

I THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

We don't want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of mankind, which has no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

I THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

I THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

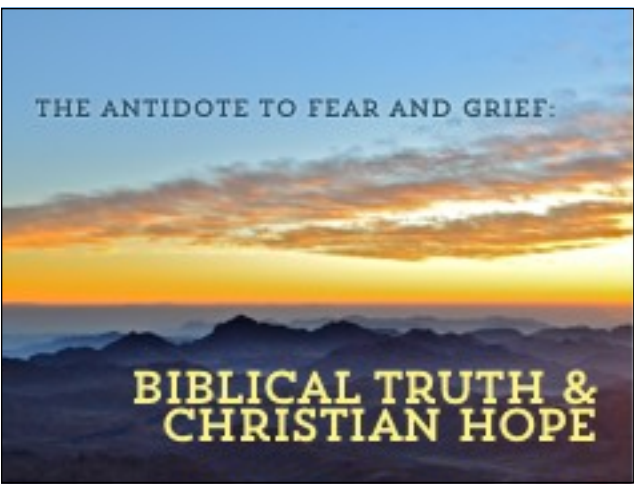
After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words.

AS PEOPLE OF EASTER, BOTH IN LIFE
AND IN DEATH, WE ARE WAITING FOR
THAT GREAT RESURRECTION MORNING

WHEN THE PROMISE OF OUR
ETERNITY WILL BE FULLY
CONSUMMATED

THE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

is the usual culprit in both the
paralyzing fear and debilitating
grief associated with dying.

A photograph of a sunset over a range of mountains. The sky is a mix of blue, orange, and yellow, with clouds catching the low light. The mountains are silhouetted against the bright horizon.

THE ANTIDOTE TO FEAR AND GRIEF:

**BIBLICAL TRUTH &
CHRISTIAN HOPE**

A photograph of a city skyline at dusk. The sky is a deep blue, and the city lights are visible in the background, creating a silhouette effect.

**BELIEVERS DON'T DIE;
THEY SLEEP.**

"Those who have fallen asleep."

1 Thessalonians 4:13,14&15

A photograph of a city skyline at dusk, similar to the previous slide. The sky is a teal or light blue color, and the city lights are visible in the background.

ASLEEP: KOIMETERION

"a sleeping place"

EASTER'S GREAT TRUTH:

Because Jesus rose from death, when Christians die, we don't die.

I THESSALONIANS 4:14-17

"We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who've fallen asleep in him. ... the Lord himself will come down from heaven... the dead in Christ will rise... those who are alive at his coming will be caught up into the air to be with him forever."

2

INDISPUTABLE FACTS

- 1 JESUS DIED
- 2 JESUS ROSE AGAIN

IF EASTER IS TRUE

...then an inexorable sequence will follow:

Those who trusted in Jesus as Savior and Lord,
both the living and the dead, will be raptured
— “caught up” — to be with him forever.

THE KEY POINT

IN LIFE AND IN DEATH, WE ARE
“IN HIM” WHO LIVED, WHO DIED
AND WHO LIVES AGAIN FOREVER.

THEREFORE WE WILL NEVER DIE.

JESUS DIED FOR US, ENDURING
GOD'S WRATH FOR SIN IN OUR
PLACE AND SPILLING HIS BLOOD
AS PAYMENT FOR A FORGIVENESS
WE COULD NOT AFFORD.

THE BEAUTY OF EASTER

Because Jesus died and rose, we won't die;
we will fall asleep in Jesus.

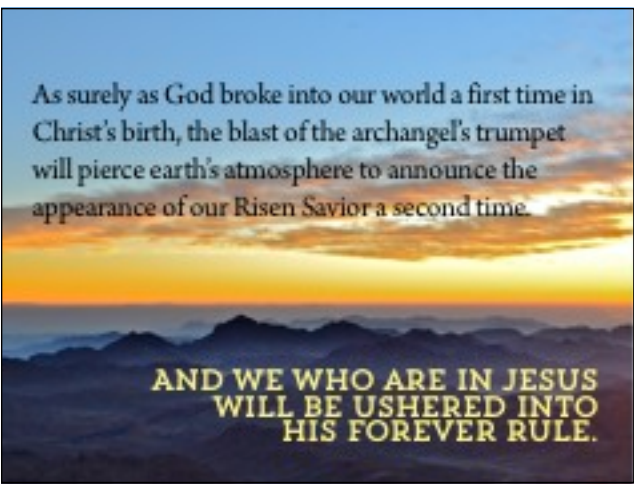
Then we will wake up to a resurrection
of our own!

GALATIANS 4:4-5

"But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive full rights as God's children."


ACTS 1:11

"This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."



As surely as God broke into our world a first time in Christ's birth, the blast of the archangel's trumpet will pierce earth's atmosphere to announce the appearance of our Risen Savior a second time.

**AND WE WHO ARE IN JESUS
WILL BE USHERED INTO
HIS FOREVER RULE.**



*I have fought the good fight
I have finished the race
I have kept the faith
Now I'm waiting*

-Paul-



Will Return!