

What About the Rapture?

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“The Rapture” Defined: The rapture is a yet future event which includes the resurrection of believers already dead followed immediately by the transformation and transportation of living saints at the coming of the Lord Jesus.

When we study the rapture and the end times there are some inherent dangers.

- Trying to determine **the date** is simply wrong and not possible. Mt 24:36; Acts 1:7.
- The Bible talk about the end and the coming of the Lord but it is not supposed to **paralyze** us and keep us holding our breath.
- It is not supposed to **mesmerize** us into studying only the coming of the Lord and doing nothing else while we wait.
- Rapture talk is not supposed to **isolate** us from the world in which we live. Salt and light!
- It is supposed to **motivate** us to always live with the expectation that the Lord is coming and we should be about the Lord’s business.

What to know about the Rapture.

1. Accept the **fact** of the Rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:15-17).
2. Understand the **manner** of the rapture (1 Thessalonians 5:2-3)
 - a. The coming of the Lord will be **unexpected**
 - b. The coming of the Lord will be **instantaneous**
 - c. The coming of the Lord will be **unstoppable** and irresistible
 - d. The coming of the Lord will be **transformational** and glorious
3. Leave God in charge of the **timing** of the rapture. 1 Thes 5:1; 2 Thes 2:1-12. Note:
 - a. He talked about the **day of Christ**.
 - b. He spoke about **deceivers**.
 - c. He spoke about the **timing**. (2 Thes 2:3-12) three requisite events had to happen **before** the day of the Lord.
 - i. “The **apostasy**” or falling away.
 - ii. The **revelation** of the antichrist.
 - iii. The **removal** of the Restrainer.
4. Take care to **serve** Jesus and **encourage** the brethren until the rapture. (1 Thes. 1: 4-12)