

**Jesus Reveals the Future, Part 1**  
**“Come Up Here” - An Open Door In Heaven**  
Revelation 4:1 – 04/17/2016  
**NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP**  
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## **“Come Up Here” - An Open Door In Heaven**

**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, and I will show you things which must take place AFTER THIS.”** (OPEN DOOR Policy?)

**Let’s Analyze this verse:**

**AFTER THESE Things** ... **AFTER THIS** → Jesus, thru John, already revealed to us the **Time Divisions** within this book (i.e. the Book (or scroll) of Revelation)

Jesus told John in Rev. 1:19: **Write the things which you HAVE SEEN, and the things which ARE, and the things which will take place AFTER THIS.**

**Things Which you Have Seen** → Acts 2 thru the time in which John wrote Revelation. (Ephesus)

**Things Which ARE** → **The Church Age** from John’s time until the end of the LAODICEAN Period (i.e. The rest of the Church Age / The Gospel Age – Smyrna thru Laodicea)

**Things Which will take place AFTER THIS** → Matches with **Rev. 4:1** – After These Things ... After the “Church Age” is over . . . → Ends with the Rapture

So, **Revelation 4:1** relates to what takes place **During and AFTER the Rapture Event** ... seen from Heaven’s Vantage Point ... it is if we are viewing the rest of the Book from the Balcony in the Theater.

**AFTER THIS** → what **“THIS”** → **The Church AGE** ... God is **DONE** working with the Church.

This is the last time the word for **“CHURCH”** is used in the Book of Revelation.

God will begin to work with **Israel** to fulfill His Remaining Promises to them from Revelation 7 onward. It is **Israeli-Centric** from that point forward. The Battle of God, using Israel to Defeat Babel/Babylon.

**A Tale of Two Cities from Genesis 10, onward ... Babel/Babylon – AND – Jerusalem.**

The last set of 7 years remaining (the 70<sup>th</sup> “week” of years) – 69 have been accomplished (see Daniel 9:24-27) – that last 7 years corresponds perfectly with the Great Tribulation (a 7 year period) ending with Jesus coming back (Rev. 19 & 20) and ruling over Israel for 1000 years (also see Zechariah 14).

**[Controversial] Biblical Doctrine: The Rapture Takes Place Before the Great Tribulation Starts:**

Based upon the Plain Reading of Scripture, **these** take place in the following **order**:

1. **The Church Age** (Revelation 1 thru 3)
2. **The Rapture Event** (Revelation 4:1; 1 Cor. 15:51-58; 1 Thess. 4:13 – 5:11 → **Trumpets?**)  
The Rapture Corresponds to the Feast Day of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah / Yom Teruah)  
The Feast Day of Trumpets happens **After** Pentecost (i.e. represents the Church Age) and **BEFORE** the Day of Atonement (i.e. represents Israel within The Great Tribulation)  
Thus, the Rapture must take place **after** the church age, but **before** the Great Tribulation
3. **The Great Tribulation** (Revelation 6 thru 19)
4. **The Millennium** (1000 years of Christ’s Reign on Earth on David’s Throne in Jerusalem)  
Revelation 20:1-10 – compare with Zechariah 14, Isaiah 65:17-25, Ezekiel chptrs 40-48

**Which concept or idea brings you more COMFORT and joy?**

1. You will have to **go through** the Great Tribulation and then during the middle or at the end of the Great Tribulation you will be Raptured ... only if you are **not** beheaded or otherwise killed by the Beast’s Minions ... you will be Raptured (read this, now: **Rev. 14:12-13**)
2. The Rapture is **BEFORE** the Great Tribulation (Rev. 3:10-11; **4:1**; 1 Thess. 4:13-18)

Let's just read the following verses ... and let God answer these two questions, Himself.

**Titus 2:13** - looking forward to the **BLESSED HOPE** and **GLORIOUS APPEARING** of our **Great God and Savior Jesus Christ** ... (are you **eagerly longing** for Him? Is HE your HOPE?)

**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. (also see **1 John 3:1-3** → "... when we see Him we will be like Him . . .")

**1 Corinthians 15:51-53**: Behold, I tell you a **MYSTERY**: We shall **NOT** all sleep, but we shall all be changed - <sup>52</sup>in **A MOMENT**, in the **TWINKLING OF AN EYE**, at the last **TRUMPET**. For the **TRUMPET** will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup>For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. (is this **TRUTH Comforting** to you?)

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11** – (see the PowerPoint and/or Read along in your Bible)

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. (1 Thess. 4:16-17)

→ Notice 4:18 → Therefore **COMFORT** one another with these words ...

→ Notice 5:11 → Therefore **COMFORT** each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

**1 Thess. 4:13-18** is definitely focused on the **RAPTURE EVENT**, Clearly, Plain Reading

**1 Thess. 5:1-10** is focused on the **DAY of the LORD** (i.e. **The Great Tribulation**)

Notice how the **Day of the LORD** should **NOT** overtake Christians (children of the **LIGHT**) as a Thief in the Night (remember Sardis? Jesus **COMES UPON THEM** as a **Thief**)

Thus, the **DAY of the LORD** doesn't apply to Genuine Born Again **Christians**

**1 Thess. 5:9-10** → For God **did not** appoint us to **wrath**, but to obtain salvation through our **LORD Jesus Christ**, who died for us, that whether we are awake or asleep, we should live **together with Him** (ref.: 1 Thess. 4:13-18)

**Revelation 3:10** (Jesus speaking to the church of Philadelphia): 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**. (i.e. The Great Tribulation – as seen in Revelation chptrs 6 thru 19).

The phrase in the Greek text for "**KEEP YOU FROM**" is **τηρησω εκ** - which literally means "**shall BE KEEPING [YOU] OUT OF**", which does **NOT** imply being kept in or being kept through.

**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, and I will show you things which must take place AFTER THIS.**"

Which church was given **KEYS** and an **OPEN DOOR**? How does that Relate to the **OPEN DOOR** in Heaven in Rev. 4:1? Does having an **Open Door Policy** with Jesus relate to an **Open Door** for us into Heaven? (think of **Laodicea** - did they have an **Open Door** policy with Jesus?

Think of the 5 foolish/lazy virgins in **Matt. 25** – was the door open or shut to them?)

SO ... Are you looking forward to **Going through** the Tribulation?

→ Or are you looking forward to Being with Jesus Christ, **BEFORE** the Great Tribulation?

**End-Times Prophecy, Properly Understood, should ALWAYS Bring the Genuinely Born Again Christians** → **COMFORT** and **JOY**.