



The Rapture
Dr. Jeremy McGarity

I. THE RAPTURE IS...

1 INSTANTANEOUS

I'm telling you a mystery. Not all of us will die, but we will all be changed. It will happen in an instant, in a split second at the sound of the last trumpet.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-52 (GW)

2 PAINLESS

This body that decays must be changed into a body that cannot decay. This mortal body must be changed into a body that will live forever.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:53 (GW)

3 ANTICIPATED

He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.

ECCLESIASTES 3:11 (NLT)

...we will be caught up together... to meet the Lord in the air... So encourage each other with these words.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:17-18 (NLT)

II. THE RAPTURE'S PURPOSE

1 To spare CHRISTIANS from the TRIBULATION

But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-52 (NLT)

2 To lead NON-CHRISTIANS to JESUS (Revelation 7:9-16)

These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

REVELATION 7:14 (NIV)

III. WHEN WILL THE RAPTURE OCCUR?

1 There will be no WARNING

Jesus said, "Look, I will come as unexpectedly as a thief! Blessed are all who are watching for me..."

REVELATION 16:15 (NLT)

2 **B E F O R E** the Tribulation

And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation.

ROMANS 5:9 (NLT)

*So now there is **no** condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.*

ROMANS 8:1 (NLT)

IV. CONFIDENCE IN THE RAPTURE

1 The Tribulation is about God's **W R A T H** (Revelation 6-18)

Then I heard a mighty voice from the Temple say to the seven angels, "Go your ways and pour out on the earth the seven bowls containing God's wrath."

REVELATION 16:1 (NLT)

2 The missing word from Revelation 6-18 is: **C H U R C H**

Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth.

REVELATION 3:10 (NIV)

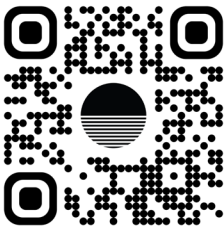


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SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1 How does the idea of the rapture impact our understanding of end times and the return of Jesus Christ?
- 2 What are some practical ways we can prepare ourselves spiritually for the possibility of the rapture or the end times, regardless of our specific beliefs about its timing?
- 3 In 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18, Paul describes the event of believers being caught up to meet the Lord in the air. What does this passage teach us about the rapture, and what are its implications for our faith and hope?
- 4 How should the belief in the rapture influence our daily lives and interactions with others, and what role does it play in our motivation to share the gospel and live out our faith?



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Upcoming Events

- 10.07 | Random Acts of Kindness
- 10.08 | Blood Drive at Rancho Classic Praise
- 10.20 | Legacy Grandparenting Summit
- 10.31 | Trunk or Treat
- 11.03 | Mission Trip to San Quintín