

Sunday, April 11, 2021
“Hope for a Waiting Church: While Waiting, Face the Future Firmly.”
I Thessalonians 5:1-11

We live in a society where our media outlets are driven either by today’s discontentment and disagreements, or by tomorrow’s curiosity and fear! We all want to know what the future holds. Will the economy keep my investments and retirement funds secure enough so I can retire? Will my money “out-live” me? Will my children develop and grow healthy and stable? Will I keep this job I currently have until I retire?

The future seems so unsettled and so frightening! So, what distinguishes a believer’s perspective of the future from that of a lost person? Will I be ready when the Day of the Lord comes?

I. **Know** for Certain the Facts on Which You Stand Concerning the Future. (v.1-3)

- We must distinguish between the Rapture of Jesus’ children and “The Day of the Lord”.
- We know that no one but the Father answers the “when” question.
- We know the Day of the Lord will come suddenly and unexpectedly.
- We know the Day of the Lord will contain much false security.
- We know pain and destruction will occur and be unbearable.
- We know the Day of the Lord offers no escape.

II. **Decide** Forcefully the Foundation on Which You Stand. (v.1-5)

- You know and have decided upon your Savior. (I John 5)
- You know you love the Lord and the Light.

III. **Live** Vividly Revealing the Foundation on Which You Stand. (v.5-8)

- As a Son of Light, your character shines. (v.5)
- As a Son of Light, your conduct shows. (v.6)
- As a Son of Light, your characteristics sparkle. (v.8)

IV. **Display** Boldly the Foundation of Your Deliverance. (v.9-11)

- Put your complete hope in the truth that you will be delivered from wrath. (v.9)
- Put your complete hope in the truth that you will be delivered from all sin. (v.10)
- Put your complete hope in the truth that you will be delivered from discouragement. (v.11)