

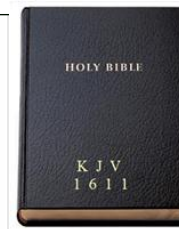
Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations” (Matt 28:19)

Dr. Joseph Speciale, Instructor

A ministry of the
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

Lee Swor, Pastor

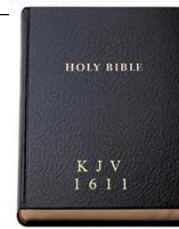


Alt. Pleasant
Bible Institute

Bible Prophecy

The Rapture

The Rapture

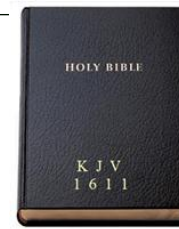


I. Profile Of The Rapture

1. The Definition Of Rapture

- The English word “rapture” does not appear in the Bible but it’s meaning does
- RAPTURE= “transport; to seize; extreme joy or pleasure”
- The English word is derived from the Latin *raptus*; which is equivalent to the Greek *harpazo* meaning, “to seize; to catch up; to catch away; to pluck; to pull; to take by force”
- The Greek word *harpazo* appears 13x and is translated as follows:
 - CAUGHT UP 4x (2 Cor 12:2,4; 1 The 4:17; Rev 12:5)
 - TAKE BY FORCE 3x (Matt 11:12; John 6:15; Acts 23:10)
 - CATCH/CAUGHT AWAY 2x (Matt 13:19; Acts 8:39)
 - PLUCK 2x (John 10:28-29)
 - CATCHETH 1x (John 10:12)
 - PULLING 1x (Jude 23)

The Rapture



Alt. Pleasant
Bible Institute

2. The Doctrine Of The Rapture

- 1) The Rapture is the first stage of the Second Coming of Christ (the second stage is the Revelation)

John 14:3

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

Acts 1:11

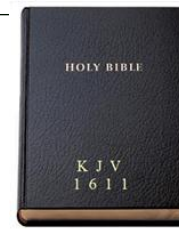
Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

1 Cor 1:7; 15:23

So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:

But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

The Rapture



Alt. Pleasant
Bible Institute

1 The 2:19; 3:13; 4:15; 5:23

For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Are* not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at **his coming**?

To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at **the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ** with all his saints.

For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto **the coming of the Lord** shall not prevent them which are asleep.

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto **the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ**.

Jam 5:7-8

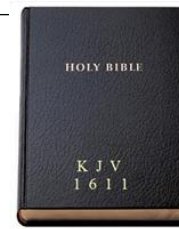
Be patient therefore, brethren, unto **the coming of the Lord**. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for **the coming of the Lord** draweth nigh.

1 John 2:28

And now, little children, abide in him; that, **when he shall appear**, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at **his coming**.

The Rapture



Alt. Pleasant
Bible Institute

Col 3:4

When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

1 Tim 6:14

That thou keep *this* commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

2 Tim 4:8

Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Tit 2:13

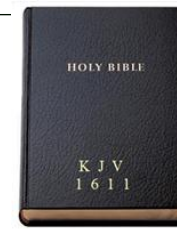
Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

1 Pet 1:7; 5:4

That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

The Rapture



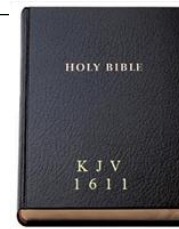
1 John 3:2

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when **he shall appear**, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

The Two Stages Of The Second Coming Of Christ

The Rapture	The Revelation
A mystery (1 Cor 15:51)	Not a mystery (Isa 13; Zec 14)
The Lord comes in the air (1 The 4:17)	The Lord comes to the ground (Zec 14:4)
The Lord comes for the saints (1 The 4:15)	The Lord comes with the saints (Jude 14; Rev 19:14)
A time of rejoicing (1 The 2:19)	A time of vengeance (2 The 1:8)
Christ, the bright and morning star (Rev 22:16)	Christ, the Sun of righteousness (Mal 4:2)
Bodily salvation of the church (1 John 3:2)	Salvation of Israel (Rom 11:26)
The Lord's appearing is private (Acts 1:11; 1 Cor 15:52)	The Lord's appearing is public (Matt 24:27; Rev 1:7)
Takes place before the Tribulation (1 The 5:9)	Takes place after the Tribulation (Matt 24:29-30)

The Rapture



Alt. Pleasant
Bible Institute

2) The Rapture was a MYSTERY until it was revealed to Paul

1 Cor 15:51

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

3) The Rapture is a PROMISED event

John 14:3

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

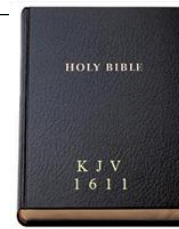
John 16:22

And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

Acts 1:11

Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

The Rapture



Alt. Pleasant
Bible Institute

4) The Rapture is a JOYOUS event

Psa 16:11

Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore.

John 16:22

And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

1 The 2:19

For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Are* not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

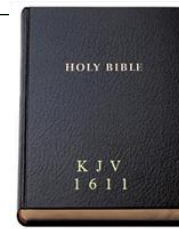
1 Pet 1:8

Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see *him* not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

Jude 24

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

The Rapture



5) The Rapture is an INSTANTANEOUS event

1 Cor 15:51-52

Behold, I shew 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.

6) The Rapture is an IMMINENT event

- The Rapture can take place at ANY time but no man knows when that time is
- Even though certain prophetic events MAY take place before the Rapture (e.g.- the rebirth of the nation of Israel in 1948), the Bible does not state that anything MUST take place before the Rapture

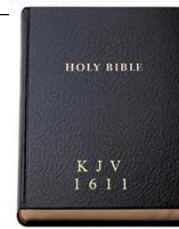
1 The 1:10

And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

Phl 3:20

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

The Rapture



Alt. Pleasant
Bible Institute

Tit 2:13

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

7) The Rapture is the believer's COMFORT and HOPE

1 The 4:14,18

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Tit 2:13

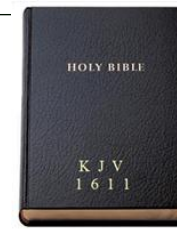
Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

1 John 3:2-3

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

The Rapture



Alt. Pleasant
Bible Institute

- 8) The Rapture is the believer's VICTORY over death and the grave- for those who are alive and remain, it is an eternal cancellation of the appointment with death (Heb 9:27)

1 Cor 15:54-57

So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law.

But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

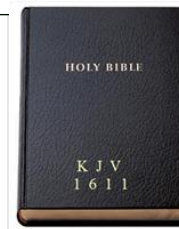
- 9) The Rapture is a MIRACULOUS event whereby the saved are CHANGED and CAUGHT UP to go with the Lord to heaven

1 Cor 15:51-53

Behold, I shew 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.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.



Alt. Pleasant
Bible Institute

Please visit our website at:
www.mpbiwv.com
for access to over 850 audio lessons

27-08