



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

1, 2 Thessalonians Sermon Series

Supports Session 6: Promised

Sermon Title: Hope!

Passage: 1 Thessalonians 4:13

Connection to 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

This message is one of hope, laying the foundation for Christians to read and study the rest of this chapter on the promised return of Christ. The message will focus on the difficulties that people go through during the loss of a loved one, yet they can live in light of God's provision, both now and in the future.

Introduction/Opening

Grief is never easy, and yet, sooner or later, we will all grieve. For Christians, to grieve or not to grieve might seem like a difficult question to wrestle with. However, grief is a natural emotion for all people, Christian or not. When we understand how God has provided for us in the past, present, and future, we can grieve with hope.

Outline

1. We have hope because of what God has already provided.
 - a. God has always been involved in His creation.
 - i. Whether it's the act of creation, the spoken words of the prophets, or the redemption of humanity through Jesus Christ, God has always been involved in His creation.
 - ii. See Genesis 1:1; Acts 3:18-26; Hebrews 1:1-2.
 - b. God has already provided for His people.
 - i. Jesus died for our sins and stands ready to receive all who call on His name.
 1. See 1 John 2:2; Romans 10:13.
 - ii. Jesus has begun to prepare a place for His children.
 1. See John 14:1-6; John 1:12-13.
2. We have hope because of what God provides now.
 - a. God has provided His Holy Spirit.
 - i. See John 16:7-14; Acts 1:5-8; 2:1-4; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 1:13-14.
 - b. God comforts through His Holy Spirit.
 - i. See 2 Corinthians 1:3-7; 2 Corinthians 5:1-9; Romans 8:26-28.

3. We have hope because of what God has promised.
 - a. He has promised to return for His people.
 - i. His return is soon (Luke 21:25-28).
 - ii. His people must remain sober and alert (Matt. 25:1-13; Rom. 13:11-14).
 - b. He has promised to redeem His people.
 - i. See Romans 8:18-25; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.

Conclusion

Jesus is coming and at a time that only the Father knows. Whether we are grieving or not at this time, hear this: when we do grieve, we can remind ourselves that a new day is near. Followers of Jesus have the hope of Christ. God has already provided, and God provides right now. This includes the comfort through His Spirit and His people, but even more, what He has promised for the future.

For those who are not followers of Christ, this is an opportunity to change that. The Bible says that all are sinners, that Christ died for these sins, was resurrected on the third day, and that all who call on His name will be saved. Don't delay; make that life-changing decision today.

Fran Trascritti is a husband, father, grandfather, but most of all, a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. He has served in ministry for over twenty-seven years, and currently serves as the Administrative Director of the Growth Team at the Illinois Baptist State Association. He graduated from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (MDiv, PhD). He and his wife, Teresa, live in Springfield, Illinois.

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