

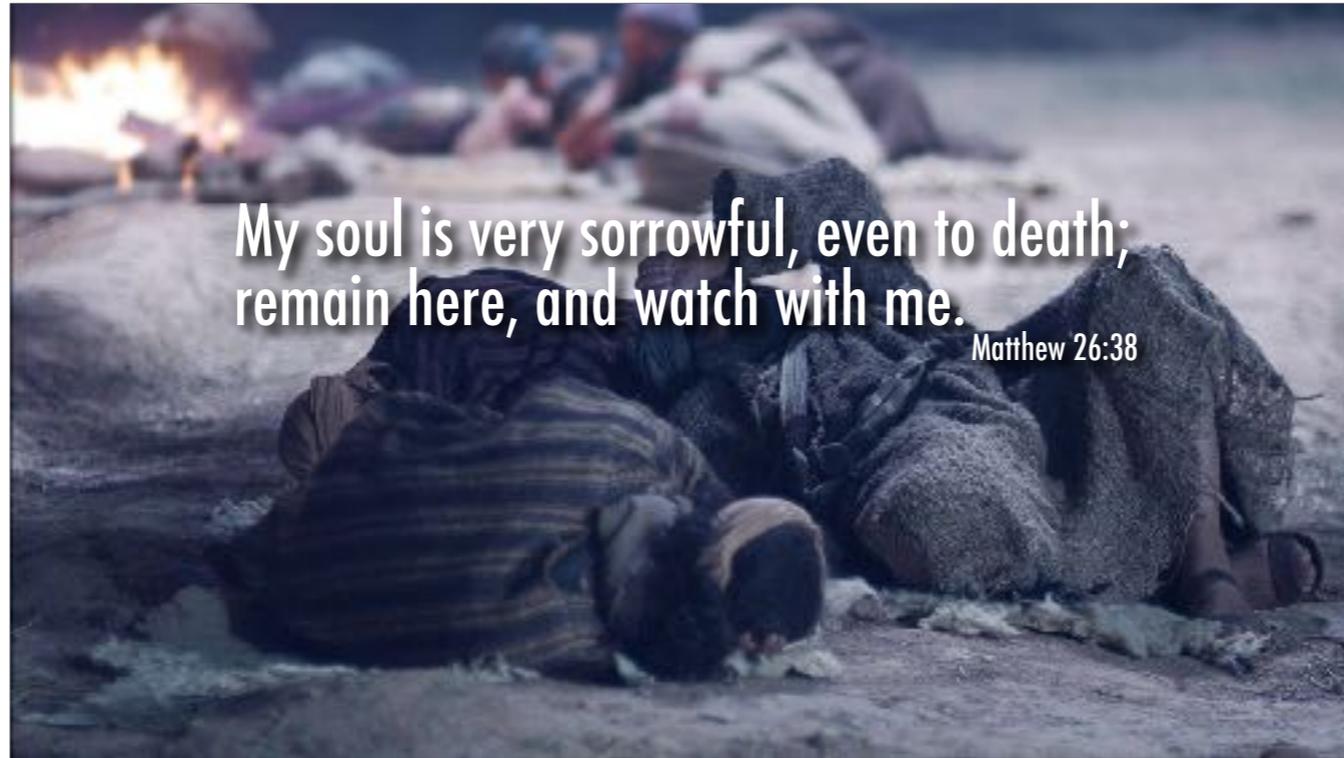


Romans 13:11-14

- Alarms to wake us up
- Usually, a little unwelcome, even if something exciting happening.
- Disturbs our sense of rest, peace, comfort
- 20 lessons Paul gives us a powerful exhortation.



- Matthew 26:36-46 (ESV) 36 Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” 37 And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled.



My soul is very sorrowful, even to death;
remain here, and watch with me.

Matthew 26:38

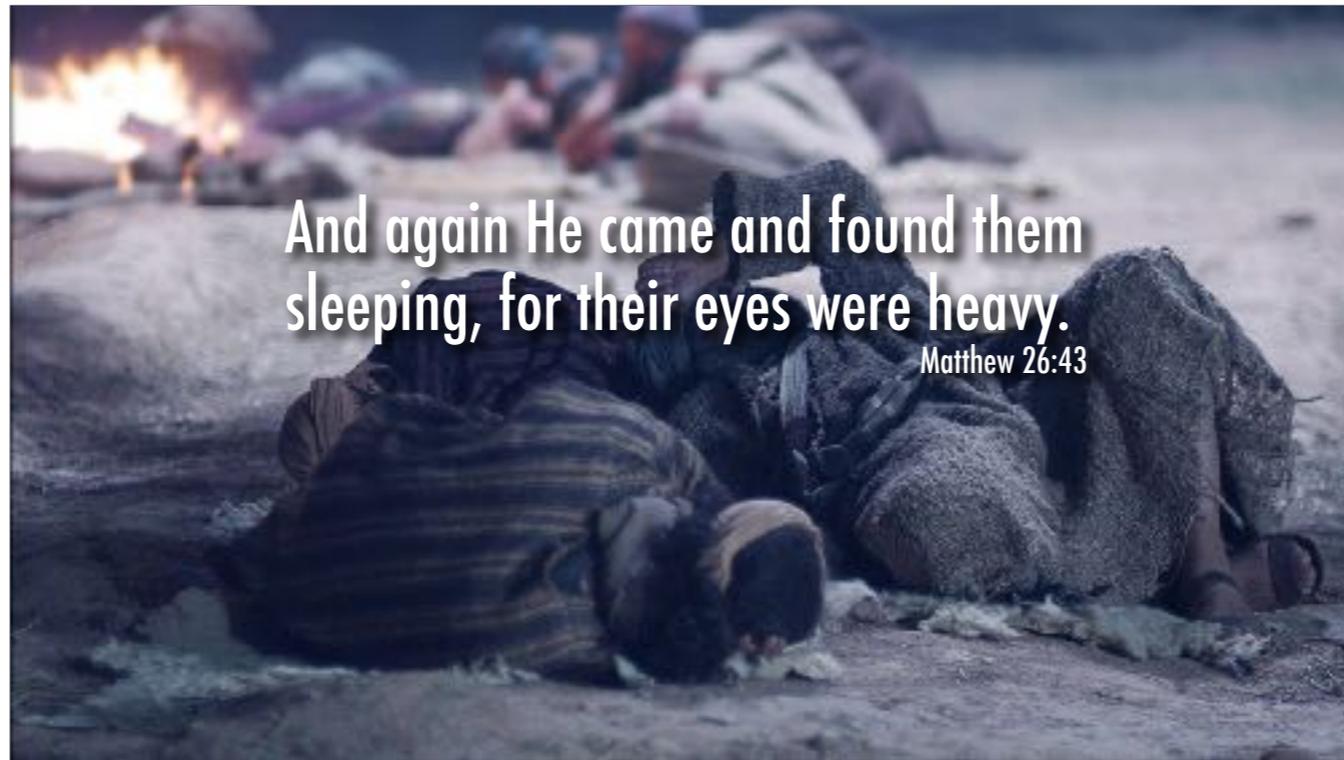
- 38 Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” 39 And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”



