

Sermon Notes – October 11, 2020

The Hope of the Rapture (*I Thessalonians 4:13-18*)

- I. Our hope is based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (*Vss. 13-14a*)
 - A. The definition of the Gospel. (*I Corinthians 15:1-9*)
 - 1. According to the Scriptures, Christ died for sinners.
 - 2. According to the Scriptures, Christ was buried.
 - 3. According to the Scriptures, Christ was raised from the dead.
 - B. The stark reality of the Gospel. (*I Corinthians 15:13-19*)
 - 1. If Christ is not raised, our preaching is worthless.
 - 2. If Christ is not raised, we are liars.
 - 3. If Christ is not raised, our faith is worthless.
 - 4. If Christ is not raised, our grief is as those with no hope.

- II. Our hope is based on the promises of God. (*Vss. 14b-16*)
 - A. He is coming again. (*John 14:1-6*)
 - B. Death is not the end for the believer. (*Romans 14:7-9*)
 - 1. The thief on the cross.
 - 2. The Transfiguration.
 - 3. The hope of all believers.
 - a. Death is precious. (*Psalms 116:15*)
 - b. Absence is desired. (*2 Corinthians 5:7-8*) (*Philippians 1:21-23*)
 - c. Change is necessary. (*I Corinthians 15:50-58*)

- III. Our future is based on the prophetic comfort from the Lord. (*Vss. 17-18*)
 - A. Jesus will descend from Heaven.
 - 1. With a shout.
 - 2. With the voice of the archangel.
 - 3. With the sound of the trumpet of God. (*I Corinthians 15:52*)
 - B. We will be caught up together with Him.
 - C. We will be with Him forever.