

Session #3 - The Rapture

Pastor Tim Miller
First Baptist Church of Roxana

Biblical Prophecy Conference
January 7, 2022

I. WHAT THE RAPTURE IS (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:51-58)

- a. Is 'rapture' a word found in most English translations of the Bible?
- b. The word rapture translates the Greek word _____.
 - i. This verb occurs _____ times in the New Testament.
 - ii. Some examples - Matt 11:12; 12:29; 13:19; John 6:15; 10:12; 10:28, 29; Acts 8:39; 2 Cor 12:2, 4; Rev 12:5
- c. The word rapture derives from the Latin word _____.
- d. Three observations about the form of *harpazo* in 1 Thess 4:17 -
 - i. First Person _____ - Demonstrates imminence
 - ii. _____ Tense – Demonstrates it has not happened yet
 - iii. _____ voice – Demonstrates divine accomplishment
- e. The problem Paul is addressing in 1 Thess 4:13-18 -
- f. The rapture is part of the Christian's _____.
- g. The rapture was a _____ in the Old Testament.
- h. Does the rapture describe a universal resurrection of all people? _____
- i. According to 1 Cor 15:52, how are the dead raised? _____
- j. According to 1 Cor 15:52, how quickly are living believers changed?
- k. Will any genuine believer be left behind? _____

II. WHEN THE RAPTURE IS

- a. Is the timing of the rapture stated explicitly in the New Testament? _____
- b. The main two rapture positions -
_____ -tribulationalism and _____ -tribulationalism

- c. The goal of THIS sermon is to attempt to convince you of ____-tribulationalism.
- d. Observations from 1 Thessalonians 4

- e. Observations from 1 Thessalonians
 - i. 1:10 –
 - ii. 2:19 –
 - iii. 3:13 -
 - iv. 5:9 -

- f. Observations from John 14:1-3
 - i. Parallels with 1 Thess 4:13-18 (adapted from J.B. Smith, Thomas Ice, and Richard Mayhue)
 - 1. 1 Thess 4:13 - Sorrow and Grief / John 14:1 - Troubled
 - 2. 1 Thess 4:14 - Faith in Christ and God / John 14:1 – Faith in God and Christ
 - 3. 1 Thess 4:15 – by the word of the Lord / John 14:2 – “I would have told you”
 - 4. 1 Thess 4:15 – the coming of the Lord / John 14:3 – “I will come again”
 - 5. 1 Thess 4:17 – the church caught up in the air / John 14:3 – Christ receives to Himself
 - 6. 1 Thess 4:17 – ever to be with the Lord / John 14:3 - where He is
 - ii. The destination of Christ and His own in John 14:3 is **heaven / earth**

- g. Observations from Second Coming Passages (e.g. Matt 24-25)
 - i. Differences between the rapture and 2nd Coming (adapted from Thomas Ice and Richard Mayhue)
 - 1. Rapture – Believers are transformed / 2nd Coming – no transformation
 - 2. Rapture – All believers taken to heaven / 2nd Coming – These return to earth
 - 3. Rapture – No Judgment / 2nd Coming – Lots of judgment
 - 4. Rapture – Imminent / 2nd Coming – Preceded by many signs
 - 5. Rapture – Mystery in OT / 2nd Coming – Spoken of many places in OT
 - 6. Rapture – For believers only / 2nd Coming – Affects all people
 - 7. Rapture – No reference to Satan / 2nd Coming – Satan bound

8. Rapture – Christ comes for His own / 2nd Coming – Christ comes with His own
 9. Rapture – Christ comes in the air / 2nd Coming – Christ comes to earth
 10. Rapture – Tribulation follows / 2nd Coming – Millennial Kingdom follows
- ii. Is the rapture mentioned in the most detailed passages concerning the 2nd Coming?
 - iii. Does Matt 24:40-41 describe the rapture?
 - iv. Why does the sheep/goats judgment in Matt 25 only work with a pretribulational rapture?

h. Observations from Revelation 3:10-12

i. Observations from Revelation 19-20

III. APPLICATION – (1 John 2:28-3:3)AA