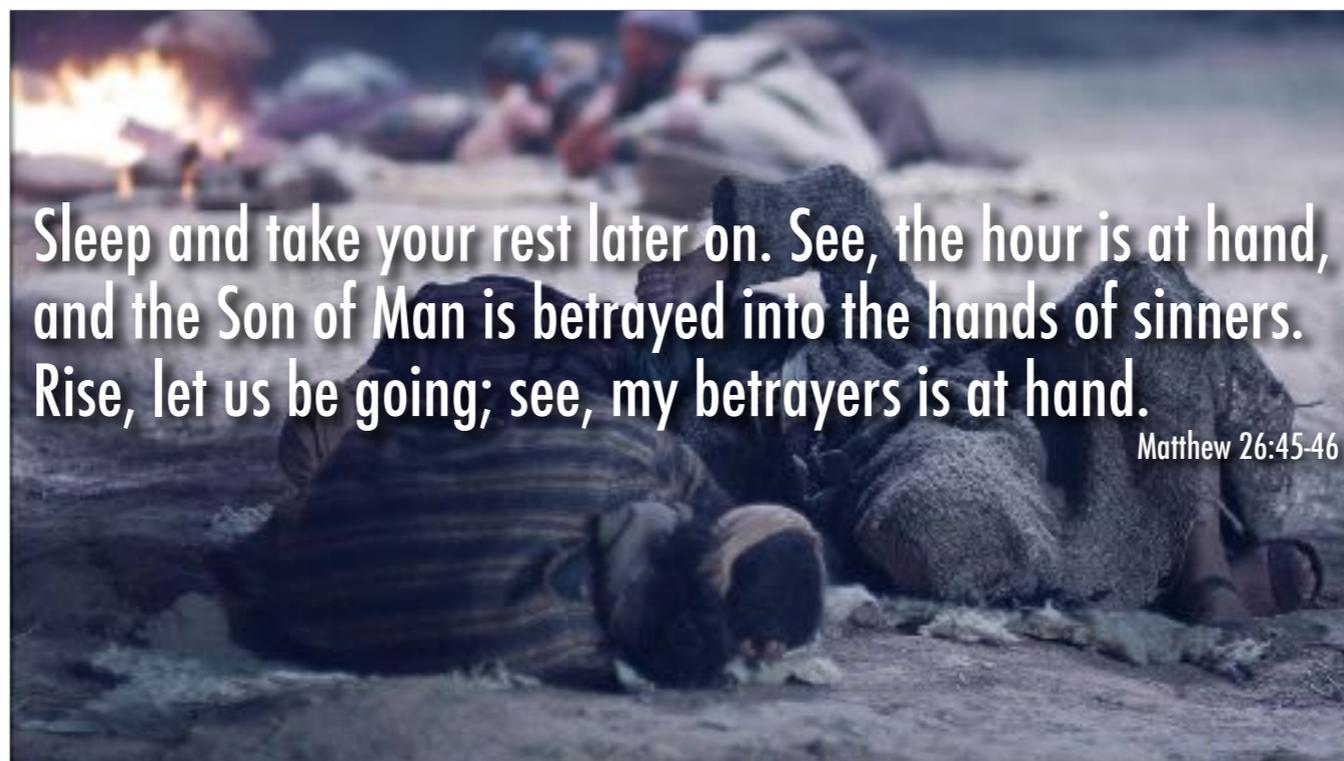
- 40 And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping.



- And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”



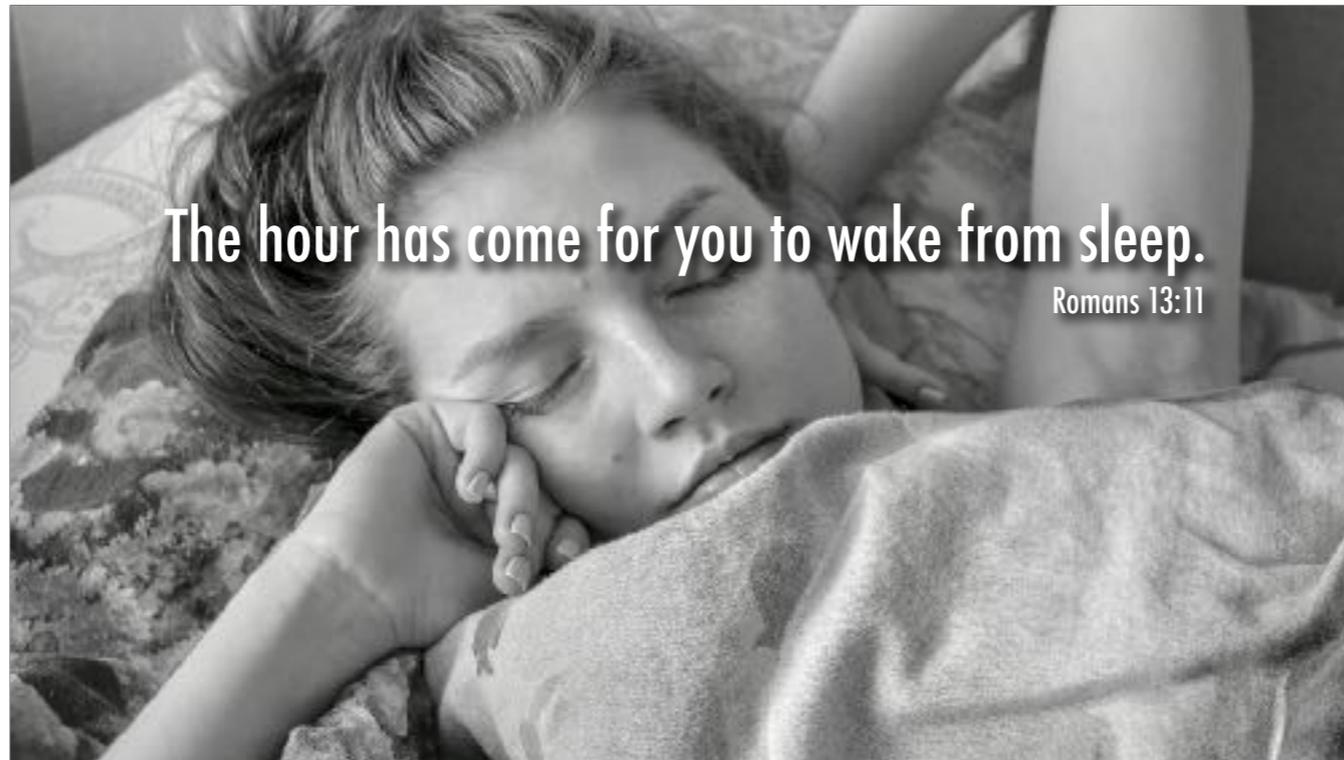
- 42 Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." 43 And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. 44 So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again.



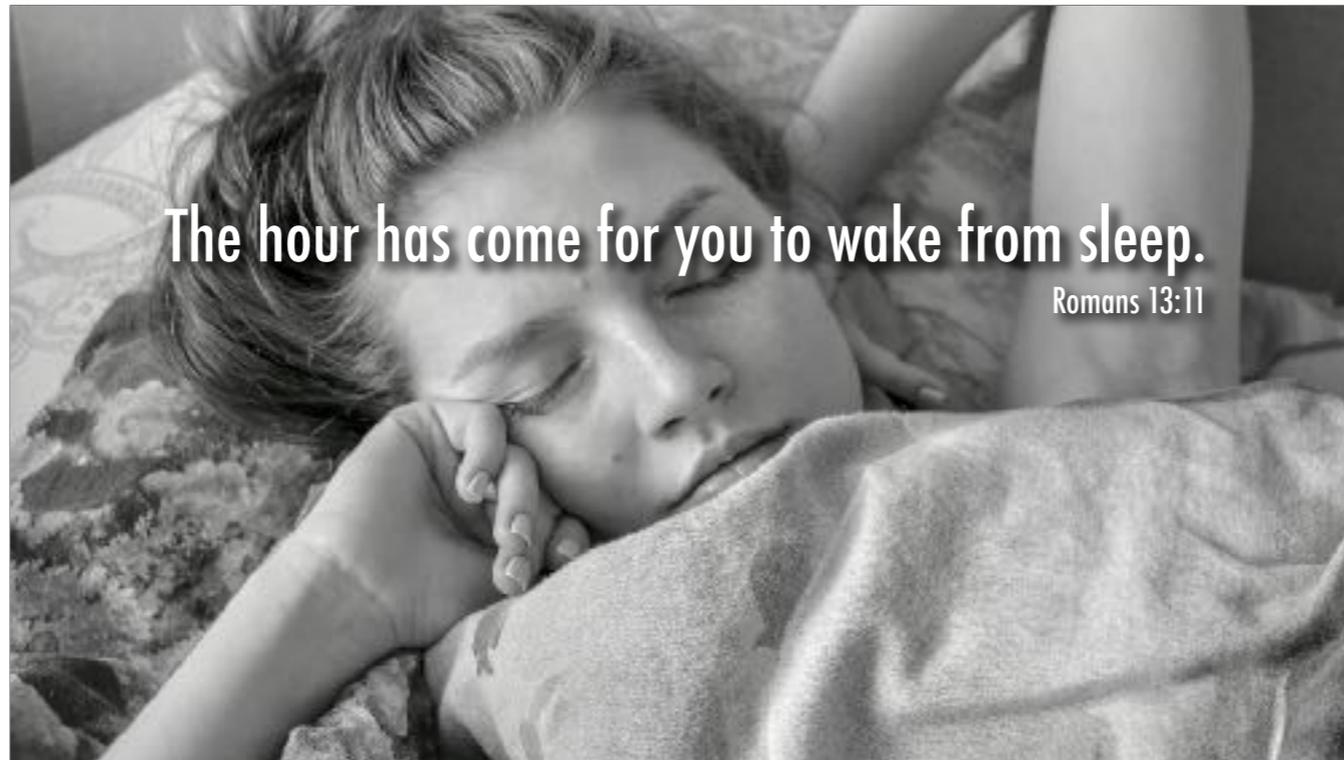
Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand,
and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.
Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.

