

## The Day of The LORD Part 1

Evidence for the Beginning of the Broad Day of the Lord

Pastor Eric Douma  
Twin City Fellowship

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
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### Definitions of The Day of The Lord

"The comprehensive phrase, by which the Old Testament describes God's intervention in human history for the accomplishment of His testament is yom Yahweh, 'the day of Yahweh'" (J. Barton Payne, *The Theology of The Older Testament*, 464).

"The 'day' is thus characterized by an observable accomplishment of the general aims of divine providence. It refers to that point in history at which the sovereign God lays bare His holy arm on the behalf of His testament and of its heirs, whether in a way that is specifically miraculous, or not" (Payne, 465).

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### "Rehearsal" Days of The LORD

1. 722 B.C. destruction of Israel
2. 586 B.C. destruction of Judah
3. Babylon to judge Assyria (also Egypt)
4. Medo-Persia to judge Babylon

Amos 5:18, 21-22, 24 Alas, you who are longing for the day of the LORD, for what purpose will the day of the LORD be to you? It will be darkness and not light...I hate, I reject your festivals, nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them; and I will not even look at the peace offerings...let justice roll down like waters...

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### "Rehearsal" Days of The LORD

Lamentations 2:21-22 On the ground in the streets lie young and old; My virgins and young men have fallen by the sword. **You have slain them in the day of Your anger**, You have slaughtered, not sparing...And there was no one who escaped and survived in the day of the LORD's anger. Those whom I bore and reared, My enemy annihilated them.

Ezekiel 30:2-4a Son of man, prophesy and say, "Thus says the Lord GOD, Wail, Alas for the day! For the day is near, even the day of the LORD is near...a **sword** will come upon Egypt..."

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### The Future "Day of the LORD"

Isaiah 34:1-2, 8 Draw near, O nations, to hear; and listen, O peoples...for the LORD's indignation is against **all the nations**, and His wrath against all their armies...For the LORD has a day of vengeance, a year of recompense for the cause of Zion.

Obadiah 15 For the day of the LORD draws near on **all the nations**. As you have done, it will be done to you. Your dealings will return on your own head.

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### The Twofold Nature of The D.O.L

Joel 3:12-13b, 17-18 Let the nations be aroused and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, tread, for the wine press is full...Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, dwelling in Zion, My holy mountain. So Jerusalem will be holy and strangers will pass through it no more. And in that day the mountains will drip with sweet wine, and the hills will flow with milk, and all the brooks of Judah will flow with water and a spring will go out from the house of the LORD. (1. Judgment 2. Blessing)

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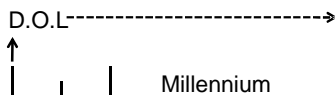
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### The Double Sense of The D.O.L

1. **Broad DOL:** 

2. **Narrow DOL:** 

“Though the ‘Day of the Lord,’ as the expression implies, was at first conceived as a definite and brief period of time, being an era of judgment and salvation, it many times broadened out to be an extended period. From being a day it became an epoch” (A.B. Davidson, *Theology of The Old Testament*, 381).

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### The Beginning of The Broad D.O.L.

1 Thess 4:17-5:3 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words. Now concerning the times and epochs brethren, you have no need of anything written to you. For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. While they are saying, “Peace and safety!” then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

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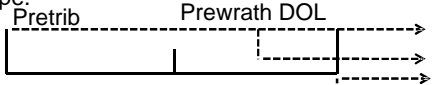
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### The Beginning of The Broad D.O.L

1 Thess 5:2-3 For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. While they are saying, “Peace and safety!” then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.



- Without warning
- Peace and safety
- Labor pains
- Yahweh’s eschatological wrath

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## The Removal of Peace And Safety

1 Thess 5:3 While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly

2<sup>nd</sup> Seal Rev 6:4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take **peace** from the earth, and that men would slay one another, and a great sword was given to him.

3<sup>rd</sup> Seal Scarcity

4<sup>th</sup> Seal Rev 6:8 I looked and behold, and ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.

