

What is the Rapture of the Saints?

- 1. Christians will be ______. 1 Thess 4:16-17
- 2. Christian will be _______. 1 Cor 15:51-53, Phil 3:20-21

When will the Rapture Happen?

- A. Let's first look at the rapture in reference to Christ's return.
- 1. Pre-trib and the mid-trib say Jesus' return has two aspects separated by a span of years
 - *pre-trib = 7 or more years
 - *mid-trib = 3 1/2 years
- 2. Pre-trib says He comes for His saints at the rapture and He then comes with His saints at the end of the tribulation.
 - *the 1st aspect of His coming for His saints is called His appearing
- *the 2nd aspect of His coming with His saints is called His revelation (He comes in great power and glory)
- 3. The question we must ask is "Does the Scripture indeed teach that there are two aspects to Christ's return or is His return one single event?"
- B. There are three words used in the New Testament to speaks of Christ's return.
- 1. **Parousia** = appearing, coming

Pre-trib says Jesus comes in His *parousia* to rapture His church, take them to heaven and reward them

- (P1) 1 Thess 4:15-18, (P2) 2 Thess 2:8, (P3)1 Thess 3:13, (P4) Matt 24:27-31
- 2. **Apocalypse** = revelation

The Pre-trib says Jesus comes at the end of the Tribulation at His *apocalypse* to judge the wicked— **(A1)** 1 Cor 1:7-9, **(A2)** 2 Thess 1:6-9, **(A3)**1 Peter 4:13, **(A4)** 1 Peter 1:7,

3. *Epiphany* = manifestation

The pre-trib says the *epiphany* of Jesus is after the tribulation and coincides with His revelation. **(E1)** 2 Thess 2:8, **(E2)** 1 Tim 6:14, **(E3)**1 Tim 4:8, **(E4)** Titus 2:13-14

CONCLUSION: THE PAROUSIA, THE APOCALYPSE, AND THE EPIPHANY OF JESUS ARE ONE EVENT THAT TAKES PLACE AFTER THE TRIBULATION.