

“THE FUTURE GOD DESIGNS”

I Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

MAIN IDEA: The prospect of the return of Jesus Christ in the air provides great hope for the believer.

An Outline of I Thessalonians:

- I. PAUL’S LOOK AT HIS COMING (1:1-2:16)**
- II. PAUL’S LONGING FOR HIS CONVERTS (2:17-3:13)**
- III. PAUL’S LESSONS FOR THEIR CONDUCT (4-5)**
 - A. Concerning Purity (4:1-8)**
 - B. Concerning Love (4:9-12)**
 - C. Concerning Prophecy (4:13-5:11)**
 - 1. The Rapture of the Church (4:13-18)**
 - 2. The Day of the Lord (5:1-11)**

I. THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH (4:13-18)

A. *The Reason for the Hope (4:13-14)*

The Reason: the death and resurrection of Christ (cp. I Cor. 15:3-4)

- ❖ ***The absence of hopeless sorrow (4:13)***
- ❖ ***The assurance of certain reunion (4:14; cp. 4:15-16)***

B. *The Reality of the Hope (4:15-17)*

The Reality: the return of Christ

- ❖ ***A declaration of Christ’s promise (4:15)***
- ❖ ***A description of Christ’s coming (4:16-17)***

C. *The Response to the Hope (4:18)*

The Response: comfort and encouragement

II. THE DAY OF THE LORD (5:1-11)

A. *This Day In Relation to Unbelievers (5:1-3)*

- ❖ ***The completeness of their knowledge (5:1-2a)***
- ❖ ***The characteristics of the day (5:2b-3)***

B. *This Day In Relation to Believers (5:4-11)*

- ❖ ***Our position (5:4-5)***
- ❖ ***Our practice (5:6-8)***
- ❖ ***Our prospect (5:9-10)***
- ❖ ***Our profit (5:11)***

The Influence His Return Should Have On Us:

- ***A calming influence (John 14:1-3)***
- ***A comforting influence (I Thess. 4:13-18)***
- ***A cleansing influence (I John 2:28; 3:1-3)***
- ***A controlling influence (I Cor. 15:51-52, 58) (Taken from Lehman Strauss)***