

CALVARY CHAPEL SOUTH BAY
MEN ^{OF} THE WORD
MEN'S MINISTRY
2021-2022

1 Thessalonians - "The Coming of the Lord"

Session 12

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

"The hope of the believer"

There were many in the church who was concerned about loved ones who had died ("fallen asleep"). Had they missed the coming of the Lord? This subject matter was so important that Paul did not want the brethren "ignorant" of the truth. But as he goes on to give them reassurance, he makes it clear that it is a critical truth, not only for the future, (on the "day of the Lord" – 5:2), but for the present. As you study this passage, ask yourself if the hope of the resurrection is something that is just out in your future, or if is it something that affects you right now!

Personal Study Time Questions:

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:13

What does Paul not want the church to be ignorant of, and why?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:14

What is the believers hope based on? How does that affect "those who have fallen asleep in Jesus"?

Scripture: John 11:25-26

What promise did Jesus give us about this when He was comforting Martha about her brother Lazarus who had died?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:15

How does Paul comfort those who were afraid that their loved ones who had died had somehow missed the coming of the Lord?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

When the Lord returns for His church, what is the order in which our resurrection will happen? What blessing will we all share in together once that happens?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:18

Now that we are not ignorant, but are clear on the fullness of the hope of the resurrection, what does Paul call us to do with that when one of us faces the inevitable tribulations that come in this world; such as losing a loved one?

Group Discussion:

We can often recognize the doctrinal truth of a coming resurrection, but place it on the shelf, so to speak, as a future event that doesn't affect us right now. As you meditate on this week's passage and lesson, how do they change your perception of the part the hope (assurance) of the resurrection should play in your walk in the here and now? How should it affect how you go through tribulations in this life, and how it should affect your conduct overall for that matter?

Hiding God's Word in your heart (Ps. 119:11):

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have conquered the world." — John 16:33