

The Rapture

One of the most controversial subjects today among Christians is rapture. Different preachers and literatures interpret this Biblical truth in their own way and caused enough damage to the body of Christ. I like the statement by Dr. John R. Rice, "The best way to interpret the Bible is not to interpret it at all." In John 5:39 Jesus commands us to search the Scriptures. The English word rapture is not in the Bible, that's true. [1] The Latin translators of the Bible used the word 'rapturo' - the root of the English word 'rapture'. In our Bible, the same Greek word, *harpazo*, is translated 'caught up' which means 'to seize upon with force' or 'to snatch up'. At the rapture, those who are in Christ (dead or living) will be changed into new glorified, immortal bodies and then we are "caught up" into the air to meet the Lord. The objective of this article is to put together the Biblical facts concerning rapture that may warn the believers and make the non-believers aware of such facts.

What is rapture?

[2] The concept of the rapture is clearly taught in Scripture. The rapture of the church is the event in which God removes all believers from the earth in order to make way for His righteous judgment to be poured out on the earth during the tribulation period. The rapture is described primarily in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:50-54. God will resurrect all believers who have died, give them glorified bodies, and take them from the earth, along with those believers who are still alive and who will at that time also be given glorified bodies. "For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever" (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

The rapture will be instantaneous in nature, and we will receive glorified bodies at that time. "Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed" (1 Corinthians 15:51-52). The rapture is the glorious event we should all be longing for. We will finally be free from sin. We will be in God's presence forever. The Rapture was also promised by the Lord Jesus Christ just before His crucifixion in John 14:1-3 and in Luke 21:34-3 "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".

Are the Rapture and the Second Coming same events?

[3] The rapture of the church is called "the coming of the Lord" but never the second coming of Christ. There are many different ideas about these two comings of Christ, which have made it difficult to distinguish one coming from the other. There are so many Scriptures that have been misapplied to the one or the other coming that one might readily see why many have found themselves involved in difficulties, from which they are unable to clear themselves. Ministers often complicate the doctrine of the rapture for people by stating that many signs must be seen and many prophecies must yet be fulfilled

before the second coming of Christ, and then, at the same time, they make statements that He might come tonight or at any moment. How could Christ come at any moment and yet cannot come until certain events happen? These two comings cannot be mixed together. The Scripture that apply to one coming do not apply to the other. There is not one passage in the Bible that refers to both events as if they were one. They are two distinct comings separated by several years and not two phases or stages of one coming. The rapture takes place several years before the literal advent of Christ to the Earth, for they come back with Him at that time. At the rapture, the Lord comes from Heaven as far as the air or earthly heavens and the saints will be caught up to meet Him in the air. At this event the Lord is not to be ruptured, but the saints. At the second coming, the saints are not to be raptured and neither is Christ, but both will come back to the Earth together. The following points will help us to distinguish the rapture from the second coming and give a scriptural understanding of this New Testament revelation.

[4, 5] Contrasts between the Rapture and the Second Coming of Christ

The Rapture	The Second Coming of Christ
Only believers see Christ. The Rapture is private. Heb. 9:28; Acts 1:11	Every eye shall see Him. The Second Coming of Christ is public. Rev. 1:7
Christ meets believers in the air, 1 Thess. 4:17	Christ sets foot on the Mount of Olives, Zech. 14:4
Believers are taken off the earth, John 14:3	At the Second Coming, unbelievers are taken off the earth, Mt. 24:37f
Believers go to heaven, 1 Thess. 4:17	At the Second Coming, believers come back to earth with Christ, 1 Thess. 3:13; Col. 3:4; 2 Thess 4:13; Zech. 14:5
There is no timetable for the Rapture, He will come suddenly, Mark 13:35-37	The Second Coming is seven years after the Rapture, Matt. 24:29-30
Believers are rewarded. 1 Cor. 3:11-15; Rev. 22:12	Unbelievers are judged at the Second Coming; the Baptism of Fire takes place, Matt. 25:31,32,46
The Rapture is a source of comfort to the believer, 1 Thess. 4:18	The Second Coming of Christ is a source of terror for the unbeliever, Rev. 6:15-17
There are no changes in nature associated with the Rapture	There are many changes in nature associated with the Second Coming, Isa. 35
The world is not judged at the Rapture.	The people of the world are judged at the Second Coming, Jude 15
The Rapture is a mystery of the Church Age, 1 Cor. 15:51	The Second Coming is the subject of extensive prophecy in the Old Testament.
The unconditional covenants such as those with Abraham and David are not fulfilled at the Rapture.	The covenants are fulfilled at the Second Coming; Israel inherits her possessions.
The great dragon, ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the accuser of our brothers was hurled down Rev 12:9-10	At the Second Coming, Satan is bound for a thousand years, Rev. 20:2
Once the church is taken off, the persecution starts.	After Second Coming starts the reign of thousand years, Rev 11:15, Daniel 7:27

Has anyone been caught up in the past?

