

# Confidence Without a Calendar

## I Thessalonians 5:1–11

### 1. Admitting Our Limited Knowledge -1–3

- The Greek word Paul uses here for “times” is chronos (where we get our English word “chronology”) and it means a unit of time usually emphasizing time in its duration.
- The word translated “dates” is kairos.

- This word “dates” describes the sequencing of specific events within the time period leading up to Christ’s second coming.
- God himself has set these things, and he has withheld the details and specifics from us.
- The “day of the Lord” is an Old Testament phrase that refers to the end of time viewed from the perspective of God’s judgment.

- **We demonstrate our confidence about the future by admitting our limited knowledge about the end of history.**

## 2. Living in the Future Perfect Tense - 4—7

- Our identity is shaped by our future.
- This is why the entire church age (from the time when Jesus came to the world until that time he comes again) is called the “last-days” in the Bible.

- The “last days” describes the final chapter of history.
- The word “alert” means, to be watchful and vigilant.
- The word “self-controlled” means “to be in control of your thought processes and thus not in danger of irrational thinking.

- We demonstrate our confidence about the future by living in the future perfect tense.

### 3. Anticipating the Completion of Our Salvation - 8–11

- We're not secure because of some computer system somewhere, or because our borders are safe, or because the US economy is strong;
- Paul says, we're secure because Jesus died for us!

- **We demonstrate our confidence about the future by anticipating the completion of our salvation.**