

I. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HOPE AND NO HOPE.

1. The biblical definition of hope is "confident expectation."

Hope is a firm assurance regarding things that are unclear and unknown.

Biblical **hope** has as its foundation faith in God. **1 Thessalonians 4:13**

2. Concern about loved ones who die.

a. But we need not grieve like people who have no hope.

3. The Christian's grief is different.

a. We have assurance of better things ahead.

Philippians 1:21-23

b. We know where the departed believers have gone. **2 Corinthians 5:8**

c. We know we will see them again.

1 Thessalonians 4:17

4. Lost people have no hope!!!II. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BELIEF AND UNBELIEF. **1 Thessalonians 4:14**1. The Key to Hope is Faith!

a. To believe is to trust.

b. More than intellectual assent.

c. Resting securely in Christ who died and rose again.

2. To believe is to be saved. **Acts 16:31**3. To believe is to be sure of heaven. **1 John 5:12, 13**

4. Concerning those who refuse to believe =

They have no hope of heaven and will be forever lost.

III. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BELIEVER'S DEATH
AND AN UNBELIEVER'S DEATH

1. At the death of a believer, their disembodied spirit =

immediately enters the joyful presence of our Lord Jesus.

Luke 23:43: 2 Corinthians 5:8

2. At the death of an unbeliever, their disembodied spirit=

immediately enters the place of the dead, a place of torment. **Luke 16:22b, 23**

IV. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND RESURRECTIONS.

PP17 **1 Thessalonians 4:16**1. At the rapture, the believers spirit is joined with their resurrected body.2. Living believers are caught up and changed. **1 Corinthians 15:51, 52**

3. The unbelieving dead are resurrected later.

They are resurrected to Judgment. **Revelation 20:5-15.**

Conclusion: 1. Come to Jesus

2. Receive Him by faith and be ready for heaven and His return.