

The Rapture according to Scripture

For You to Know

The Apostle Paul speaks of those who are "asleep" or dead. Among those who have died he admits that some may be lost, however, he consoles the saints among the living not to sorrow for the saints who have died. For neither the saints who are dead or alive are as the unbeliever who has no hope in the resurrection.

The discussion is exposed because so many thought the resurrection would happen in their lifetime and they were concerned for those who, as the supposed, would have missed the "rapture."

1 Thessalonians 4

¹³ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no [absolutely no] hope.

Ignorant – NT:50 – agnoeo (ag-no-eh'-o); from NT:1 (as a negative particle) and NT:3539; not to know (through lack of information or intelligence); by implication, to ignore (through disinclination):

KJV - (be) ignorant (-ly), not know, not understand, unknown.

asleep

...from – NT:3539 – noeo (no-eh'-o) or noieo (noy-eh'-o); from NT:3563; to exercise the mind (observe), i.e. (figuratively) to comprehend, heed:

KJV - consider, perceive, think, understand.

...from – NT:3563 – nous (nooce); probably from the base of NT:1097; the intellect, i.e. mind (divine or human; in thought, feeling, or will); by implication meaning:

KJV - mind, understanding. Compare NT:5590.

Concerning – NT:4012 – peri (per-ee'); from the base of NT:4008; properly, through (all over), i.e. around; figuratively with respect to; used in various applications, of place, cause or time (with the genitive case denoting the subject or occasion or superlative point; with the accusative case the locality, circuit, matter, circumstance or general period):

KJV - (there-) about, above, against, at, on behalf of, X and his company, which concern, (as) concerning, for, X how it will go with, ([there-, where-]) of, on, over, pertaining (to), for sake, X (e-) state, (as) touching, [where-] by (in), with. In comparative, it retains substantially the same meaning of circuit (around), excess (beyond), or completeness (through).

Asleep – NT:2837 – koimao (koy-mah'-o); from NT:2749; to put to sleep, i.e. (passively or reflexively) to slumber; figuratively, to de cease:

KJV - (be a-, fall a-, fall on) sleep, be dead.

...from – NT:2749 – keimai (ki'-mahee); middle voice of a primary verb; to lie outstretched (literally or figuratively):

KJV - be (appointed, laid up, made, set), lay, lie. Compare NT:5087.

The Rapture according to Scripture

For You to Know (*cont*)

1 Thessalonians 4 (*cont*)

¹³ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no [absolutely no] hope.

Sorrow – NT:3076 – lupeo (loo-peh'-o); from NT:3077; to distress; reflexively or passively, to be sad: KJV - cause grief, grieve, be in heaviness, (be) sorrow (-ful), be (make) sorry.

...from – NT:3077 – lupe (loo'-pay); apparently a primary word; sadness:

KJV - grief, grievous, + grudgingly, heaviness, sorrow.

Others – NT:3062 – loipoy (loy-poy'); masculine plural of a derivative of NT:3007; remaining ones: KJV - other, which remain, remnant, residue, rest.

...from – NT:3007 – leipo (li'-po); a primary verb; to leave, i.e. (intransitively or passively) to fail or be absent: KJV - be destitute (wanting), lack.

Hope – NT:1680 – elpis (el-pece'); from a primary elpo (to anticipate, ususally with pleasure); expectation (abstractly or concretely) or confidence: KJV - faith, hope.

Much confusion about the "Rapture" has prompted this discussion. There are many who say they are looking for the LORD "...to return to rapture the church." Accordingly, those who look for their "rapture" stress that the LORD is coming for the saints! However, the Scriptures do not support such a conclusion. Rather, the Scriptures state that the LORD is coming WITH all the saints!

1 Thessalonians 3

¹³ To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the **coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.**

Zechariah 14

⁵ And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and **the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.**

The Rapture according to Scripture

For those who Believe

Paul then speaks of the LORD's resurrection:

1 Thessalonians 4

¹⁴ For if we **believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so** them also which sleep in Jesus will God [theos –very God - supreme] **bring with Him.**

For – NT:1063 – gar (gar); a primary particle; properly, assigning a reason (used in argument, explanation or intensification; often with other particles):

KJV - and, as, because (that), but, even, for, indeed, no doubt, seeing, then, therefore, verily, what, why, yet.

