

**Finding Comfort in the Resurrection: Reuniting at the Rapture
(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)**

¹³ But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive [*and*] remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.

¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

¹⁷ Then we who are alive [*and*] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

TWO GOALS:

1. I don't want you to be _____ concerning "the sleeping ones" (13)
2. I don't want you to be _____ in the way "the other ones" do who have no hope. (13)

THREE GROUPS:

1. Believers Who _____
 - a. Brethren (13)
 - b. The ones that believe that Jesus died and rose again (13)
 - c. The living ones (15, 17)
 - d. The remaining ones (15,17)
 - e. One another (18)
2. Believers Who _____
 - a. The sleeping ones (13) who have believed that Jesus died and rose again
 - b. The fallen asleep ones (14,15)
 - c. The dead ones "in Christ" (16)

3. Unbelievers

- a. [The ones who do not believe that Jesus died and rose again]
- b. The other ones (13)
- c. The ones who have no _____ (13)
 - i. _____ Jesus, _____ Hope
 - ii. _____ Jesus, _____ Hope

THE PROMISES

- a. God will bring with Him those believers that have died.
- b. Those who believe that Jesus died and rose again that are living and remaining when the Lord comes will not be taken to heaven before those believers that have died .

THE TIMELINE

- a. The Lord will descend from heaven
- b. The dead ones (the bodies of the believers that are with the Lord and who are brought "with Him") shall be raised
- c. The "living and remaining" believers and those that have been raised are taken away in a cloud
- d. Those taken away meet the Lord in the air
- e. The entire group of believers will be with the Lord always.

ONE COMMAND

- a. What: _____
UBS Dictionary: *beg, urge; encourage; request, ask, appeal to; console, comfort, cheer up; invite, summon*
- b. Who: _____
- c. How: _____
 - a. Jesus is our Hope
 - b. Separation is temporary between those who believe in Jesus
 - c. Believers that have died are with the Lord
 - d. We will be reunited
 - e. We will be with the Lord, together, always.