

SERMON HANDOUT for February 26, 2023



An Authentic Life!

An Authentic Hope

1 Thessalonians 4:13–5:11 NKJV

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INTRODUCTION

Paul’s ministry in Thessalonica was brief:

- ✝ New church already come to believe in and hope for the reality of their Savior’s return.
- ✝ **BLESSED HOPE** - Jesus is coming again.
- ✝ “The Day of the Lord” *can be* a day of rejoicing *rather than* a day of judgement.

Hope - a confident expectation of the future!

Hope (as a verb) - “to expect with confidence” and “to cherish a desire with anticipation.”

Biblical **Hope**:

- ✝ Carries no doubt
- ✝ A sure foundation upon which we base our lives
- ✝ Believing that God always keeps His promises

1 Corinthians 13:13 - Three that would remain in the end; FAITH, **HOPE** and LOVE!

- ✝ **Hope** - what God tells us will endure to the end!

AN AUTHENTIC HOPE:

1) HOPES IN CHRIST’S _____ - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 NKJV

- Believe (Greek: *pisteuo*) - *to be persuaded; to regard as trustworthy.*
- Jesus Died - John 10:17-18 NKJV
Relinquish means *to voluntarily cease to keep or claim (same as sacrifice).*
- Rose Again - John 2:19-22 NKJV
- God Will Bring with Him - Revelation 19:11-14 NKJV

2) HOPES IN CHRIST'S _____ - 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 NKJV

- **Rapture** - taken from the phrase “caught up.”
(Latin, *rapio*) in Catholic Latin Vulgate.
(Greek, *harpazo*) - means to seize or to snatch or take away.
 - The dead “IN” Christ first...
 - Then those (IN CHRIST) who are alive and remain...
 - In the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (Acts 1:9-11 NKJV)
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3) HOPES IN CHRIST'S _____ - 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3 NKJV

- **The day of the Lord so Comes as a thief in the Night**
 - **They** — Paul is referring to those who are not Saved!
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4) HOPES IN CHRIST'S _____ - 1 Thessalonians 5:4-11 NKJV

- **Darkness** (Greek, *skotos*) = evil world; abode of evil spirits; Hell.
- **Light** — Good; abode is Heaven.
- **Sleep** — doze; ignorant; shut the eye;
- **Sober** — (Greek, *nepho*) = to be self-controlled; mindful; aware.

Requires Certain Conduct and Wardrobe:

- **Breastplate of faith and Love** / Breastplate of Righteousness (Ephesians 6:14)
- **Helmet of the hope of Salvation** / Helmet of Salvation (Ephesians 6:17)
- **Should Live Together**...Hebrews 10:25, Forsake not; 2 Corinthians 7:3 NKJV
- **Comfort and Edify one another**...

Comfort (Greek, *parakeleo*) = urge, implore; exhort:

Edify (Greek, *oikodomeo*) = to strengthen, make more able; build up.