Believe – NT:4100 – pisteuo (pist-yoo'-o); from NT:4102; to have faith (in, upon, or with respect to, a person or thing), i.e. credit; by implication, to entrust (especially one's spiritual well-being to Christ):

KJV - believe (-r), commit (to trust), put in trust with.

...from – NT:4102 – pistis (pis'-tis); from NT:3982; persuasion, i.e. credence; moral conviction (of religious truth, or the truthfulness of God or a religious teacher), especially reliance upon Christ for salvation; abstractly, constancy in such profession; by extension, the system of religious (Gospel) truth itself:

KJV - assurance, belief, believe, faith, fidelity.

Died – NT:599 – apothnesko (ap-oth-nace'-ko); from NT:575 and NT:2348; to die off (literally or figuratively): KJV - be dead, death, die, lie a-dying, be slain (X with).

Rose – NT:450 – anistemi (an-is'-tay-mee); from NT:303 and NT:2476; to stand up (literal or figurative, transitive or intransitive):

KJV - arise, lift up, raise up (again), rise (again), stand up (-right).

Even so – NT:3779 – houto (hoo'-to); or (before a vowel) houtos (hoo'-toce); adverb from NT:3778; in this way (referring to what precedes or follows):

KJV - after that, after (in) this manner, as, even (so), for all that, like (-wise), no more, on this fashion (-wise), so (in like manner), thus, what.

Sleep – NT:2838 – koimesis (koy'-may-sis); from NT:2837, sleeping, i.e. (by implication) repose: KJV - taking of rest.

...from – NT:2837 – koimao (koy-mah'-o); from NT:2749; to put to sleep, i.e. (passively or reflexively) to slumber; figuratively, to deace:

KJV - (be a-, fall a-, fall on) sleep, be dead.

...from – NT:2749 – keimai (ki'-mahee); middle voice of a primary verb; to lie outstretched (literally or figuratively):

KJV - be (appointed, laid up, made, set), lay, lie. Compare NT:5087.

Bring – NT:71 – ago (ag'-o); a primary verb; properly, to lead; by implication, to bring, drive, (reflexively) go, (specially) pass (time), or (figuratively) induce:

KJV - be, bring (forth), carry, (let) go, keep, lead away, be open.

With – NT:4862 – sun (soon); a primary preposition denoting union; with or together (but much closer than NT:3326 or NT:3844), i.e. by association, companionship, process, resemblance, possession, instrumentality, addition, etc.:

KJV - beside, with. In composition it has similar applications, including completeness.

Jesus did in fact die, but to the Glory of God, He did rise from the dead. This is a rehearsal of that first resurrection that should be realized by all the saints, on the last day. On that last day the dead in Christ shall rise on that day that the Lord comes again.

The Rapture according to Scripture

Occurs on the LAST DAY

The Apostle Paul then explains the order of events surrounding that **Last Day**.

John

³⁸ For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of Him that sent me.

³⁹ And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which He hath given me I should lose nothing, but should **raise it up again at the last day**.

⁴⁰ And this is the will of Him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and **I will raise him up at the last day**.

Occurs in Order

Then Paul tells the church, by the Word of the LORD, that there are those who shall be alive (remnant) on that LAST DAY. However, it is those who are dead that should be resurrected before those who are still standing are "caught up." Both the living and the dead shall be changed on the LAST DAY and united with the LORD. Then, all the saints, glorified, will be with the LORD in the heaven when He comes with all the saints.

1 Thessalonians 4

¹⁵ For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord [kurios-supreme authority, controller], that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not [no not never] prevent [precede] them which are asleep.

Word – NT:3056 – logos (log'-os); from NT:3004; something said (including the thought); by implication a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension, a computation; specifically (with the article in John) the Divine Expression (i.e. Christ):

KJV - account, cause, communication, X concerning, doctrine, fame, X have to do, intent, matter, mouth, preaching, question, reason, + reckon, remove, say (-ing), shew, X speaker, speech, talk, thing, + none of these things move me, tidings, treatise, utterance, word, work.
Remain – NT:4035 – perileipo (per-ee-li'-po); from NT:4012 and NT:3007; to leave all around, i.e. (passively) survive: KJV - remain.

...from – NT:4012 – peri (per-ee'); from the base of NT:4008; properly, through (all over), i.e. around; figuratively with respect to; used in various applications, of place, cause or time (with the genitive case denoting the subject or occasion or superlative point; with the accusative case the locality, circuit, matter, circumstance or general period):

KJV - (there-) about, above, against, at, on behalf of, X and his company, which concern, (as) concerning, for, X how it will go with, ([there-, where-]) of, on, over, pertaining (to), for sake, X (e-) state, (as) touching, [where-] by (in), with. In comparative, it retains substantially the same meaning of circuit (around), excess (beyond), or completeness (through).

