**"The Kingdom of
Heaven is at hand!"
(Matthew 4:17)**

Day of The Lord

**Judgment to
something new**

Jesus returning in
glory (Mar 13:24-27)

1 Pet 3:10; Rom
8:20-21 - World set to
expire, as if in exile

1 Cor 15:20-28,
50-54: Return
Kingdom to God -
We're changed

**Why Message the
Day of the Lord
This Way?**

We can look back at the Day of the Lord related to the Jewish exile and transition out of the Old Covenant



And look forward to this future day of the Lord, and know in spite of whatever trial lays beforehand, that God is shifting us to something better.

Important Things to Consider

Avoiding Misconceptions

- We don't know when, and neither does Jesus (Mark 13:32)
- We'll know when it happens, and based on 1 Thess 4:13-17, it probably hasn't happened
 - We should be very careful then about talking about the events surrounding AD 70 - Heb 9:28 (comes a 2nd time, no 3rd+ times)
 - We'll always be with Him - no returning to earth
- Jesus speaks of days of tribulation being near and of the present generation not passing till these things (Matt 24:4-31) in 24:32-34 and how vs 29 relates with Peter's sermons at Pentecost

Important Things to Consider

Avoiding Misconceptions

- Our inheritance is heavenly, not earthly - 1 Pet 1:3-5
- The Kingdom is spoken of now - Acts 2:47; Col 1:13; Hebrews 12:22-23; Rev 1:9
- Our spiritual warfare is now - 2 Cor 10:3-5; Eph 3:8-12; 1 Peter 2:9-12
- Christ has already been victorious - see ascension
- The process of judgment is ongoing - 2 Thess 1:3-5; 1 Peter 4:15-18

What Should We Do With This

Judgment, But Warning to Repent & Find Rest

- Leverages “apocalyptic” language - dramatically invokes sense of finality, urgency, and when right and wrong are separated.
- 2 Peter 3:1-12 - How should you live looking ahead to these things
- Mark 13:32-37; Rev 16:14-15 - Watch and Pray!
- 1 Thess 4:18-5:11 - We teach these things to assure each other not to be consumed about worrying when it's going to happen, but to be prepared!
- 2 Tim 4:1-2 - Preach that salvation has arrived to those who will listen