Matthew 26:45-46

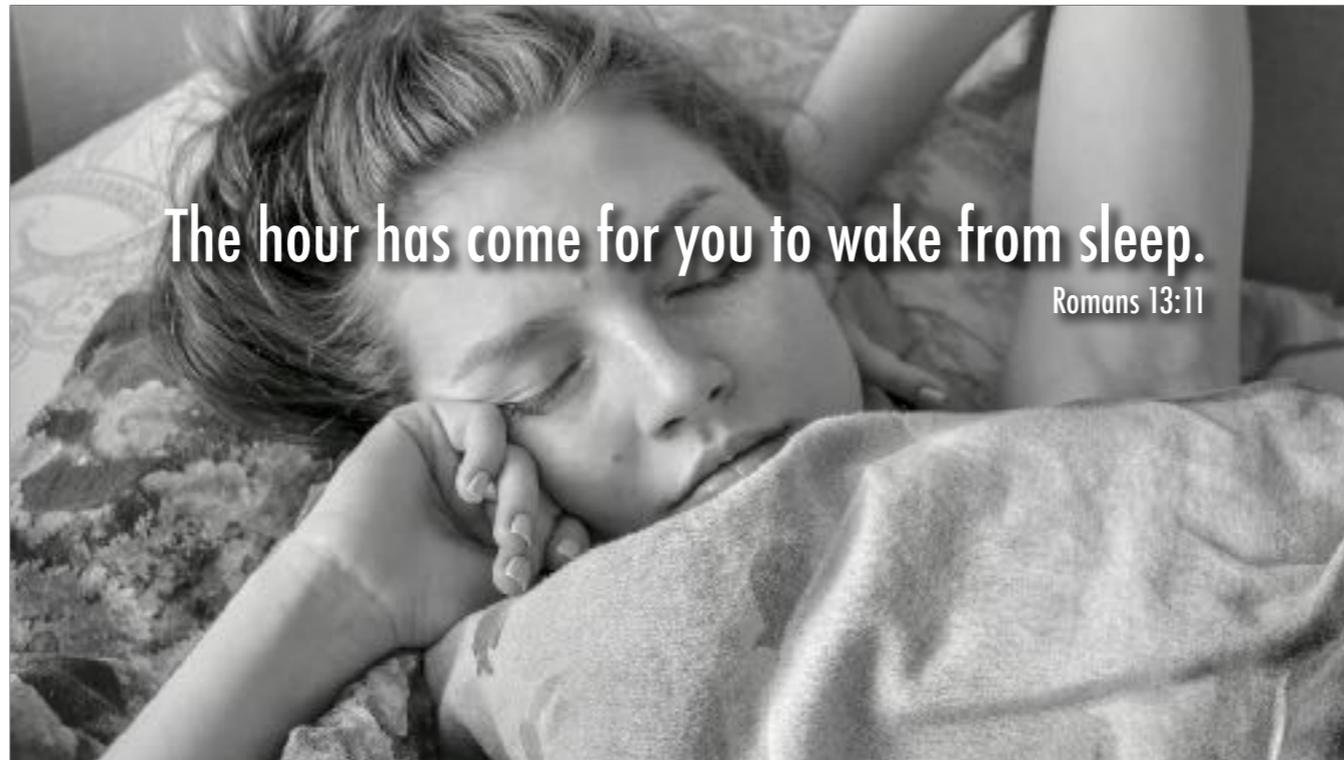
- 45 Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”



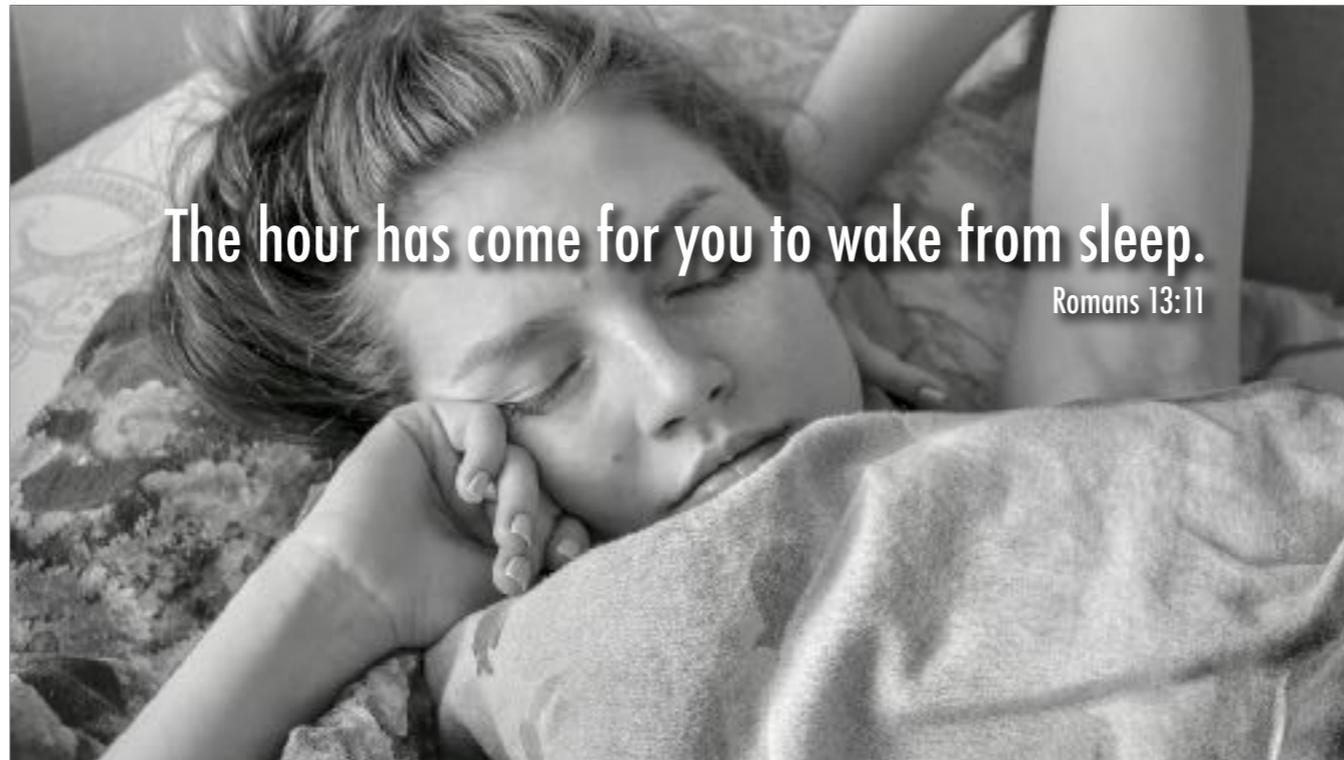
- Romans 13:11-14 (ESV) 11 Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. 12 The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.



- Paul seems to indicate that we tend to fall asleep in our faith as time goes by,
 - we grow complacent,
 - accustomed to life as it is,
 - going through the motions but without really thinking, changing, challenging ourselves to be more like Jesus in all ways.
- Tendency is to sometimes gradually slip back into conforming to the world