[1] Yes, God has removed individuals from the earth for His own particular reasons. He will continue to catch up those whom He chooses at the appointed time.

Enoch: Genesis 5:23-24 So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. And Enoch walked with God; and he *was* not, for God took him.

Hebrews 11:5 By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him” for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

Elijah: 2 Kings 2:11 Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

The two witnesses: Revelation 11:12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here.” And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.

Jesus: Acts 1:9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. Jesus was taken up to heaven to allow for the Holy Spirit to come indwell the believers at Pentecost (John 16:7)

The time and signs of the Rapture

The time of the rapture, like the second coming, is not definitely stated as to the day or hour, but we do know that it will take place before the tribulation and the revelation of the antichrist. We may say, and certainly be entirely scriptural, that there are no signs of the rapture as there are of the second coming. There never was a sign stated that had to come pass nor a prophecy to be fulfilled before the rapture. The rapture could have taken place in the past, at any time since and it can take place at any time now, or in the future, without a sign or prophecy having to be fulfilled. It is possible that some of the end time signs and prophecies may come to pass before the rapture, but that remains to be seen. We do know by certain indications, that some of the prophecies are now beginning to be fulfilled, thus showing us that the second coming is very near. And if the second coming is near, the rapture is nearer, for the rapture will take place at least seven years before the revelation.

The rapture can take place any time, as proved by the fact that the early Christians were looking for the rapture in their day (Phil. 3:20-21, Titus 2:13). They did not make one statement that certain events must take place before the rapture, so all the modern theories are wrong that teach that certain signs must come pass, that certain prophecies must be fulfilled, that the antichrist must first come, that the tribulation must come first and be completed, and that a revival must first come to get the church ready for the rapture. This is altogether out of harmony with the doctrine of the rapture, as taught in the Scriptures.

Purpose of rapture

[3] The purpose of the rapture is to resurrect the just from the dead and take all the saints out of the world before the tribulation comes, in order that they may have fulfilled in them the purpose for which God has saved them. Jesus told the disciples that some would escape the terrible things that were to transpire on the earth in the last days. He said, “Pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man” Luke 21:34-36. This passage is particularly the same in essence as John 14:1-3.

Luke 21:34-36 and John 14:1-3 are the only two passages in the Gospels that are clear concerning the rapture. Jesus did not reveal this mystery. It was revealed by Paul many years later in 1 Corinthians 15:51. The disciples did not have the slightest idea as to how they were to escape, unless they thought that Christ would deliver them from these things through His power. The Thessalonians were taught that they could expect the living to be taken out of the world, but somewhere confused as to whether the dead believers would have a part in the rapture, so Paul explained in his first epistle that both the living and the dead would be caught up to meet Christ in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). In this passage we have the purpose of the rapture expressed “And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” It is to enable the saints to escape the tribulation days and serve God in all eternity in whatever capacity He chooses. The purpose of the rapture may be summed up thus:

1. To receive the saints to Himself (John 14:1-3; Eph. 5:27; 2 Thess. 2:1)
2. To resurrect the dead in Christ from among the wicked dead (1 Cor. 15:21-23, 51-58; 1Thess. 4:13-17; Phil. 3:11, 20, 21; Rev. 20:4-6)
3. To take the saints to Heaven where they will receive judgment for works done in the body, receive their rewards, and partake of the marriage supper (John 14:1-3; Col. 3:4; 1 Thess. 3:13; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 19:1-11)
4. To change the bodies of saints from mortality to immortality (1 Cor. 15:21-23, 51-58; Phil. 3:20, 21; 2 Cor. 5:1-8)
5. To present the saints before God the Father to be forever with Him (1 Thess. 3:13; 4:13-17; Eph. 5:27; 2 Thess. 2:1; John 14:1-3)
6. To make the saints “whole” in the body, soul and spirit (2 Thess. 3:13, 5:23)
7. To receive the fruit of the early and later rain (James 5:7)
8. To cause the saints to escape the tribulation and “all these things” and stand before the son of man (Luke 21:34-36; 2 Thess. 2:7, 8; Rev.4:1; 2 Thess. 5:9)
9. To remove the hinderer of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:1-8)
10. To permit the revelation of the antichrist (2 Thess. 2:1-8)

One or many raptures?

