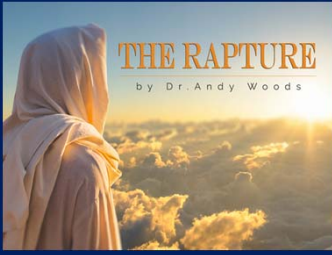



THE RAPTURE
What and When? – Part 1




Dr. Andy Woods
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President – Chafer Theological Seminary



1

What is the Rapture?

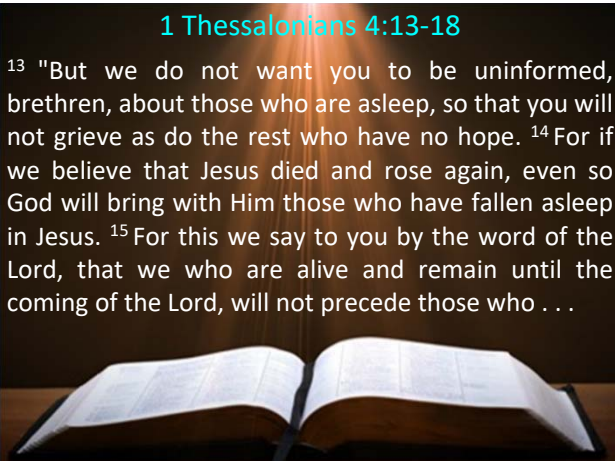


1. An important doctrine
2. Distinct from the Second Advent
3. Catching away of all living believers (1 Thess 4:17)
4. Reunion (1 Thess 4:14-16)
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10. Traditional doctrine now being recovered

2

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

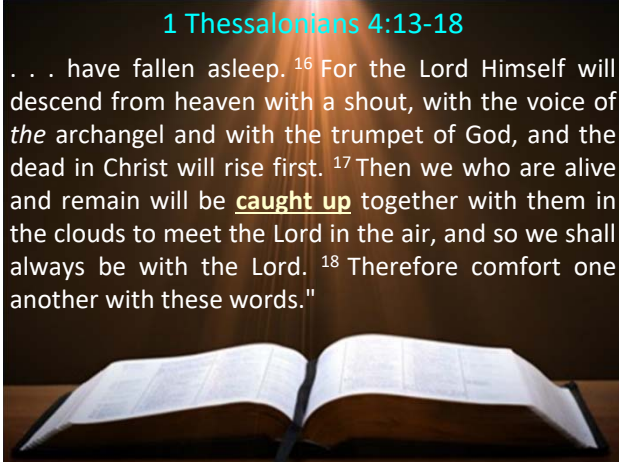
¹³ "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. ¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who . . .



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An Important Doctrine



- Thessalonians were new believers (1 Thess 1:9)
- Rapture (1 Thess 1:10) mentioned along with the Holy Spirit (1 Thess 1:5) and conversion (1 Thess 1:9)
- Rapture (1 Thess 4:13-18) mentioned along with sanctification (1 Thess 4:3, 18; 5:23)

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Rapture Distinct from Second Advent	
RAPTURE <small>(1 Thess 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:51-58)</small>	SECOND COMING <small>(Rev 19:11-16)</small>
Christ comes in the air (1 Thess 4:16-17)	Christ comes to the earth (Zech 14:4)
For His saints (1 Thess 4:15-17)	With His saints (Rev 19:14)
Blessing (1 Thess 4:18)	Judgment (Rev 19:15)
Effects only believers (1 Thess 4:16)	Effects both believers & unbelievers (Rev 19:15)

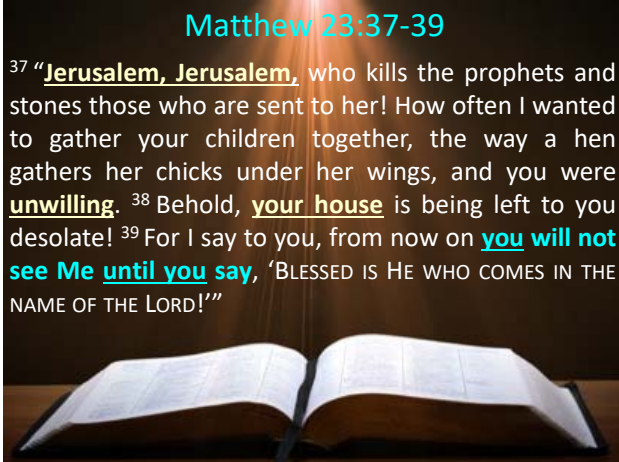
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Rapture Distinct from Second Advent	
RAPTURE <small>(1 Thess 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:51-58)</small>	SECOND COMING <small>(Rev 19:11-16)</small>
Invisible (1 Thess 4:16)	Visible to all (Rev 1:7)
Announced only by an archangel (1 Thess 4:16)	Involves myriads of angels (Jude 14)
Resurrection (1 Cor 15: 51)	No resurrection
Rescue of the Church (1 Thess 1:10)	Rescue of Israel (Matt 23:37-39)

