

# Christian Hope

## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

### Three Points on Christian Hope

1. \_\_\_\_\_

- v.13:
- Hope:
- Ephesians 2:12:

2. \_\_\_\_\_

- V.14-15
- V.16
  - Return
  - Resurrection
- V.17
  - Rapture
  - Reunion

3. \_\_\_\_\_

- V.18

## Christian Hope

### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep 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 not precede those who have fallen asleep.

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

(1Th 4:13-18 NAU)

1. What seems to be the key word of this passage?
2. Why do you think Apostle Paul used the term “(fallen) asleep” three times in this passage? (v. 13, v.14 and v.15)
3. What would be the atmosphere of “rapture” described in v.16?
4. What are the events described in the following verses:
  - a. V.16: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. V.17: \_\_\_\_\_
5. What would have made the Christians to comfort each other in v.18?
6. Share your thought on Jurgen Moltmann’s quote: “But the ultimate reason for our hope is not to be found at all in what we want, wish for and wait for; the ultimate reason is that we are wanted and wished for and waited for. What is it that awaits us? Does anything await us at all, or are we alone? Whenever we base our hope on trust in the divine mystery, we feel deep down in our hearts: there is someone who is waiting for you, who is hoping for you, who believes in you. We are waited for as the prodigal son in the parable is waited for by his father. We are accepted and received, as a mother takes her children into her arms and comforts them. God is our last hope because we are God's first love.” (Jurgen Moltmann, *The Source of Life: The Holy Spirit and the Theology of Life*).