First Thessalonians 5:9-11

5:9 <u>God has appointed some to wrath, but His elect to salvation by the Lord Jesus Christ</u>.

1. He is a fool who thinks God has not appointed some to judgment (Rom 9:22; I Pet 2:8).
   a. The Lord has made all things for Himself, even the wicked for evil (Prov 16:4).
   b. Jesus Christ will confess to many in that day He never knew them (Matt 7:23).
   c. The doctrine of reprobation is hated and despised by proud man (Jude 1:4).
2. God has appointed His elect to salvation from before the foundation of the world.
   a. They were chosen in Christ and written in the Book of Life (Eph 1:4; Rev 17:8).
   b. It is those ordained, or appointed, to eternal life who believe (Acts 13:48).
   c. And it was for these appointed that Paul labored so diligently (II Tim 2:10,19).
3. The only hope of salvation is through the Lord Jesus Christ (John 14:6; Acts 4:12).

5:10 <u>It is the death of the Lord Jesus Christ that has infallibly secured the lives of His elect</u>.

1. Only by His death could Jesus Christ redeem the elect unto God (Matthew 26:39).
2. He died for us – as a substitute in our place to pay for our sins (Is 53:5-6; I Pet 3:18).
3. He did not die to merely make salvation possible or give us an example of service.
4. Regardless of whether we die bodily or remain to His coming, we will live with Him.

5:11 <u>The coming of our Lord Jesus Christ should provide for both our comfort and edification</u>.

1. When he was emphasizing the resurrection, Paul exhorted them to comfort (4:13-18).
2. When he was emphasizing its surprise destruction, he exhorts to holy vigilance (5:1-10).
3. They were already comforting and edifying each other, but he exhorted them to more.
4. It is by mutual comfort and edification of all members that churches grow (Eph 4:16).
5. This is a congregational charge, not a ministerial charge. So this is something you do.
6. To comfort is to strengthen and encourage another, which we all need frequently.
7. Our communication should be free of corruption and useful to edification (Eph 4:29).