

The Rapture (13 -18)

A doctrine held by some which deals with the transformation of the redeemed into a glorified state at Christ's return (Phil.3:20-21) - (1 Cor. 15:51-53) (1Thess.4:13-17).

What is the point of the rapture?

Some people are simply not interested in learning about this and other prophecies about the future.

- Paul thought it was important enough to teach on.
- We should not be uninformed.
- So that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. Paul teaching in this gives us hope..
- We know that we should be ready.

(v.14) God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. How do we know this? Because Jesus already arose from the dead.

Those who have fallen asleep. This is a term that Jesus sometimes used including in (Luke 8:52) - it shows death was a temporary state.

God will bring with Him. The "Him" refers to Jesus.

(v.15) - We who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord. This makes it clear that Jesus has another plan in His mind beyond just "wait for everyone's die". He is not waiting for some end of the world catastrophe to wipe everyone out. He has a plan in mind. He is going to come back for us ! (John 14)

(v.16) The Lord Himself. Jesus Himself is coming back for us.

Will descend. Jesus will leave heaven and come down to the world to receive us.

A shout, the voice of the archangel, the trumpet of God ... all of these things show us that it is going to be a NOISY event

It is important to recognize that the Bible is clear about what this event is and how public it is.

The dead in Christ will rise first. These will not be forgotten.

(v.17) Caught Up - the Latin for this word is "rapturo"

Some have attacked the doctrine of the rapture because they say this word never appears in the Bible.

That is true. The term for the doctrine (rapture) was popularized by Jerome's Latin Vulgate translation of the Bible. Even though the term is not found in the Greek, the idea of. "Caught up" is.

So, what's this event? It seems to be something that happens suddenly with little warning (as opposed to the second coming). From (1Cor.15:50-52)