[3] The rapture mentioned in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:50-54 is the first of a series of raptures that will take place during the first resurrection. Besides this rapture there will be the rapture of male child (Rev 7:1-3; 12:5; 14:1-5), the rapture of the great multitude of tribulation saints (Rev 6:9-11; 7:9-17; 15:2-4; 20:4-6), and the rapture of the two witnesses (Rev 11:3-13). The teaching of more than one rapture is not only required and stated in the above passages, but necessary to make clear what Paul meant when he said, “every man in his own order” (1 Cor. 15:20-23). In order for every man to

be raptured "I his own order" or company there must be different companies of redeemed people saved and raptured at different periods. This is proved in the following facts:

1. *The Old Testament Saints*. John the Baptist completed this company (Matt. 11:1-12, Luke 16:16, John 3:29). In these passages both Jesus and John recognized it as being separate from the church saints.

2. *The Church saints*. The passages such as Matt 16:18; 1 Cor. 12:27, 28; Eph. 1:20-23, 2:14-22, 4:12-16, 5:21-32; Col. 1:18,24 prove that the church of the New Testament did not begin before Christ's ministry on Earth, for He is the head and founder of it.

3. *The 144,000 Jews* are identified as a separate company from any other in Rev. 7:1-8; 9:4; 14:1-5.

4. *The great multitude of tribulation saints* are proved to be a company distinct from the above three in rev. 6:9-11; 7:9-17; 14:13; 15:2-4; 20:4-6.

Reasons why we believe many will miss the rapture

[6] That the Rapture is the reward of readiness seems clearly taught from the Scriptures. And the fact that many will miss this. glorious event is taught as evidenced in the following Biblical passages.

1. Jesus taught that some who looked for His coming will miss it. He said, "The days will come when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see it." (Luke 17:22) There are, in reality, two days of our Lord's Return referred to in 2 Timothy 4: 1 as "his appearing" and "his kingdom." When our Lord appears the saints will be caught up to meet Him. And when our Lord returns to this earth, He comes to establish His millennial kingdom. The implication of Scripture would seem to be that some who anticipate the day of rapture will miss it.

2. Rev. 7:7-14 indicates that "a great multitude" will be left behind at the coming of Christ to go through the Great Tribulation. It is said of these tribulation saints that they "washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." The evidence is that their robes were defiled, spotted and dirty at the coming of the Lord and amidst tribulation they repented, although many may have died for their faith. On the basis of this Scripture, the late G. Campbell Morgan stated: "Personally, I am convinced that not all Christian people will be taken to be with Christ on His return, but only those Who by the attitude of their lives are ready for His appearing."

3. The Parable of the Ten Virgins found only half of those looking for the coming bridegroom ready for His appearance. (Matt. 25:1-13) Whatever interpretations are made of this parable, it is plainly shown that five were ready and went into the marriage at the coming of the Bridegroom while the remaining five missed the event. Scofield writes: "That the marriage of the Lamb takes place in heaven is clear from Rev. 19:1 with verses 7-10 where we read in part, 'Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.'

4. A parallel parable in Luke 12:35-40 would indicate some will not be ready until our Lord returns from the wedding. This passage in Luke 12:35-48, although seldom preached on, teaches that:

- A. Some won't be ready until our Lord returns from the wedding. (Luke 12:35)
- B. That the possibility exists that our Lord may come at two different times, described as the second watch or third watch. (Luke 12:38)
- C. That if the one in charge would have watched the house had not been broken through. (Luke 12:39)
- D. That the servant who looked for His Lord's coming but who lived carelessly shall be left behind with "unbelievers," (Luke 12:46) .
- E. That depending on the servant's knowledge of the Lord's will, he will be beaten with few stripes or many stripes.

5. The Apostle Paul spoke of the "resurrection from among the dead" as a prize to be gained, saying: "I press toward the mark (the goal) for the prize of the high calling (upward calling) of God in Christ Jesus," Phil. 3,14. Again Sarah Foulkes Moore notes: "Many Christians today are taking for granted they are ready. How different is their slothful attitude from that of the great apostle, Paul. At the time he was writing the Philippians (Phil. 3:10) he was not sure he had met the requirements of readiness for the - first resurrection. He said, "Not though I had already attained, but I press toward the mark." He lived his daily Christian experience as a man running a race with the purpose In view of winning a prize. The prize Paul desired to win was Christ, the Bridegroom. He already knew Christ as Lord and Savior. Later he admitted to having attained that goal saying, "I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day," 2 Tim. 4:7-8.

