

1 Thessalonians 4: 13 – 18

We do not grieve as those who have no hope!

We do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep [die], or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. For 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. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until 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. 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 one another with these words.

It is a terrible thing to lose a loved one under any circumstances. The believers in Jesus' day were told by an angel at the Lord's ascension that Jesus was coming back in the same way they saw him go into heaven. No doubt, the disciples interpreted this as "any day now!" However, as the days, months, and years passed, many of the believers began to die or have loved ones die. With these verses, the Apostle Paul was reassuring the believers at Thessalonica that they did not need to worry about their members who had died, and they did not need to grieve as people who had no hope of the resurrection, as those who have no hope to ever see their loved ones again. Indeed, even as Jesus died and rose again, we too, whether alive or not, will forever be with the Lord! And heaven will really be OUT of this world!

Remember, there IS [logical and historical evidence for the truth and validity of the Bible.](#) There IS logical and historical [evidence for the resurrection of Jesus.](#) Please see the [apologetics pages](#) of this website, and decide for yourself!

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