

1 THESSALONIANS 4 vs 13

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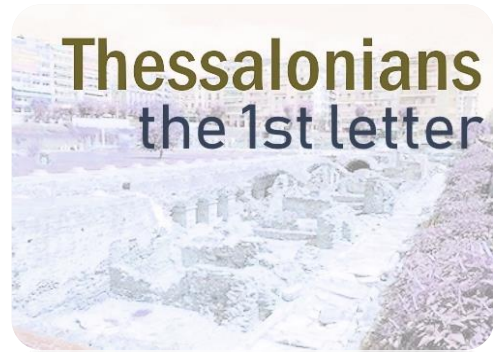
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¹³ **But I would not have you ignorant** / the verb is: *agnoeo*; literally, **not knowing**. So Paul is saying, I want you to know,

brethren, concerning those who are asleep / it's all one word: *koimao*. Paul is talking about: **those sleeping**; those who have already died,

that you sorrow not,

even as others who have no hope / Paul doesn't want those following the Lord Jesus to grieve the way others do... who have no future to anticipate; nothing to look forward to.



¹⁴ **For** / in Greek: *gar*: it's a conjunction; often used to express cause, explanation, or inference. Its sense is best understood when connecting the preceding statement to what follows,

For indeed... if we believe that Jesus died / and we do! We know Jesus died! Many courageous women stood stunned at the events of His gruesome crucifixion... when Jesus said: *It is finished!* Those same women went to the tomb... where Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus wrapped and interred the corpse.

and rose again / Paul says,

if we believe that Jesus... rose again / and we do! We believe Jesus was raised! There were many eye-witnesses. Paul tells us over 500 men probably in Capernaum, on the Sea of Galilee met with Him... all at the same time! Other eye-witnesses include: Peter; the 11 disciples; his half-brother James; the 70 apostles He sent out; and many others, over 120 in the upper room who had returned to Jerusalem. You know, if you do the math... you come to a sum of nearly 700 to 800 individuals in total. And for years if anyone had questions, all these eye-witnesses to Jesus' resurrection... were available to talk,

if we believe that Jesus... rose again... even so / *houte*; an adverb... it means: in this way; in this manner; **so likewise** -- referring to what preceded or follows,

so likewise those sleeping in Jesus / those who already died in Christ Jesus,

will God bring with Him / the word is: *ago*... meaning: **to lead**, to accompany, will God take with Him.

¹⁵ **For this we say to you... by the word of the Lord that we who are alive** / and we know, if it was not so, He would have told us. The Lord always speaks truth,

that we... living and remaining / those who have not fallen asleep in the Lord; those who have not died in Jesus, *perileipomenoi*; the word means: remaining; literally, *to leave all around*; so Paul is talking about: the last day... left overs... of the Lord probably scattered in every nation, tribe... and tongue.

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Paul says...

that we living and remaining to the coming / *to the time of the parousia*; a very familiar term in the middle east, for over 300 years, used to designate the official arrival of a king or an ambassador;

the official coming... of the Lord will not / here is a double negative... intensifying the negative.

We could say...

will no way, definitely not prevent / and this word is: *phthano*... meaning: **to precede**, to anticipate, or to reach and attain before,

the official coming of the Lord will no way, definitely not precede... them who are asleep / said a little differently: the *day the Son of mankind comes in great power and glory* to judge the world will not happen... **that great Day of the Lord...** will not happen... before those who have died in Christ, and those living in Christ, scattered around the earth... get grabbed up.

16 For the Lord himself will descend, from heaven with a shout / from on high, He will step our direction with a loud, commanding summons,

with the voice of the archangel / with the authoritative capacity to clearly speak like Michael, the archangel,

and with the trump of God / the trump – the vocal sound of God is like the sound of a trumpet: John told us, *a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet talking with me, which said, Come up here* – Rev. 4... and God was calling him up to heaven. Jesus said, *My sheep hear My voice and they follow Me* – John 10; Moses tells us, *when God gave 10 commandments on Mount Sinai that was on fire, the words He spoke pierced the darkness* -- Deut.5. About this event we read, *For you are not come to the Mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor to blackness and darkness and thunderings; and the sound of a trumpet. And the voice of words* (He is calling us) – Hebrews 11; even if you are a deep sleeper, none of His people will miss His last trump... His last call... because it can raise the dead:

and the dead in Christ will rise / the *nekros en Christos*... notice it is not all the people who have ever died; those who will rise are those who died... **in Christ**; in the Messiah; in God's Deliverer, those who knew they needed God's help... in every nation.

the dead in Christ will rise... first:

17 Then / this adverb is: *epeita*... it always means: **thereafter**, or afterwards.

Then... we living and remaining will be caught up / *harpazo* is used 13 times in the NT... describing events that require: force, **to grab**; to catch away quickly. In Acts 8, the Spirit of the Lord caught up Philip after he shared the Good News with the Ethiopian eunuch. In 2 Corinthians 12, Paul uses the word twice to describe... *a man caught up to the third heaven*; he was *caught up to paradise*.

