

August 12, 2007		Pastor Mack Jarvis	
How to Give the Ultimate Hope to Others			Message #5
Series	How to Build a Great Life		
<p>The Power of Encouragement in a Discouraging World A Study of 1 Thessalonians</p>			

Various Reactions to “the Return of Christ”

- 1. The _____
- 2. The _____ (_____)
- 3. The _____ (_____)

1st - Paul offers _____ to the CONFUSED

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant (uninformed), brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep (died), 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. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 NKJV

Question #1 – What happens to believers when they die?

Answer: They will _____ and we will see them again, based on the _____ of Jesus Christ.

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant (uninformed), brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep (died), 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. (vv. 13,14)

Question #2 – Will the Christians who have died before us be in on the resurrection?

Answer: The Christian dead will _____ and share in the resurrection.

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. (v.15)

Question #3 – How do these “end times” events occur?

Answer: The _____ of the church

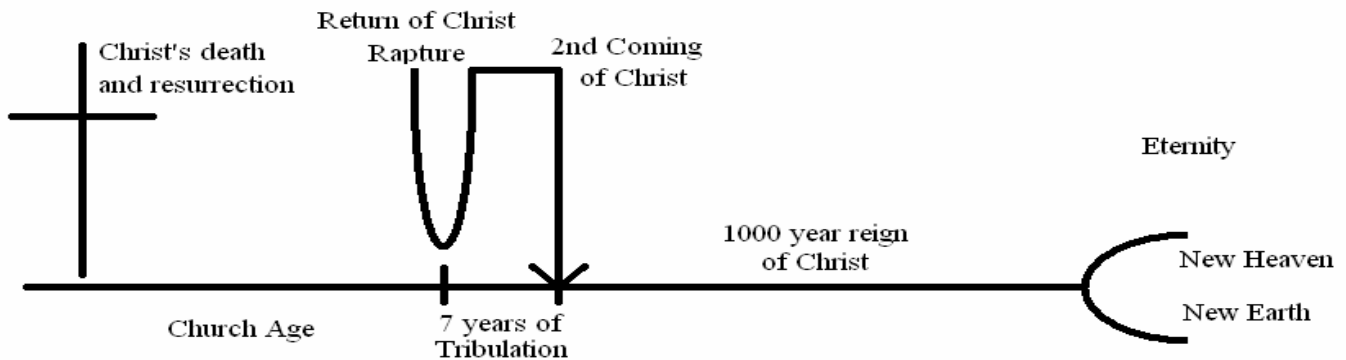
16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a (1) shout, with (2) the voice of an archangel, and with (3) the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. (v.16)

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 1 Corinthians 15:51-53 NKJV

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. (v.17)

5 Aspects of the Rapture

- _____ of Jesus for His church (v.16a)_____
- _____ of the “dead in Christ” (v.16b)
- _____ of the church (v.17a)
- _____ of believers with Christ and each other (v.17b)
- _____ of hope in the face of death (v.18)



2nd – Paul gives _____ to the _____

1 But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. 2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3 NKJV

3 Observations of Warning:

1) Jesus return is _____

2) His return will be _____

3) His return will be to _____

*9 For God did not appoint us (**believers**) to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. 11 Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11 NKJV*