

## THE RAPTURE – THE BLESSED HOPE OR THE BLEAK HUNCH?

(The Truths About the Rapture)

### I. DEFINING THE IMPORTANT TERMS

#### A. Key English PROPHETIC Terms.

1. **"Rapture"** – a theological term derived from the Latin describing the church being \_\_\_\_\_ to meet the Lord in the \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Thess. 4:17)
2. The **"Judgment Seat of Christ"** – a biblical term describing the future evaluation of believer's \_\_\_\_\_ in order to determine appropriate \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Cor. 3:11-15)
3. The **"70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel"** – a biblical phrase used to describe a future, \_\_\_\_\_ year period of time designed to accomplish God's purposes with \_\_\_\_\_. (Dan. 9:24-27)
4. The **"Tribulation"** Period – a biblical term referring to a future period of \_\_\_\_\_ years, fulfilling the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel. (Rev. 3:10)
5. The **"Great Tribulation"** – a biblical term referring to a \_\_\_\_\_ period of incredible distress and difficulty on the \_\_\_\_\_. (Matt. 24:21)
6. The **"Millenium"** – a Latin term referring to the \_\_\_\_\_ year future reign of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom upon the \_\_\_\_\_. (Revelation 20:1-7)
7. **"The Day of the Lord"** – this biblical title is a comprehensive term used in both Testaments including the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Tribulation (Joel 3:9-16), the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Millennial reign of Christ (Joel 3:17-21), and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the present cosmos by fire (2 Peter 3:10).

#### B. Key Greek RAPTURE Words.

1. "harpazo" – translated \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Thess. 4:17)
2. "episunagoge" – translated \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Thess. 2:1)
3. "paralambano" – translated \_\_\_\_\_. (John 14:3)
4. "epiphaneia" – translated \_\_\_\_\_. (Titus 2:13)
5. "rhuomai" – translated \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Thess. 1:10)
6. "parousia" – translated \_\_\_\_\_. (James 5:7-8)

### II. DISTINGUISHING THE TWO PHASES OF CHRIST'S SECOND COMING

FIRST PHASE (RAPTURE)	SECOND PHASE (REVELATION)
Christ comes _____ His bride, the church. (1 Thess. 4:16-17)	Christ comes _____ the bride. (Rev. 19:14; 1 Thess. 3:13; Jude 14)
Christ comes in the _____. (1 Thess. 4:17)	Christ returns to the _____. (Zech. 14:4-9)
The _____ follows. (1 Thess. 1:10; Rev. 6-18)	The _____ is established. (Isa. 9:6-7, 11:1-16; Rev. 20:1-6)
Translation is _____. (1 Cor. 1:7; Phil. 3:20, 4:5; 1 Thess. 1:10; Titus 2:13; James 5:7-9; Rev. 3:11, 22:7, 12, 17, 20)	A multitude of _____ precede. (Mt. 24; Lk. 21:25-27)
A message of _____ is given. 1 Thess. 4:18; 2 Thess. 2:1-2)	A message of _____ is given. (2 Thess 1:7, 2:8-12; Rev. 14:14-20, 19:15-21)
The program for the _____ is emphasized. (John 14:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:51-58; 1 Thess. 4:13-18)	The program for _____ and the _____ is emphasized. (Dan. 7:13-14, 18; Mt. 24 & 25; Rom. 11:25-27; Rev. 3:10)

Translation is a _____. (1 Cor. 15:51-52)	Revelation is _____ in both Testaments. (Mal. 4:1-3; Mt. 24:27; 2 Peter 1:16)
_____ are judged. (1 Cor. 3:10-15, 4:5; 2 Cor. 5:10-11; 1 John 2:28; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)	_____ and _____ are judged. (Mt. 25)
Israel's covenants are _____ fulfilled.	All of Israel's covenants _____. (Isa. 66: Zech. 14)
Believers _____ are affected. (John 14:2-3; Rev. 3:10)	_____ people are affected. (Ps. 2:6-9; Micah 4:3; Rev. 1:7)
The church is taken into the Lord's _____. (John 14:1-3; Rev. 3:10)	Israel is brought into the _____. (Acts 1:6; Rom. 11:26-27; Isa. 61)
Identified with the _____. (1 Cor. 1:8; 2 Cor. 1:14; Phil. 1:6, 10)	Identified with the _____. (1 Thess. 5:1-2; 2 Thess. 2:1-12; 2 Peter 3:4-13)

### III. DISCOVERING THE TRUTH OF THE RAPTURE (1 Thess. 4:13-18)

#### A. The PURPOSE of the REVELATION. (4:13)

1. From a **mental standpoint**, Paul wrote this because "*But I do not want you to be \_\_\_\_\_, brethren, concerning those who have fallen \_\_\_\_\_.*"
2. From an **emotional standpoint**, Paul wrote this "*lest you \_\_\_\_\_ as others who have \_\_\_\_\_.*"
3. From a **doctrinal standpoint**, Paul wrote this to explain how a believer's \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ, the \_\_\_\_\_ of the church, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord relate to each other.

#### B. The PRE-REQUISITE and PROMISES Related to the Rapture. (4:14-15)

1. The only pre-requisite for participation in the resurrection/rapture event requires that you \_\_\_\_\_ (one condition) that \_\_\_\_\_ (one object) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (the Gospel).
2. The first promise related to this event is that, "*even so \_\_\_\_\_ those who sleep in Jesus.*"
3. The second promise related to this event is "*that \_\_\_\_\_ who are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ until the coming of the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ those who are asleep.*"

#### C. The PARTICIPANTS and PROCEDURE of the RAPTURE involves:

1. the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 16)
  2. the \_\_\_\_\_ of physically \_\_\_\_\_ believers \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 15, 16)
  3. the \_\_\_\_\_ of physically \_\_\_\_\_ believers in Christ. (vs. 15, 17)
  4. the \_\_\_\_\_ of all church age believers with Jesus Christ. (vs. 17)
- \* How long will this take place?

#### D. The PLACE of the RAPTURE will be \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 17)

#### E. The PRACTICAL APPLICATION related to the Rapture is "*\_\_\_\_\_ one another with \_\_\_\_\_*". (vs. 18)