

CONTRASTING THE RAPTURE AND THE SECOND COMING

The greatest errors in Christendom today stem from the careless teaching of the word of God on the part of ministers. Untold confusion has arisen from the use of the term "The Second Coming" to refer to all matters relating to end time prophecy.

Without careful distinction between the Lord's coming for His church and His coming to the earth much harm has been done.

- I. AT THE RAPTURE JESUS COMES FOR BELIEVERS. HE COMES WITH BELIEVERS AT THE 2ND COMING**
(Colossians 14:3, 4:14)

- II. EVERYBODY WILL SEE JESUS AT THE SECOND COMING, NOT AT THE RAPTURE**
(Revelation 1:7)

- III. JESUS COMES IN THE AIR FOR THE CHURCH / TO THE EARTH AT THE SECOND COMING**
(1 Thessalonians 4:17, Zechariah 14:4)

- IV. THE LORD HIMSELF GATHERS THE CHURCH. ANGELS GATHER ISRAEL'S ELECT**
(1 Thessalonians 4:16, Matthew 24:31)

- V. THERE ARE NO SIGNS FOR THE RAPTURE. THERE ARE MANY SIGNS FOR THE SECOND COMING.**
(Luke 21:11, 25-27)

- VI. THERE IS A RESURRECTION AT THE RAPTURE, BUT NOT AT THE SECOND COMING**
(1 Corinthians 15:23)

- VII. AT THE RAPTURE THE BELIEVER'S BODY IS CHANGED. NOT SO, THE SECOND COMING**
(Philippians 3:21)

- VIII. THE MORNING STAR PRECEDES SUNRISE. JESUS COMES FOR THE CHURCH BEFORE ISRAEL**
(Revelation 22:16, Malachi 4:2)

- IX. THE LORD'S COMING IS A COMFORT FOR THE CHURCH AGE BELIEVER / WRATH AT 2ND COMING**
(1 Thessalonians 4:18, Amos 5:18-20)

- X. THE CHRISTIAN IS SAVED FROM WRATH. JESUS COMES IN WRATH AT THE SECOND COMING**
(1 Thessalonians 1:10, Revelation 19:15)

- XI. JESUS COMES FOR HIS OWN AT THE RAPTURE / DESTROYS THEIR ENEMIES AT THE SECOND COMING**
(1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8)

- XII. AT THE RAPTURE JESUS TAKES THE SAINTS IN LIFE AND LEAVES THE SINNERS IN DEATH**
(Revelation 20:5, Matthew 13:41-43)

I. THE RAPTURE (The Harvest)

- A. Christ comes for His saints (John 14:3).
- B. This is secret, no scripture implies witnesses to this event.
- C. Saints meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17).
- D. The Lord Himself gathers His people (1 Thessalonians 4:16).
- E. No signs!
- F. The resurrection of all in Christ (1 Corinthians 15:23).
- G. Believer's changed and receive a glorified body (Philippians 3:21).
- H. Christ comes under the figure of the morning star (Revelation 22:16).
- I. This coming is a source of comfort (1 Thessalonians 4:18).
- J. Christ here delivers from wrath (1 Thessalonians 1:10).
- K. Christ comes for His own (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).
- L. Here the Lord takes saints and leaves sinners in death (Revelation 20:5).

II. THE SECOND COMING

- A. Christ comes with His saints (Colossians 4:14).
- B. Every eye beholds the Lord (Revelation 1:7).
- C. Christ comes down to earth (Zechariah 14:4).
- D. Angels gather His elect (Israel) (Matthew 24:31).
- E. Many signs (Luke 21:11, 25-27).
- F. No resurrection connected with the second advent.
- G. Believers are not changed but the earth is made new.
- H. Christ comes under the figure of the rising sun (Malachi 4:2).
- I. This coming provides no comfort but is a day of wrath and fury (Amos 5:18-20).
- J. Christ here delivers wrath (Revelation 19:15).
- K. Christ comes with angels (2 Thessalonians 1:7-8).
- L. Here the Lord takes sinners in death and leaves the saints on earth (Matthew 13:41-43).