

## The Rapture Revelation

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:50-52

- 1) Christians are not to live in ignorance concerning the future (4:13-17)
- 2) God has revealed a mystery about the future (1 Cor. 15:50-52)
  - a) Bodies of deceased Christians *sleep* peacefully (13a)
  - b) Spirits of deceased Christians are with the Lord (2 Cor. 5:8)
  - c) God desires His people to live with hope and not grieve (13b)
  - d) Jesus' resurrection means His people will rise after death (14a)
  - e) Jesus will bring the spirits of His deceased people w/ Him at the Rapture (14b)
  - f) Living Christians at the Rapture have no advantage over deceased Christians (15)
  - g) Christ Jesus will appear in the clouds to gather His people (16-17)
    - i) An archangel will shout (cf. Jude 9)
    - ii) A trumpet will sound (cf. 1 Cor 15:52)
    - iii) Deceased Christians are given a glorified body
    - iv) Living Christians ascend to the clouds without dying
  - h) After seven years of tribulation (Rev. 6-18), Christ returns to earth with all His saints and His holy angels (Matt. 24:29-31)
- 3) God's people are comforted knowing the future is in His hands (4:18)
  - a) We are comforted by our salvation
  - b) We are comforted in the midst of a crooked generation
  - c) We are comforted by God's sovereignty