

“Looking for the Blessed Hope and His Glorious Appearing” 3/21/2010

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

**1 Thessalonians- “Living a Life of Focus in Expectation of Jesus’ Return”
Sermon of Encouragement today!**

POINT 1- The blessing of the Lord’s personal love gives us hope in SORROW

- A. Our hope in sorrow is in contrast to those who have no HOPE
(v. 13; Ephesians 2:12; 1 Thess 5:8- helmet of hope of salvation)
- B. Our hope in sorrow is rooted in the certainty of a REUNION
(v. 14, 17; 1 Cor 15:23- “afterward those who are Christ’s at His coming”)

Going Deeper *God wants us to take comfort that we have hope even in sorrow!*

POINT 2- The blessing of the Lord’s personal love gives us hope in RAPTURE

- A. Our hope in the rapture is assured to us by the word of JESUS
(v. 15a; Acts 20:35; 18:9-10; 2 Corinthians 12:1, 7- revelations)
- B. Our hope in the rapture is affirmed to us in DETAIL
(vv. 15b-17a; the trump of God; 1 Cor 15:51-57; Rev 3:10; Luke 21:36)

Going Deeper *God wants us to take comfort that we will be caught up together!*

POINT 3- The blessing of the Lord’s personal love gives us hope in ETERNITY

- A. Our hope in eternity results from the fact that will be forever WITH HIM
(v. 17b; John 12:26- servant will be the Master; 14:1-3; 17:24)
- B. Our hope in eternity should give us presently tremendous COMFORT

Going Deeper *God wants us to take comfort in that we will be with Jesus forever!*

*"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,¹³ looking for the **blessed hope and glorious appearing** of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works." (Titus 2:11-14)*

Are you ready?