

1 Thes. 4:13-18

¹³. Brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant about those who have fallen asleep [died], so that you will not be sorrowful and depressed like those who have no hope. ¹⁴. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose [which we do], in the same way, God will also bring those who sleep in Jesus with Him [into the fullness of eternal life]. ¹⁵. For, we are saying this to you by a Word of the Lord: We who are living and remaining at the appearing of the Lord will certainly not have priority over those who are asleep [dead]. ¹⁶. That the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a shout of command, with the voice of the archangel, with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will be raised first. ¹⁷. Then [at virtually the same time], we who are living and remaining will be caught up with them in clouds in order to meet the Lord in the air. In this way, we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸. So then, encourage one another with these words.