

5

The Rapture Christ Will Be Leading Us In Our Exodus From Bondage



It Begins With the Rapture

People keep trying to say there is no rapture. But the Bible is chock full of reassurance this does indeed happen. Here are some examples:

- God Comes Right Out and States It In Plain Words – Clearly and Simply. Revelation 3:7-13 In the letter to the Church of Philadelphia, the beloved church: “I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name...I have loved you. Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, **I WILL KEEP YOU FROM THE HOUR OF TRIAL THAT IS GOING TO COME ON THE WHOLE WORLD TO TEST THOSE WHO LIVE ON THE EARTH.**”

The next verse is among last days and tribulation prophecies.

- “Tell the righteous it will be well with them, for they will enjoy the fruit of their deeds. For God did NOT appoint us to suffer wrath.”
- Come, my people, go into your new bodies, and shut the doors behind you (in the New City of Jerusalem). Hide yourself as if it were for a little moment, until the indignation (Tribulation) is over. The LORD comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their sins...

- I tell you, on that night, two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other left.



- Two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken the other left.



- For in the day of trouble (tribulation) He will keep me safe in his dwelling.
- From Psalms: Help, Lord, for the godly are no more; the faithful have vanished from among men.



- For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God...After

that, we who are still alive and are left will be “caught up” together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.

The previous verse is the origin of the term “Rapture”. Unbelievers argue the word rapture doesn’t appear in the Bible. But it is only a matter of translation. “Caught up” was translated into the Greek as Harpazo. Then it was translated into the Latin as Rapiemur, Rapio, Raptus, from which we derived the English word Rapture. [The Latin word for "shall be caught up" is "**rapiemur**". The Latin dictionary says the root for the Latin word "**rapiemur**" is "rapio" which means "to seize, snatch, tear away; to hurry along a person or thing".]

At 1st, the above verse seems to be referring to the 2nd Coming. But there are two trumpets. One is the 7th Trumpet of an angel and is a WOE. This trumpet is a JOYOUS CALL from God and is heard only by God’s chosen church. (Pastor Smith)

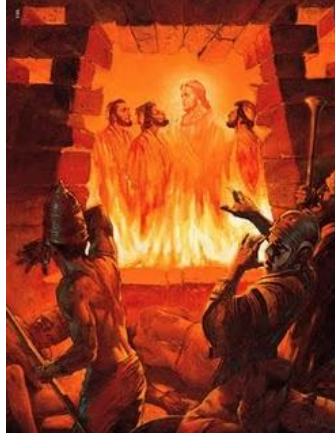


At the 2nd Coming, Jesus feet will touch down on the earth on the Mount of Olives. But at the Rapture, He stays in the air and we meet Him in the air.



- It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when He comes...If the owner of the house (satan) (Adam signed over the title deed) had known at what hour the swat rescue team (Jesus) was coming, he would not have let his house (the earth) be broken into (for the rapture).

- In the book of Daniel, in chapter 3, there is a story about the 3 Hebrews being thrown into the fiery furnace: **Daniel represents the raptured church being mysteriously away**. The fiery furnace represents the tribulation. Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego represent those saved out of the tribulation. They still have to go through the tribulation, but Christ comes and walks through the flames with them.



- “They will make war against Jesus, but Jesus will overcome them because He is Lord of Lords and King of Kings. And with Him will be His called, chosen and faithful followers.” In order for us to be “with Him”, we must 1st be gathered “to Him”.
- In Revelation, when John **first arrives** in Heaven, he sees 7 lampstands, representing the **churches**. John then watches as the slain lamb (Jesus) opens the 7 seals of the scroll. Each one of those seal openings ushers in a new tribulation event. The lampstands (**ALL 7** Churches) are there in Heaven already, before the seals are opened. They are safely resting near Jesus, not suffering during the tribulation.



- And you shall be Holy to me; for I, the Lord, am Holy, and have separated you from other people, that you should be mine. (Like Truckers)
- Ambassadors (Apostles) are always called home **before** a disaster breaks out.
- There are at least 4 people who have experienced a rapture in the Bible, so a precedent has been set.
 1. Enoch was the 1st and simply disappeared - a type of the Bride of Christ (He walked with God and did not have to experience death). The flood was the first “type” foretelling the tribulation. There were 3 groups involved in the flood/tribulation.
 - a. those that *perished in* the flood/tribulation
 - b. those that were *preserved through* the flood/tribulation (in the Ark)
 - c. those (only Enoch/the Bride) that were *mysteriously removed prior to the judgment of the flood/tribulation*
 2. Elijah “went up” in a fiery chariot
 3. Paul was “caught up” to the 3rd heaven
 4. Jesus was “taken up”
- Flesh and Blood cannot inherit the Kingdom, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable...there must be a transition (from human bodies to (Christ-like) whatever-we-are-going-to-be bodies).



Elijah

For a 12-part video on the rapture by Chuck Missler follow the next link. He lists 10 reasons why the Rapture happens before the Tribulation. He references a source that gives 50 reasons.

<http://www.christiantruckersnetwork.com/chuck-missler/chuck-missler.htm>

Do not fear being “taken up”. It will be like almost falling asleep while driving.



There will be a little grogginess. Your head will nod. You will snap yourself alert to the awareness of being in a different place.

Don't be pulled back by the world like Lot's wife, who was turned into a pillar of salt when she looked back at the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Pray God will cause your friends and families to look ahead to YOUR path and want to FOLLOW YOU.

God wants a personal, voluntary, loving relationship with you. He has been courting the world. God will not force you.

“No thanks” is not one of the choices. You are going to belong to one or the other; God or the Devil. You must choose.

God wants genuine love. **That is what everything is about.** The greatest Commandment is to Love the Lord your God with all your, heart, mind, body and soul. God has gone through everything He has put Himself through because those “who are forgiven much, love much”.

Seek His face (pursue Him to get to know Him) and learn about Him. He promises you will find Him if you will look for Him. Choose for yourselves, **THIS DAY**, whom you will serve. Invite God's spirit into your life and being today.