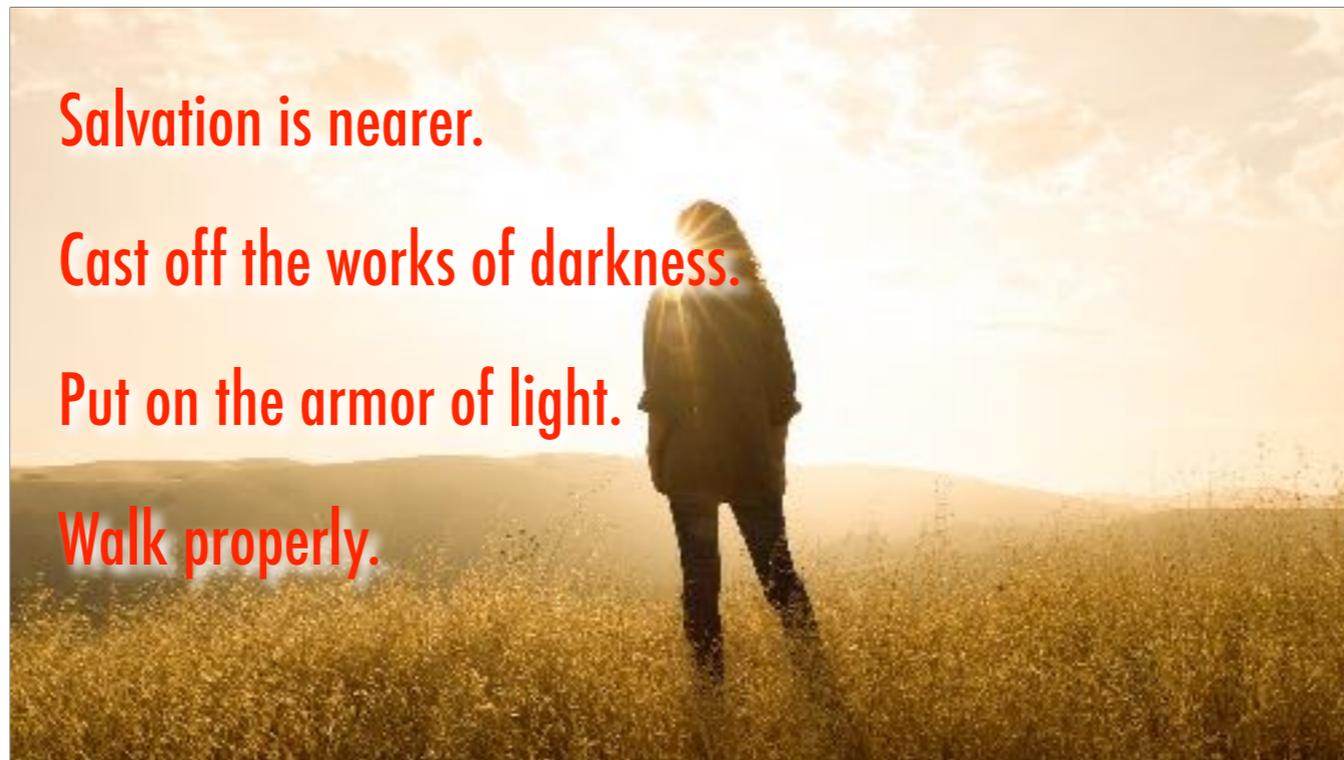
- Being a servant is exhausting
- Parable of servant: field, fix supper, then eat



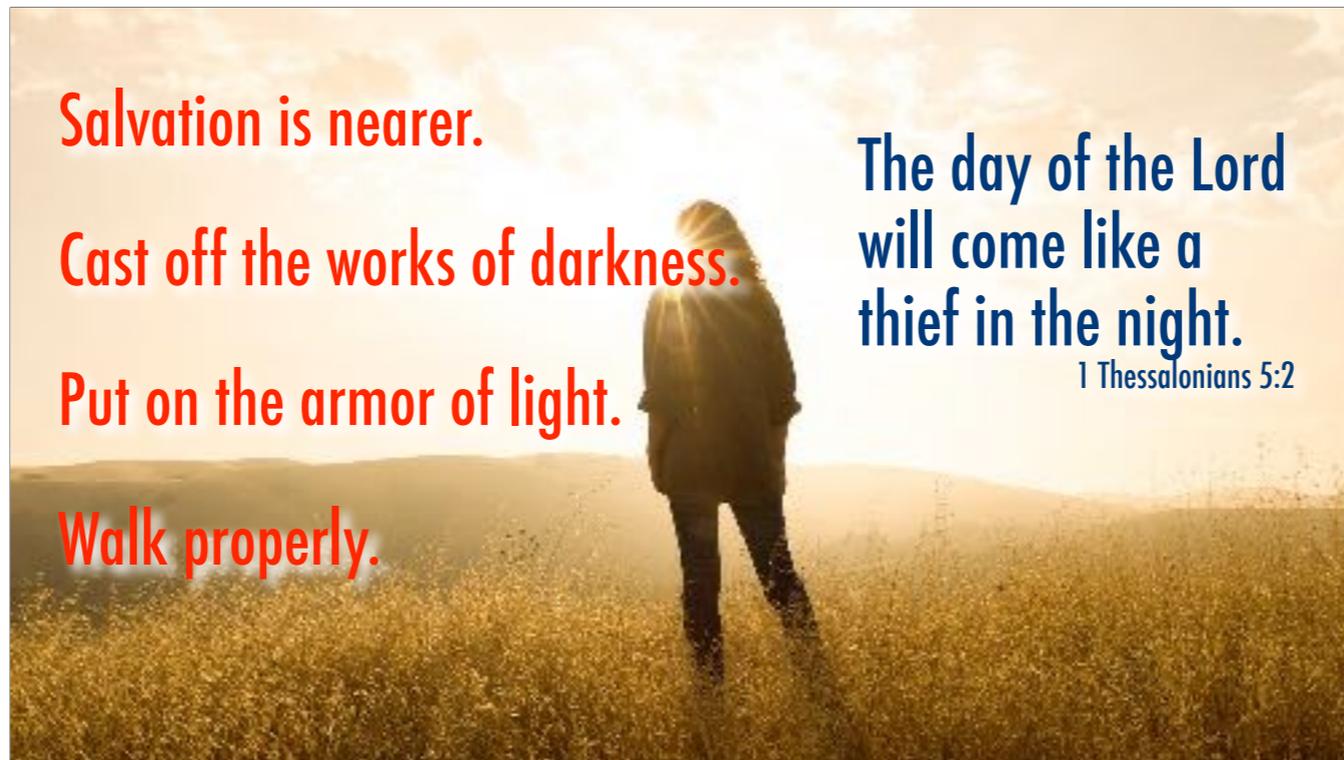
- Luke 17:5-10 (ESV) 5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" 6 And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.7 "Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? 8 Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'? 9 Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? 10 So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"



- Makes me think of the disciples falling asleep in the garden while Jesus was praying,
 - spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.



- Why do I need to wake up?
 - Salvation is nearer
 - Cast off the works of darkness
 - Put on the armor of light.
 - Walk properly



Salvation is nearer.

Cast off the works of darkness.

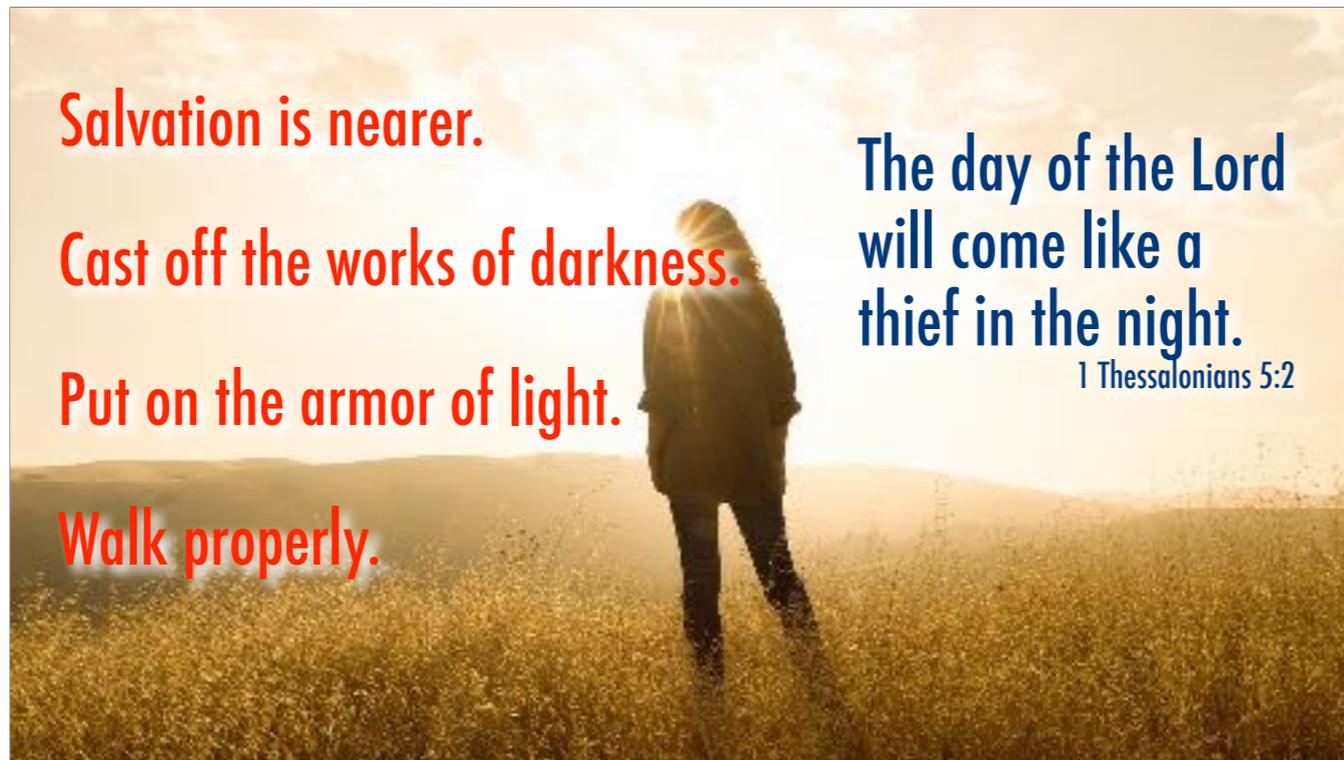
Put on the armor of light.

