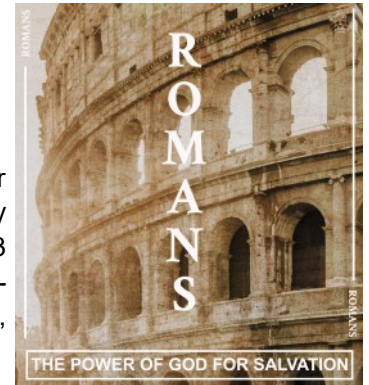


What Time Is It?
Romans 13:11-14

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.



1. It's Almost Time to _____ Up.

2. It's Already Time _____ Up.

3. It's the Appointed Time to _____ Up.

Small Group Discussion Guide

What Time Is It? Romans 13:11–14

Getting Started

We talked on Sunday about sleeping and waking. What's one thing you absolutely must have for good sleep: silence, fan noise, pitch-black room, certain pillow, etc.?

Digging Deeper *(Read Romans 13:11–14 together and pray.)*

1. **“The hour has come for you to wake from sleep...” (v. 11)** Paul may mean one of two things: *You should already be awake—so wake up!* Or, *You shouldn't be awake yet—but dawn is near, so prepare!* What would “awake” mean under each interpretation?
2. Throughout Scripture, waking from sleep is often associated with physical resurrection. Look up passages that connect the two (e.g., Dan. 12:2; 1 Thess. 4:13–17) What questions does the doctrine of the future bodily resurrection raise for you?
3. **“Salvation is nearer now...” (v. 11).** Paul says our salvation is *future*. But don't we already *have* salvation? If so, what does Paul mean when he says salvation is nearer than when we first believed?
4. **Living in a “Dream World”** - If resurrection is our waking and the dawn of a new day (v. 12), then our pre-resurrection condition is a kind of night and sleep. We would be living in a world that is “less real” compared to the coming new creation. Discuss how these statements about dreams might relate to false ideas we sometimes have about this life:
 - In dreams, you think the dream world is real when it is not.
 - In dreams, you think you're doing things you're not actually doing.
 - In dreams, you sometimes think you're someone you are not.
 - In dreams, absurd things make perfect sense.

5. **The Process of Waking Up** - On Sunday, Pastor Jake said Christians are “in between”—not fully asleep, but not fully awake. Do some quick research or share what you know: What physically happens as a person wakes up? (Your body, brain, senses, hormones, etc.) What might be the spiritual parallels?
6. **Practices That Help Us Fully Wake Up** - Even after you're technically awake, you do things to become *fully* awake. What does your morning routine look like? What kinds of spiritual practices help believers wake up more fully as we move toward the resurrection?
7. **“Cast off the works of darkness” (v. 12)** - What morning habits can slow down the waking-up process—or even lull you back to sleep? What are the Christian equivalents—habits or attitudes that keep Jesus-followers spiritually drowsy?
8. **Dressing for the Day** - Verses 13–14 compare sanctification to getting dressed. To prepare for our future resurrection, we start living now as if it has already begun—putting aside night-clothes and putting on day-clothes. What other passages in Scripture tell people to dress for a future reality as if it were already here? (e.g., Ex. 12:11; Eph. 6:10–18; Col. 3:10–14)
9. **“Put on the Lord Jesus Christ” (v. 14)** - How did Jesus sleep and wake? And what is the significance of that for our own sleeping and waking? What does it practically mean to *put on* the Lord Jesus Christ?

Making It Real

What would have changed in your life this past week if each morning you consciously reminded yourself: “**The night is far gone. The day is at hand**”?

Resources

Romans: Righteousness from Heaven | R. Kent Hughes

www.blueletterbible.org

www.biblehub.com

www.preceptaustin.org