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in Delaware, but ignorance is a relative matter. At least, it is good to dispel any ignorance, but it is related to some purpose. We are told at the end that it is for the purpose of comfort that he wants to dispel ignorance and so he feels that people will sorrow unnecessarily if they are ignorant, and he is going to dispel that source, so he says, "Brother, I don't want you to be ignorant about those who are asleep." Well, how much sleep do they mean? Is this sleep literal or figurative? It would seem from the next verse quite clearly to be figurative because the next verse says, "Them which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him and we which are alive shall not prevent them which are asleep. V. 15 makes it quite clear that he is using the word "sleep" here not of sleep in the ordinary sense but of sleep as the figure for death. And so he is talking then about those who are dead and he doesn't want the Thessalonians to sorrow as others do who have no hope. He is trying, then, to give a hope to those who have deceased relatives who are believers. They are not to sorrow like the others who have no hope. And now they reason why-- this is the purpose then of the passage. It is a passage, then, of value for every believer. It is to dispel the ignorance which leads to sorrow, to greater sorrow than is necessary on the part of every believer at this time and all through the present age. I think we can say that without question. That is the purpose of the passage, to give us joy about those that sleep in death, and we are told about them that if we believe that Jesus died and rose again

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He bases it quite definitely then on Calvary, Calvary and the Resurrection. All our blessings are based on Calvary and the resurrection. If we do not believe in these essential facts there is nothing left to Christianity. You can talk about the example of Christ, about His character, you can talk about