6. That "crowns" may be lost is stressed by John in Rev. 3:11, indicating the possibility of losing the reward of being raptured. We read: "Behold I come quickly, hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown," While salvation is a gift, it is clearly taught that there are rewards to be gained in running the Christian life. While there is no evidence that the "rapture" is included in salvation, it behooves us to examine the Scriptures to see if it may be one of the "crowns" or "rewards" given to the faithful.

7. The history of the Laodicean Church is that it would be "spued out" at the coming of the Lord. McCrossan says that the Laodicean Church will go through the tribulation: That the tribulation is a time of chastening is clear for all to see. God does not chasten the wicked but punishes them. He chastens His own.

8. The history of the Philadelphia Church, on the other hand, gives promise to those who keep God's Word that they will also be kept from the "hour of temptation that shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." Rev. 3:10. As McCrossan points out--God is going to send a time of trial upon the whole inhabited earth but that he will keep the Philadelphia Church out of this trial.

9. Promises concerning the Wrath of God would indicate the possibility of escape from coming awful tribulation providing certain conditions are met. 1 Thess. 5:9 reminds us: "God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him."On

the other hand, we read: "The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness..." Rom. 1:19

10. Several Old Testament passages collaborate the teaching that many will succumb to a period of trial that serves as a purging and purifying test that is linked to the End time. Daniel writes: " And *some* of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify *them*, and make *them* white, *until* the time of the end; because *it is* still for the appointed time" Dan. 11:35. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand.' Malachi writes: "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderers' soap.³ He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness" Mal. 3:2-3.

11. Finally, the evidence of many missing the rapture to go through the tribulation is illustrated in the flood. As Noah rode over the flood, so the raptured saints will be raised by being "caught up" into the presence of our wonderful Lord at His coming. And as many during the flood called upon' the Lord, amid the choking, screaming cries of repentance, our Lord heard, and when He died He went to these spirits in their captivity and preached unto them.

Will there be a second chance for salvation after the Rapture?

[7] Some Bible interpreters believe that there will be no second chance for salvation after the Rapture. However, there is no place in the Bible which says this or even hints to it. There will be many people who come to Christ during the Tribulation. The 144,000 Jewish witnesses (Revelation 7:4) are Jewish believers. If no one can come to Christ during the Tribulation, then why are people being beheaded for their faith (Revelation 20:4)? No passage of Scripture argues against people having a second chance after the Rapture. Many passages indicate the opposite.

A variation of this argument is that those who have heard the Gospel and rejected it before the Rapture cannot be saved, but those who had not heard the Gospel before the rapture can be saved. There is also no biblical justification for this view. Granted, most who were hard-hearted toward the Gospel before the Rapture are likely to remain so. The Antichrist will deceive many (Matthew 24:5). Many will believe the lies (2 Thessalonians 2:11). At the same time, there is no scriptural evidence that those who rejected the Gospel before the Rapture have no opportunity for salvation after the Rapture.

In fact, there is ample evidence of the opposite. The fifth seal judgment of Revelation 6:9-11 describes the souls of those martyred during the Tribulation "because of the Word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained." They will correctly interpret what they see going on around them during the Tribulation, calling on people to repent and believe the Gospel. The Antichrist and his followers will not tolerate this and will kill them. These are people who must have been alive before the Rapture, but who were not believers until afterward. Therefore, there will be opportunity to come to Christ after the Rapture.

[3] They are saved after the rapture, having realized by then their mistake of not heeding the many warnings to be ready at the time. Those who are martyred in the tribulation are those who have refused to walk in the light and live in Christ and are not ready to go at the time of the rapture; else they would go as well as all others in Christ. They will become determined to be faithful even unto death, which will be their only prospect of having a part in the first resurrection.

Will babies and young children be taken in the Rapture?

[8] The Bible does not specifically say what will happen to babies, infants, and children when the rapture occurs. This causes many Christians to worry that they will be taken in the rapture, and their young children will be left behind to face the terrible tribulation. Is this possible? No, we do not believe it is. As we explain our viewpoint, please understand that this is, at best, informed speculation. Again, the Bible does not specifically address this issue.

It is our view that children who are under the age of accountability will be taken in the rapture. If a child has not reached the point that he/she can make a decision for or against Christ, we would hold that if he/she dies, he/she will be granted entrance into heaven. We also hold that this principle, based entirely on God's mercy, applies to the rapture. Some propose that only the children of believers will be raptured. We disagree. If a child's salvation while under the age of accountability is not based on the faith-status of his/her parents, neither is the child's participation in the deliverance of the rapture. It is our belief, albeit not explicitly taught in Scripture, that all those under the age of accountability will be taken in the rapture.

What takes place after the Rapture?

