

Rapture References

DON'T BE IGNORANT

- Don't be ignorant about God's plan for Israel (Romans 11:25).
- Don't be ignorant about spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1).
- Don't be ignorant about suffering and trials in the Christian life (2 Corinthians 1:8).
- Don't be ignorant about the rapture and the second coming of Jesus (1 Thessalonians 4:13).
- Paul assumed his readers were not ignorant of "Satan's devices"/spiritual Warfare (2 Corinthians 2:11)

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"Caught Up" = harpazō(ἁρπάζω), to seize or snatch away. (Where we get harpoon from.)

-Latin Vulgate says rapiemur meaning "we will be caught up," from the base verb rapio (where we get "rapid" from and the sword the rapier.)

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Matthew 11:12 — "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent **take it by force.**

John 10:12 — "But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf **catches** the sheep and scatters them.

Acts 8:39 — Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord **caught Philip away.** so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

2 Corinthians 12:2 — I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was **caught up** to the third heaven.

Revelation 12:5 — She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was **caught up** to God and His throne.

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Meet = apantēsis(ἀπάντησις), to meet (4x)

2x in Matthew 25 where the virgins go out to meet with Bridegroom and then follow Him to the wedding and the door was shut.

1x in Acts 28:15 where brethren appear to meet Paul on his way to Rome and then go separate ways.

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Timelining the Rapture

- Jesus will snatch away the Church (1 Thess 4:17)
- When the Church is snatched away, our bodies will be transformed into our resurrection bodies. (1 Cor 15:50-58)
- Jesus will return at the end of the Tribulation (Rev 19:11-21)
- Jesus will return WITH the Church. (Jude 14-15, Rev 19:7-8 + 14, Col 3:4, 1 Thess 2:19, 3:13)
- Angels will come with Jesus during His Second Coming too. (Mt 25:31)
- After the Second Coming, all nations will be gathered before Jesus and He will separate the sheep (believers) from the goats (unbelievers) (Mt 25:32)
- Jesus promised to receive us, to be with Him, in the place He was leaving to go and prepare. (Jn 14:3)
- There is a future 7 year period of tribulation coming to the earth. (Daniel 7:25, 9:27, Revelation 11)
- The Tribulation is a period of God's wrath being poured out on the world. (Rev 6:16)
- God has not appointed the Church to wrath (Rom 5:9, Rev 5:9)
- God has promised to deliver us (completely remove us from) that time of wrath (Lk 21:36, 1 Thess 1:10, Rev 3:10)
- The snatching away of the Church will happen at a time of monotony of life. (Lk 17:26-30 + 34-36, Mt 24:36-44)
- No one knows when the snatching away will take place. (Mt 24:36)
- The Second Coming will take place after a series of identifiable events, with exact times given (Rev 11-19)
- During the Great Tribulation, all unbelievers will take the Mark of the Beast, and all believers will need to go into hiding to escape being beheaded. (Rev 13, 20:4)
- When the snatching away happens, believers and unbelievers will be in close fellowship (Lk 17:34-36)

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John 14:2-3 — “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. “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive [paralambano] you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

Matthew 24:40 — “Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken [paralambano] and the other left.

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KEY POINTS TO A PRE TRIBULATIONAL RAPTURE

- 1) We are promised that we can avoid the tribulation (Lk 21:36, 1 Thess 1:10, Rev 3:10)

- 2) A Post Tribulational rapture would leave no sheep for the separation of the sheep and the goats (Mt 25)
- 3) Only a pre tribulational rapture can be imminent and during peacetime (Mt 24:36, 1 Thess 5:3)
- 4) Believers & unbelievers cohabitating during the rapture only makes sense before (or early in) the tribulation. (Lk 17:34-36)
- 5) God hasn't appointed us to wrath, but the tribulation is a time of God's wrath. (Rom 5:9, 1 Thess 5:9)
- 6) Revelation just makes more sense...