Our scripture comes from 1 Thessalonians 4:16. While you’re finding that - a man was driving home from work when he was pulled over for not wearing a seat belt. Three days later, he got a ticket again at the same stop, from the same cop. Two days later, he got another at the same stop from the same cop. The policeman asked, “So sir, have you learned anything?” The man replied, “I sure have - I've learned it's time to find a new way home.” Jesus is the way! The world has been trying to find a new way home rather than believe… there is no other way.

**1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.**

 It won’t be quiet, so I won’t be quiet. It won’t be quiet, so I won’t be quiet! It won’t be quiet, so I won’t be quiet!! When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound and time shall be no more! Jesus is coming soon, morning or night or noon! It won’t be quiet, so I won’t be quiet! And neither, neither, neither should you be quiet about the second coming of the Lord. You tell your family; you tell you friends; you tell your neighbors. Jesus didn’t tell us to schedule His trip. We’re not the travel agent. We are to tell of His impending arrival. Tell it with your love – words and actions only work when they are rooted deep in love.

 We need not be nervous about missing Him. I had a lady once ask me, “What if He’s already come and we missed Him?” Can’t happen. Won’t happen. In Matthew 24:26, Jesus says - “Therefore if they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; or ‘Look, He is in the inner rooms!’ do not believe it. Many deceivers will come! False signs and wonders will be everywhere. Many will claim to know the hour. Many will claim that it won’t ever happen. 2 Peter 3:3-4 says knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.” Does that sound familiar at all? Do we hear a few scoffers in this day and age? Sure we do! Don’t be discouraged. Watch!

 Last week, we heard Jesus Himself say that He is coming quickly! Listen to Matthew 24:27 - For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. That’s sounds quick doesn’t it! Life will be happening, people eating, drinking, working – then boom! No time to react… we must expect.

 Make no mistake, we’re going to see it! Matthew 24:30 - Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. Sounds an awful lot like Revelation 1:7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. The verse doesn’t say – some will see Him and some won’t. It says “every eye”. Tribes will mourn – Greek word for tribe is phule – meaning races. All races will mourn at the sight – if you’re not sealed with the Holy Spirit, you’ll mourn.

Make no mistake - we’re going to hear it! Matthew 24:31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. Sounds a lot like our scripture, doesn’t it? Trumpets, shouts, voices of angels – No, we won’t have to wonder – Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 5 - He will come as a thief in the night… that doesn’t mean quietly… it means at an unexpected time, in an unexpected hour… we are called to watch and pray.

Many of us used to play a game called hide and seek. We’d count, then yell – ready or not, here I come! God is counting – He’s not tarrying – He’s not slack – He hasn’t forgotten. 2 Peter 3:8 warns us - But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. When my sisters and I played hide and seek, no one heard the counting… they only heard the call – ready or not!

As we seek to help others find Jesus, let’s not listen for the counting – the counting doesn’t matter. Let’s listen and watch for the call… it may be today or it may be a thousand years from today, but it won’t be hidden and it won’t be silent. It’ll be obvious and there will either be rejoicing by those sealed by the Holy Spirit or mourning by those who thought they had another day.

Which will it be? Rejoicing or mourning. If you’ve never accepted Jesus, do it right now! Let the church rejoice, let heavens rejoice, let the angels rejoice. To wait for the trumpet sound is to wait an eternity too late.