



Anticipating Christ's Return

Standing Firm – Part 7

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 5:11

The study of Bible prophecy is a source of confidence for the Christian. There are so many dangers and frightening experiences in our world, but a knowledge of God's program for the future helps to eliminate anxiety and create assurance in the life of a Christian. Amid all the chaos in the world today, Christians can face the future with confidence because we know the end of the story, and we win! Let's examine the promise of Christ's return, or the second coming of Christ, as it's related here in 1 Thessalonians 4 and 5.

I. Be _____. (4:13-18)

- A. Paul was writing to inform the Thessalonians about what happened to people who had _____.
- B. The Bible frequently uses the term " _____ " to describe those who have died.
- C. Paul wrote this section to inform the Thessalonians about the details of the _____ days so that they would no longer be _____.
- D. There are those who believe that history just _____ itself, that life goes in a cycle.
- E. There are those who believe that man is going to _____ - _____, and they have no hope.
- F. Our world is going toward a _____. (Acts 1:11)
- G. Over _____ times the New Testament predicts that Christ is going to return.
- H. If you believe the _____ verse of the Bible, you shouldn't have any _____ with the rest.
- I. How will Jesus come?
 1. There will be a loud _____. (v. 16)
 2. We will hear the _____ of the archangel. (v. 16)

3. There will be a _____ call of God. (v. 16)

J. What is Christ going to do when He arrives?

1. He is going to _____ the dead. (v. 16)
2. He is going to _____ the Christians who are still alive. (v. 17)

II. Be _____. (5:1-7)

- A. Nobody knows when the Lord is going to _____. (v. 1)
- B. Christ is going to come like a _____ in the night. (v. 2)
- C. His coming is going to be like _____ pains for a mother – sudden. (v. 3)
- D. We need to be ready at any _____. (vv. 4-5)
- E. This is a time for us to be _____. (vv. 6-7)

III. Be _____. (5:8-11)

- A. There are many who aren't encouraged by the thought of a _____
 1. Some Christians aren't encouraged because they are _____.
 2. Some Christians aren't encouraged because they want to experience more of _____.
 3. Some people are afraid of the second coming because they aren't _____ of Jesus Christ.
- B. The Christian should be encouraged by the promise of Christ's return for four reasons:
 1. We are _____. (vv. 8-9)
 2. We will be _____. (Phil. 2:10)
 3. There is a promised _____. (vv. 10-11)
 4. It is the _____ to eternity. (4:17)
- C. Someone has said that ignorance is not _____ the facts; stupidity is not _____ on the facts that you know.