



**THE
DAY
OF
THE LORD**

SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

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THE PROGRESSIVE UNFOLDING OF REVELATION

1. THROUGHOUT THE O.T. THERE ARE PROMISES OF CHRIST'S COMING (BOTH 1ST AND 2ND ADVENT).
2. THE GOSPELS UNFOLD THE PROMISES AND DEMONSTRATE THAT THE MESSIAH'S COMING WILL INVOLVE TWO COMINGS: HIS BIRTH AND HIS SECOND COMING.
3. THE EPISTLES UNFOLD THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST INTO TWO PHASES: THE RAPTURE AND THE REVELATION.
4. IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION, THE REVELATION PHASE UNFOLDS INTO A SERIES OF EVENTS: SEALS, TRUMPETS, BOWLS, DESCENT TO EARTH, ELIMINATION OF ENEMIES, ETC.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

A. THE RAPTURE DECLARED (THE WHAT).

- JOHN 14:1–3 “LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED; YOU 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 TO MYSELF; THAT WHERE I AM, *THERE* YOU MAY BE ALSO.**

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

A. THE RAPTURE DECLARED (THE WHAT).

- ACTS 1:6 THEREFORE, WHEN THEY HAD COME TOGETHER, THEY ASKED HIM, SAYING, “**LORD, WILL YOU AT THIS TIME RESTORE THE KINGDOM TO ISRAEL?**”
- 1 CORINTHIANS 15:51–52 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 INCORRUPTIBLE, AND **WE SHALL BE CHANGED.**

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

A. THE RAPTURE DECLARED (THE WHAT).

- PHILIPPIANS 3:20–21 FOR OUR CITIZENSHIP IS IN HEAVEN, FROM WHICH WE ALSO EAGERLY WAIT FOR THE SAVIOR, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, ²¹ WHO WILL TRANSFORM OUR LOWLY BODY THAT IT MAY BE CONFORMED TO HIS GLORIOUS BODY, ACCORDING TO THE WORKING BY WHICH HE IS ABLE EVEN TO SUBDUE ALL THINGS TO HIMSELF.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

- 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13–15 BUT I **DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE IGNORANT, BRETHREN**, CONCERNING THOSE WHO HAVE **FALLEN ASLEEP**, LEST YOU SORROW AS OTHERS WHO HAVE NO HOPE.
- ¹⁴ FOR IF WE BELIEVE THAT JESUS DIED AND ROSE AGAIN, EVEN SO **GOD WILL BRING WITH HIM THOSE WHO SLEEP IN JESUS.**
- ¹⁵ FOR THIS WE SAY TO YOU BY THE WORD OF THE LORD, THAT **WE WHO ARE ALIVE AND REMAIN UNTIL THE COMING OF THE LORD** WILL BY NO MEANS PRECEDE THOSE WHO ARE ASLEEP.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

- 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16–18 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.** ¹⁷ THEN WE WHO ARE ALIVE AND REMAIN SHALL BE **CAUGHT UP TOGETHER WITH THEM** IN THE CLOUDS TO MEET THE LORD IN THE AIR. AND THUS WE SHALL ALWAYS BE WITH THE LORD. ¹⁸ THEREFORE COMFORT ONE ANOTHER WITH THESE WORDS.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

- 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13 BUT I **DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE IGNORANT, BRETHREN**, CONCERNING THOSE WHO HAVE **FALLEN ASLEEP**, LEST YOU SORROW AS OTHERS WHO HAVE NO HOPE.

1. THE CONCERN OF THE THESSALONIAN BELIEVERS.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

- 1 THESSALONIANS 4:14-15 FOR IF WE BELIEVE THAT JESUS DIED AND ROSE AGAIN, EVEN SO **GOD WILL BRING WITH HIM THOSE WHO SLEEP IN JESUS.** ¹⁵ FOR THIS WE SAY TO YOU BY THE WORD OF THE LORD, THAT **WE WHO ARE ALIVE AND REMAIN UNTIL THE COMING OF THE LORD** WILL BY NO MEANS PRECEDE THOSE WHO ARE ASLEEP.

2. THE COMFORT GIVEN TO THE BELIEVERS IN THESSALONICA.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

2. THE COMFORT GIVEN TO THE BELIEVERS IN THESSALONICA.

- PHILIPPIANS 1:21–24 FOR TO ME, TO LIVE IS CHRIST, AND **TO DIE IS GAIN.** ²² BUT IF I LIVE ON IN THE FLESH, THIS WILL MEAN FRUIT FROM MY LABOR; YET WHAT I SHALL CHOOSE I CANNOT TELL. ²³ FOR I AM HARD-PRESSED BETWEEN THE TWO, **HAVING A DESIRE TO DEPART AND BE WITH CHRIST, WHICH IS FAR BETTER.** ²⁴ NEVERTHELESS TO REMAIN IN THE FLESH IS MORE NEEDFUL FOR YOU

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

➤ 1 THESSALONIANS 4:15–16 FOR THIS WE SAY TO YOU BY THE WORD OF THE LORD, THAT **WE WHO ARE ALIVE AND REMAIN** UNTIL THE COMING OF THE LORD WILL BY NO MEANS PRECEDE THOSE WHO ARE ASLEEP 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.**

3. THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE BELIEVER - THE "SLEEP IN JESUS," AND THOSE WHO "ARE THE ALIVE AND REMAIN.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

- 1 THESSALONIANS 4:17 THEN **WE** WHO ARE ALIVE *AND* REMAIN **SHALL BE CAUGHT UP TOGETHER WITH THEM** IN THE CLOUDS TO MEET THE LORD IN THE AIR. AND THUS WE SHALL ALWAYS BE WITH THE LORD.

