

“THE GREAT (RAPTURE) RESCUE”

(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18) pt 4

D. Exhortations concerning THE RAPTURE of the Church. (4:13-18)

- This is all part of *eschatology* – the study of _____ (bible _____) - specifically the **rapture**, which is ... a sudden _____ of believers _____ when He _____ at the close of the present age.

1. The CONTENT of these INSTRUCTIONS (4:13-17)

a. Involves _____ regarding our future _____ (4:13-15a)

b. The _____ regarding the rapture _____ (4:15b-17)

1) The *term used* for Christ’s return in this passage is the Greek word _____ (par-oo-see'-ah} meaning... “*the _____ of the Lord*” (v. 15)

*Technically the term “coming” is used of _____ of Christ’s 2nd coming: **the _____** & the _____ – although these two events are separated by _____ of time!

2) A fact we need to note from verse 15 is that we who are physically alive at the time of the rapture, “*shall not _____ those who have fallen asleep.*”

* Did Paul think he would be included in the rapture generation?

* Does the bible teach that the return of Christ is imminent?

3) The **focus** of the *parousia* is the Lord _____ Himself ... “*the Lord Himself will descend from heaven...*”

4) What three things will accompany His Coming? _____ And what does this mean?

a. There will be a _____.

b. There will be the _____ **of an** _____.

c. There will be the _____ **of God.**

5) The resurrection of the Church age believers at the *parousia* clearly states that the “_____ *in Christ will rise*_____.”

- Does this phrase “*the dead in Christ will rise first*” include all saints of all time?

- When are other saints resurrected?

6) The translation of living church age believers at the *parousia* guarantees that “we which are _____ and _____ will be _____ together with those who had died...”

- What does the Greek word for “caught up” (harpazo) mean?
- Is this Greek word used in other passages of scripture. And if so, how is this word “harpazo” used there?

Pause here - to talk about water baptism & its place in the life of the believer. (Acts 8:29-39)

7) This rapture event will be a _____ of all Church age believers (dead and alive) as clarified by the words... “_____ them...”

2. The APPLICATION of these INSTRUCTIONS (4:18)

- The **recipients** of these instructions are _____ of this dispensation.
- The **command** of these instructions is to “_____”
- The **means** of fulfilling this instruction is... “_____.”