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And do not make more out of this, as if Paul was confused about the Lord's agenda. In 1 Corinthians 6:14... Paul wrote: *And God has both raised up the Lord, and will also raise us by His own power* - whether or not Paul was living at the time.

We can be confident... the catching away of all those following Christ... is before the time of the Gentiles ends. Remember: Moses could not enter the promise land... because 2 times he struck the Rock -- a shadow and type God used to represent the Lord Jesus; the church He is building now represents the Lord, but His body does not need to be struck 2 times! Psalm 19 says: The Bridegroom is on His way for His Bride, and He's excited. He knows a wedding is going to take place -- His!

So, this catching up is before... Jesus the Messiah officially returns to the Mount of Olives... as the conquering LORD of lords, which is after the wedding feast, the marriage supper of the Lamb -- Rev.19

Of the 7 great Days of the LORD, only 3 fixed days remain... they are: the last days. Paul says, *shadows of things to come*... fulfilled in something Jesus Christ does. And what are they?

#5: The Day of Trumpets, when summer, and working in the field is over; the crop has grown... then the trumpet sounds 100 times -- every 15 minutes that day and the harvest is gathered;

#6: The Day of Atonement, the terrible Day of affliction, of the Lord's judgment on the earth; Daniel says, a Rock destroys the 4th brutal government. Of this Day of Judgment, I am confident, nobody knows that day or hour when the Lord Jesus, our Rock of Ages... comes in great power to war with the faithless whore, and with a pimple of a world-politician and a reconstituted roman system of 10 other political fools... who continue their agenda smashing and destroying the world -- that's separate, that's later: 2 Thessalonians;

#7: The Day of Booths, the feast of temporary shelters; a time of great celebration, the terrible Day of God's wrath, the great battle Armageddon has passed.

C.S. Lewis, like so many bible scholars, underscored what Jesus said: *NO man, woman or child... knows the day and hour of the coming of the Son of Man; that is true.*

Jesus said, *the Son of Man will officially come in administrative power and great glory...* to judge the world -- because they did not embrace His first coming in humility, to substitute His life for ours... as He vindicated His loving Father who said: *the payment for sin, is death*. The misuse of this gift of freedom: not to love God our Father, not to be thankful and acknowledge Him; not to love one another as He loved us; but rather, to embezzle the gift of life loving ourselves... the cost of doing that is: *death*. Prophet Isaiah says about this Man of Sorrows, who was despised and rejected, who substituted for us and took our place... when we make His soul our offering for sin; He will see... and will be satisfied; what He labored to accomplish is already finished on that

#1: great day: The Passover.

#2: The Day of Unleavened Bread, when Jesus, the living bread descended from heaven to do his work... and was buried in the tomb... that Good Wednesday evening;

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#3: The Day of First fruits, when Jesus, who is the first fruits from the dead, was raised 3 days and 3 nights later... that Saturday evening... according to the promise of the Father;

#4: The Day of Pentecost, when the Spirit of God was given... starting with over 120 life-long learners of the Lord... who gathered in that upper room in Jerusalem... 50 days later.

So, what fixed day, what great event of the **LORD** is next? Well, do the math! It's what Paul is talking about. We can remain uninformed; but Paul began saying: **But I would not have you to be ignorant.**

Ask yourself the question: What are **the last days**? What starts a series of events... at the end of the time of the Gentiles? **The Day of Trumpets**... usually in September or sometimes early October.

Now, there are those who prefer manmade traditions, and lighting candles... and praying to the dead... and scrap like that, so they prefer to be ignorant... instead of learning what our great Shepherd / our great Pastor said, *When the Son of comes again, will He find the faith?* Will He find the faithful acting based on what He told us! Or... will the Son of Man find... just a bunch of goofy stuff going on?

So hear Paul again...

17 Then... we living and remaining will be grabbed up... together with them in the clouds, to meet the LORD in the air / clearly, on some joyous **Day of Trumpets**, the next important day on the Lord's calendar... Jesus will be on proverbial Cloud 9 as He finally meets His Bride. When? Well, this could be the year! If not this year; then keep going, don't quit; March on in Christ; keep running the race... in faith:

and so will we ever be with the LORD.

18 Wherefore / why was all this said? Paul says...

comfort ...the action word is: *parakaleo*; it means: to call alongside... like an advocate; it means to help and strengthen, to call near... which is what the Holy Spirit is doing; we can ask His help to do the same. But know this: if your request is to help strengthen the Church Jesus said He is building; then, the Spirit has been ready to help for a very long time. So don't sit around and wonder if He heard you. He's there, right where you are, ready to go! So acknowledge Him... and do what Paul says:

comfort... lend help... strengthen... one another with these words.

O Come Let Us Adore Him | You Can Depend On Jesus | This is My Father's World

Check out: Our Brothers and Sisters Around The World Singing GOD'S Praise:  The Songlist

I Could Sing of Your Love Forever | The Sheep Hear His Voice And They Follow Him