

Welcome to the Worship Celebration of



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

*Paul's Letter to the
Church at Thessalonica*



I Thessalonians

Church As She Should Be (part 9)

What About The Rapture? Part 1

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

06/03/2018

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the LORD, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the LORD will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be CAUGHT UP together with them in the clouds to meet the LORD in the air. And thus we shall always be with the LORD. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.



















THE RAPTURE
5/21/11
repent!





I come QUICKLY

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1 Thessalonians 4:13-15 – Let's Unpack it ...

“But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

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The Rapture – Sequence of Events of this Event – FACTS

1. Christ comes down out of Heaven **with those** who have already died in Christ – **in the past** (prior to this event)
2. Christ comes down out of Heaven with those who have already died in Christ – **to get those who are still here alive** – in Christ
We all meet together in the sky (clouds) and then ... caught up

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 – Those who have “fallen asleep” in Christ When a Born Again, Christian dies, where are they?

**“So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the LORD. ⁷ For we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the LORD.
⁹ Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. ¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”**

Christ comes down out of Heaven WITH those who have already died in Christ – in the past (prior to this event) - Thus they are already there with Christ in heaven, awaiting this event. Those alive cannot/will not precede those who have died already prior.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 – Let's Unpack it ...

“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**. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be **CAUGHT UP** together with them in the clouds to meet the **LORD** in the air. And thus we shall always be with the **LORD**. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

RISE First – or **RISE** – is **NOT** referring to those dead in Christ, rising from the Grave as if they haven't been in heaven (i.e.: *soul sleep*). This is referring to **receiving our New Bodies** ... It is an event in which we are caught up together with those that preceded us – and **all of us** receive our **Glorified Bodies** at the same time – **RISE** → Spirit/Soul/New Glorified Body all united – Fit for and Ready for the New Heavens and the New Earth

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There is no hint that this is during or after the Great Tribulation. But there is a hint of some time in other passages that refer to the Rapture Event. **TRUMPET** – is common for the other passages.



1 Corinthians 15:51-58 – The Last TRUMPET Blast ...

“Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—⁵² 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. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

LAST TRUMPET – this is NOT Referring to the 7th Trumpet in the book of Revelation – that was not written yet. So, you can't refer to something that doesn't exist yet. But → **FEAST DAY of Trumpets** (Revelation written in 95 A.D. – 1 Thessalonians written in 43-47 A.D.?)

Revelation 4:1 – Voice Like a TRUMPET ...

“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.’”

AFTER THESE THINGS → TRUMPET

What “things” is this AFTER – in Sequence?

Revelation chapters 2 & 3 – relate to the Church Age.

The WORD → “Church” is never seen again after Rev. chapter 3.

Thus, AFTER the Church Age is finished –

We are called to “Come Up Here” → A Door OPEN in Heaven

**That is a description of the Rapture – and it, again, relates to a
TRUMPET**

THE RAPTURE – Relationship to the FEAST DAY of TRUMPETS ...

According to Leviticus 23 – There were 7 Annual Feasts that Israel was to Keep – They are Prophetic. Relating to the Messiah's Arrival and Work of Salvation, etc. This relates to Prophetic Timings of these events.

Mo'edim → "The are MY Feasts" – "My Appointed Times of Visitation".

There is a Rumor or a Myth – that we cannot know when the Rapture is going to occur. "It can happen any moment" ... not sure that is Biblical. Because of 1000's of years of Rejecting anything "Jewish" and pursue Replacement Theology (i.e. The Roman Catholic Church / Church of England, etc.) – they developed their own End-Times views (Eschatology) divorced of the Prophetic Implications of the Biblical Feasts.

Just like Passover, Unleavened Bread, and the Day of First Fruits related, to the day and days of these feast days – Crucifixion, Death, Burial and Resurrection – To The Day ... so it is with Pentecost (Shavuot – 50 days later) – they did not happen at any moment – but according to timing.

THE RAPTURE – Relationship to the FEAST DAY of TRUMPETS ...

According to Leviticus 23 – There were 7 Annual Feasts that Israel was to Keep – They are Prophetic. Relating to the Messiah

- 1. Passover → Christ Crucifixion, Death, Sacrifice on the Cross – The Passover Lamb of God. On the Day.**
- 2. Feast of Unleavened Bread → Christ's Burial → took away the leaven or our sin as far away as possible.**
- 3. Feast Day of First Fruits – Always, the First Day of the Week AFTER Passover – thus, 3 Days and 3 Nights (a full 72 hours after) – Early before daybreak – while it was still dark – the Tomb was Empty – Resurrection.**
- 4. Pentecost – Shauot – 50 Days after First Fruits – Always on the First Day of the Week → The Church is Born – Acts 2 – Precisely on the Day.**
- 5. Feast Day of Trumpet – Yom Teruah – Rosh h'Shannah – 1st Day of the 7th Month blowing Trumpet Blast – 100 blasts – sighting of New Moon**

THE RAPTURE – Relationship to the FEAST DAY of TRUMPETS ...

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**4. Pentecost – Shavuot – 50 Days after First Fruits – Always on the First Day of the Week → The Church is Born – Acts 2 – Precisely on the Day.
Fulfilled when the Church was born – Acts 2.**

**Thus all of the Feasts from Passover to Pentecost all Fulfilled on the day
Implications – God will keep doing Prophetic things in the same way
The Next Feast Day to be fulfilled is the Feast Day of Trumpets.**

**5. Feast Day of Trumpet – Yom Teruah – Rosh h'Shannah – 1st Day of the 7th Month blowing Trumpet Blast – 100 blasts – sighting of New Moon
Because this Feast Day can only begin when the Crescent of the New Moon is sighted – in Jerusalem – it has a Name of then Trumpets
Paraphrase: “The Day that is not known by the day or the hour”
Does that sound familiar?**

Thus, Jesus gave us a hint when he's coming back for us – Feast of Trumpets

THE RAPTURE – Relationship to the FEAST DAY of TRUMPETS ...

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**6. Day of Atonement – universally understood to be the Great Tribulation –
The Jews are to beat themselves or Latin Translation -> Tribulate themselves
Most FAST during that day or the day before and after depending on ...**

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**7. Feast of Tabernacle or Booths – 8 days (representing a New Beginning) – God Dwelling with His People – Reps → Birth of Christ – and - The Reign of Christ – during the Millennium – Triple Fulfillment in Christ
→ Reps → The New Heavens and the New Earth.**

THE RAPTURE – Relationship to the FEAST DAY of TRUMPETS ...

Implications – God will keep doing Prophetic things in the same way

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Thus, within the Prophetic Time Table of the 7 Feast Days ...

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Thus, Jesus gave us a hint when he's coming back for us – Feast of Trumpets

→ The Rapture Occurs Before the Tribulation – all Prophetic Passages.

At or just after the 100th Trumpet Blast in Jerusalem – but the Year?

6. Day of Atonement – universally understood to be the Great Tribulation

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¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

How Comforting is it – if we are to hunker down, under cover, hide for our lives for 7 years during the reign of the anti-Christ during the Great Tribulation – and then we are Raptured at the Mid-Point or at the End. If you remember our study in “Jesus Reveals the Future” – after the Mid-Point when the anti-Christ rises – there aren't many Christians left, if any. Is that Comforting? Or is a Pre-Tribulational Rapture – Comforting and Encouraging?

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Next Week we will continue with this Subject and look at other Scriptures that help us with the timing and what our attitude and response should be. Until then –

comfort one another with these words !!!