...from – NT:3007 – leipo (li'-po); a primary verb; to leave, i.e. (intransitively or passively) to fail or be absent KJV - be destitute (wanting), lack.

The Rapture according to Scripture

Occurs in Order (*cont*)

1 Thessalonians 4 (*cont*)

¹⁵ For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord [kurios-supreme authority, controller], that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not [no not never] prevent [precede] them which are asleep.

Coming – NT:3952 – parousia (par-oo-see'-ah); from the present participle of NT:3918; a being near, i.e. advent (often, return; specifically, of Christ to punish Jerusalem, or finally the wicked); (by implication) physically, aspect: KJV - coming, presence.

Prevent – NT:5348 – pthano (fthan'-o); apparently a primary verb; to be beforehand, i.e. anticipate or precede; by extension, to have arrived at:

KJV - (already) attain, come, prevent.

Asleep – NT:2837 – koimao (koy-mah'-o); from NT:2749; to put to sleep, i.e. (passively or reflexively) to slumber; figuratively, to de cease:

KJV - (be a-, fall a-, fall on) sleep, be dead.

Accordingly, there are two groups of saints that the LORD must deal with in the future. That future event, according to the Word, must happen on the LAST DAY. The saints who have died will be raised from the grave at the close of the Tribulation Period will be changed and be caught up with the LORD.

Occurs After the First Resurrection

1 Thessalonians 4

¹⁶ For [because] the Lord [kurios- supreme authority] himself shall descend from [out of] heaven [abode of God] with a shout, with the voice of the archangel [chief], and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first [first in order]:

Descend – NT:2597 – katabaino (kat-ab-ah'-ee-no); from NT:2596 and the base of NT:939; to descend (literally or figuratively):

KJV - come (get, go, step) down, fall (down).

Shout – NT:2752 – keleusma (kel'-yoos-mah) or keleuma (kel'-yoo-mah); from NT:2753; a cry of incitement: KJV - shout.

...from – NT:2753 – keleuo (kel'-yoo'-o); from a primary kello (to urge on); "hail"; to incite by word, i.e. order: KJV - bid, (at, give) command (-ment).

Trump – NT:4536 – salpigx (sal'-pinx); perhaps from NT:4535 (through the idea of quavering or reverberation): KJV - a trumpet:

...form – NT:4535 – salos (sal'-os); probably from the base of NT:4525; a vibration, i.e. (specifically) billow: KJV - wave.

And – NT:2532 – kai (kahee); apparently, a primary particle, having a copulative and sometimes also a cumulative force; and, also, even, so then, too, etc.; often used in connection (or composition) with other particles or small words:

KJV - and, also, both, but, even, for, if, or, so, that, then, therefore, when, yet.

Dead – NT:3498 – nekros (nek-ros'); from an apparently primary nekus (a corpse); dead (literally or figuratively; also as noun): KJV - dead.

Rise – NT:450 – anistemi (an-is'-tay-mee); from NT:303 and NT:2476; to stand up (literal or figurative, transitive or intransitive):

KJV - arise, lift up, raise up (again), rise (again), stand up (-right).

The Rapture according to Scripture

For the 144,000 remnant who are Jacob's direct descendants

Then Paul writes that those are the living saints, who are the 144000 that are the remnant of Jacob, shall be changed also in the twinkling of the eye. They, too, shall be caught up together with the other saints into the heaven.

When Paul says so shall we ever be it is because we shall have received the remainder of the "redemption" promised by the LORD for which He made His earnest deposit of His own Spirit in us.

1 Thessalonians 4

¹⁷ Then we which are **alive and remain** [remnant] shall be **caught up together with** them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and **so shall we ever be with the Lord**.

Then – NT:1899 – epeita (ep'-i-tah); from NT:1909 and NT:1534; thereafter:

KJV - after that (-ward), then. Implies a succession...

Remain – NT:4035 – perileipo (per-ee-li'-po); from NT:4012 and NT:3007; to leave all around, i.e. (passively) survive: KJV - remain.

