



Daily Verse and Comment

Revelation 6:17

(17) Because the great day of His wrath has come, and who has the power to stand?"

A Faithful Version

[Revelation 6:17](#) should read, "For the day, the great [day] of Their wrath, has come, and who is able to stand?" This is a plain statement of truth followed by a rhetorical question (see [Nahum 1:6](#); [Malachi 3:2](#)). The sixth seal announces in unmistakable fashion that "the great day of the LORD is near; it is near and hastens quickly" ([Zephaniah 1:14](#)). The prophet Joel describes it:

Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all of the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD is coming, for it is at hand: A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. . . . The earth quakes before them, the heavens tremble; the sun and moon grow dark, and the stars diminish their brightness. The LORD gives voice before His army, for His camp is very great; for strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; who can endure it? ([Joel 2:1-2](#), 10-11)

This is the question: Who will survive it? Who will pass God's judgment? The answer seems to be, "No one." But there is hope, as [Joel 2:12-14](#) instructs:

"Now, therefore," says the LORD, "turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with [mourning](#)." So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the LORD your [God](#), for He is

gracious and [merciful](#), slow to anger, and of great [kindness](#); and He relents from doing harm. Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him . . .?

[Jesus](#) gives us His answer in [Luke 21:36](#): "Watch therefore, and [pray always](#) that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." We must be alert and prepared for what may come, and the most important part of our preparation is the strengthening of our relationships with the Father and the Son through prayer, study, meditation, and obedience to His instructions. This is the only means to escape God's wrath.

Gather yourselves together, yes, gather together, O undesirable nation, before the decree is issued, or the day passes like chaff, before the LORD's fierce anger comes upon you, before the day of the LORD's anger comes upon you! Seek the LORD, all you [meek](#) of the earth, who have upheld His justice. Seek righteousness, seek humility. It may be that you will be hidden in the day of the LORD's anger. ([Zephaniah 2:1-3](#))

If we wish to avoid the coming stern and destructive judgment of God on recalcitrant mankind, there is no time like the present to seek His face ([Psalm 105:4](#)).

— Richard T. Ritenbaugh

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