
these words." This was written to comfort those at Thessalonica concerning their Christian loved ones who had died!

Jesus pictures for us in Matthew 25:31-46 the judgment scene. Nowhere does he speak of a kingdom being established for one thousand years a "Rapture", a 7 year tribulation period or a second resurrection of just the wicked!

Those that teach this false theory of "The Rapture" and date setters are simply false prophets! The Bible speaks about how we can know a false prophet in Deuteronomy 18:20 *"But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die."* Jeremiah writes about the false prophets in his day in Jeremiah 14:14 *"Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart."*

An individual who will take the word of God as it is, believe its teaching, obey its commands and live in harmony with it has nothing to fear about the end time. Such an individual is prepared for the Second Coming of the Lord. The Apostle Paul had that kind of attitude when he wrote, *"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 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."* (2 Timothy 4:6-8)

With all one hears going on under the

disguise of religion what are we to believe? One might as, *"How can I know whether I am hearing the truth of God or the teaching of men!"* To determine that we must get back to demanding Bible authority for what is taught. Ask for Book, Chapter and Verse for what you are taught. Consider carefully the context of the passage and with a Bible concordance look up other scripture on the same subject and study them all together. Paul said in Romans 16:17,18 *"Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."*

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"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, And shall come forth"

John 5:28

What Does The Bible Teach About "The Rapture"?



Mike Hughes

What Does The Bible Teach About “The Rapture”?

Premillennialist, those teach Christ is to come back to Jerusalem and set up a thousand year reign, have taught for a long time that there is to be a “Rapture” they teach that the righteous will be caught up to heaven. They teach this “Rapture” is to take place instantly that if one is driving his car that he will be caught up and massive wrecks will result from driverless cars. There have been bumper stichers, touting this point.

In 1988 a man by the name of Edger C. Whisenant published a book in which he titled “88 Reasons Why the Rapture Would happen in 1988” where he made a statement “the first rapture was to happen over one of three days”. He admitted he didn't know the exact hour nor the exact day but it was to have occurred in September on or around the 11-13 of 1988. Of course, as we know, 1988 has now come and gone and a “Rapture” did not occur. The following year Mr. Whisenant published another book this one he entitled “89 Reasons Why The Rapture Would Happen In 1989”. Of course, you guessed it, reason number 89 was that it didn't happen in 1988.

In 1992 people from Seol, Korea predicted that the “Rapture” was to happen on October 28, 1992. Mr. Young Chul Lee of the world's largest church in Seol, Korea while suffering Leukemia became comatose for a week, during that time he claims to have visited heaven where he said he was told by the

Lord he would return in 1992. Some claim to have seen visions where the date October 28, 1992 was said to have been circled. Again that date past and no “Rapture” occurred. A Baptist Preacher who preaches on Television out of Detroit, Michigan name Jack VanImpe gives a time table for a “Rapture” to occur beginning with October 1993 up to and including October 1997.

According to this theory when a “Rapture” occurs there will not be enough doctors, nurses, lawyers, hospitals, policemen, Funeral Homes or Auto body repairmen to take care of all the havoc that will be caused by “Christians” being snatched from their cars resultings in wrecks, people being run over, killed maimed. Those espousing this theory say the FBI and Police officials will be busy trying to locate massive numbers of people reported missing because of this so called “Rapture”.

Several interesting points occurred to me that are never dealt when one hears this theory being taught. What will happen to the children of these “Christians” who are not old enough to be believers? Where will they go? Who will take care of them? Who will teach them the right way - the way of the Lord? What will happen to all the property and money of all these “Raptured” individuals?

The most interesting thing about all of this is the fact that the Bible doesn't mention

the word “Rapture” anywhere! This doctrine comes from the teaching of men. (Matthew 15:9) What does the Bible teach about the resurrection and meeting the Lord? The Bible does teach that there will be a general resurrection of both the righteous and wicked at the same time! Notice Jesus' statement in John 5:28,29 “Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which **all** that are in the graves shall hear His voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.” Now where does the Bible speak of two resurrections!

The theory of a “Rapture” is taken from 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 notice the text. *But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 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. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.*

Notice this is being written to Christians at Thessalonica. The wicked are not mentioned for that reason. To get a “Rapture” or a resurrection of just the righteous is getting something out of the passage that it is not teaching. Notice verse 18 tells why this was written. “Wherefore comfort one another with
