



The Rapture

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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- **Ignorant**: The Greek word is: **agnoéō**: to not know or to not understand: there are a few things that we should not be ignorant about...according to God's word.
- **Spiritual gifts**: **1 Cor 12:1** Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

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1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- Satan's tricks and tactics: **2 Cor 2:11** Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.
- The mystery that Israel will eventually be saved
Romans 11:25-26
- And here those who have died in Jesus Christ **1 Thessalonians 4:13**

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Them which are asleep

- Paul is talking about those who belong to Jesus and have died;
- koimáō: to lay down to die; to be dead...Paul is not teaching soul sleep; the Bible does not teach that and has never taught that.
- The Bible does not teach that the soul sleeps at the time of death. The rich man and Lazarus were both conscious in death Luke 16:19-12

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Them which are asleep

- **The reason** the word sleep is used is that when the body is laid to rest it looks like that body is sleeping: even our word Cemetery comes from the Greek word: koimētērion: means: sleeping place or resting place. That's why we use the term; final resting place...
- What is the basis of our hope that we will see our friends and loved ones again ? In faith we believe that Jesus died and rose again: and that when he returns he will bring all our loved ones with him....

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Direct revelation from the Lord God

- Here Paul assures any who question what he's saying: that he is giving exactly what the Lord has told him: He is saying he received this by direct revelation from the Lord God: meaning he is giving God's answer to their questions; fears and doubts.
- **Take note**: The Apostle Paul clearly believed that he could be alive when the Lord Jesus comes back to take his church:

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The Doctrine of Immanency

- Paul believed that the rapture of the church was **imminent**: about to happen at any moment; the idea of looming over your head.
- In the church we have what we call the **Doctrine of Immanency**: the return of Jesus Christ for his church will take place any moment now; soon; looming over our heads at this moment

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The Doctrine of Immanency

- **Matt 24:42-44** Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. ⁴³ But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. ⁴⁴ Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.
- **Matt 25:13** Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

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The Doctrine of Immanency

- **Mark 13:32-36** But of that day and *that* hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. ³³ Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. ³⁴ *For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.* ³⁵ Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock crowing, or in the morning: ³⁶ Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. ³⁷ And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

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The Doctrine of Immanency

- **Rev. 22:7** Behold, I come quickly: blessed *is* he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.
- **Rev 22:12-13** And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. ¹³ I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.
- **Rev 22:20** He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus

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The Lord Jesus Christ Himself

- Will descend from Heaven with a shout. He's not sending anybody else to do the job: we are his body; his church; his bride: Jesus will come and get us just as he promised. John 14
- The voice of the archangel: The language seems to suggest that Jesus Christ's return for His saints will be announced from heaven forcefully with the shout

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The Lord Jesus Christ Himself

- And with the trump of God: the trump of God is the same as the last trumpet referred to in **1 Cor 15: 52** In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

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The Lord Jesus Christ Himself

- This so called last trumpet is for the church and has to do with resurrection and rapture of the church.
- Now many argue 1 Thes. 4:16 proves the rapture doesn't happen until the 7th trumpet...the last trumpet is sounded in **Rev. 11:15-18**
- And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. ¹⁶ And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,



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The Lord Jesus Christ Himself

But notice this: so that you're not confused by the arguments...

The last trumpet in **1 Thes.** has to do with the resurrection and the rapture of the church....the 7th trumpet; the last trumpet in **Rev. 11** signals the final judgment poured out from heaven on the earth during the tribulation period. They are two distinctly different things.

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rapiemur cum illis

- We which are alive and remain will be caught up:
- The Latin past participle *raptus*, from the verb *rapere*. Jerome's exact wording in the Latin Vulgate is "rapiemur cum illis" (we shall be raptured with them).
- Rapiemur: to violently seize; snatch away; catch away suddenly.



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rapiemur cum illis

- Harpazo: to violently seize; snatch away; catch away suddenly.
- So in the Latin, the Greek and in English: the word means the exact thing.

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We shall all be changed

- 1Cor 15:51-53 Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality