

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHRISTIAN

Not

The Rapture of the Church!



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The Next Major Biblical Event

The next major Biblical event is **the rapture of the Christians**. It is important to understand that the phrase "*the rapture of the church*" suggest there is a universal church taught in Scripture.

First Thessalonians 4:13-18,

13 But **(1)** I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For **(2)** the Lord himself shall descend from heaven **(3)** with a shout, **(4)** with the voice of the archangel, and **(5)** with the trump of God: and **(6)** the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then **(7)** we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

I. Would Not Have You To Be Ignorant:

To be ignorant is to be void of understanding. In this case the subject has to do with prophecy concerning the rapture of the Christians out of this world. Here, Paul gives us some information concerning what will happen when the rapture occurs.

- a. "Concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope."
- b. "If (since) we believe."
- c. "Jesus died and rose again."
- d. "Even so them also..."

e. “We which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent (go before) them which are asleep.

2. The Lord Himself:

John 14:1-3,

1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

First Corinthians 15:51-52,

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”

3. With A Shout:

John 11:43,

“And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth...”

John 5:25,

“The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.”

4. The Voice of The Archangel:

Michael the archangel has a specific function concerning the people of Israel. At the time of the rapture, he will signal to Israel that God has returned the focus of his attention at last to the final redemption of His chosen nation.

Daniel 12:1,

“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for **the children of thy people**: (Daniel’s people, Israel) and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time **thy people** (Israel) shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.”

Revelation 12:7,

“And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels.”

5. With The Trump of God:

First Corinthians 15:51-52,

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trump**: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”

Time To Go Home For A Rest:

In Bible times, when they went into war, they had a “last trump” that would be blown that would tell the fighting men, “Your time of fighting is over. It is time for you to go home.” The “last trump” ended their time in the warfare. When the trumpet blows it will signal the time when we go home.

This world is not my home I'm just a passing through
My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue
The angels beckon me from heaven's open door
And I can't feel at home in this world anymore.

6. The Dead In Christ Shall Rise First:

A message of hope concerning family and friends who died “in Christ.”

First Thessalonians 4:13,

“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.”

7. To Meet The Lord In The Air:

A Thief In The Night:

First Thessalonians 5:2,

“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.”

Every Eye Shall See Him:

Revelation 1:7,

“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”

8. Caught Up Together With Them:

First Thessalonians 4:17,

“Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

9. Comfort One Another:

First Thessalonians 4:18,

“Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”

Second Timothy 3:1,

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

Isaiah 1:9,

”Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us **a very small remnant**, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.”

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