1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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1Th 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

A. Asleep: Dead but not unconscious

- Luk 23:43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.
- 2Co 5:8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.
- Ecc 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.
- Php 1:23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:
- Php 1:24 Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.
- Luk 16:23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.
- Luk 16:24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.
- Luk 16:27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:
- Luk 16:28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.
- Rev 6:9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:
- Rev 6:10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?
- Rev 6:11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.
- Isa 57:1 The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth *it* to heart: and merciful men *are* taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil *to come*.
- Isa 57:2 He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness.
- Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed *are* the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

B. Hope and resurrection

- Act 23:6 But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.
- Act 24:15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.
- Act 26:6 And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers:
- Act 26:7 Unto which *promise* our twelve tribes, instantly serving *God* day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews.
- Act 26:8 Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?
- Rom 8:23 And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.
- Rom 8:24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?
- Rom 8:25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.
- Tit 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;
- Tit 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;
- 1Jn 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.
- 1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
- 1Jn 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

- Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us **in him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:
- 1Co 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:
- 2Ti 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us **in Christ Jesus** before the world began,
- 2Co 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.
- Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.
- Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;
- Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus...
- Eph 1:10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:
- Eph 1:11 **In whom** also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:
- 1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.
- 1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
- 1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

A. The word of the Lord

- Joh 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:
- Joh 11:26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

B. Descend from heaven

- Act 1:9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.
- Act 1:10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;
- Act 1:11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

C. The rapture

- 1Co 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.
- 1Co 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,
- 1Co 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
- 1Co 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.
- 1Co 15:54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.
- 1Co 15:55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?
- 1Co 15:56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.
- 1Co 15:57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 1Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

D. Will we know each other in heaven?

- 2Sa 12:23 ...I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.
- Mat 17:3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.
- Luk 16:23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

E. What we will be?

Php 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

- Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
- 1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
- Psa 17:15 As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.
- Gen 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
- Gen 1:27 So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.
- 1Th 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.