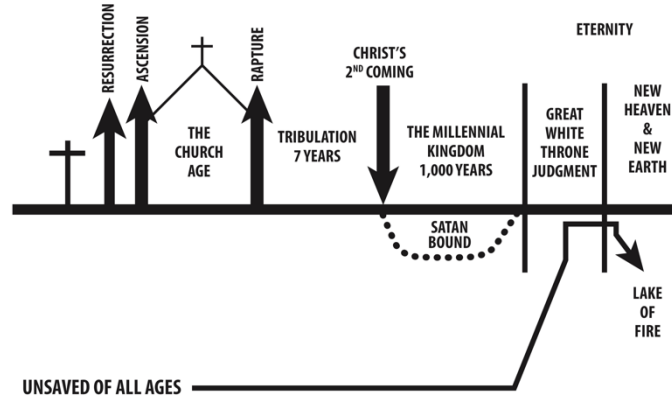


# A Pre-tribulation Rapture



1 Thessalonians 4:16-18: For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus, we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

English: caught up

Greek: Harpazo

Latin: Rapturo

- Carry off by force
- Snatched away
- To rescue from the danger of destruction

The Rapture is a distinct, separate event from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus at the end of the Tribulation!

## Rapture

1. The church meets Jesus in the air.
2. The church will be taken home to heaven by Jesus.
3. Jesus will come for His saints.
4. Only believers will see Jesus.

### A Pre-tribulation Rapture

#### 1. The Words of Jesus

Luke 17:34: I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed: the one will be taken and the other will be left.

Luke 17:35-36: Two women will be grinding together: the one will be taken and the other left. Two men will be in the field: the one will be taken and the other left.

In context, the one that is left is the one that is facing judgment of God like the days of Noah and Lot!

Luke 21:36: Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things (coming horrors) that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.

Revelation 3:10: Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

## 2. The Imminent Return of Jesus

Jesus can return at any moment for His church!

**Matthew 24:44:** Therefore, you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

**Matthew 25:13:** Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour the Son of Man is coming.

**Mark 13:32-37:** But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming - in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning - lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!

**Titus 2:11-13:** For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

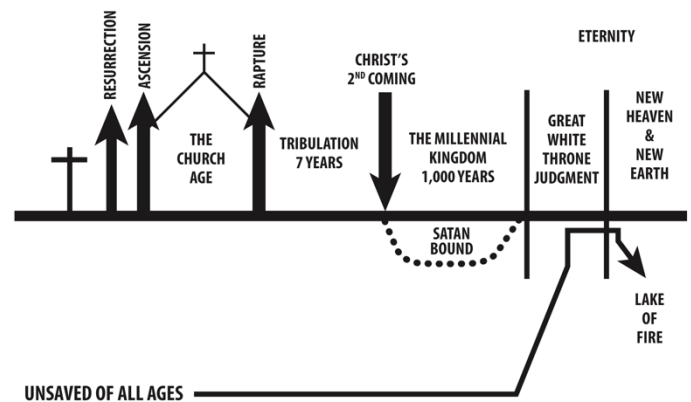
Philippians 3:20-21: For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

Hebrews 9:27-28: And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

James 5:8-9: You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand (very near). Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!

2 Peter 3:9: The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

The New Testament church clearly lived in expectation that Jesus' coming again was imminent - at any moment!



### 3. The Wrath of God

- Revelation 6:17: The great day of His wrath has come...
- 11:18: The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come...
- 14:19: ... the great winepress of the wrath of God
- 15:1: ...the wrath of God is complete
- 16:1: Go and pour the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth
- 19:15: He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God

1 Thessalonians 1:9-10: How you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers (rescues) us from the wrath to come.

1 Thessalonians 5:9: For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

### 4. The Book of Revelation

Revelation 1            The Revelation of Jesus in all His Glory

Revelation 2-3        The Church Age

Revelation 4            The Church Caught Up to Heaven

Revelation 4:1: After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven and the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, Come up here!

Revelation 5            The Church in Heaven

Revelation 5:9: They sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy ... For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation."

Revelation 6            The Antichrist on a White Horse

Revelation 6-19        The Wrath Almighty God then the 2nd Coming

Revelation 20          The 1000 Year Reign of Jesus and Great White Throne Judgment

Revelation 21-22     The New Heaven and New Earth

Revelation 5:9: They sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy ... For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation."

1 John 2:28: And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.