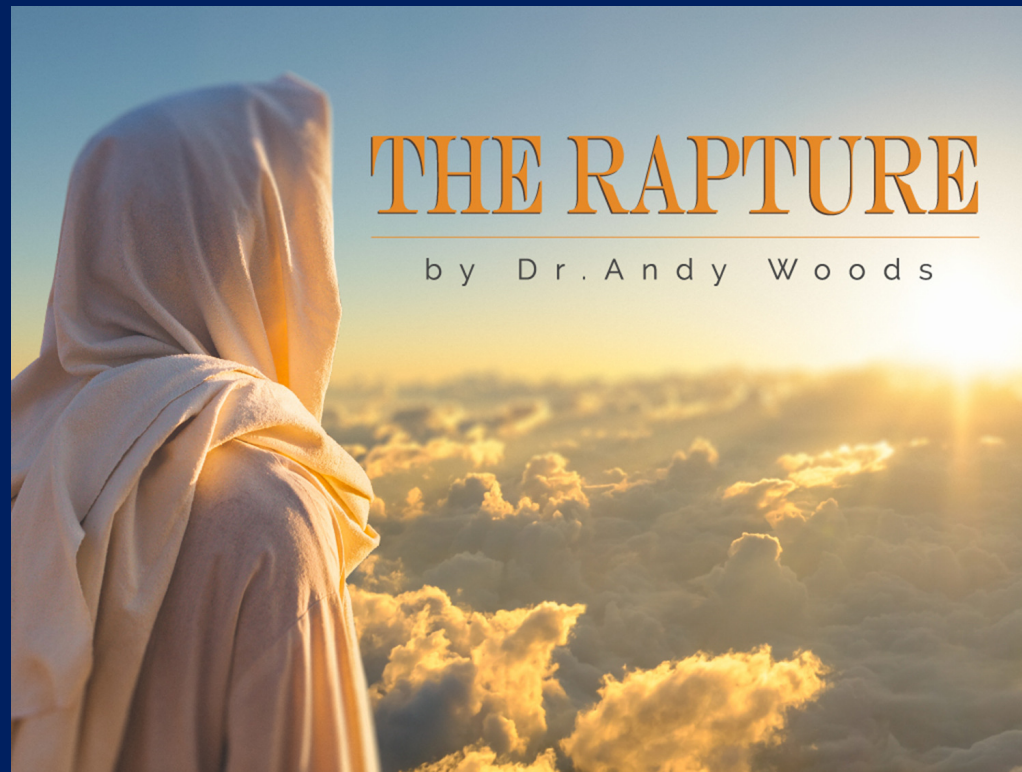


# THE RAPTURE

## What and When? – Part 1



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# What is the Rapture?



1. An important doctrine
2. Distinct from the Second Advent
3. Catching away of all living believers (1 Thess 4:17)
4. Reunion (1 Thess 4:14-16)
5. Resurrection (1 Cor 15:50-54)
6. Exemption from death (1 Cor 15:51, 54-56)
7. Instantaneous (1 Cor 15:52)
8. Mystery (1 Cor 15:51)
9. Imminent (1 Cor 15:51; 1 Thess 4:15)
10. Traditional doctrine now being recovered

## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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# An Important Doctrine



- Thessalonians were new believers (1 Thess 1:9)
- Rapture (1 Thess 1:10) mentioned along with the Holy Spirit (1 Thess 1:5) and conversion (1 Thess 1:9)
- Rapture (1 Thess 4:13-18) mentioned along with sanctification (1 Thess 4:3, 18; 5:23)

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# Rapture Distinct from Second Advent

## **RAPTURE**

**(1 Thess 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:51-58)**

**Christ comes in the air (1 Thess 4:16-17)**

**For His saints (1 Thess 4:15-17)**

**Blessing (1 Thess 4:18)**

**Effects only believers (1 Thess 4:16)**

## **SECOND COMING**

**(Rev 19:11-16)**

**Christ comes to the earth (Zech 14:4)**

**With His saints (Rev 19:14)**

**Judgment (Rev 19:15)**

**Effects both believers & unbelievers (Rev 19:15)**



# Rapture Distinct from Second Advent

## **RAPTURE**

**(1 Thess 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:51-58)**

**Invisible (1 Thess 4:16)**

**Announced only by an archangel  
(1 Thess 4:16)**

**Resurrection (1 Cor 15: 51)**

**Rescue of the Church (1 Thess  
1:10)**

## **SECOND COMING**

**(Rev 19:11-16)**

**Visible to all (Rev 1:7)**

**Involves myriads of angels (Jude  
14)**

**No resurrection**

**Rescue of Israel (Matt 23:37-39)**

## Matthew 23:37-39

<sup>37</sup> “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. <sup>38</sup> Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! <sup>39</sup> For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’”



## John 14:1–4

<sup>1</sup> “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. <sup>2</sup> “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> “If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> “And you know the way where I am going.”





## Different Truth

“But here in John 14 the Lord gives a new and unique revelation; He speaks of something which no prophet had promised, or even could promise. Where is it written that this Messiah would come and instead of gathering His saints into an earthly Jerusalem, would take them to the Father's house, to the very place where He is? It is something new.”

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# Catching Away of All Living Believers

(1 Thess 4:17)



- *Harpazo* = seized or caught up by force
- *Harpazo* (Greek) = *rapere* (Latin) = rapture (English)

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# Reunion

(1 Thess 4:14-16)



- Thessalonians' concern (1 Thess 4:13)
- Dead "in Christ" (Christians) resurrected first
- Alive "in Christ" (Christians) resurrected second
- Both deceased and living Christians are taken to be with the Lord
- Do not grieve as the world grieves (1 Thess 4:13)
- Be comforted (1 Thess 4:18)



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