4. THE CLIMACTIC PROMISE FOR THE BELIEVER.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

5. A COMPARISON WORTH NOTING (I.E. PARALLEL TEXT ON DESCRIBING THE RAPTURE).

- 1 CORINTHIANS 15:51–53 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 INCORRUPTIBLE, AND WE SHALL BE CHANGED. ⁵³ FOR THIS CORRUPTIBLE MUST PUT ON INCORRUPTION, AND **THIS MORTAL MUST PUT ON IMMORTALITY.**

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

5. A COMPARISON WORTH NOTING (I.E. PARALLEL TEXT ON DESCRIBING THE RAPTURE).

- 1 CORINTHIANS 15:54–56 SO WHEN THIS CORRUPTIBLE HAS PUT ON INCORRUPTION, AND THIS MORTAL HAS PUT ON IMMORTALITY, THEN SHALL BE BROUGHT TO PASS THE SAYING THAT IS WRITTEN: *“DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY.”*⁵⁵ *“O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING? O HADES, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY?”*⁵⁶ THE STING OF DEATH IS SIN, AND THE STRENGTH OF SIN IS THE LAW.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

B. THE RAPTURE DESCRIBED (THE HOW).

5. A COMPARISON WORTH NOTING (I.E. PARALLEL TEXT ON DESCRIBING THE RAPTURE).

➤ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:57–58 BUT THANKS *BE* TO GOD, WHO GIVES US **THE VICTORY** THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

⁵⁸ **THEREFORE**, MY BELOVED BRETHREN, **BE STEADFAST, IMMOVABLE, ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD**, KNOWING THAT YOUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN IN THE LORD.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

C. THE RAPTURE DETERMINED (THE WHEN).

1. THE PROVISION OF THE PROMISE.

- REVELATION 3:10 BECAUSE YOU HAVE KEPT MY COMMAND TO PERSEVERE, I ALSO WILL KEEP YOU FROM **THE HOUR OF TRIAL** WHICH SHALL COME **UPON THE WHOLE WORLD**, TO TEST **THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE EARTH.**
- JOHN 17:15 I DO NOT **PRAY** THAT YOU SHOULD TAKE THEM OUT OF THE WORLD, BUT **THAT YOU SHOULD KEEP THEM FROM THE EVIL ONE.**

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

C. THE RAPTURE DETERMINED (THE WHEN).

2. THE PROTECTION OF THE PROMISE.

- REVELATION 3:10 BECAUSE YOU HAVE KEPT MY COMMAND TO PERSEVERE, **I ALSO WILL KEEP YOU FROM THE HOUR OF TRIAL** WHICH SHALL COME UPON THE WHOLE WORLD, TO TEST THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE EARTH.
- 1 THESSALONIANS 1:10 (NKJV) AND TO WAIT FOR HIS SON FROM HEAVEN, WHOM HE RAISED FROM THE DEAD, *EVEN* **JESUS WHO DELIVERS US FROM THE WRATH TO COME.**

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

C. THE RAPTURE DETERMINED (THE WHEN).

2. THE PROTECTION OF THE PROMISE.

- REVELATION 3:10 BECAUSE YOU HAVE KEPT MY COMMAND TO PERSEVERE, **I ALSO WILL KEEP YOU FROM THE HOUR OF TRIAL** WHICH SHALL COME UPON THE WHOLE WORLD, TO TEST THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE EARTH.
- 1 THESSALONIANS 5:9 FOR **GOD DID NOT APPOINT US TO WRATH**, BUT TO OBTAIN SALVATION THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

C. THE RAPTURE DETERMINED (THE WHEN).

2. THE PROTECTION OF THE PROMISE.

- 2 THESSALONIANS 2:8–11 AND THEN THE LAWLESS ONE WILL BE REVEALED, WHOM THE LORD WILL CONSUME WITH THE BREATH OF HIS MOUTH AND DESTROY WITH THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS COMING. ⁹ THE COMING OF THE *LAWLESS ONE* IS ACCORDING TO THE WORKING OF SATAN, WITH ALL POWER, SIGNS, AND LYING WONDERS, ¹⁰ AND WITH ALL UNRIGHTEOUS DECEPTION AMONG THOSE WHO PERISH, **BECAUSE THEY DID NOT RECEIVE THE LOVE OF THE TRUTH, THAT THEY MIGHT BE SAVED.** ¹¹ AND FOR THIS REASON **GOD WILL SEND THEM STRONG DELUSION**, THAT THEY SHOULD BELIEVE THE LIE.

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

- TITUS 2:11–13 FOR **THE GRACE OF GOD** THAT BRINGS SALVATION HAS APPEARED TO ALL MEN, ¹² **TEACHING US** THAT, DENYING UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY LUSTS, WE SHOULD LIVE SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY IN THE PRESENT AGE, ¹³ **LOOKING FOR THE BLESSED HOPE AND GLORIOUS APPEARING OF OUR GREAT GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.**



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