

START 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-5:11

## THE COMING OF THE LORD

[VS 13-15] RAPTURE WHEN JESUS COMES ---

IN THESE VERSES - PAUL INSTRUCTS THESE BRETHREN AT THESSALONICA - AS WELL AS ALL BRETHREN CONCERNING THOSE WHO HAVE DIED - AS BELIEVERS IN JESUS CHRIST -

BIBLICAL WRITERS - HAVE PUT MUCH IMPORTANCE ON THE COMING OF CHRIST - IT IS STATED AT LEAST 318 TIMES - IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

NOTE: [JOHN 14:1-3]  
"LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED" --- YOU BELIEVE IN GOD - BELIEVE IN ME ---  
"I WILL COME AGAIN" - TO RECEIVE YOU ---

THE LORD'S ANNOUNCEMENT: "LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED" - IS HERE MATCHED BY "WHEREFORE COMFORT ONE ANOTHER --- WITH THESE WORDS" (VS 18)

THESE VERSES IN THESS [4:13-5:11] - REVEAL "5" FACTS ABOUT THE RAPTURE - THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST -

① IS A POSITIVE TRUTH - NOTE THE REPEATED WORDS: SHALL [4:15-17; 5:3] - AND - SHALL NOT [4:15; 5:3]

② IT IS A PERSONAL TRUTH - NOTE - WE, YES US, I, YOU - [4:13-15, 17; 5:1, 4-6, 8-10]

③ IT IS A PIVOTAL TRUTH - "BUT" - [4:13; 5:1, 4, 8]

④ IT IS A PROGRESSIVE TRUTH - "FOR" - [4:14-16; 5:2-3, 7]

⑤ IT IS A PRACTICAL TRUTH - WHEREFORE,  
AND THEREFORE - [4:18; 5:6, 11]

-SO-

- THOSE WHO ARE DEAD - IN BODY - (13)

PAUL IS VERY CONCERNED TO ENSURE  
THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES ---  
I DON'T WANT YOU - IN YOUR GRIEF - TO BE  
LIKE SOMEONE - "WITHOUT HOPE" - AND  
FULL OF SORROW -

LOOK AT OR TO THE SAVIOUR -  
HE DIED - HE THEN ROSE AGAIN - WHEN WE  
DIE - IN JESUS - WE WILL BE WITH HIM (14)

- THOSE WHO ARE RAISED - (16)  
WILL BE WITH JESUS - AT HIS COMING -

IN THE BIBLE IT'S CLEAR - ~~TOO~~ THAT -  
PHYSICAL RESURRECTION - WILL HAPPEN  
WHEN JESUS RETURNS -

NOW - THEY ARE SLEEPING IN JESUS -  
THAT IS - DEAD IN JESUS - "PAUL (PHIL 1:21, 23)  
MY DESIRE - IS TO DEPART - PHYSICALLY

DIE... AND BE WITH CHRIST... IT IS BETTER...  
SO PAUL EXPECTS TO DIE... THEN - BE  
IMMEDIATELY WITH CHRIST...

PAUL IS HERE CONCERNED  
WITH OUR "IMMEDIATE STATE" AFTER WE DIE -  
AND OUR BODILY RESURRECTION... (VS 15-17)  
... HE HAS RECEIVED "A WORD FROM THE -  
LORD" SO HE IS SPEAKING WITH "AUTHORITY"  
... THOSE WHO HAVE DIED - WILL RISE "FIRST"  
THEN - THE LIVING WILL BE "CAUGHT UP"  
... TOGETHER... WE WILL MEET THE "LORD"  
"IN THE AIR"

COUNTLESS DEAD BODIES... CHANGED --  
OF THOSE WHO DIED... BELIEVING IN CHRIST  
SINCE THE CREATION OF MANKIND...  
SUDDENLY - FULLY

RISEN WITH NEW BODIES... AND "ALL LIVING  
BELIEVERS"... MEET THEIR LORD AT LAST -  
... THEN NOTE "WE WILL ALWAYS -  
BE WITH THE LORD" (VS 17)

NOTE "WE"

PAUL ALWAYS PUTS HIMSELF IN A CLASS  
- ON THE SAME LEVEL WITH ALL BELIEVERS -  
"SO" "WE" WILL EVER BE

THIS IS A PRETRIBULATION EVENT -  
... ANY POSITION ON THE COMING OF CHRIST  
THAT TAKES OUR "EXCITEMENT" OFF OF  
THE EXPECTANCY OF THE RAPTURE - -  
- IS WRONG -

