

WHAT HAPPENS TO CHRISTIANS WHO DIE?
1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

1. They continue to exist

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, (13)

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." -John 11:25

2. They are happy

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow... (13)

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. -Philippians 1:21-23

3. They are safe

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. (13)

Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." - Luke 23:42-43

4. They are where Jesus wants them to be

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again... (14)

Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. -John 17:24

5. They are truly home

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. (14)

So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. -2 Corinthians 5:6-8 (ESV)