



KINSTON FIRST  
PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH

# MESSAGE REWIND

SERMON NOTES & STUDY GUIDE

*Reflect. Discuss. Apply.*

## Bible Study: The Rapture of the Church

Date: Wednesday, September 3rd

I just returned from a school field trip to the Atlantic Ocean with my son. The ocean was beautiful. It was calm like glass while also knowing the week before a hurricane was right off the coast causing huge waves. One night we went to the beach to learn about sea turtles. The moon hung bright over the water and the sky was full of stars. I was still thinking in my mind a week earlier the surf was rough and dangerous. Seasons change, and creation signals it. In the same way, God uses His created lights to signal times and seasons so that we live ready for the return of Jesus.

## Bible Study Rewind:

### 1) God's Sky Signs Are For Order, Not Fortune Telling

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:14

**Truth:** God set the sun, moon, and stars to mark days, years, and seasons. They are God's clock and calendar.

**Application:** Treat the heavens as reminders to trust the Word. Reject superstition and lean on Scripture.

### 2) Astronomy Is Study. Astrology Is Evil.

**Scripture:** Deuteronomy 18:9-14; Isaiah 47:12-14

**Truth:** Observing creation is good. Seeking guidance from stars, horoscopes, tarot, and fortune tellers is forbidden.

**Application:** Clean house. Remove horoscope habits and occult content. Ask the Holy Spirit for discernment and a love for truth.

### 3) Three Heavens And Our True Home

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 12:2 to 4; Philippians 1:23

**Truth:** The Bible speaks of the sky above, the heavens of space, and the third heaven where God dwells. Believers will be with the Lord by death or by the rapture.

**Application:** Set your mind on things above. Plan for eternity. Let heaven shape your choices on earth.

### 4) Stay Inside God's Guardrails

**Scripture:** Deuteronomy 29:29; 2 Timothy 3:16-17

**Truth:** God reveals what we need and keeps some things hidden. Scripture is the guardrail from Genesis to Revelation.

**Application:** When opinions and timelines get loud online, return to the text. Let Scripture interpret Scripture.

### 5) God's Calendar And The Seven Feasts

**Scripture:** Leviticus 23; 1 Corinthians 15:20; Acts 2:1-4

**Truth:**

- Spring feasts fulfilled in Christ: Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits, Pentecost.
- Fall feasts still prophetic: Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Tabernacles.

Application: Use the feasts to teach the gospel to your family. Let God's calendar stir hope and holiness.

### 6) Imminence Over Date Setting

**Scripture:** Matthew 24:36-44; Luke 12:35-40; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

**Truth:** Some see a picture of the rapture in the Feast of Trumpets, yet no one knows the day or hour. The Bible teaches imminence. Jesus can

come at any time.  
**Application:** Live packed and ready. Repent quickly. Keep short accounts. Do not chase dates. Pursue obedience.

## 7) The Rapture Defined And Located In Scripture

**Scripture:** 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18; John 14:1-3  
**Truth:** The Greek word *harpazo* means caught up. The Latin *rapturo* gives us the English word rapture. Jesus will descend, the dead in Christ will rise, and living believers will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air.  
**Illustration:** Airport reunion. A family waits at the gate with joy and expectation. Jesus is coming to receive His bride.  
**Application:** Comfort one another with this hope. Encourage the grieving. Share the gospel with those not ready.

## 8) Doers Of The Word While We Wait

**Scripture:** James 1:22; Titus 2:11-13; 1 John 3:2-3  
**Truth:** Hope that looks for Jesus also purifies our lives. Waiting is not idle. It is holy, active, and obedient.  
**Illustration:** Salt that never leaves the shaker cannot season anything. The church must go beyond the walls.  
**Application:** Serve, give, and witness. Let your readiness show in daily choices, speech, and love.

## 9) Bless What God Blesses

**Scripture:** Genesis 12:1-3; Psalm 122:6  
**Truth:** God is not a respecter of persons, but He honors His principles. Blessing Israel is a biblical principle.  
**Application:** Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Stand against antisemitism. Support biblical outreach to and through Israel.

## 10) Accountability At The Judgment Seat Of Christ

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 14:10-12  
**Truth:** We will give account for what we did with what we knew.  
**Application:** Use what you have learned. Share it with others. Let urgency shape your schedule this week.

## 11) The Door Is Open Now

**Scripture:** John 10:9; Genesis 7:16; Revelation 4:1  
**Truth:** Jesus is the door of salvation. In Noah’s day God shut the door of the ark. Those inside were saved. Those outside perished.  
**Application:** Enter by faith in Jesus today. Lead your family to the door. Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people.

## Rewind and Reflect: Discussion Questions:

- What practical steps help you stay spiritually alert every day?
- In what ways can our hope in Christ’s return make us more holy?
- How does the doctrine of imminence challenge procrastination in our spiritual lives?
- What does it mean for you personally to “be a doer of the word” while waiting for Christ’s return?

## Prayer Focus:

- Pray for boldness to share the hope of Christ’s return with friends, neighbors, and coworkers.
- Pray for discernment to stay within the guardrails of Scripture and not be distracted by false teachings or date setting.
- Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to empower believers to live holy and serve faithfully until Jesus comes.

## Memory Verse:

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.” **1 Thessalonians 4:16–17**

## Key Takeaway:

The signs in the heavens remind us that Jesus is coming soon. We do not know the day or hour, but we do know the season. God calls us to live holy, watchful, and ready, encouraging one another with the hope of the rapture and faithfully sharing the gospel until He comes.