

1 THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 4:13-18

Lesson 11: Who will be Raptured?

19 February 2024

The Bible says that those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ are saved, born again, have eternal life, and will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air when He comes again. The problem is, there are many variations of false teachings about who is saved and who is not and some even debate whether or not some Christians will be left behind while others are raptured. This lesson will contrast those false beliefs with the Bible truths in order to teach who will be raptured.

I. VARIATIONS OF THE WAY OF SALVATION

- A. Those who say you must save yourself by good works.
 - B. Those who say you are SAVED by grace, but KEPT by good works.
 - C. You are saved by grace through faith. You serve the Lord because you love Him.
 - D. You are saved by grace through faith, but good works get you raptured.
 - E. God has Sovereignly decided who will go to Heaven and who will go to Hell. It doesn't matter what you do.
- Four of these are wrong. One of these is right (C). There are also other variations of these false beliefs. The Devil doesn't care which one you choose as long as it's not the truth.
 - You have to add to the Scriptures in order to teach a works-based salvation.
 - No amount of works performed by any man could ever achieve salvation. God's standard is absolute sinlessness.

II. THE BODY OF CHRIST

A. Every born-again believer becomes a part of Jesus Christ's Body. (1 Corinthians 12:12-14).

1. That body cannot be divided (1 Cor. 12:25), therefore, believers cannot be separated at the rapture into 2 groups.

B. Good works do not determine whether you'll go to Heaven. If you're part of the Body of Christ, you'll go with the Head, Jesus Christ.

1. Christians labor because they love the Lord and they love the lost & want them to go to Heaven (2 Cor. 5:8-11)

2. Christians will answer for "good" and "bad" at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Therefore, goodness is not a factor in salvation. (2 Cor. 5:10).

3. You received the Holy Spirit by faith, not by the Law. (Galatians 2:21-3:3).

C. Christians will still struggle with sin because they still have the old corrupt nature fighting against the new spiritual nature. (Rom. 7:15-25).

D. Others may condemn us, but nothing can separate us from the Love of Christ. (Rom. 8:33-39).