It is interesting to note that there are many material already prepared and made available for post rapture use. I came across one such interesting letter that is written to post rapture saints by another saint who is just raptured.

[9] Dear Tribulation Saints,

I'm writing to you to explain what the government and talking heads will try to explain away. The millions of people that have disappeared were not taken by some UFO in the sky and they weren't vaporized into nonexistence by whatever sub-molecular theory physicists have gravitated towards.

What you've witnessed, what even time cannot reduce in significance or splendor, was the rapture into heaven of every born-again person who had an intimate relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Good news for us, but better for you. Can any other unbeliever throughout the centuries after Jesus claim to have received such an obvious second chance than yourselves? Of course with every good comes a bad.

You must not only live through the most tumultuous time in human history, but you must face a man who will eventually become possessed by Satan himself. This man, the Antichrist, will have two reasons for living--to kill those who trust in God, and to have

the rest bow down in worship before him. For your eternal future and everything else you hold sacred, please do not become a part of this second group.

He will distinguish between groups by making those who worship him take his mark. No matter what, no matter the torture or lives being held over you--**DO NOT ACCEPT THIS MARK!** To do so damns you to a hell that doesn't contain red-suited devils with horns and tails, to do so damns you to an eternal torment and separation from God and everything else that is good. It always better to lose your life than your soul.

But I'm getting ahead of myself. The Antichrist will make his arrival by signing a seven-year peace treaty with Israel. From the time of this signing, you can determine the physical coming of Jesus Christ at 2520 days (seven biblical years). Halfway through this covenant the Antichrist will declare himself God, instigating a series of judgments similar to those used by Moses to free the people of Israel from Egypt.

All of this is in the Book of Revelation--read it! I recommend you buy a Bible before they become outlawed. I also recommend you buy a water purifier, lots of canned goods and everything else you'll need in the coming years to sustain yourself and fellow believers. Don't worry, God does not hate you. These events are preordained and being done to rock that false sense of security you may have been living with. Repent of your sins. They will be forgiven, large or small, and accept the Lord Jesus Christ into your heart. He loves you more than you could ever imagine. And watch the sky, we're coming back, trailing Jesus in numbers you saints will more than surpass. You now know when.

God Bless and trust in him as you have no other.

How do we prepare for rapture?

In other words, what are the qualifications for partakers of rapture? The one and only necessary requirement for men, whether they are dead or alive, is to be "in Christ". These qualifications are expressed in a nine fold way in Scripture. One must:

1. Be Christ's (1 Co. 15:23; Gal. 5:24)
2. Be in Christ (1 Thess. 4:16, 17:2; 2 Cor. 5:17)
3. Be blessed and holy (Rev. 20:4-6, Heb. 12:14)
4. Have done good (John 5:28, 29)
5. Be in the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:1-6)
6. Be worthy (Luke 21:34-36)
7. Be in the church or body of Christ (Eph. 5:27; 1 Cor. 12:13)
8. Purify himself, even as he is pure (1 John 1:7; 3:2, 3; 2 Cor. 7:1; Gal. 5:16-26; Heb. 12:14)
9. Be without spot or wrinkle and without blemish (Eph. 5:27)

If one has met these scriptural qualifications, what more could he do? This implies that a person going up in the rapture is walking in the light as he is in the light. Being in Christ means that one is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new. And all things are of God who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 5:17, 18). To belong to Christ means that they have crucified the flesh

(Gal. 5:19-21) with the affections and lusts (Gal. 5:24). This means they are good, holy, blessed, and free from sin. What better qualifications for the rapture could God require? These nine points on qualifications are quoted from Scriptures definitely dealing with the rapture of the church. If there were other qualifications or those that were more important wouldn't they have been stated in the passages on the rapture in the place of these that are given? We conclude that it is not receiving other experiences, whatever they may be, or however scriptural they may be, that qualifies one to go up in the rapture, but it is the maintenance of a holy walk in Christ at the time of the rapture or at the time of death as the case may be.

When I think of rapture, what comes in my mind is what Jesus portrayed in Matthew 24:37-44. These verses more apply to the day we live than ever before. Reading these verses gives a sense of urgency to set things right with the Lord and prepare to meet Him at any time when He shows up. Even though the Lord talks about a chance of fifty percent of being caught up, a fear grips my heart when I consider what had happened during the days of Noah. It is a warning for the church today and a message to the million out there in the world that such event is going to take place soon. Let us look at these precious Words of Jesus. Matthew 24:37-44 "But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two *men* will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two *women will be* grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." May the Lord help us to realize this prophetic truth about secret coming and prepare us for the great day of rapture.

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