9

Matthew 23:37-39

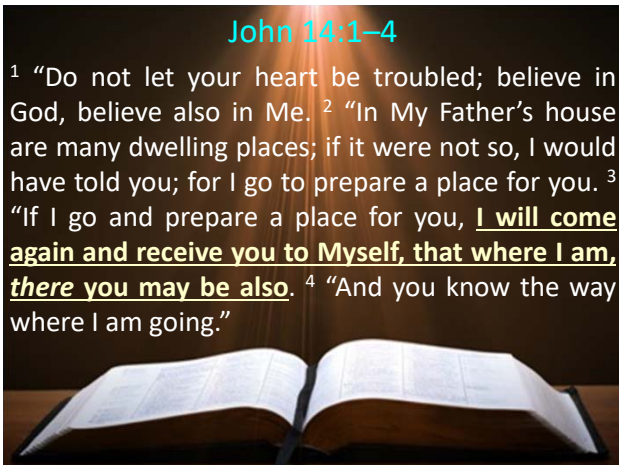
³⁷ “**Jerusalem, Jerusalem**, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were **unwilling**. ³⁸ Behold, **your house** is being left to you desolate! ³⁹ For I say to you, from now on **you will not see Me until you say**, ‘BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’”




10

John 14:1–4

¹ “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. ² “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. ³ “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**. ⁴ “And you know the way where I am going.”



11




Different Truth

“But here in John 14 the Lord gives a new and unique revelation; He speaks of something which no prophet had promised, or even could promise. Where is it written that this Messiah would come and instead of gathering His saints into an earthly Jerusalem, would take them to the Father’s house, to the very place where He is? It is something new.”

Arno C. Gaebelien, *The Gospel of John*, 268.

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Catching Away of All Living Believers
(1 Thess 4:17)



- *Harpazo* = seized or caught up by force
- *Harpazo* (Greek) = *rapere* (Latin) = rapture (English)

15

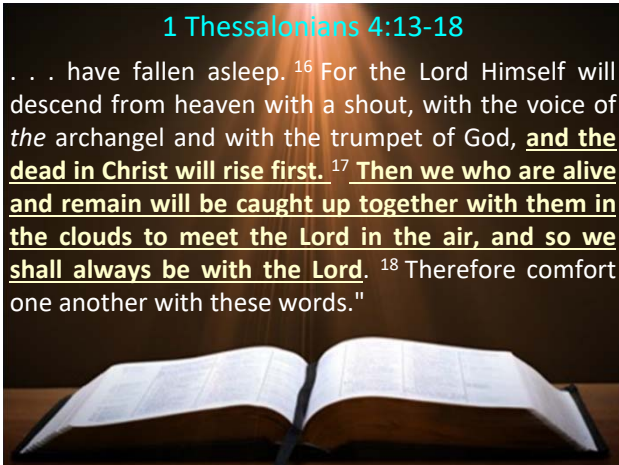
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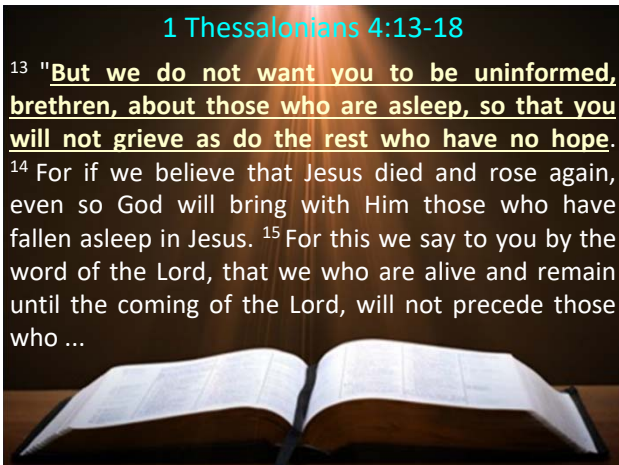


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Reunion
(1 Thess 4:14-16)



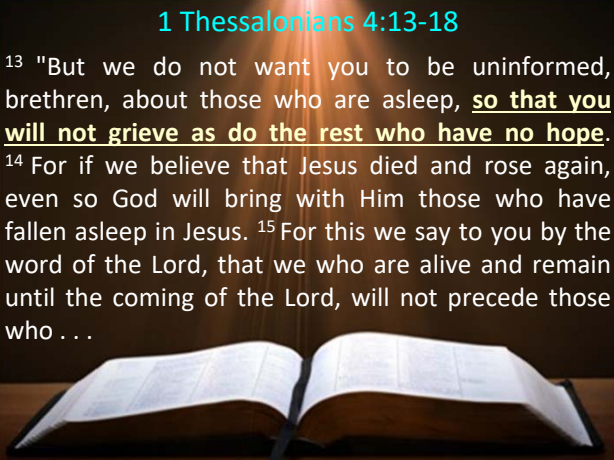
- Thessalonians' concern (1 Thess 4:13)
- Dead "in Christ" (Christians) resurrected first
- Alive "in Christ" (Christians) resurrected second
- Both deceased and living Christians are taken to be with the Lord
- Do not grieve as the world grieves (1 Thess 4:13)
- Be comforted (1 Thess 4:18)

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Conclusion

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