Walk properly.

The day of the Lord
will come like a
thief in the night.

1 Thessalonians 5:2

- The coming of Jesus: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
- 1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.



Salvation is nearer.

Cast off the works of darkness.

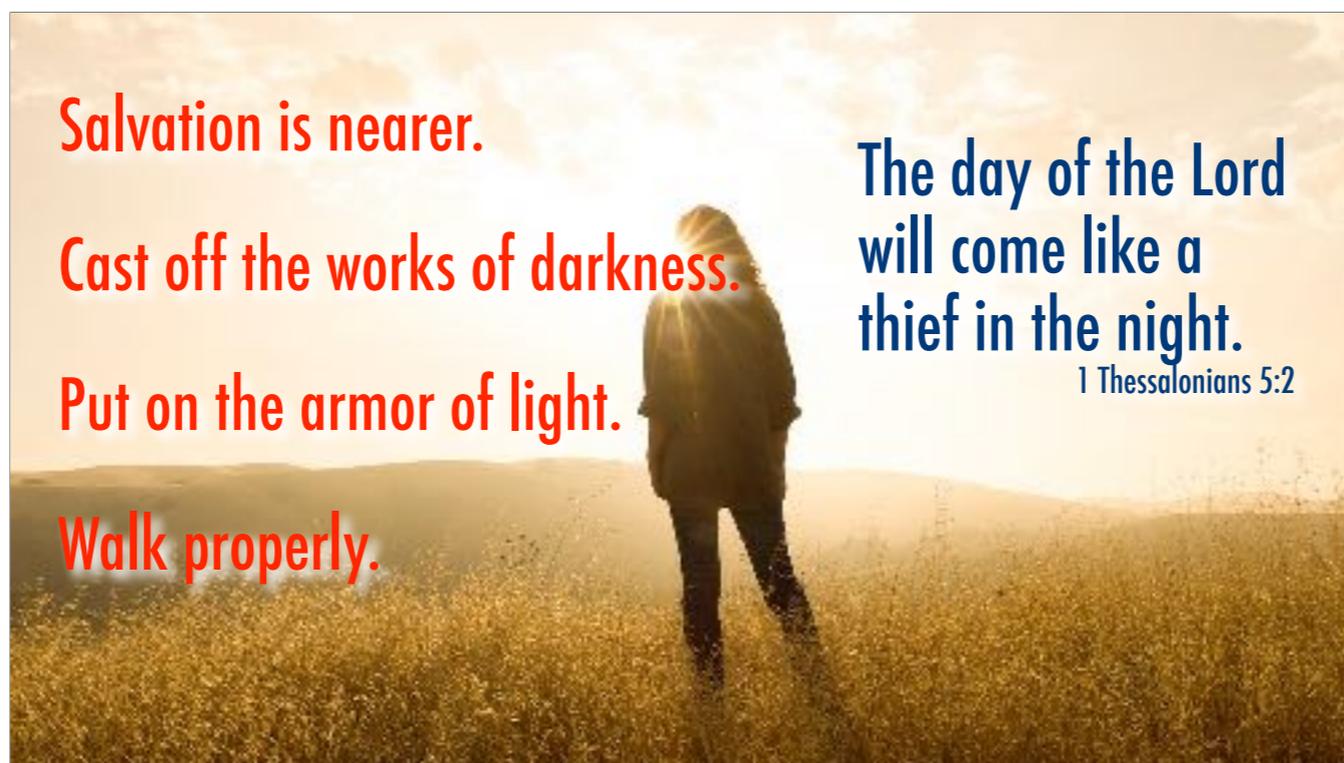
Put on the armor of light.

Walk properly.

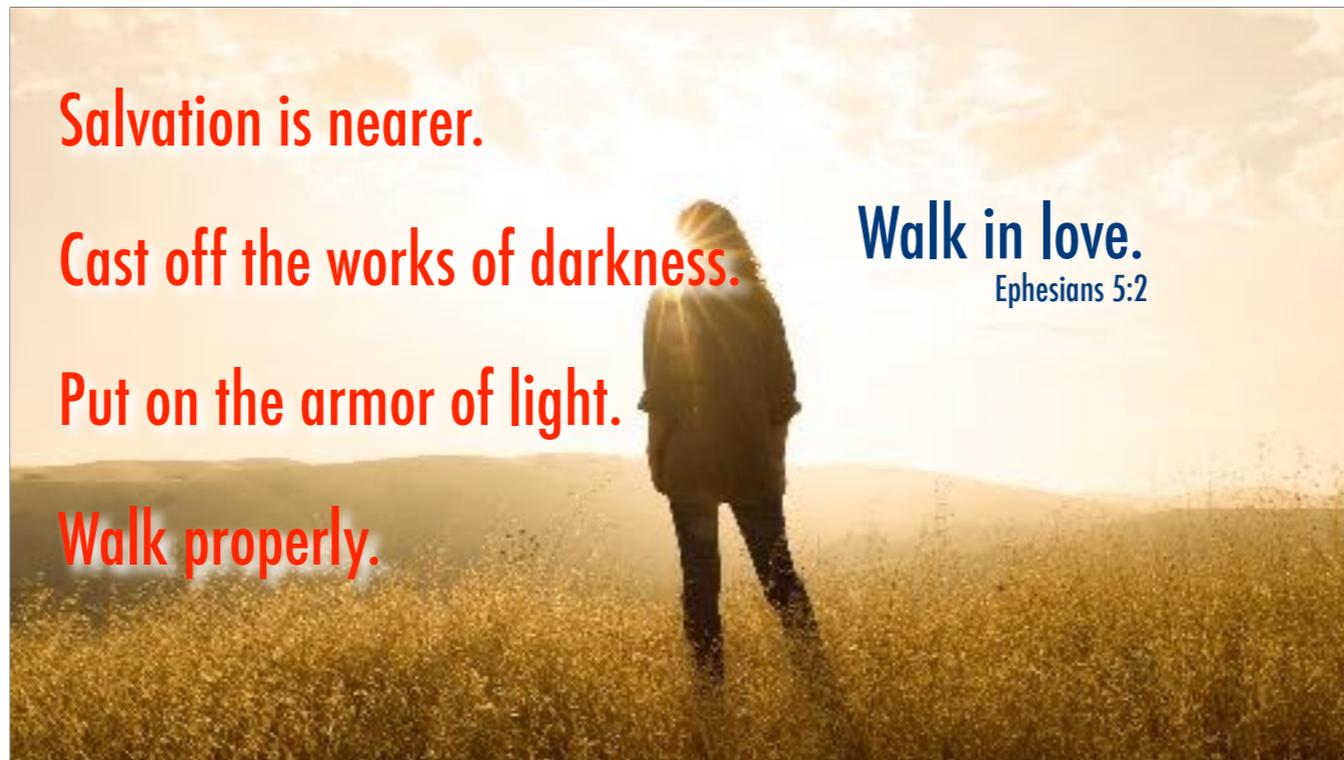
The day of the Lord
will come like a
thief in the night.

1 Thessalonians 5:2

- 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief.
- 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day.
- We are not of the night or of the darkness.
- 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.



- 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night.
- 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober,
 - having put on the breastplate of faith and love,
 - and for a helmet the hope of salvation.
- 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 - 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.
- 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.



Salvation is nearer.