ANY POSITION - THAT PLACES - ALL KINDS  
OF PRIOR TRIBULATION EVENT BETWEEN  
- THE BELIEVER AND THE RAPTURE -  
SIMPLY HAS NO PURPOSE -

- INSTEAD -  
IT BRINGS MORE "DREAD" TO THE  
THOSE WHO MAKE UP THE CHURCH -  
- INSTEAD OF ANTICIPATION OF BEING  
WITH THE LORD - IT WOULD BE -  
PUNISHMENT - TO STILL BE ALIVE -  
- AND - BEING WHITCHFUL - COULD  
NOT BE - WE WOULD RATHER BE DEAD  
AND MISS THE SUFFERING -

✓ O NO -  
"WE WILL BE CAUGHT UP TOGETHER"  
AND EVER BE WITH THE LORD" !!!  
- PAULS ASSURES US - BY THE  
- "WORD OF THE LORD" (VS 15)

- AS TO THE TIME - OCCASION -  
(CH 5) (1-11)

(VS 1) OF TIMES AND SEASONS - "BRETHERN"  
"THESE DETAILS ARE NOT WHAT IS IMPORTANT"  
[WHAT IS IMPORTANT]

THAT THE BELIEVER IN CHRIST IN  
LIFE AND IN DEATH - IS UNITED  
- WITH CHRIST - A UNION WHICH -  
- NOTHING CAN BREAK -

## BRETHERN (VS 1)

THE MAN WHO HAS LIVED AND DIED  
IN CHRIST - IS STILL IN CHRIST -  
EVEN IN DEATH - CHRIST WILL RAISE HIM -  
BEING IN CHRIST - IS A RELATIONSHIP - -  
WHICH NOTHING CAN BREAK -

(VS 2) AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT -

(MATH 24:44) - BE READY FOR THE SON OF MAN  
IS COMING AT AN HOUR YOU DO NOT EXPECT -  
"THE DAY OF THE LORD WILL COME - AS A THIEF  
IN THE NIGHT" (2 PETER 3:10)

(VS 3) SUDDEN DESTRUCTION - AS A WOMAN'S  
LABOR PAINS - AND FOR "THEY" - WILL  
SAY - PEACE AND SAFETY - IT DOES NOT -  
MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE - WHETHER A  
PERSON OR PEOPLE BELIEVE IT'S COMING  
OR NOT - IT WILL HAPPEN - AND THE  
UNBELIEVERS WILL NOT ESCAPE -

(VS 4) "WE ARE NOT CHILDREN OF DARKNESS"  
IT WILL OR SHOULD NOT SURPRISE US -  
THIS "DARKNESS" MEANS "MORAL DARKNESS"  
- WHERE WE DO NOT LIVE -

(VS 5-8) SINCE WE BELONG TO THE DAY -  
LET US BE SOBER - ALERT - READY -  
WE KNOW  
THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD - ARE NOT THE  
MOST IMPORTANT THINGS -

NOTE!

WE MUST LEARN TO USE THE WORLD AND LOVE THE LORD - NOT!

LOVE THE WORLD AND USE THE LORD - WE MUST

COMFORT - ENCOURAGE - BUILD UP ONE ANOTHER - EDIFY - KEEP GROWING IN THE LORD !!

WHAT DID CHRIST SAY - CONCERNING - FUTURE THINGS -

MATH 24: IS JESUS TEACHING -

- A SIMPLE QUESTIONS BY THE DISCIPLES -

- ① WHEN SHALL THESE THINGS BE? - ③
- ② WHAT SHALL BE THE SIGN OF YOUR COMING - ③
- ③ WHEN WILL THE WORLD END - ③

SO

- THREE TOPICS ARE COVERED HERE -

① THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM - JESUS HAD JUST STATE THAT THE TEMPLE AND CITY OF JERUSALEM WOULD BE DESTROYED -

② WHAT SHALL BE THE SIGN OF THY COMING - THE SECOND TOPIC -

③ THE END OF THE WORLD -

THE END OF THE WORLD AND SECOND COMING TAKE PLACE TOGETHER - HOWEVER?

STOP