

**My heart! It beats wildly. I can't stay still because I have heard the shofar sound; it's the call to war!
(Jeremiah 4:19)**



The Scriptures are everywhere very particular in forewarning us that the day of the Lord shall come as a thief in the night --- that it will come as a snare on all them that dwell on the earth --- that the great mass of men, and even of the professing church, shall be overtaken by it unawares --- and that, “in that night, there shall be two in one bed, one of whom shall be taken and the other left;” and “two grinding at the mill, one of whom shall be taken and the other left;” and “two in the field, one of whom shall be taken and the other left.”

Joseph A. Seiss: The Apocalypse: An Exposition of the Book of Revelation



Great will be the number of those who will thus be left ... so few will be found ready and waiting for the Lord, that the removal will cause no very noticeable depletion in the population of the earth. The great body of the professed church of the day will be “left” as well as the entire community not of the church; for “when the Son of Man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?”

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And to all that are then found unready, and are “left”, gone forever will be the privileges and honours of the “Church of the firstborn!” Gone, the crowns, the thrones, the principedoms of eternity, which are now so freely offered to every hearer of the gospel! Gone, to return no more, all hope and opportunity of regaining the lost prize of immortal kingship and dominion! In place of invitations to heavenly rulership, will be judgement pangs; and in place of the joyous day of God’s long-suffering, will be the dark waves of the Great Tribulation.

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The Last Days

WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE?

1 Thessalonians 4:13-15

13. But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
14. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.
15. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

16. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.
17. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

- 51.** Behold! I tell 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 trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.
- 53.** For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

Titus 2:11-14

11. For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,
12. training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,
13. **waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ,**
14. who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works.

Hebrews 9:28 (Amplified Bible)

Even so it is that Christ, having been offered to take upon Himself and bear as a burden the sins of many once and once for all, **will appear a second time**, not to carry any burden of sin nor to deal with sin, but **to bring to full salvation those who are [eagerly, constantly, and patiently] waiting for and expecting Him.**

John 14:1 -3

1. Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me.
2. In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?
3. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.



 The lie that the RAPTURE is a new truth that surfaced in the early 1800s

Papias (60-130)
Clement of Rome (90-100)
The Shepherd of Hermas (96-150)
Ignatius of Antioch (98-117)
Barnabas (100)
The Didache (100-160)
Justin Martyr (110-165)

The Epistle of Barnabas (117-138)
Irenaeus (120-202)
Tertullian (145-220)
Hippolytus (185-236)
Cyprian (200-250),
Lactantius (260-330)

Joseph Mede (1627): writings called Clavis Apocalyptica
Increase Mather (1639-1723)
Peter Jurieu (1687) "Approaching Deliverance of the Church"
John Gill (1748)
Morgan Edwards: (1742-1744) the Founder of Brown University

- 🔥 The lie that the RAPTURE is a new truth that surfaced in the early 1800s
- 🔥 The absolute nonsense that has people discounting the RAPTURE on the basis that the word “rapture” is not found in our modern translations of the Scriptures

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The **Greek** word translated “caught up” is **harpazo**

- to be **snatched up** to be with Christ
- to be **caught away** to something far better

The **Latin** equivalent of the Greek word **harpazo** is the Latin verb **rapio**

- to take away by force
- **raptus** is the past participle of **rapio** (English words “rapt” and “rapture”)

It is from this Latin translation that we get the word **rapture** as being that word in English that best describes being **snatched away** or **caught up** to meet the Lord in the air.

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- 🔥 The absolute nonsense that has people discounting the RAPTURE on the basis that the word “rapture” is not found in our modern translations of the Scriptures
- 🔥 Confusion because the RAPTURE & the SECOND COMING OF CHRIST are not seen as one event in different parts or in different aspects

The Feasts of the Lord

Passover (Pesach)	Nisan 14-15	March April	Spring Feasts	1st Coming
Feast of Unleavened Bread (Hag HaMatzah)	Nisan 15-22			
First Fruits (Hag Habikkurim)	Nisan 16-17			
Feast of Weeks/Pentecost (Shavu'ot)	Sivan 6-7	May/June		
Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teru'ah)	Tishri 1	Sept/Oct	Fall Feasts	2nd Coming
Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)	Tishri 10			
Feast of Tabernacles/Booths (Sukkot)	Tishri 15-22			

John 7:37-38

- 37.** On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.
- 38.** Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”

Primary Distinctions

THE RAPTURE

THE SECOND COMING

Jesus coming as the Bridegroom
FOR His Bride (John 14:1-3,
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

