

# 1 THESSALONIANS

## Comparing the Rapture with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming

### Lesson 16

25 March 2024

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. THE RAPTURE

1. Christ comes for His saints (John 14:3).
2. This is secret; no scripture implies witnesses to this event.
3. Saints meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17).
4. The Lord Himself gathers His people (1Thess 4:16).
5. No signs!
6. The resurrection of all in Christ (1 Corinthians 15:23).
7. Believers are changed and receive a glorified body (Philippians 3:21).
8. Christ comes under the figure of the morning star (Revelation 22:16).
9. This coming is a source of comfort (1 Thessalonians 4:18).
10. Christ here delivers from wrath (1 Thessalonians 1:10).
11. Christ comes for His own (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).
12. Here the Lord takes saints and leaves sinners in death (Revelation 20:5).

#### II. THE SECOND COMING

1. Christ comes with His saints (Colossians 3:3,4).
2. Every eye beholds the Lord (Acts 1:11, Revelation 1:7).
3. Christ comes down to earth (Zechariah 14:4).
4. Angels gather His elect (Israel) (Matthew 24:31).
5. Many signs (Luke 21:11, 25-27).
6. No resurrection connected with the second advent.
7. Believers are not changed but the earth is made new.
8. Christ comes under the figure of the rising sun (Mal. 4:2).
9. This coming provides no comfort but is a day of wrath and fury (Amos 5:18-20).
10. Christ here delivers wrath (Revelation 19:15).
11. Christ comes with angels (2 Thessalonians 1:7-8).
12. Here the Lord takes sinners in death and leaves the saints on earth (Matthew 13:41-43).