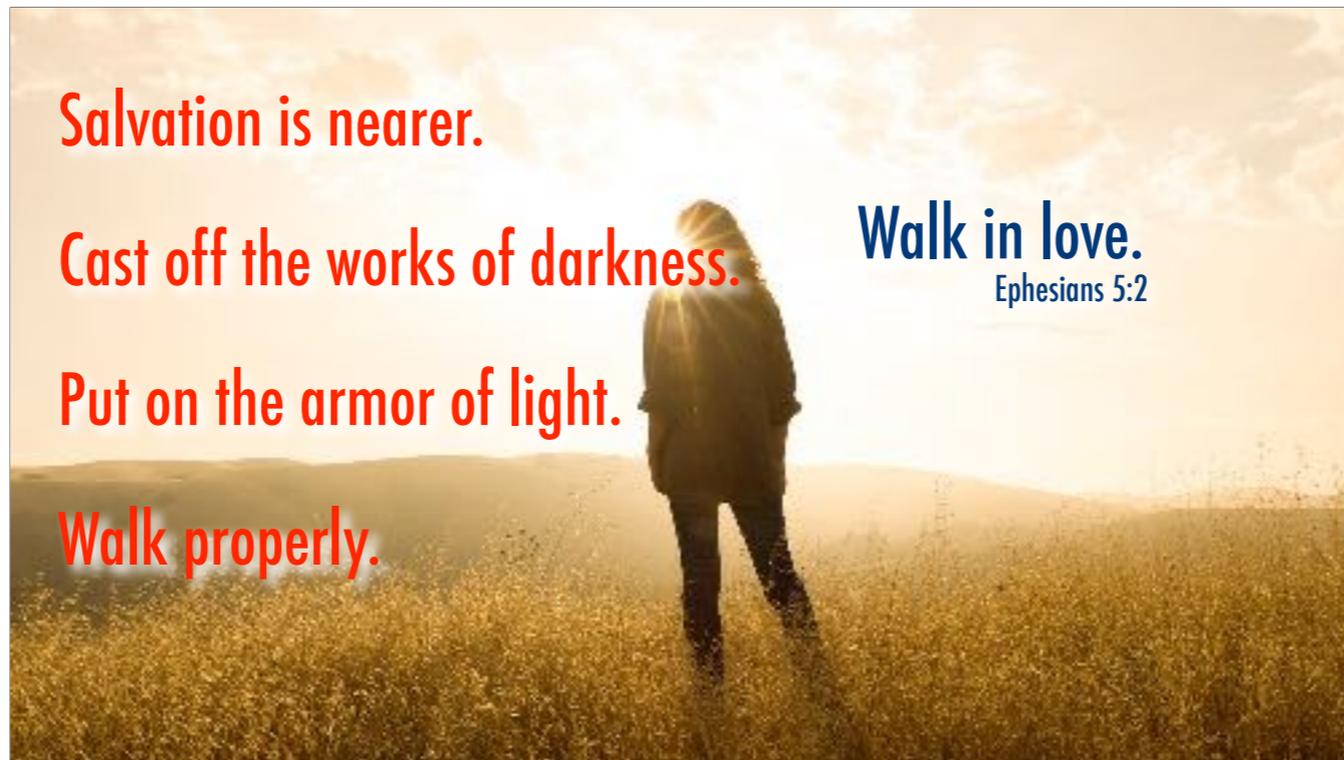
Cast off the works of darkness.

Put on the armor of light.

Walk properly.

Walk in love.
Ephesians 5:2

- Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:1-21 (ESV)
- 1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.



Salvation is nearer.

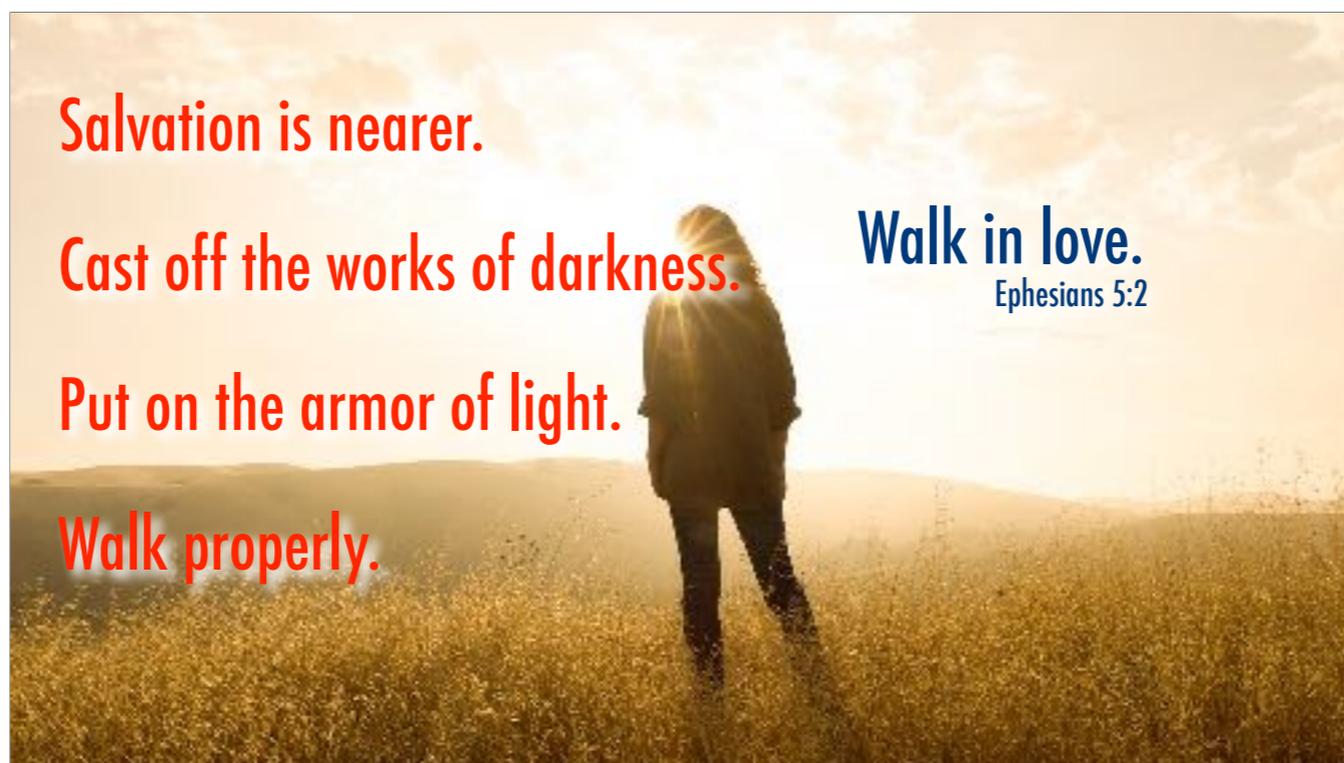
Cast off the works of darkness.

Put on the armor of light.

Walk properly.

Walk in love.
Ephesians 5:2

- 3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.
- 4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.
- 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.
- 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.



Salvation is nearer.

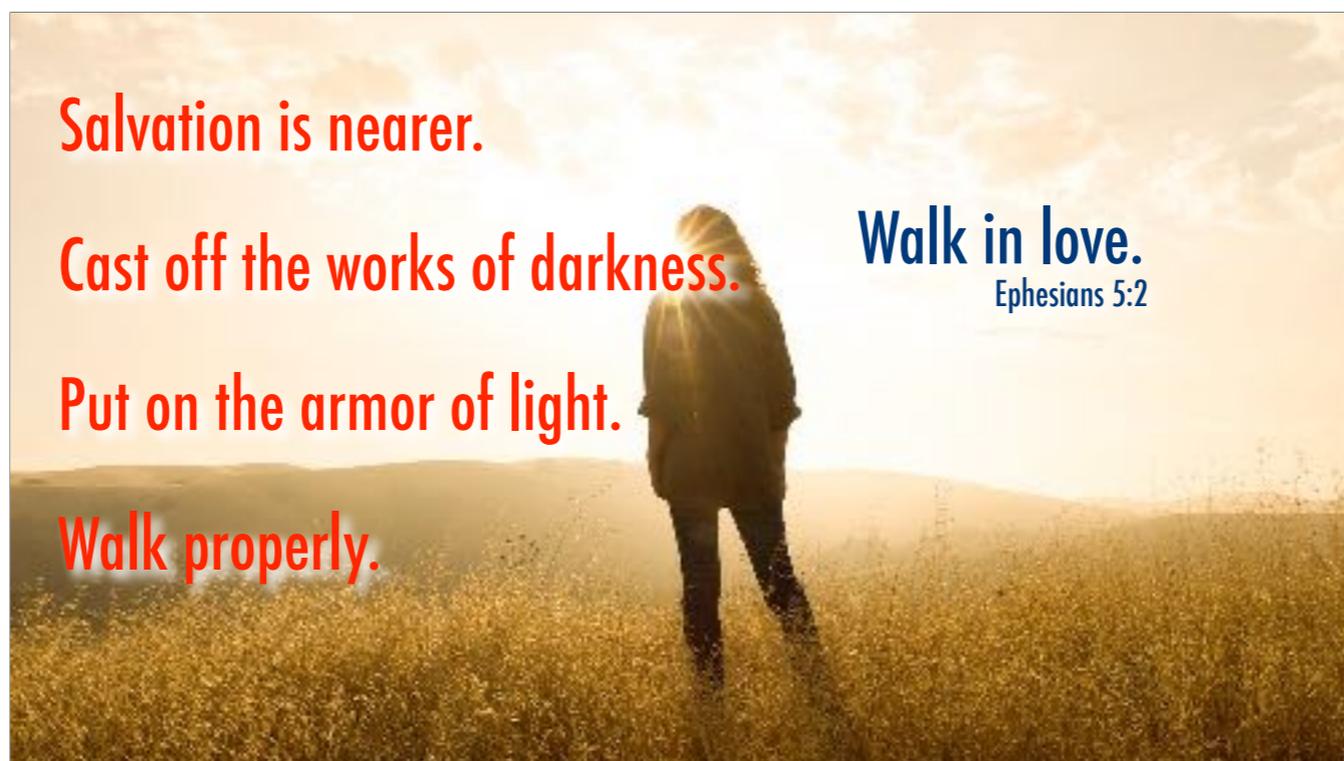
Cast off the works of darkness.

