

The Coming of the Lord p2

# 1 THESSALONIANS

4:13–5:9





ROME

ASIA

**THESSALONICA**

AFRICA









**“AFTER DEATH,  
NO REVIVING.  
AFTER THE GRAVE,  
NO MEETING AGAIN.”**



# RESOURCES FOR FURTHER STUDY

- *Heaven*, Randy Alcorn (Studies every single verse in the Bible about heaven and the afterlife)
- *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*, NT Wright



# THREE FACTS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE IN TIMES OF GRIEF:

1. Reflect on the  
ultimate **REUNION**



**THREE FACTS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE  
IN TIMES OF GRIEF:**

**2. Renew my hope in  
CHRIST'S RETURN**



**THREE FACTS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE  
IN TIMES OF GRIEF:**

**3. Realize I'll be  
RESURRECTED**



### 3. REALIZE I'LL BE RESURRECTED

**“...and the dead in Christ will rise first.”**

*(1 Thes. 4:16b, NIV)*



### 3. REALIZE I'LL BE RESURRECTED

“...and the dead in Christ will **rise first.**”

*(1 Thes. 4:16b, NIV)*



“Sometimes it looks dark and sometimes people come to feel that the universe seems to say, ‘Amen’ to the forces of injustice...”





“And oh, it looked  
dark centuries ago...  
but thank God the  
crucifixion was not  
the last act.”





“The resurrection affirms that what stops us does not stop God ...death is not the end ...life is not doomed to frustration and futility.”





“But can end up in fulfillment in the life and the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”





“The resurrection  
means evil does not  
win.”





### 3. REALIZE I'LL BE RESURRECTED

“After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.”

*(1 Thes. 4:17a, NIV)*



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**HOPE BEYOND DEATH**

**HOW DO I RESPOND  
TO ALL THIS?**



# HOPE BEYOND DEATH

- Don't PANIC



# DON'T PANIC

“Therefore encourage one another with these words.”

*(1 Thes. 4:18, NIV)*



**Botticelli:**





# Botticelli: Christ's return in 1504





**Stifel:**





**Stifel:  
Christ's  
return  
8am on  
Oct. 19,  
1533**





**Newton:**





**Newton:  
Christ's  
return in  
2000**





# DON'T PANIC

“Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.”

*(1 Thes. 5:1,2, NIV)*



# HOPE BEYOND DEATH

- **Do PREPARE**



# DO PREPARE

“While people are saying, ‘Peace and safety,’ destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman...”

*(1 Thes. 5:3a, NIV)*



# DO PREPARE

“But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.”

*(1 Thes. 5:4, NIV)*



# DO PREPARE

“You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.”

*(1 Thes. 5:5, NIV)*



# DO PREPARE

“So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night.”

*(1 Thes. 5:6, NIV)*



# DO PREPARE

“But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.”

*(1 Thes. 5:8, NIV)*



# DO PREPARE

“But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.”

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# HOPE BEYOND DEATH

- **Do STAY POSITIVE**



# DO STAY POSITIVE

“For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

*(1 Thes. 5:9, NIV)*



# DO STAY POSITIVE

“He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.”

*(1 Thes. 5:10, NIV)*



# DO STAY POSITIVE

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”

*(1 Thes. 5:11, NIV)*













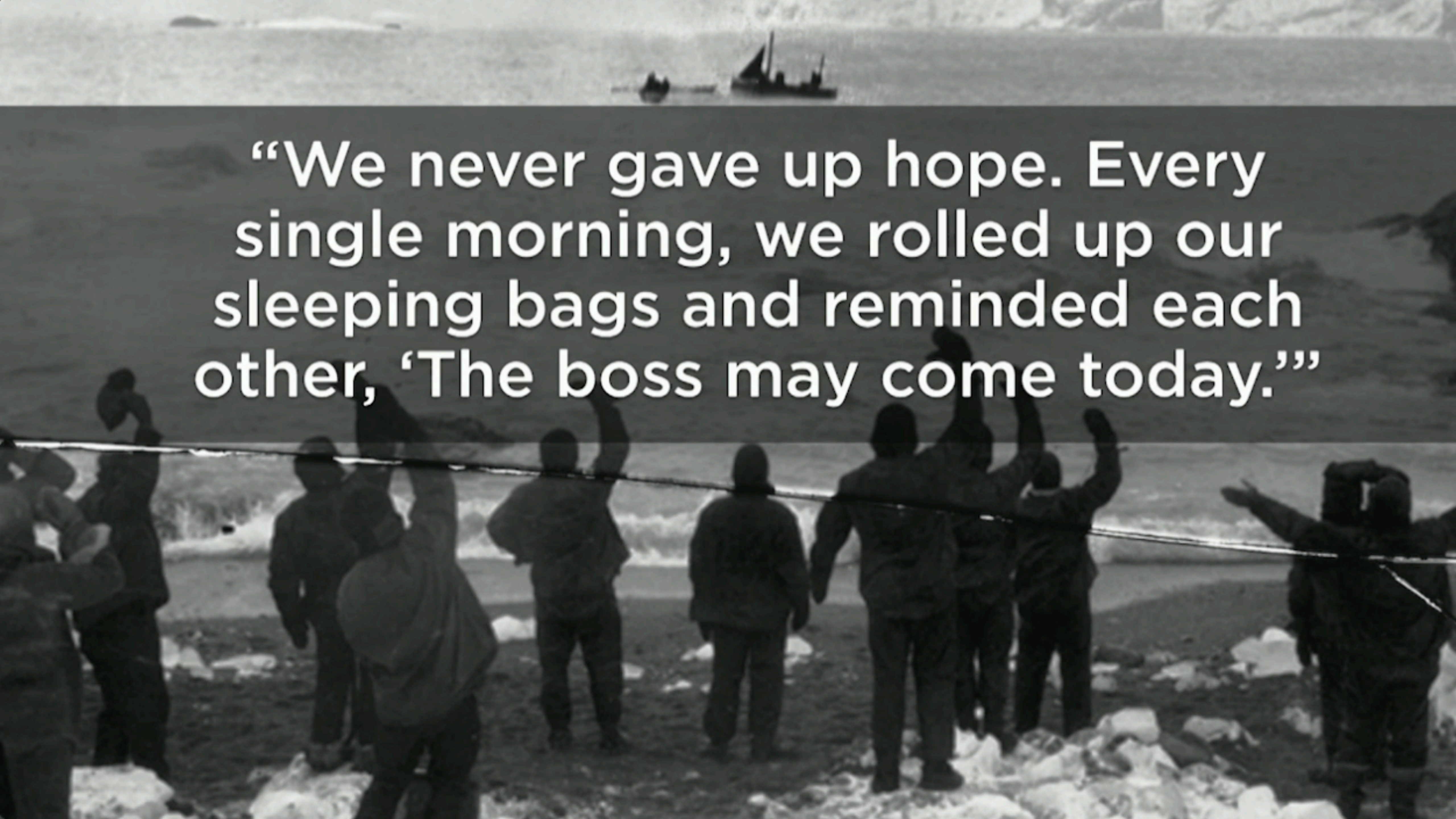










A black and white photograph showing a group of about ten people standing on a rocky, uneven shore. They are all looking out towards a large body of water. In the distance, a large ship with multiple masts is visible on the horizon. The people are dressed in dark, heavy clothing, suggesting a cold environment. The overall mood is one of anticipation and hope.

“We never gave up hope. Every single morning, we rolled up our sleeping bags and reminded each other, ‘The boss may come today.’”



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