

1-2 Thessalonians: Today and Tomorrow

“I’ll Fly Away, Oh Glory...”

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

The rapture stirs debate among theologians about sequences and events, but Christ’s return is as certain as God Himself. Jesus will come. He will rule. He will be glorified. Knowing this should produce two things in the believer: a life lived in obedience to God and courage in the world.

C.S. Lewis once remarked, “It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this.” The return of Jesus energizes believers for consistency and endurance.

1. The Rapture’s Comfort (4:13-18)

Powerful Promise (4:13, 14)

Priority Position (4:15)

Personal Presence (4:16-18)

2. The Rapture’s Context (5:1-3)

Divine Secret (5:1)

Deluded Society (5:2, 3)

3. The Rapture’s Contrast (5:4-11)

Traits of Darkness (5:4, 7)

Traits of Light (5:5, 6, 8-11)