

# 1 Thessalonians 08 - (4:13-18)

## The Hope of the Lord's Coming

### 1. Introduction

- a. "Rapture" comes from the Latin word for "caught up"
- b. This resurrection is not disputed. The controversy is dispensational.

### 2. 4:13-14 – Them which are asleep

- a. *"not have you to be ignorant"* – Paul's message is a revelation
  - i. Mystery is made known – Eph 1:9; Col 1:9
  - ii. "Know ye not" – 12x – Rom 6:3-4 → Our oneness with Christ
- b. *"them which are asleep"* ~ sleep in Jesus 4:14; dead in Christ 4:16
  - i. These people are 'asleep' and 'dead', but 'in Christ'
  - ii. Man = 3 parts – body, soul, spirit - 1 Thess 5:23; Heb 4:12
  - iii. What happens at death → Ecc 12:7; Acts 2:27; 7:59 (Luke 23:46)
  - iv. Death is not annihilation → Luke 16:22-23; 23:43; Phil 1:23; 2 Cor 5:8
  - v. Death does not mean the soul is dead – Matt 10:28; Eph 2:1
    1. Dead but alive – Rom 6:11, 7:9, 8:2; 2 Cor 4:11, 1 Tim 5:6
  - vi. The bodies are asleep and corrupting not the soul - Acts 13:36-37
  - vii. The road to hopelessness → soul sleep + Calvinism = no Christ
    1. Soul sleep leads to no punishment - Rev 20:13-14
- c. *"others which have no hope"* – The topic is the hope of resurrection to life
  - i. Resurrection was always true – Job 19:25; Heb 11:17
  - ii. God made man a living soul – Gen 2:7
  - iii. We were without hope (like the world) - John 5:29; Eph 2:10
  - iv. If no resurrection then hope is void - 1 Cor 15:19
- d. *"even so..."* – we live and die with Christ - Rom 6:3-4
  - i. "God bring with him" – Jesus/God is coming → Titus 2:10,13

### 3. 4:15-18 – How the Lord will come

- a. The mystery: Some will not die. All will be changed 1 Cor 15:51-52
  - i. "in Christ" - This is a coming for believers – Eph 1:13-14; 4:30
  - ii. Waiting for the redemption of our bodies - Rom 8:23
  - iii. The body is corrupted, not the soul - 1 Cor 15:39-44
  - iv. The redemption of our bodies – Rom 8:23
- b. "Lord will descend" – This is not the only time – 2 Thess 1:7-8; Rev 19:11
  - i. The archangel and coming war - Jude 9; Dan 12:1; Rev 12:7
  - ii. The dead in Christ shall rise first – 4:14
- c. "caught up together" → 1 Cor 15:51, Phil 3:20-21
  - i. This is not mentioned in Acts 1:11
  - ii. "In the clouds, to meet ... in the air" – Eph 2:6, Col 3:4
    1. Later he comes to Earth in battle - Zech 14:4
  - iii. So shall we ever be with the Lord – Col 1:27-28