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## What Constitutes Peace and Safety?

Leviticus 26:5-6 (predicated on faithful obedience)

Indeed, your threshing will last for you until grape gathering, and grape gathering will until sowing time. You will thus eat your food to the full and live securely in your land. I shall also grant **peace** in the land, so that you may lie down with no one making you tremble. I shall also eliminate harmful beasts from the land, and no sword will pass through your land.

Hosea 2:18 In that day I will also make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, the birds of the sky...and I will abolish the bow, the sword and war from the land, and will make them lie down in safety.

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## What Constitutes Peace and Safety?

Ezekiel 34:25-29 I will make a covenant of peace with them and eliminate harmful beasts from the land so that they may live securely...I will cause showers to come down in their season...also the tree of the field will yield its fruit and the earth will yield its increase, and they will live secure in their land. Then they will know that I am the LORD...They will no longer be a prey to the nations, and the beasts of the earth will not devour them...I will establish for them a renowned planting place, and they will not again be victims of famine in the land, and they will not endure the insults of the nations anymore.

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
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### The Means By Which God Takes Peace Away

Jeremiah 14:12-13 When they fast, I am not going to listen to their cry...I am not going to accept them. Rather I am going to make an end of them by the sword, famine, and pestilence. But, "Ah, Lord GOD!" I said, "Look, the prophets are telling them, 'You will not see the sword nor will you have famine, but I will give you lasting peace in this place.

Jeremiah 16:4-5 They will die of deadly diseases, they will not be lamented or buried, they will be as dung on the surface of the ground and come to an end by sword and famine, and their carcasses will become food for the birds of the sky and for the beasts of the earth.

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### D.O.L. Starts Like "Labor Pains"

Matthew	Revelation+Thessalonians
Matt 24:5 "In My name"	Rev 6:1-2 Antichrist
Matt 24:6-7a Wars	Rev 6:3-4 Wars
Matt 24:7b Famines	Rev 6:5-8 Famines
Matt 24:8 "These are the beginning of labor pains"	1 Thess 5:3 While they're saying "Peace and Safety" destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains
Absence of "Peace and Safety"	

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
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### Birth Pangs of The Messiah

"The pangs of the Messianic times are imagined as having heavenly as well as earthly sources and expressions. From above, awesome cosmic cataclysms will be visited upon the earth: conflagrations, pestilence, famine, earth quakes, hail and snow, thunder and lightning. These will be paralleled by evils brought by men...This will last seven years" (*Apocalypse of Abraham*, 95-96).

"Our Rabbis taught: In the seven-year cycle at the end of which the son of David will come...at the conclusion of the septennate the son of David will come" (Sanhedrin, 97a, Babylonian Talmud, 654).

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### Birth Pangs of The Messiah

"The idea became entrenched that the coming of the Messiah will be preceded by greatly increased suffering...This will last seven years" (Raphael Patai, *The Messianic Texts*, 95-96).

Isaiah 13:6-9 Wail, for the day of the LORD is near! It will come as destruction from the Almighty. Therefore all hands will fall limp, and every man's heart will melt. They will be terrified. Pains and anguish will take hold of them; They will writhe like a woman in labor...Behold the day of the LORD is coming, cruel, with fury and burning anger, to make the land a desolation; and He will exterminate its sinners from it. (LXX version "labor pains" "odin")

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### Labor Pains During Babylonian Invasion

Jeremiah 6:22-24 Thus says the LORD, "Behold, a people is coming from the north land, And a great nation will be aroused...They seize bow and spear; They are cruel and have no mercy...We have heard the report of it; Our hands are limp. Anguish has seized us, pain as of a woman in childbirth.

Anguish = LXX – thlipsis (tribulation)

Woman in childbirth = LXX – wdin - odin "labor pains"

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### Birth Pangs of The Messiah

Zephaniah 1:14-15a,17-18 Near is the great day of the LORD, Near and coming very quickly; Listen, the day of the LORD! In it the warrior cries out bitterly. A day of wrath is that day...I will bring **distress** on men so that they will walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the LORD...On the day of the LORD's wrath; and all the earth will be devoured.