Put on the armor of light.

Walk properly.

Walk in love.
Ephesians 5:2

- 7 Therefore **do not become partners with them**;
- 8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.
- **Walk as children of light** 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true),
- 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.
- 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but **instead expose them**.
- 12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.
- 13 But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, 14 for anything that becomes visible is light.
- Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”



Salvation is nearer.

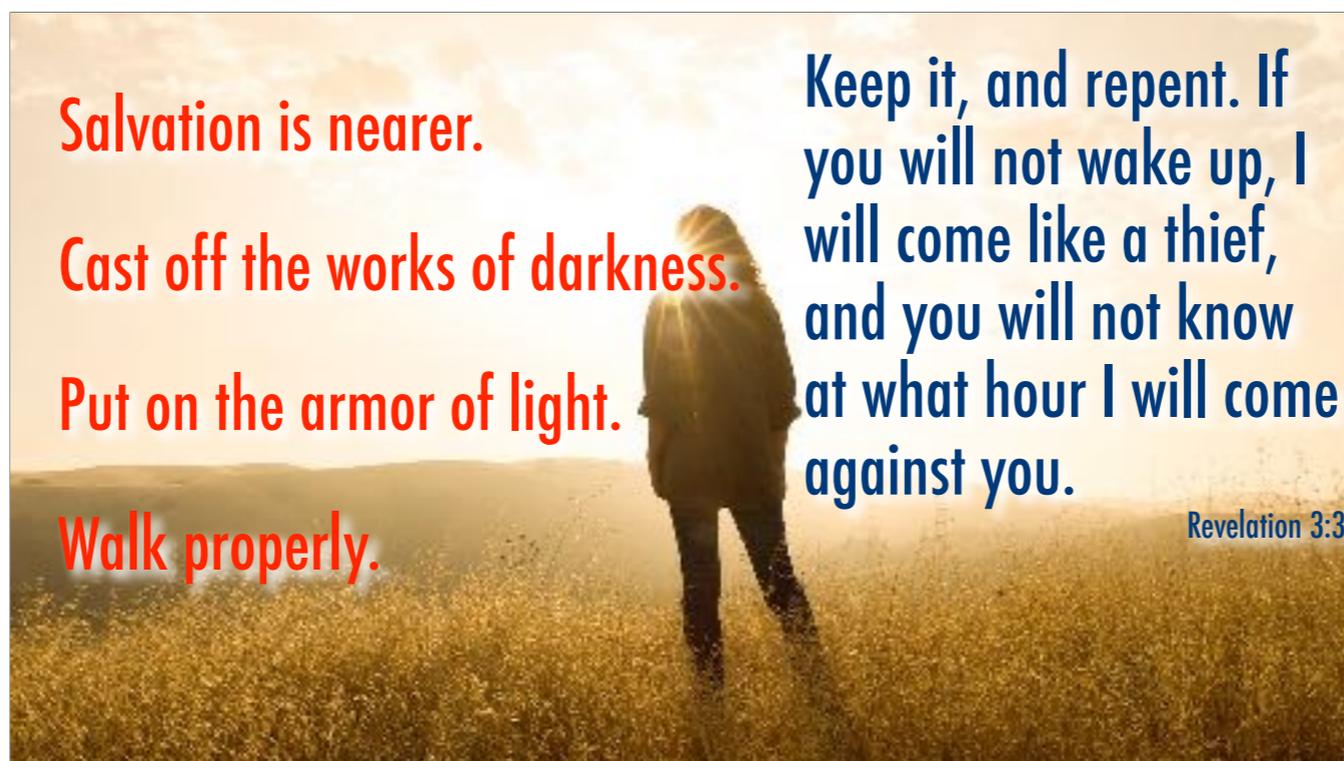
Cast off the works of darkness.

Put on the armor of light.

Walk properly.

Walk in love.
Ephesians 5:2

- 15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,
 - 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.
 - 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.
 - 18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery,
 - but be filled with the Spirit,
 - 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,
 - 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.



Salvation is nearer.

Cast off the works of darkness.

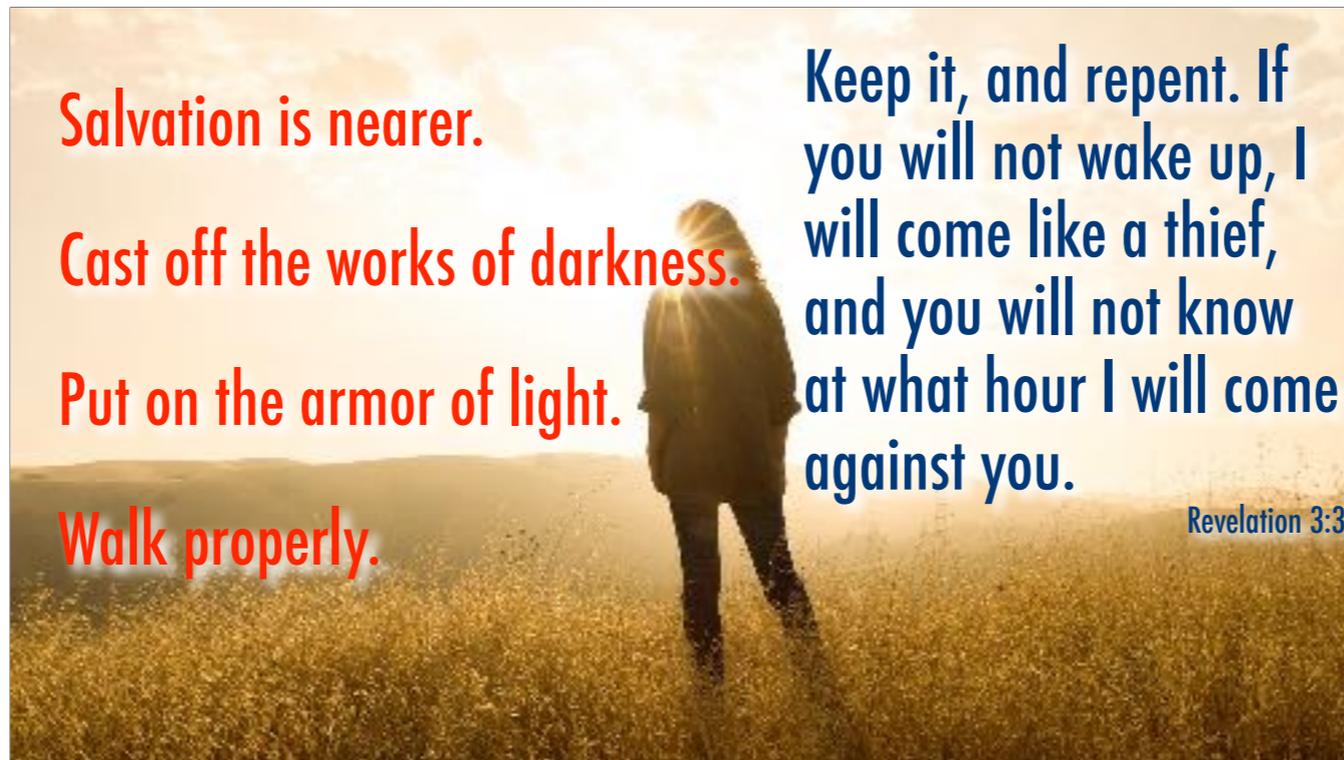
Put on the armor of light.

Walk properly.

Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

Revelation 3:3

- Keep It and Repent: Revelation 3:1-6 (ESV)
- 1 “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.
- “‘I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead.
- 2 Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God.



Salvation is nearer.

Cast off the works of darkness.

Put on the armor of light.

Walk properly.

