Sober: Children Of The Day

Tony Mauck · 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

INTRODUCTION

- One can refrain from alcohol completely and still not be sufficiently sober.
- Some are drunk with pleasure that interferes with a right response to God. Some are drunk with a selfish approach to life that excludes God or does not give him his proper due.
- Be alert, be sober, be watchful of your adversary, the devil.

1 The Very Nature of These Assemblies Is Sobering

- I want to make the observation from this text that the very nature of these assemblies is sobering.
- To accomplish 1 Thessalonians chapter 5 and to be children of the day, we set our minds on spiritual things.
- It is sobering to drive ourselves to spiritual thought. It's helpful to think about something other than television.
- You are a reminder of what I'm to be spiritually because we're connected by our faith in Jesus Christ.

2 Our Calling Extends to Every Waking Moment

- We need to be careful that our assemblies don't become something like the light switch.
- 1 Thessalonians 5 is not just about assemblies when it talks about being children of the day. It's about how we live and conduct ourselves in life.
- We need to make some spiritual assessments about the things that we're doing in the world.
- Who we are and our calling extends to every waking moment of our lives.

3 What Is the Sober Christian Constantly Thinking About?

Philippians 4:5; Romans 12:3; Psalm 39

- It's an intense, it's an acute, consistent awareness of things spiritual.
- There is a living God. May that not be confined to thoughts that we have in this building.
- Walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called with all humility and gentleness.
- If we don't have the proper assessment of ourselves, we're not sober, even if we refrain from alcoholic beverages.
- If you lose sight of that, our sojourner status, our pilgrimage here, if you lose sight of that, you forfeit sobriety.

4 Our Account to God, Others, and Our Priorities

John 12:48; Matthew 6; Colossians 4:2–6

- I'm going to stand before God to give an account of my life.
- Being sober also causes us to think about our responsibility to others.
- Even the way we speak is a reflection of the fact that we are children of the day.
- Being sober is involved in thinking about having an alertness to our greater spiritual priorities in life.
- The person who finds that he meditates on God only when he forces himself to do so is deceiving himself if he says his spiritual values are his most important concern.

5 Keep Sober in Spirit: Behavior Follows

1 Peter 1:13; 1 Peter 4:7–11; 1 Peter 5:7–8

- Gird your minds for action. Keep sober in spirit. Fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
- We're focused on spiritual things, and that in turn affects our behavior.
- Be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.
- Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

THE CHALLENGE

Are you sober? Are you ready to meet him? Are you fully aware of your transient nature and your inevitable interview with God and your need to order your life accordingly? Are you listening to God's word and responding humbly in obedience?

MY NOTES