

every creature." (Mark 16:15)

We have seen the clear and definite glory that lies ahead for those of us who die in Jesus Christ. It is stated that this certainty is found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We have been commissioned by Jesus Himself to preach and teach this assurance to everyone!

Let's offer this comfort to all people.

~~~~~

### Some Other Scriptures

*"And though after my skin worms destroy this body, **yet in my flesh shall I see God:**"* (Job 19:26)

*"The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the **righteous hath hope in his death.**"* (Proverbs 14:32)

*"**If in this life only** we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." (1 Corinthians 15:19)*

*"But now he is dead, wherefore should I*

*fast? can I bring him back again? **I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.**"*

(2 Samuel 12:23)

~~~~~

Conclusion:

If the Lord tarries, we all have (or will) lose loved ones, and eventually, even our own life will come to an end.

Be encouraged in Jesus! God's words are not in vain; they are meaningful, powerful, and truthful.

Those who have fallen asleep in Jesus are now in God's Presence!



By: Robert Dallmann

~~~~~

*"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that **ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.***  
*(14) For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will **God bring with him.**"* (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)

~~~~~

A Subject To Avoid

Something Christians avoid thinking about is death, until a believing loved one passes away. At that time, we are so grateful for the eternal life that is ours in Jesus Christ.

It is unfathomable how unbelievers can cope with death in their lives.

~~~~~

### Encouragement

*Transformed Living Messages by Robert Dallmann*  
ChristLife  
PO Box 1033, Niagara Falls, NY 14304  
Ph: (716) 622-7320  
E-mail: [Christlife@Christ-like.net](mailto:Christlife@Christ-like.net)  
Visit us at [www.Christ-like.net](http://www.Christ-like.net)

## NOT HOPELESS

---

When the passing of a loved one impacts your life, run to Jesus!

As the Holy Spirit wrote encouragement through the Apostle Paul, we want to lift you up when you face such devastating loss.

In Christ, we have great assurance! Our loved ones are in the Presence of God!

*"Therefore we are **always confident, knowing** that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (7) For we walk by faith, not by sight: (8) We are **confident**, I say, and **willing** rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."* (2 Corinthians 5:6-8)

Take heart, friends. Read this passage slowly. Listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit as you meditate on what He is saying to us.

Observations:

- \* **Confident** - mentioned twice - always confident
- \* **Knowing** - complete guarantee
- \* **Absent** - when we leave this body, we

are immediately in God's Presence  
\* **Willing** - Paul was very desirous of leaving this world to be with God

God, the Holy Spirit, wants us to know with complete assurance that we are instantaneously with God when we die. This fact is clear by the expressions God chose in writing this passage.

~~~~~

Grief And Sorrow

Notice that Paul, in 1 Thessalonians 4:13, does not say that we will not have any sorrow. He distinguishes the grief of the unsaved (those without hope) from followers of Jesus (those with hope.)

Again we find strong encouragement as disciples of Jesus in the passage quoted at the onset of this message.

Hope vs. Hopelessness. It would be difficult to find a more stark contrast.

Even the word used to describe death is filled with hope. "Sleep!"

Death, like sleep, is not permanent. Death is the portal to God! Death is the reality of the eternal life we were given when we received Jesus.

Our sorrow is very different from the grief

of the hopeless. Our sadness is temporary and with eternal promise. The anguish of unbelievers is eternal.

~~~~~

### The Rock

As we can see in 1 Thessalonians 4:14 (quoted above), the foundation of our glorious hope is the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

As surely as death could not keep Jesus dead...neither can it hold us prisoner!

Because of our faith in the message of Christ, and because Jesus rose from the dead...God will bring us to Himself.

This is not a shaky dream. These are not words of self-delusion intended to provide a false sense of security. These are rock-solid facts!

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the guarantor of the promise of eternal life.

This certainty comes from God Himself!

~~~~~

Have Assurance - Offer Assurance

*"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and **preach the gospel** to*