

# Jesus is Coming Again Notes

## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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**Main Point:** The closeness of Christ's coming should cause us to walk closely with Him today.

### Preliminary Points

1. There are different views about the Second Coming among Christians.
2. The Bible is filled with prophecy.
3. The aim of prophecy is always \_\_\_\_\_ and pastoral.
  - Prophecy is not designed to satisfy our curiosity, but to sanctify our character.
  - The question is not when Jesus will return, but what will we do before He gets here?
4. I believe in the \_\_\_\_\_, personal, imminent, pre-tribulation and pre-millennial return of the Lord Jesus Christ with His redeemed ones.
  - The return of Christ will not be symbolic but will involve Jesus Himself.
  - Imminent means he can come and rapture believers at any \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Jesus will come \_\_\_\_\_ the Tribulation, rapture the Christians who are alive, resurrect the redeemed who have died, and take us all back to Heaven with Him.
  - This will be followed by a seven-year period of unprecedented \_\_\_\_\_.
  - At the end of this time, Christ will return with believers and set up His \_\_\_\_\_ year reign on earth.
  - Matthew 24 gives us six signs indicating the time of great Tribulation and His Second Coming is near.
    - Deception by \_\_\_\_\_ Christs (vs. 4-5).
    - Disputes and \_\_\_\_\_ among nations (vs. 6-7).
    - Disease and famine \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 7-8).
    - Deliverance of believers to \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 9).
    - \_\_\_\_\_ of false believers (vs. 10-13).
    - Declaration of the gospel to the whole \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 14).
  - 1 Thessalonians contains a reference to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ in every chapter.
  - 1 Thessalonians 4:13, Paul began by saying he did not want these new believers to be unformed.
    - Paul is writing to clear up their confusion about those who have fallen "asleep."
    - The phrase "fallen asleep" is used in verse 13, 14, and 15 to describe believers who have \_\_\_\_\_.
    - They go \_\_\_\_\_ into the presence of the Lord as stated in 2 Corinthians 5:8.
  - The verb in verse 17 means, "to \_\_\_\_\_ up, to seize, and to carry off with force."

- The Latin Vulgate translates this as “\_\_\_\_\_,” which is the word we use today to describe how Jesus will “snatch us away and gather us together” when we meet Him in the clouds.

**The Promise of the Rapture is Sure (vs. 14-15a).**

1. The promise of the rapture is sure because it is built on the death and resurrection of \_\_\_\_\_ Christ (vs. 14).
2. The Resurrection proved God the Father accepted the sacrifice of His Son and guaranteed we too will be \_\_\_\_\_ to new life.
3. The first part of verse 15 gives us another reason to be confident of His coming: “For this we declare to you by a word from the \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - It’s sure because it’s built on three pillars – the redemption provided by Christ, the resurrection of Christ, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.

**The Participants of the Rapture are Certain (vs 15b).**

1. Two groups of people who will participate in the Rapture are
  - Believers who are alive.
  - Believers who have died.

**The Plan is Set (16-17).**

1. A sudden \_\_\_\_\_
  - The Lord Himself will come down from Heaven just like Acts 1:11 declared He would.
2. A cry of \_\_\_\_\_
  - This is a military term which was issued when the troops were “at ease” and it was time for them to “fall in.”
  - It can also mean to \_\_\_\_\_ up.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the archangel.
  - Daniel 12 and Jude 9 identified the archangel as \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The sound of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
  - In Exodus 19, a very loud trumpet was used to call the people out to meet with God.
  - In Zechariah 9:14, a trumpet was used as a signal the Lord was about to rescue His people.
5. A great \_\_\_\_\_
  - It’s the \_\_\_\_\_ “in Christ” who are raised.
  - This is only a resurrection of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The unsaved dead are \_\_\_\_\_ in their graves to be raised at the Great White Throne Judgment 1,000 years later (Revelation 20:5).
  - All believers in Christ will be raised. That includes people who died 2000 years ago and those who died in Christ this week.
6. A glorious \_\_\_\_\_
  - Rapture is a word that always implies a change of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Living believers will be literally \_\_\_\_\_ off the earth.
  - 1 Corinthians 15:52 describes the scene as taking place “in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye.”

7. A grand \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - We will be caught up together with them (vs. 17).
  - We will be \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord (John 14:3).
  - All Christians from all centuries from every land, nation, tribe, and tongue will be together at last with Jesus.
8. A joyful \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - We will \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord.
  - We will be \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord.
  - We will be with the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ .

**The Purpose of the Rapture is to \_\_\_\_\_ Us (vs. 18).**

1. As believers, we should be talking more about the Rapture than we do because knowing what is coming ought to influence what we are \_\_\_\_\_ right now.
2. The purpose of prophecy is to give us hope, comfort, and \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. It's a frightening prospect for those who have not yet put their faith in Christ.

**How to Live in These Last Days.**

1. Rearrange your \_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 2:28).
2. Always \_\_\_\_\_ one another.
  - Encourage means to come alongside someone and give the \_\_\_\_\_ he or she needs.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ lost people about the Lord (Acts 1:7-8).
4. Repent and \_\_\_\_\_ Christ.
  - Christ has not returned yet because God is patiently giving you time to repent now, before it is too late (2 Peter 3:9-10).