

1 Thessalonians 4:8-5:11

‘The future is something which everyone reaches at the rate of sixty minutes an hour, whatever he does, whoever he is’.

C.S. Lewis

¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

1 Thes 3:13

²³ May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thes 5:23

Each section begins with similar introductions

Both sections share similar concerns

And each section ends with a similar conclusion



1. Don't grieve as others do because Jesus will return (13-18)

In this first section, Paul is answering the question, ‘what will happen to those who die before the Lord Jesus returns?’

First, Jesus died and rose again

Secondly, the dead will be raised

Finally, all Christians will be raised

Why did Paul write this?

2. **Don't sleep as others do because Jesus will return (1-11)**

In this second section Paul is answering the question, 'how do we prepare for the Day of the Lord?'

There are two groups of people in this section.

First, there are those who belong to the darkness, who are asleep and who get drunk.

Secondly, there are those who belong to the day, who are awake and who remain sober.

Why did Paul write this?

Conclusion

As Christians we are to be distinct in two areas

1. We are not to grieve like others
2. We are not to sleep like others