Distress = "tsawrar" – Hiphil, Perfect, 1<sup>st</sup> Person Singular meaning to "give birth," "be in labor," with a focus on the pain and distress of the process. (*Dictionary of Biblical Languages With Semantic Domains: Hebrew*, 7674 #5)

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### Matthew 24:4-8

Matt 24:5 "In My name"

Matt 24:6-7a Wars

Matt 24:7b Famines

Matt 24:8 "labor pains"

"Jesus described to us in very clear detail, the signs that will signal the end of the age. These "beginning of birthpangs" are the rising of false Christs, war, earthquakes and famine" (Habbenä, Fig Tree, 53).

### 1<sup>st</sup> Thess 5:2-3

... the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. While they are saying, "**Peace and safety!**" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child...

Isaiah 13:8; Jeremiah 6:24; Zeph 1:14-18:  
Labor pains = D.O.L.

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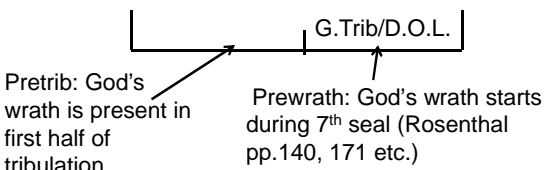
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### God's Eschatological Wrath

(Regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> seal) "God's wrath upon the world has not begun at this time, as the martyrs are asking "how long" until the sovereign Lord deals out retribution" (Ryan Habbenä, *The Parable of The Fig Tree*, 65).



Pretrib: God's wrath is present in first half of tribulation

Prewrath: God's wrath starts during 7<sup>th</sup> seal (Rosenthal pp.140, 171 etc.)

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### The Wrath of God In The 4<sup>th</sup> Seal

4<sup>th</sup> Seal: Rev 6:8 I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with **sword** and with **famine** and with **pestilence** and with **wild beasts** of the earth.

"In light of the parallels to the Olivet Discourse, I believe the best reading of this fourth seal is the authority given to the Antichrist to make war with the people of God. "Sword, famine, and pestilence" are the means "the beasts" use to make war" (Habbenä, Fig Tree, 64).

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## The Wrath of God – Not Antichrist

Rev 6:8 ...Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and with wild beasts of the earth.

Qhr ion In Revelation:

38 times – **singular** – Beast → Antichrist/Prophet

1 time – **plural** –beasts (6:8) → Animals

Ezekiel 14:19,21 I should send a plague against that country and pour out **My wrath** in blood on it to cut off man and beast from it... For thus says the Lord GOD, "How much more when I send My four severe judgments against Jerusalem: sword, famine, wild beasts, and plague to cut off man and beast from it.

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## The Wrath of God – Not Antichrist

Ezekiel 5:13,15, 17 Thus My anger will be spent and I will satisfy My wrath on them...So it will be a reproach, a reviling...when I execute judgments against you in anger, wrath and raging rebukes...Moreover, I will send on you famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you of children; plague and bloodshed also will pass through you, and I will bring the sword on you. I the LORD have spoken.

4<sup>th</sup> Seal: There is Wrath!

↓  
G.Trib/D.O.L.  
↔ Prewrath: No wrath!

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## Paul Taught In 1<sup>st</sup> Thess 5:2-3:

1. The Day of the Lord comes without warning.
2. The Day of the Lord comes while people are saying, "Peace and safety." Peace and safety is withdrawn by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Seal.
3. The Day of the Lord comes like "labor pains" upon the world. Jesus linked these "labor pains" with the beginning of the 70<sup>th</sup> week. (Prewrath agrees!)
4. The Day of the Lord is God's wrath upon the world. God's wrath incorporates sword (war), famine, pestilence, and beasts. The sword is present by the 2<sup>nd</sup> seal. All four are present by the 4<sup>th</sup> seal. Prewrath maintains that God's wrath does not come until the 7<sup>th</sup> seal.

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