

How to experience hope:

1. Be informed

1 Thessalonians 4:13 But **we do not want you to be uninformed**, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do the rest who have no hope.

¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep.

¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first.

¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord.

2. Comfort one another with truth

¹⁸ Therefore **comfort one another with these words**.

5:1 Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you.

² For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.

³ While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like birth pangs upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

⁴ But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief;

⁵ for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

3. Be alert

⁶ so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us **be alert and sober**.

⁷ For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night.

⁸ But since we are of *the* day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

¹⁰ who died for us, that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with Him.

4. Encourage one another with truth

¹¹ Therefore **encourage one another, and build up one another**, just as you also are doing.

2 Thessalonians 1:6 For after all it is *only* just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you,

⁷ and *to give* relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,

⁸ dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

⁹ And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

¹⁰ when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed--for our testimony to you was believed.

¹¹ To this end also we pray for you always that our God may count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power;

¹² in order that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2:1 Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our gathering together to Him,

² that you may not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

³ Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,
⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.
⁵ Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?
⁶ And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he may be revealed.
⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way.
⁸ And then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;
⁹ *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,
¹⁰ and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

Matthew 24:1 And Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him.

² And He answered and said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here shall be left upon another, which will not be torn down."

³ And as He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

Signs

⁴ And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you.

⁵ "For **many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,'** and will mislead many.

⁶ "And you will be hearing of **wars** and rumors of wars; see that you are not frightened, for *those things* must take place, but *that* is not yet the end.

⁷ "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be **famines and earthquakes**.

⁸ "But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pangs.

⁹ "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be **hated by all nations** on account of My name.

¹⁰ "And at that time **many will fall away** and will deliver up one another and hate one another.

¹¹ "And **many false prophets** will arise, and will mislead many.

¹² "And because **lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold**.

¹³ "But the one who endures to the end, he shall be saved.

¹⁴ "And **this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a witness to all the nations**, and then the end shall come.

¹⁵ "Therefore when you see **the abomination of desolation** which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),

¹⁶ then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains;

¹⁷ let him who is on the housetop not go down to get the things out that are in his house;

¹⁸ and let him who is in the field not turn back to get his cloak.

¹⁹ "But woe to those who are with child and to those who nurse babes in those days!

²⁰ "But pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath;

²¹ for then there will be **a great tribulation**, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall.

²² "And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short.

²³ "Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ,' or 'There *He is*,' do not believe *him*.

²⁴ "For **false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders**, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.

²⁵ "Behold, I have told you in advance.

²⁶ "If therefore they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go forth, or, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe *them*.

²⁷ "For just as the lightning comes from the east, and flashes even to the west, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be.

²⁸ "Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

²⁹ "But immediately after the tribulation of those days **the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall** from the sky, and the powers of **the heavens will be shaken,**

³⁰ and then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.

³¹ "And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

lessons

³² "Now learn **the parable from the fig tree**: when its branch has already become tender, and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near;

³³ even so you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right* at the door.

³⁴ "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

³⁵ "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away.

³⁶ "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.

³⁷ "For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like **the days of Noah**.

³⁸ "For as in those days which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, they were marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,

³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so shall the coming of the Son of Man be.

⁴⁰ "Then there shall be two men in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left.

⁴¹ "Two women *will be* grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left.

⁴² "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.

⁴³ "But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night **the thief** was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into.

⁴⁴ "For this reason you be ready too; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think *He will*.

⁴⁵ "Who then is **the faithful and sensible slave** whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time?

⁴⁶ "Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes.

⁴⁷ "Truly I say to you, that he will put him in charge of all his possessions

⁴⁸ "But if that evil slave says in his heart, 'My master is not coming for a long time,' ...

... **25:1** "Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to **ten virgins**, who took their lamps, and went out to meet the bridegroom.

² "And five of them were foolish, and five were prudent...

...¹³ "Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.