Northwest Bible Church – July 16, 2023 – 1 Thess. – Alan Conner

**1 Thess. 4:13-18 (2)**

The Resurrection of Dead Believers

Intro

1. **THE REASON FOR THE CONCERN (1 Thess. 4:13).**

* 1. Ignorance –
  2. “those who are asleep” – brethren who have died.
     1. An appropriate description.

* + 1. Only the body sleeps, not the soul. Lk. 23:43; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; Lk. 16:23-25; Rev. 6:9; Phil. 1:29.
  1. The exact cause of their “grief” – concern for dead believers.

1. **THE RESURRECTION OF SLEEPING BELIEVERS (1 Thess. 4:14-16).** 
   1. Foundation of our hope in death: Jesus’ death and resurrection (1 Thess. 4:14).
      1. Christ’s death guarantees our resurrection.
      2. Jesus’ bodily resurrection is the guarantee that all believers will also be resurrected.

Jn. 11:25; Rom. 8:11; 1 Cor. 15:20-23

* + 1. RETURN: this resurrected Jesus will come again (1 Thess. 4:14, 15, 16, 17).

* 1. Christ will bring the souls of dead believers with him (1 Thess. 4:14).
  2. The RESURRECTION of dead believers will be before the translation of believers who are alive (1 Thess. 4:15-16).
  3. The authoritative certainty of the resurrection - “by the word of the Lord”

* 1. What will the resurrected body be like?

1. The vital importance of the resurrection –
   1. Necessary for our entrance into the consummation of the kingdom. 1Cor. 15:50
   2. Part of our redemption by Christ. Rom. 8:23.
   3. The perfection of our temples. 1 Cor. 6:19-20
   4. Completes our goal of Christlikeness. 1John 3:2
   5. Motivation for godly living. 1Cor. 15:58
   6. Encouragement in times of suffering. 2Cor. 4:16-18
2. How many resurrections are there? Jn. 5:28-29; Acts 24:15

Conclusion