

WELCOME TO GOD'S BEAUTIFUL ALTERNATIVE

If you've had enough of the heartache, hardship, and hatred of a world at war with God, and you're ready to absolutely THRIVE in the life-giving, eternity-changing calling your Designer has designed you to fulfill, then you are right where God wants you to be! We are a community of sincere people imperfectly pursuing God's absolute best for ourselves and everyone around us. That means if there is anything we can do to help you take your next step in following Christ and discovering His calling on your one and only life, we are right next to you at whatever cost. If you've got questions, or want to speak to a pastor, or would like to ask for prayer, grab that pen you got with this handout and fill out one of those CONNECT CARDS and drop it in the basket on your way out. Other than that, we sincerely hope you have an incredible morning marked by a life-changing encounter with the risen and reigning King Jesus Christ.

EVERYONE WANTS TO BUILD SOMETHING GREAT

The problem is finding the right opportunity. Fortunately, we've got a gaggle of life-changing, eternity-shaping options for you. When you serve with One Missoula Church, you help other people rise to become all that God made them to be. If you're eager to lock arms to change eternity and make the world a better place, let us know via the serving categories on the Connect Card in today's handout.

COMMUNITY LIKE NO OTHER

God never intended us to live life flying solo. At One Missoula Church we know we are better together, so we are beginning to build incredible groups for community, encouragement, and strengthening. While serving alongside others is an easy way to build friendships (see above), we highly recommend joining a bi-weekly life group or a Discovery Bible Study depending on where you are on your journey with God. Just let us know about your interest on the connect card and we'll get in touch to get you squared away.

WOMEN OF ONE MAKE & MINGLE SIGN PAINTING

Join the ladies of IMSO on November 10 at 6:30 pm as we partner with Pine & Company for a fun sign-making event! Registration closes November 3rd, so if this sounds like your cup of tea, let us know via the Connect Card in the handout or by emailing info@onemissoulachurch.com. We will send you a registration link where you will be invited to our private party and will get to pick and pay for a sign of your choosing. We will also email you directions to the event. We can't wait to see you then!

BEARDED BLADES AXE-OFF

Gentlemen, it's time to channel that flannel! In honor of no-shave November, we will meet up at Lookout Throwing Company to hurl some hatchets from 7-9pm on November 30th. While there, the few, the hairy, the bearded will compete in a variety of categories for beard awards and bragging rights (you're welcome, ladies.) We will see what the men of IMSO are made of, both in their flourishing follicles as well as their axe-throwing accuracy. Can't grow a competition-grade beard? No worries! You're still in for a grand ole' evening of moderately safe masculinity. Judging categories in this unforgettable evening of testosterone, will be "ZZ Top Meets Their Match", "Goat of Grandeur", "Most likely to get randomly searched by the TSA", "Strongest 'Stache", and more. Be sure to mark it on your calendars and watch for further details as the end of November draws near.



WEEK 7: RAPTURE OR RESURRECTION?

October 31, 2021

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 - *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.* ¹⁴ *For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.* ¹⁵ *For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.* ¹⁶ *For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.* ¹⁷ *Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet [apantēsis] the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.* ¹⁸ *Therefore encourage one another with these words.*

Are there other examples of this "going-out-to-meet" custom in Scripture?

Example 1: Parable of the virgins meeting the Bridegroom

Matthew 25:1, 6, 10 - *"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet [hyphantēsis] the bridegroom....* ⁶ *But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet [apantēsis] him.' ...* ¹⁰ *And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.*

Example 2: Jesus's Triumphal Entry in John 12:13

John 12:12-13 - *The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.* ¹³ *So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet [hyphantēsis] him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!"*

Example 3: Paul's reception into Rome in Acts 28:15

Acts 28:14b-15 - *And so we came to Rome.* ¹⁵ *And the brothers there, when they heard about us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet [apantēsis] us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage.*

Tragically, well-meaning modern Christians have been taught to twist 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 to say that Jesus only comes halfway back in a SECRET "rapture" to remove the church before a FUTURE tribulation

Problem 1: There is not a single text ANYWHERE in the Bible that supports the Rapture theory

Matthew 24:36-42 - *"But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.* ³⁷ *For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.* ³⁸ *For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.* ⁴⁰ *Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left.* ⁴¹ *Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left.* ⁴² *Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming."*

Problem 2: You would have to force unbiblical theology on to 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:3 to find tribulation there because that passage talks about a state of PEACE

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3 - Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you.² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.³ While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

Problem 3: The Bible positively says the Great Tribulation of Matthew 24:21 was an event in the FIRST CENTURY, not the FUTURE

Matthew 24:34 - Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. (Referring to the Great Tribulation in Matthew 24:21)

Revelation 1:9 - I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Problem 4: There's nothing SECRET about Jesus' Coming in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

1 Thessalonians 4:16 - For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

1 Corinthians 15:51-57 - Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."⁵⁵ "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

CONCLUSION: Every Christian's hope is RESURRECTION, not rapture! Loyal believers will be resurrected and given eternal life when Jesus returns in victory

Romans 2:6-8 - He will render to each one according to his works:⁷ to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life;⁸ but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.

DECISION POINT: Jesus Christ is a risen and reigning victorious King who is successfully advancing His Kingdom of life, beauty, truth, love, justice, and mercy NOW! If you choose to reject creation's SUICIDAL REBELLION against The Creator and join His SUCCESSFUL RESTORATION, you will be given mercy, love, and eternal life that you can never earn.

Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."



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