...from – NT:4012 – peri (per-ee'); from the base of NT:4008; properly, through (all over), i.e. around; figuratively with respect to; used in various applications, of place, cause or time (with the genitive case denoting the subject or occasion or superlative point; with the accusative case the locality, circuit, matter, circumstance or general period):

KJV - (there-) about, above, against, at, on behalf of, X and his company, which concern, (as) concerning, for, X how it will go with, ([there-, where-] of, on, over, pertaining (to), for sake, X (e-) state, (as) touching, [where-] by (in), with. In comparative, it retains substantially the same meaning of circuit (around), excess (beyond), or completeness (through).

...from – NT:3007 – leipo (li'-po); a primary verb; to leave, i.e. (intransitively or passively) to fail or be absent: KJV - be destitute (wanting), lack.

Caught up – **RAPTURE** – NT:726 – **harpazo** (har-pad'-zo); from a derivative of NT:138; to seize (in various applications): KJV - catch (away, up), pluck, pull, take (by force).

...from – NT:138 – haireomai (hahee-reh'-om-ahee); probably akin to NT:142; to take for oneself, i.e. to prefer:

KJV - choose. Some of the forms are borrowed from a cognate hellomai (hel'-lom-ahee); which is otherwise obsolete.

...from – NT:142 – airo (ah'-ee-ro); a primary root; to lift up; by implication, to take up or away; figuratively, to raise (the voice), keep in suspense (the mind), specially, to sail away (i.e. weigh anchor); by Hebraism [compare NT:5375] to expiate sin:

KJV - away with, bear (up), carry, lift up, loose, make to doubt, put away, remove, take (away, up).

Together – NT:260 – hama (ham'-ah); a primary particle; properly, at the "same" time, but freely used as a preposition or adverb denoting close association:

KJV - also, and, together, with (-al).

The Rapture according to Scripture

1 Thessalonians 4

¹⁷ Then we which are **alive and remain** [remnant] shall be **caught up together with** them in the clouds, to **meet** the Lord in the air: and **so shall we ever be with the Lord**.

With – NT:4862 – sun (soon); a primary preposition denoting union; with or together (but much closer than NT:3326 or NT:3844), i.e. by association, companionship, process, resemblance, possession, instrumentality, addition, etc.:

KJV - beside, with. In composition it has similar applications, including completeness.

Meet – NT:529 – antesis (ap-an'-tay-sis); from NT:528; a (friendly) encounter:KJV-meet.

So – NT:3779 – houto (hoo'-to); or (before a vowel) houtos (hoo'-toce); adverb from NT:3778; in this way (referring to what precedes or follows):

KJV - after that, after (in) this manner, as, even (so), for all that, like (-wise), no more, on this fashion (-wise), so (in like manner), thus, what.

Shall we ever – NT:3842 – ntote (pan'-tot-eh); from NT:3956 and NT:3753; every when, i.e. at all times: KJV - alway (-s), ever (-more).

1 Thessalonians 4

¹⁸ Wherefore **comfort one another** with these words.

Comfort – NT:3870 – parakaleo (par-ak-al-eh'-o); from NT:3844 and NT:2564; to call near, i.e. invite, invoke (by imploration, hortation or consolation):

KJV - beseech, call for, (be of good) comfort, desire, (give) exhort (-ation), intreat, pray.

1 Thessalonians 3

¹³ To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at **the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints**.

Zechariah 14

⁵ And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and **the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee**.

Jude 1

¹⁴ And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, **the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints**,

Revelation 20

⁵ But the rest of the dead [unbelievers to be raised in second resurrection] **lived not again** until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Revelation 20

⁶ Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the **second death hath no power**, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall **reign with him a thousand years**.

The Rapture according to Scripture

1 Thessalonians 4 (*cont*)

¹⁸ Wherefore **comfort one another** with these words.

John 11

²⁴ Martha saith unto him, I know that **he shall rise again in the resurrection** at the last day.

Romans 6

⁵ For if we have been **planted together in the likeness of his death**, we shall be also **in the likeness of his resurrection**:

The Rapture according to Scripture

The YOU KNOW is before the Tribulation

1 Thessalonians 5

¹ But [moreover] of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. Times – NT:5550 – chronos (khron'-os); of uncertain derivation; a space of time (in general, and thus properly distinguished from NT:2540, which designates a fixed or special occasion; and from NT:165, which denotes a particular period) or interval; by extension, an individual opportunity; by implication, delay:

KJV - + years old, season, space, (X often-) time (-s), (a) while.

