

# The Coming of the Lord

## Part 4

Part 1 & 2:

### **1 Thessalonians 4**

16 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, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 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.

### **1 Corinthians 15**

51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— 52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

These Biblical accounts tell us that there will be a Rapture or time when the saints who are alive on the earth we will be caught up together with the saints who have fallen asleep or proceeded in death, and will be changed and we will meet Jesus in the clouds.

At the Rapture it is important to understand Jesus doesn't set foot on the earth. That doesn't happen until the beginning of Christ's 1000 year reign on the earth, after the Tribulation period.

In the beginning of the book of Revelation John is on the Isle of Patmos and he is in the Spirit on the Lord's Day.

1. He has a Revelation of Jesus
2. Jesus speaks to him to write to the Seven Churches in Chapter 2 & 3
3. In Chapter 4 John is taken up into heaven and he has a Revelation of things to come. These things haven't happened yet, he is having a Vision of what is yet to come. What he see's in the Spirit will one day be a reality. His experience is a foreshadowing of what is to come and it begins like this;

## **Revelation 4 - John is taken up and sees the Throne of God**

1 After this I looked, and **there before me was a door standing open in heaven.** And the **voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet** said, “**Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.**”

2 **At once I was in the Spirit**, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it.

John transcends earth and is immediately taken up into the presence of God... He says...

1. There before me was a door standing open in heaven... Can I tell you Jesus is the open door to Heaven... *John 10:9*
2. He heard the voice of Jesus like a trumpet... there will be a Trumpet Call of God... *1 Thessalonians 4:17*
3. The voice said, Come up here, and I will show you what must take place... will be caught up together to meet the Lord in the clouds... *Thessalonians 4:17*
4. **At once I was in the Spirit** - Immediately he is changed and see's in the Spirit.

What John experienced in Revelation 4 is a spiritual foreshadowing of a Rapture experience.

From this point John sees earth and from Heaven's perspective:

He see's The Lamb who is worthy to take the Scroll

He see's The Opening of the Seven Seals

He see's The Blowing of the Seven Trumpets

He see's The Seven Bowls of God's Wrath poured out on the Earth

All these things John Experiences from Heaven's view point...

---

## Comfort One Another

### 1 Thessalonians 5

Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, 2 for you know very well that **the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.** 3 While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. 9 **For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.** 10 He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. 11 **Therefore encourage (comfort) one another and build each other up,** just as in fact you are doing.

- When the Apostle Paul writes this letter, the believers in Thessalonica are less than a year old in their Christian walk. Even though they are new believers the Apostle sees it fitting to teach them about the coming of the Lord.
- He Gives them this instruction **“Therefore encourage (comfort) one another”**

**Question;** If you believed that the Tribulation period was coming before the rapture, a time described as *“great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again.”* Matt 24:21

**Would that be encouraging or comforting to you?**

That’s why **Vs. 9** says

**For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.** 10 He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.

---

**For God did not appoint us to wrath**

- It's important to not mistaken God's Wrath with his correction, or chastisement. His Wrath is all together different and it is never directed to his Children but rather to a rebellious, ungodly generation who rejects his Mercy and Grace.

**Wrath:** Greek Lexicon; like that of fruit when it swells with juice; anger, indignation, vengeance, agitation of the soul.

The Bible says from Revelation 6 through Revelation 18 God's Wrath will be poured out on a world that has rejected what Jesus did for us on the cross.

**Jesus bore God's wrath for us on the Cross...**

### **Isaiah 53**

4

Surely he took up our pain  
and bore our suffering,  
yet we considered him punished by God,  
stricken by him, and afflicted.

— — —

10

Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer,  
and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin,  
he will see his offspring and prolong his days,  
and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

11

After he has suffered,  
he will see the light of life and be satisfied;  
by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many,

### **Romans 5:9**

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

### **John 3**

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but

whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

— — —

36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them.

### **1 Thessalonians 1:10**

...wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

**The coming wrath of God is not for the believer...  
Let your hearts not be troubled...**

### **John 14**

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And 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.

## **A Jewish Marriage in a Traditional Biblical Custom**

It is a foreshadowing and example of Christ and His Church

According to Jewish Custom:

### **Groom and Bride**

1. The Jewish Father would pick a bride for his son.
2. The Father of the Groom would pay a dowry to the Brides father to purchase her for his son.
3. At the purchase an official contract was signed, committing the young man and young woman to a betrothal.
4. Then the Bride and Groom would not see each other for an undetermined amount of time.
5. During the time of waiting the bride would make her dress with the materials given to her by the father of the groom.
6. Meanwhile the Groom would begin working to prepare quarters usually as a kind of add on to his fathers home.

7. Only the Grooms father knew the exact day that he would send his son back to get his bride. Then the Father would blow a trumpet to announce the time had come. The party of the groom would also join the groom on his way to get his bride blowing trumpets. It was a trumpet blowing event.
8. The Groom would then take his bride and they would go to private chambers for not 6 or 8 days but 7 days. They would be alone and unbothered by the rest of the world.
9. At the end of the 7 days the Bride and Groom would come out of their quarters and would celebrate at the Marriage Supper. This is where they would be see and it would be a huge celebration.

### **Christ and the Church:**

1. **The Father picks a bride** - No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

**John 6:44 - You are picked by the Father**

2 & 3. **The Father pays a dowry, contract was signed** - And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession

**Ephesians 1:13,14**

4. **They are separated for an undetermined amount of time** - Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.

**1 Peter 1:8**

5. **The Bride would make her dress with the materials given to her by the father of the groom** - His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and virtue. **2 Peter 1:3**

6. **Groom would begin working to prepare quarters** - Jesus said in **John 14** "I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself"

7. **Only the Grooms father knew the exact day - Mark 13:32** “But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”

8. **The Groom would then take his bride and they would go to private chambers for 7 days.** - The seven days that a groom would be alone with his bride is a parallel to not seven days but seven years that we will be united with Christ in Heaven. During this time when the Church is removed from the earth God's wrath will be poured out on the earth in 7 years of tribulation.

9. **At the end of the 7 days there is a Marriage Supper** - The Marriage Supper of the Lamb is found in Revelation 19:6-9 and is after the seven year tribulation on the earth. What follows this is Christ's Millennial Reign on the earth for 1000 years.

Friends we have a lot to look forward to and this is just the beginning...

Closing:

For God did not appoint us to wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

He died for us so whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.

Therefore comfort one another and build each other up

Let not your heart be troubled... I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And 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.

Jesus is coming back for His Church...