

**Pastor Emeritus Jerry Marshall**

**April 9, 2023**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (LSB)**

**13** But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, 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.

**Romans 10:9–10 (NASB)**

**9** that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

**10** for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

**1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (NASB)**

**3** For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

**4** and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

**Hope in the Middle of Sorrow**

In the passage that is the focus of our attention this morning. The Apostle Paul writes about two pillars of truth upon which our hope is made a living hope of expectant certainty and not just wishful thinking.

**I. The Central \_\_\_\_\_ of our Faith** (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)

**II. The \_\_\_\_\_ of The Word of The Lord** (1 Thessalonians 4:15-18)

**Practical Implications**

1. Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we can expect with certainty all true believers who pass through the doorway of death, will be resurrected (1 Corinthians 15:20-24; 2 Corinthians 4:14; Philippians 3:20-21).

2. Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we can know with certainty that the Gospel message is God's exclusive formula for the salvation of souls (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

3. Because of the resurrection of our Lord we can anticipate that at any moment, Jesus can come to gather His church to be with Him forever (1 Thessalonians 4:15-17).