

1 Thessalonians 4v13-18 A LIVING HOPE

3v10: Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and **supply what is lacking** in your faith.



What happens to Christian believers who die before Jesus comes back?

V13: Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be <u>uninformed</u> about those who <u>sleep in death</u>... V13: Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be <u>uninformed</u> about those who <u>sleep in death</u>...

John 11v11: "Our friend Lazarus has fallen <u>asleep</u>; but I am going there to <u>wake him up</u>."

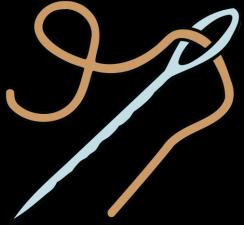
V13: Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, <u>so that you do not</u> <u>grieve</u> like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.



V14: For we believe that <u>Jesus died and</u> <u>rose again</u>, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.



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"The Christian hope is not free floating, dependent on feelings or circumstances, but is anchored firmly in the solid events of history."



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Mt 25v31: When the Son of Man comes in his glory, <u>and all the angels with</u> <u>him</u>, he will sit on his glorious throne.

V15: According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep.

V16: For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.





V17: 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.



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V18: Therefore encourage one another with these words.



1 John 3v2: Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.