1 Jesus coming as the Lion of the
Tribe of Judah **WITH** His Bride
(Colossians 3:4, Zechariah 14:5,
Revelation 19:14)

Believers (Jew & Gentile) are
caught up to meet Jesus **IN THE AIR**
(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

2 Jesus **STANDS** on the Mount of Olives
(Zechariah 14:4, Rev. 19:11-12,
Ezekiel 11:23)

Believers (Jew & Gentile) are taken
first. Unbelievers & those asleep are
left behind (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

3 Wicked are taken first. The righteous
(Tribulation believers) are left behind.
(Matt. 13:28-30, Revelation 7:9-10, 14)

Revelation 7:9-10, 14

- 9.** After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,
- 10.** and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"
- 14.** ... these are the ones coming out of the great tribulation

THE RAPTURE

Purpose: to present the Bride to Himself & to the Father (2 Corinthians 11:2, Revelation 19:6-9)

Marriage: the Marriage of the Bride to the Bridegroom in heaven after the Rapture

Suddenly: happens in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye (1 Corinthians 15:52)

THE SECOND COMING

4 Purpose: to execute judgment on earth & set up His Kingdom (Jude 14-15, Revelation 19:11-21, Zechariah 14:3-4)

5 War: the Marriage of the Bride to the Bridegroom in heaven is followed by war on earth

6 Not suddenly: people will see Him coming (Zechariah 12:10, Matthew 24:30, Revelation 1:7)

THE RAPTURE

Only believers see Him
(1 John 3:2, 1 Corinthians 15:52)

Jesus descends with a shout
(1 Thessalonians 4:16)

A resurrection takes place
(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18,
1 Corinthians 15:51-54)

Can occur at any moment
(the Doctrine of Imminency)
(Revelation 3:3, 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6)

THE SECOND COMING

7 Every eye will see Him (Revelation 1:7)

8 No shout mentioned
(Revelation 19:11-21)

9 No resurrection mentioned
(Revelation 1:7, 19:11-21,
Zechariah 12:10, 14:4-5)

10 Occurs at the end of the 7 years of the
Tribulation (Daniel 9:24-27,
Matthew 24:29-30, 2 Thess. 2:3-8)

THE RAPTURE

No angels are sent to gather but they are present (resurrected people don't need angels to help them)

The souls of those dead in Christ return to heaven with Him to receive their resurrected bodies (1 Thessalonians 4:14-16)

Jesus does not return on a white horse

THE SECOND COMING

11 Angels sent forth to gather people together for judgment (Matthew 13:39, 41, 49, 24:31, 25:31, 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10)

12 Believers return with Jesus in bodies already resurrected & riding white horses (Revelation 19:11-21)

13 Jesus returns on a white horse (Revelation 19:11)

THE RAPTURE

THE SECOND COMING

For the Church only (Jews & Gentiles who are in Christ through new birth)
(1 Thessalonians 4:14-17)

14

For redeemed Israel & Gentiles saved through the Great Tribulation
(Romans 11:25-27, Matthew 25:31-46, Revelation 7:9-10, 14)

A message of **comfort & hope**
(1 Thessalonians 4:18, Titus 2:12, 1 John 3:3)

15

A message of **judgment**
(Joel 3:12-16, Revelation 19:11-21, Malachi 4:5)

Satan will not be locked up (Rev. 13:2)

16

Satan will be locked up (Rev. 20.3)

No signs to indicate when the Rapture is going to take place (2 Peter 3:10)

17

Clear & definite signs will precede the Second Coming (Matthew 24:24)

THE RAPTURE

Jesus comes unexpectedly,
“like a thief in the night” &
“know one knows the day or the hour.”
(Matthew 24:43, Matthew 24:36,
Mark 13:32, 1 Thessalonians 5:2 & 4
2 Peter 3:10, Revelation 16:15)

THE SECOND COMING

“For I tell you, you will not see Me again,
until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord (Baruch haba
b’Shem Adonai).” (Matthew 23:39)
At a time when all the nations are
arrayed against Israel, after 2/3rds of
her population have been lost during
the Tribulation, the Jewish people will
cry out to Jesus as their Messiah & in
response to their cry, He comes to the
battle as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.

Matthew 25:6-9

6. At midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'
7. Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.
8. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'
9. But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.'

Matthew 25:10-13

10. And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with Him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.
 11. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'
 12. But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.'
 13. Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.
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