

Christian has hope  
of A from Jesus  
- Titus 2:13  
blessed hope

Sun. Morning



# INSIDE OUT HOPE

PASTOR PAUL CHAPPELL | SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

**Text:** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Rapture of church

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words." (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

- 1 Thess 4:10 delivered from wrath to come

## INTRODUCTION

- Feast of Trumpets [holy day] holiday of Jews
- \* wear white clothes
- \* celebrated over 2 days - beginning of holiday uncertain
- \* blowing of trumpets (ram horns) pointed up into heaven
- \* celebrated with sweet foods (not bitter or sour)

## 1. AN INSIDE Faith (v. 14)

### A. Believes the gospel of Christ

THE FOCUS OF INWARD FAITH believe Jesus resurrection

believe Jesus alive from the dead  
"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:" (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)

"To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:" (Acts 1:3)

- Acts 2:1-3 Pentecost (feast day 50 days after Passover)

- Christian believes in their heart (Rom 10:9)

### THE SALVATION OF INWARD FAITH

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." (Romans 1:16)

#### B. Will Be remembered by God

REGARDING THOSE WHO "SLEEP" (physically dead)

dead  
bodies  
return to  
dust

"Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust." (Psalm 104:29)

"As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand." (Ecclesiastes 5:15)

present  
with the  
Lord in  
heaven

"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." (2 Corinthians 5:8)

"For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life." (2 Corinthians 5:4)

mortal  
home in  
the body

"Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:" (2 Corinthians 5:6)

#### GOD WILL BRING WITH HIM

changed  
body

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. 55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" (1 Corinthians 15:52-55)

**Quote:** "The hardest thing about death is separation from our loved ones; but when Christ comes, we will be "together with the Lord" forever. The living saints will not precede those who have died; all will be caught up together to meet Christ."—Warren Wiersbe

## 2. OUR OUTWARD Hope (v. 15-16)

### A. A Literal resurrection (changed new body)

THIS IS A CERTAINTY FROM THE LORD

**Quote:** "Paul's teaching on the rapture was not his own speculation but direct revelation from God..."

- Rom 8:24 For we are saved by hope

- 2 groups in Christ
- \* dead in Christ
- \* living in Christ

THIS INCLUDES TWO GROUPS OF PEOPLE

"And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come." (1 Thessalonians 1:10)

- B. A Loving Redeemer - see Job 19:25-27  
my Redeemer

JESUS WILL "DESCEND FROM HEAVEN" -

WE WILL HEAR THE ARCHANGEL

"Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee." (Jude 1:9)

WE WILL HEAR THE TRUMPET OF GOD

### 3. AN UPWARD Transport (v. 17)

- A. The rapture (meet Jesus in clouds)  
Acts 1:9, 11

"For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ." (Philippians 3:20)

- B. The reunion

ALL THE SAINTS JOINED TOGETHER

ALL THE SAINTS JOINED WITH THE LORD

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (John 14:2-3)

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." (1 John 3:2)

### CONCLUSION

- Rapture: Latin word meaning "rapid"
- caught up away from Greek word harpazo
- \* also used as "snatched up away"

