

In order to make the spiritual Olympic squad you have to train just as hard as the athletes do. But your training must be in the Word of God and your competitions are run against the whiles of the adversary. The stakes are higher; the rewards are greater so the competition is fiercer.

We will need discipline to keep the Word in our minds. You know the saying, "If you don't use it you lose it". Well that is quite literally true. If you lose the Word in your mind then you stop running in the race, you poop out. That is when you begin to lose the rewards that you had been winning.

Don't "fudge" the Word.

If you "fudge" by accident then just fix it, it is the heart that God is interested in. But if you willfully break principle then your heart isn't right. Now that doesn't mean that it isn't right forever it means that it just isn't right on that decision. So don't make it a habit and correct your thinking.

Walter Cummins

I Thessalonians 5:1 – but – contrasts this chapter with the previous chapters

The Bible Tells Me So pgs 122-124 the certainty of chapter 4 vs./ the uncertainty of chapter 5

Remember that the meeting in the air touches both comings.

Of – peri – concerning, focusing on the object as the central point of activity

Acts 1:6, 7 – We do not need to know the times or seasons.

I Thessalonians 5:1 – Only God needs to know. All guesses about the day of the Lord will be wrong.

I Thessalonians 5:2 – perfectly – precisely, accurately, they knew with exact knowledge because they received the proper teaching.

As a thief in the night – FOS simile – resemblance

Thief – kleptee – we get our English word kleptomaniac from this word

Mark 13:35 – you just never know when the master will be coming so watch.

Luke 12:35-38 – He can come at any time and those that are watching for him will be blessed.

II Peter 3:10 – once again as a thief in the night.

Revelations 3:3 – The thief will come upon thee

I Thessalonians 5:2 – The thief will come upon them.

Revelations 16:15 – Blessed is he who watches. You can't allow yourself to get put to sleep by the world. It wouldn't be mentioned so much in the Word if it were not a common thing to have occur.

I Thessalonians 5:3 — FOS anacoluthon is an abrupt break in the sequence of thought.

Romans 8:1-3 – Do you see it here? There is an abrupt break here in verse 3 were he just starts talking about the law.

I Thessalonians 5:3-7 – The text goes from “they” to “you” to “they” again. It is placing contrast “they” and “you”.

I Thessalonians 5:3 – sudden – unforeseen (Luke 21:34)
As – FOS simile

Isaiah 13:6-8 – The FOS is used twice in these verses and both times it begins with “as”.

Hosea 13:13 – “The sorrows... come upon him.” Obviously a man cannot give birth and therefore cannot truly have birth pains.

Micah 4:9, 10 – A city cannot have birthing pains like a woman but the figure of speech is still used to good effect. Today we use a similar version of the same FOS when we say that a city is having growing pains.

I Thessalonians 5:4 – darkness – referring to the elements in which you are in i.e. the element of the world which is sin and darkness and is therefore in contrast to the light which is Jesus Christ.

I Thessalonians 5:5 – two FOS for the sections; light/darkness and day/night

1. enantiosis – opposites affirm or negate something by using opposites.
2. chiasmus – introverted structure
 - a. Light (a characteristic of time)
 - b. Day (concept of time)
 - a. Darkness (a characteristic of time)
 - b. Night (concept of time)

I Thessalonians 5:6 – FOS enantiosis again this time with the words sleep/wake

Sleep – katheudo – This is a voluntary sleep; a sleep that you actually prepare for.

Ephesians 5:14 – This verse is used in reference to those idle and lazy.

I Thessalonians 5:6 – let us watch – stay awake spiritually used also in Matt24: 42 and in Thess 5:10.

keep awake – gregoreo – a believer can be just as indifferent and apathetic on the truth of God’s Word as a person born of the wrong seed.

Sober – vepho – temperate, abstinent, sober-minded, watchful, circumspect

We have the freedom of will. We have the freedom of choice. Paul says “let us” that means we have a choice to watch or not watch a choice to be sober and awake or a choice to fall asleep and just be lazy. We can either walk in the light that we are apart of or we can walk in the darkness of the world. All of it is our choice.

L. Craig Martindale

To fully know a subject you must know both sides of it, the negative as well as the positive.

If you have a low self-esteem you’re not going to find it in your job, you need to find your self worth in God and his Word.