



Doctrine of Eschatology

THE RAPTURE

Meaning of the Term

□ Definition

- Greek = haptazo, “to suddenly remove”
- Latin = raptura
- English = Rapture

□ Usage

- “stealing” (Matt 11:12; 12:29; 13:19; John 10:28-29)
- “removing” (John 6:15; Jude 22-23)
- “caught up” (2 Cor 12:2-4)

Primary Texts

- ☐ John 14:1-3
- ☐ 1 Thess 1:9-10
- ☐ 1 Thess 4:13-18
- ☐ 1 Thess 5:9
- ☐ Rev 3:10

The Event

- ❑ Believers will meet the Lord in the “air”
- ❑ Includes all living believers and those dead “in Christ” since Pentecost
- ❑ Signaled by;
 - A “shout”
 - The “voice of an archangel”
 - A “trumpet of God”

Timing of the Event

- ❑ Takes place before the Tribulation
- ❑ Provides for Marriage Supper of the Lamb

The Tribulation Distinction

- ❑ A time of Judgment
- ❑ Concludes the “fullness of the Gentiles”
- ❑ Returns prophetic focus to Israel & the 70th “week”
- ❑ The church isn’t mentioned in Rev 6-18

Rapture vs. 2nd Coming of Christ

Rapture

- Jesus comes in the “air”
- Jesus comes with blessing
- The timing is imminent
- Believers taken from the earth
- Christ “goes”
- Christ is the one who gathers
- Unbelievers remain
- No kingdom presence
- Jesus returns “for” his church
- This was a “mystery”

2nd Coming of Christ

- Jesus comes to the Mt. of Olives
- Jesus comes with judgment
- The timing is sequential
- Unbelievers taken from the earth
- Christ “stays”
- Angels are the ones who gather
- Believers remain
- Kingdom is established
- Jesus returns “with” his church
- This was clearly predicted