Seasons – NT:2540 – kairos (kahee'-ros'); of uncertain affinity; an occasion, i.e. set or proper time:

KJV - X always, opportunity, (convenient, due) season, (due, short, while) time, a while.

1 Thessalonians 5

¹ But [moreover] of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

² For [by reason] **yourselves know perfectly** that the **day of the Lord** so [in this way] cometh as [in the manner of] a **thief in the night**.

Know – NT:1492 – eido (i'-do); a primary verb; used only in certain past tenses, the others being borrowed from the equivalent NT:3700 and NT:3708; properly, to see (literally or figuratively); by implication (in the perf. only) to know:

KJV - be aware, behold, X can (+not tell), consider, (have) know (-ledge), look (on), perceive, see, be sure, tell, understand, wish, wot. Compare NT:3700.

...from – NT:3700 – optanomai (op-tan'-om-ahee); a (middle voice) prolonged form of the primary (middle voice) optomai (op'-tom-ahee); which is used for it in certain tenses; and both as alternate of NT:3708; to gaze (i.e. with wide-open eyes, as at something remarkable; and thus differing from NT:991, which denotes simply voluntary observation; and from NT:1492, which expresses merely mechanical, passive or casual vision; while NT:2300, and still more emphatically its intensive NT:2334, signifies an earnest but more continued inspection; and NT:4648 a watching from a distance):

KJV - appear, look, see, shewself.

Perfectly – NT:199 – akribos (ak-ree-boce'); adverb from the same as NT:196; exactly:

KJV - circumspectly, diligently, perfect (-ly).

...from – NT:196 – akribestatos (ak-ree-bes'-ta-tos); superlative of akribes (a derivative of the same as NT:206); most exact: KJV - most straitest.

Day – NT:2250 – hemera (hay-mer'-ah); feminine (with NT:5610 implied) of a derivative of hemai (to sit; akin to the base of NT:1476) meaning tame, i.e. gentle; day, i.e. (literally) the time space between dawn and dark, or the whole NT:24 hours (but several days were usually reckoned by the Jews as inclusive of the parts of both extremes); figuratively, a period (always defined more or less clearly by the context):

KJV - age, + alway, (mid-) day (by day, [-ly]), + for ever, judgment, (day) time, while, years.

Thief – NT:2812 – kleptes (klep'-tace); from NT:2813; a stealer (literally or figuratively):

KJV - thief. Compare NT:3027.

...from – NT:2813 – klepto (klep'-to); a primary verb; to filch: KJV - steal.

The Rapture according to Scripture

Other References:

2 Peter 3

¹⁰ But the **day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night**; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Matthew 24

⁴³ But know this, **that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched**, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.

Luke 12

³⁹ And this know, that if the **goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched**, and not have suffered his house to be broken through.

Revelation 3

³ Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, **I will come on thee as a thief**, and thou shalt **not know what hour I will come upon thee**.

Revelation 16

¹⁵ Behold, **I come as a thief**. Blessed is he that **watcheth**, and **keepeth** his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

The Rapture according to Scripture

Christ, "You Know" comes for the Church

1 Thes 5:1-11

We know because God told us we know. Therefore You Know and have no need that I write unto you. In the words of Paul I, too write that "You Know" and I should not have to tell you what God has evidenced in His Word. However, in the interest of edifying all who read the Scriptures, I write what God has written in your heart. The Jesus I know, the Jesus you know will return for the church and remove them from the world with two exceptions. The generation of the Jews which shall not pass, the remnant, will remain for the duration of the tribulation and only two will remain to witness in the world. The two witnesses are the only other, two, who walk in along side of the 144,000 Jews. So just what have they witnessed that is so important that they will enter into the Tribulation? They are two who have seen the Lord Jesus Christ and believe upon Him and who have eternal life and will teach and preach the gospel of Jesus Christ unto the Jews and the world. 144,000 Jews will hear and will see God!

Now, just what did happen to all of the other believers? You know!

The day of the Lord is that day, when as a thief, He comes in unannounced for His Church. Note that He comes in unannounced, but not uninvited. For Jesus Christ in the heart of the believer, is that He is always invited into our house. Note, too, that Jesus Christ is not coming in to remove the body. The resurrection is not to come until the last trump is sounded. When that trump is sounded, the angel will pronounce the entrance of the Lord God. Not until the LAST DAY will the bodies of the saints be exhumed from the grave aa glorified body! So shall we ever be with the LORD! AMEN