

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

⁵ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

***Is there any hope of life in Jesus? Are we even certain He will return?
Why not give up waiting for Jesus?***

There is certainty of life in Jesus and Jesus will definitely return in glory for His saints and to judge the world! So encourage each other to stand firm as that day approaches!

1. The Problem of Death and the Certainty of Life in Jesus, be encouraged! (4:13-14)

The problem of Death and how to grieve

Certainty of life in Jesus

2. Jesus is definitely coming in glory for all His saints, encourage one another! (4:15-18)

Jesus' glorious return for His saints

We will all be with Jesus, encourage each other

3. Jesus is coming to judge, don't be complacent and encourage one another! (5:1-11)

Jesus' unexpected return to judge

Don't be complacent, be sober

Destination -> Salvation. Encourage each other

Application

Encourage one another!

Discussion Questions

1. What are some challenges and distractions you face while waiting for Jesus to come?
2. What are some ways you can be an active encouragement to others in the Church?