

# THE GLORIOUS COMING OF THE LORD

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

Key Verse: 4:16

**“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.”**

1. What misunderstanding did the Thessalonians have about those who sleep in death, and how did this affect them (13)? How did Paul explain the gospel more fully, and what difference would this make for them (14)?
2. Read verses 15-16. What does “the Lord’s word” imply? How is Jesus’ second coming described? What does this reveal about his divine authority, power and glory (cf. Mk 13:26)? Who rises first, and why was this important?
3. What happens to those who are still alive when Jesus comes again (17; 1Co 15:50-52)? How do the words “meet the Lord in the air” and “be with the Lord forever” encourage us (18)?
4. What did the Thessalonians know, and why did Paul mention this (5:1-2)? What does the slogan “Peace and safety” tell us about the mindset of people of the world (3a)? What will Jesus’ coming be like for them (3b)?
5. How does Paul contrast believers and unbelievers (4-5)? How should a believer’s way of life be different than that of an unbeliever (6-8a)? How can we practically be sober (8b-9)?
6. How does Jesus’ death for us help us to be sober (10)? As members of Christ’s body, what must we continue doing (11; 4:18)?