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Bonbon's Treasure

<sup>9</sup> Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for *anyone* to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; <sup>10</sup> for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more, <sup>11</sup> and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you; <sup>12</sup> so that you may <sup>a</sup>behave properly toward outsiders and <sup>c</sup>not be in any need.

<sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do <sup>the rest who</sup> have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and <sup>rose again</sup>, even so God will bring with Him those who have <sup>fallen asleep</sup> in Jesus. <sup>15</sup> For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a <sup>c</sup>shout, with the voice of *the* archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words.

*The Day of the Lord*

<sup>5:1</sup> Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" <sup>a</sup>destruction will come upon them suddenly like birth pangs upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you <sup>b</sup>like a thief; <sup>5</sup> for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness; <sup>6</sup> so then let us not sleep as <sup>b</sup>others do, but let us

be alert and <sup>s</sup>sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But since we are of *the* day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup> For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with Him. <sup>10</sup> Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

*Rejoice always,  
pray without ceasing,*

<sup>12</sup> But we request of you, brethren, that you <sup>a</sup>appreciate those who diligently labor among you and have charge over you in the Lord and give <sup>b</sup>thanks to Him for the work which they very highly in love <sup>c</sup>because of their work. Live in peace with one another. <sup>14</sup> And we urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all men.

<sup>15</sup> See that no one repays evil for evil to anyone, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all men. <sup>16</sup> Rejoice always; <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing; <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. <sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise prophetic utterances. <sup>21</sup> But examine all things; hold fast to what is good; <sup>22</sup> abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame before the Lord in all things. <sup>24</sup> Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

<sup>25</sup> Brethren, pray for us. <sup>26</sup> Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss. <sup>27</sup> I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren.

<sup>1</sup> New American Standard Bible. (1986). (electronic edition., 1 Th 4:9-12). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.