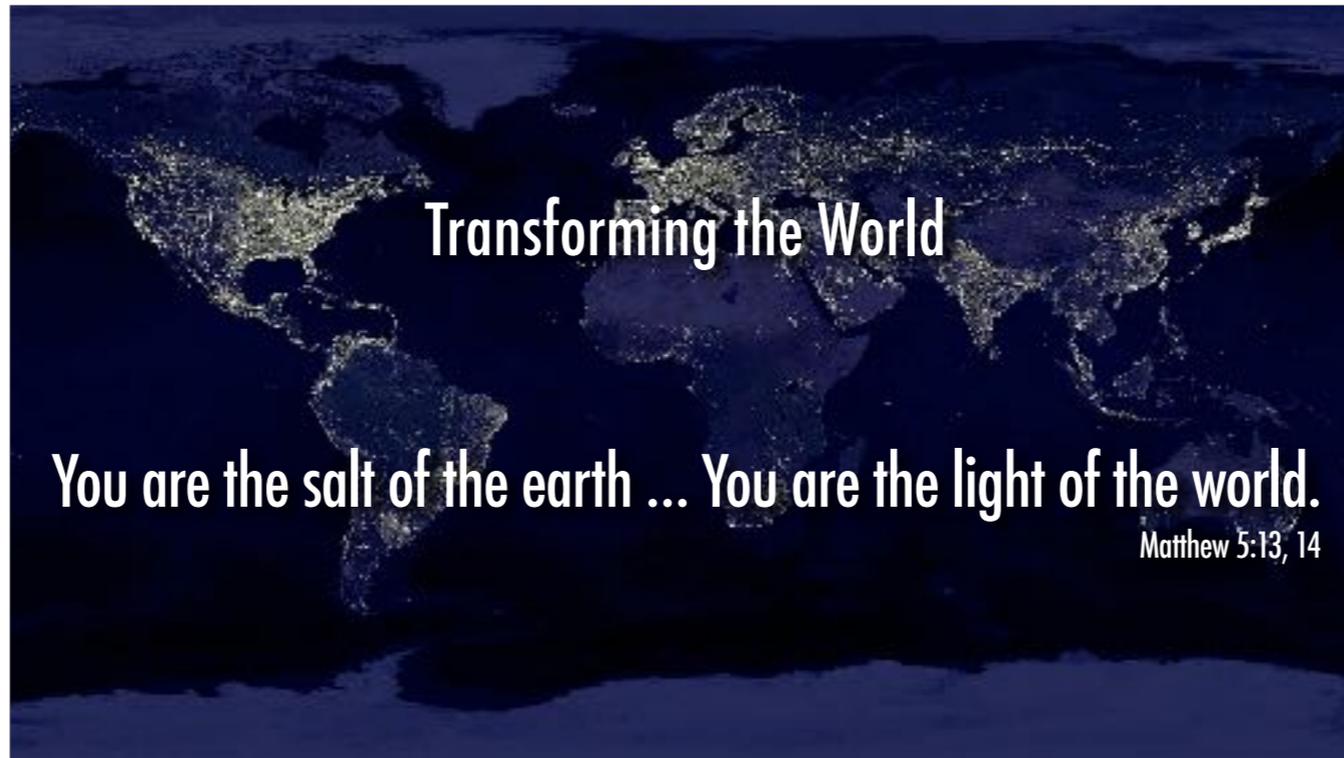
Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

Revelation 3:3

- 3 Remember, then, what you received and heard.
 - Keep it, and repent.
 - If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.
- 4 Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy.
- 5 The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. 6 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'



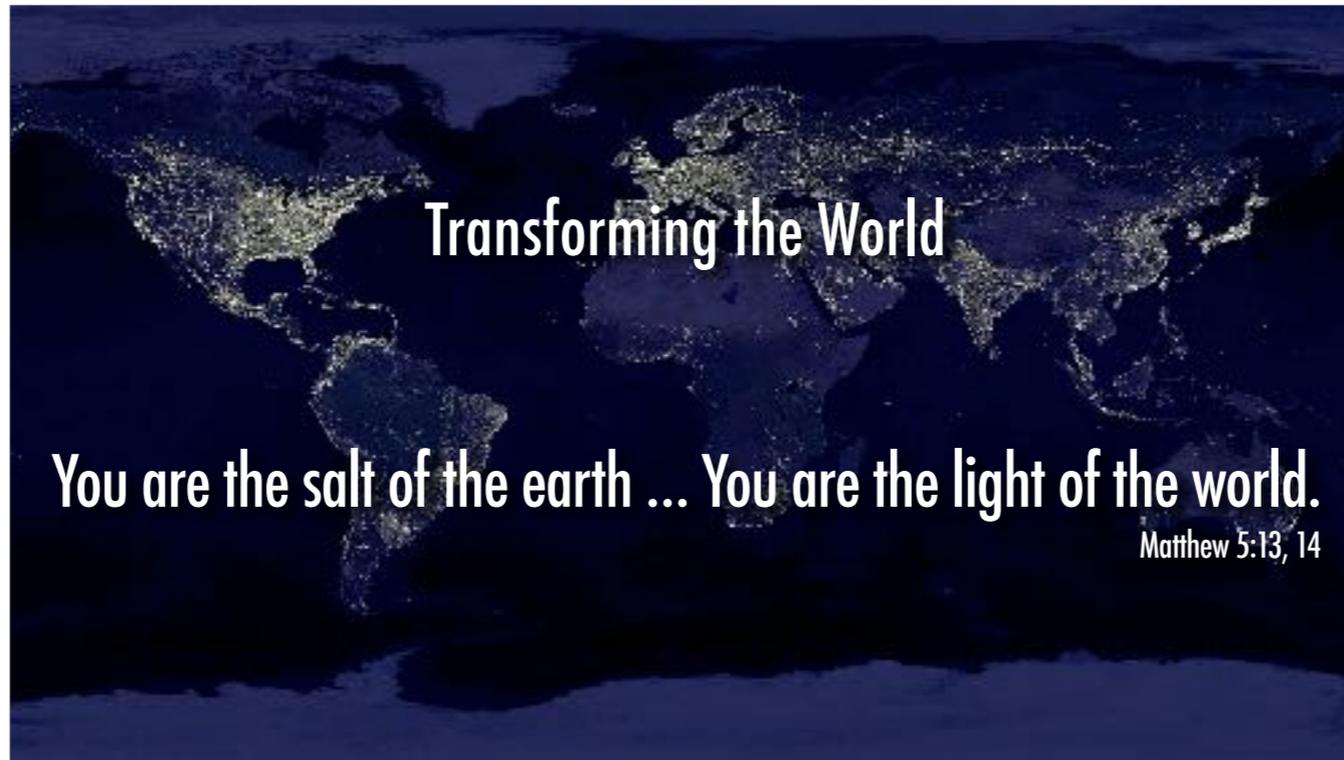
- Clearly there is a bigger purpose than just transforming ourselves.



- Matthew 5:13-16 (ESV) 13 “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. 14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.



- Are you salty still?
- Are you hiding your light?
- We can't help transform the world if we are not who we should be, acting as we should act.
- If you are willing to compromise your transformation in certain circumstances — are you really transformed at all?
- Some may argue that this is “just what the world is like”?
 - What if God had thought of us this way? Why would he ever send his son to save us?
- 1 Peter 2:12 (ESV) 12 Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.



- Let your light shine!
 - Turn the world upside down! (Acts 17:6, Thessalonica)



- Wake up.
- Repent and do what we are commanded.
- Stop sinning and start shining.

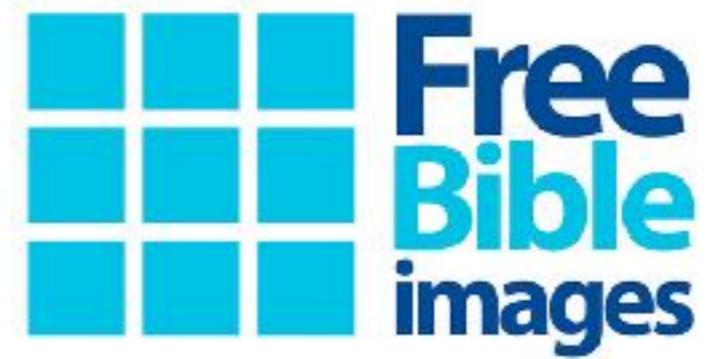
**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

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Wake UP!!!

Romans 13:11-14

Synopsis: Paul powerfully reminds us that we must wake up, because of our tendency to be complacent. Because our salvation is nearer, he teaches us to put off darkness, put on light and walk properly. This reminds us that our transformation is not just about ourselves, but about our influence on this world to be transformed also.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”