

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

I. The Meaning of the Word

- A. Its derivation. rapio, to seize, to snatch. (1) An ecstasy of spirit or (2) removal from one place to another
- B. The Use of harpazo. 13x in N.T. e.g., Acts 8:39; 2 Cor. 12:2-4. Removal.

II. The Event Itself, 1 Thess. 4:13-18

- A. The Background, 13; cf. Acts 17:2. How many had died? Pagan view of death. "Sleep" to pagan was a euphemism. To bel. an assurance of awaking in res.
- B. The Assurance concerning the dead in Christ, 14. 1st class cond. "bring with him" bec. they are in heaven.
- C. The Details, 15-17.
 1. A command, 15
 2. Voice of an archangel. Michael (?), Dan. 12:1, OT saints raised here?
 3. Trumpet of God = 1 Cor. 15:52. ≠ Rev. 8; 11:15 (as midtribs say).
≠ Matt. 24:31 (as posttribs say).
 4. Resurrection.
 5. Catching up.
 6. Reunion with the Lord.
- D. The Ramification, 18.

III. Those Included, 1 Cor. 15:51-58

- A. Amil. All people (wicked not mentioned bec not the question) at end of time.
- B. Premill (except partial rapture). All bel (this age or all time).
Corruptible refers to the dead and mortal to the living. Who will populate M?

THE DAY OF THE LORD

I. A definition: a time of God's special intervention.

II. Its Facets

A. Historical

1. Intervention in the affairs of heathen nations (e.g. Egypt, Jer. 46:10)
2. Intervention in the affairs of Israel (Zeph. 1:14-18--invasion of Scythians after death of Josiah).

B. Illustrative: an historical intervention which is a harbinger of the eschatological day of the Lord. Joel 2:1-11; Isa. 13:6-13

C. Eschatological

1. Begins in midst of apparent peace, 1 Thess. 5:2.
Includes manifestation of man of sin, 2 Thess. 2:3-10.
2. Includes trib. Jer. 30:7; Isa. 2:12-22; Rev. 6:12-17
3. Includes coming of Christ, Joel 2:28-32
4. Includes millennial blessing, Jer. 30:9; Isa. 19:23-25.

III. Its Importance to the Rapture Question

THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

I. Who? Rom. 14:10; 1 Cor. 3:11-12; 2 Cor. 5:10

II. When? Post rapture. Gundry says postmillennial and = Gt. Wh. Th.

III. Bases. 1 Cor. 3:13, 2 Cor. 5:10.

IV. Results. Crowns in 1 Thess. 2:19; 2 Tim. 4:8; Jas. 1:12; 1 Pet. 5:4; Rev. 2:10.