**Where Are We Going From Here?**

***Understanding God’s Prophetic Plan for The Future***

**The Rapture of The Church** *(Part 1)*

**I Thessalonians 4:13-18**

Although the word “***rapture”***does not appear in the Bible, it is a word that comes from a Latin word that means “to \_\_\_\_\_\_ off, or to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ away.”

It’s important to understand that the Rapture of the Church is to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the Second Coming of Christ.

The ***only event*** in God’s prophetic plan for the future that does not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ anything else to take place before it happens is the Rapture of the Church.

The word “***imminent”***simply means “could happen at any \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”

**I. Paul Wrote To Straighten Out Their About The Rapture Of The**

 **Church***(vv 13-15)*

**A.** **The Thessalonian’s Struggle (*vv 13, 18)***

Thereare ***3*** words that give us ***a clue*** about the nature of their confusionand they are the words*“\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”*

They believed that Jesus was going to return, but it never occurred to them that some of their Christian friends andloved ones would \_\_\_\_ before that happened.

By all indications, they were afraid that the believers who had died were going to\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ on the return of Christ for His Church.

Paul proceeded to present the most comprehensive teaching in the **N.T** about the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Christians who pass away before the Rapture.

**B. The Apostle Paul’s Words *(v 13)***

***“uninformed****” -*The Greekword that Paul used here is a word that actually means “to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of something, ***or*** to be without understanding.”

The problem wasn’t that the Thessalonians lacked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the problem was that they simply lacked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

***“asleep”*** *-*In the Bible, the word ***“asleep”*** was commonly used to refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

In the Bible the word ***“asleep”***is always used in reference to the \_\_\_\_\_, but never in reference to the \_\_\_\_\_. ***(II Corinthians 5:8)***

It’s not wrong to grieve over the death of a loved one. Christians aren’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from such intense sorrow!

Paul wasn’t saying that we shouldn’t grieve our loss. Instead, he was saying that we shouldn’t grieve like people who don’t know \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

***There is no of a future life apart from the Lord Jesus Christ.***

As believers we don’t grieve \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Instead, we mourn \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

As believers, our hope in the face of death comes from ***2*** sources**:** The \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus on the cross, and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus from the dead. ***(v14)***

Our eternal future is either \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or it’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and it all depends on whether or not we belong to Jesus Christ. ***(John 11:25)***

In **vv 14-15,** Paul told the Thessalonians what happens to believers who have died before Christ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Paul makes it clear that for the believer our assurance of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is grounded in the certainty of the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Conclusion:**

**v 14** sets in motion a series of ***4*** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ events that will accompany Christ’s return for His Church.

You don’t want to miss hearing about them, because this might be \_\_\_\_, orit might be someone that you dearly love!

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February 11, 2024