## 23 WAYS TO PREPARE OURSELVES FOR THE RAPTURE

## from I Thessalonians 5

For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

For when they shall say, "Peace and safety,"

then sudden destruction cometh upon them,
as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief, therefore. . . .

I Thessalonians 5.2-5

## I Thessalonians 5, 6-22

23 verbs: instructions as we wait for the Lord's return

- 6 Therefore let us **not sleep**, as do others; but let us **watch** and **be sober**.
- 8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, <u>putting on</u> the breastplate of faith and love; and for a helmet, the hope of salvation.
- 11 Wherefore **comfort** yourselves together, and **edify** one another, even as also ye do.
- 12 And we beseech you, brethren, to **know them** which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;
- 13 And to <u>esteem</u> them (those "over you," v.12) very highly in love for their work's sake. And <u>be at peace</u> among yourselves.
- 14 Now we exhort you, brethren, <u>warn</u> them that are unruly, <u>comfort</u> the feebleminded, <u>support</u> the weak, <u>be patient</u> toward all men.
- 15 See that <u>none render evil for evil</u> unto any man; but ever f<u>ollow</u> that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.
- 16 **Rejoice** evermore.
- 17 **Pray** without ceasing.
- 18 In every thing **give thanks**: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
- 19 **Quench not** the Spirit.
- 20 **Despise not** prophesyings.
- 21 **Prove** all things; **hold fast** that which is good.
- 22 **Abstain** from all appearance of evil.

In which of the 22 do you and I excel?

In which do you and I need to improve?