



THE

RAPTURE?

# Definition of Rapture:

**Webster:** The **vertical** (I added this word) transporting of believers to heaven at the second coming of Christ

**[Raptureready.com](http://Raptureready.com):** The rapture is an event that will take place sometime in the near future. Jesus will come in the air, catch up the Church from the earth, and then return to Heaven with the Church

# **Three main individuals are given credit for the Rapture**

**John Nelson Darby 1833**

**Ephraem 4<sup>th</sup> Century Catholic Saint**

**Margaret Macdonald 1830**

# **John Nelson Darby 1833**

**Most Rapture believers quote that Darby was a big believer in the rapture. As far as my research I could not find this to be true.**



**Darby has 6 lectures on the Second Coming of Christ and I could not find any reference to anything suggesting that he believed in the rapture. Only one lecture did he quote 1 Thessalonian chapter 4.**

**<https://www.stempublishing.com/authors/darby/>**

**Quote from his BIO**

***“Revisiting Plymouth in 1845, he found considerable departure from the teaching maintained elsewhere on ministry, justification, the secret rapture, etc. J. N. D. withdrew from the meeting as dominated by Newton, and the first division amongst those called ‘brethren’ had happened.”***

**<https://www.stempublishing.com/authors/Biographies/jndarby.html>**

# Ephraem 4<sup>th</sup> Century Catholic Saint

Quote from Ephraem sermon (could not verify this)

*“All the saints and elect of God are gathered together before the tribulation, which is to come, and are taken to the Lord, in order that they may not see at any time the confusion which overwhelms the world because of our sins.”*

Most of Ephraem's works are referred to as Pseudo-Ephraem, which means false, deceptive or sham.



# Margaret Macdonald 1830

**Most non-believers in the rapture give credit to Margaret. Both sides agree she had a dream (in 1830 at the age of 14 or 15) and that is had something to do with the rapture.**

**Following down the Margaret path was a waste of time and energy.**



# 4 Types of Rapture

Theologians remain currently divided over the timing of the Rapture

***Pre-Tribulation Rapture:*** (or "pre-trib") The Rapture happens just before the Tribulation, so that believers will not have to experience any of its disruption and pain. Most conservative Christians currently believe this theory.

***Mid-Tribulation Rapture:*** (or "mid-trib") The Rapture happens about 42 months into the Tribulation. Initially, the rule of the Antichrist is relatively benign. He arranges a peace treaty between Israel and surrounding countries. But three and a half years into his reign as world dictator, events take a sudden turn for the worse.

***Post-tribulation Rapture:*** (or post-trib'') The faithful experience the horrors and killings of the Tribulation. All suffer and many are killed. Believers are then raptured at the end of the 7 years of horror.

***Partial Rapture*** (a.k.a. Split Rapture): This is a minority belief among conservative Christians. It is a variation of the Pre-trib rapture in which there are two raptures: A pre-trib rapture and resurrection occurs before the tribulation, but only for those born-again Christians who have earned special treatment by having been actively watching, waiting and praying for the rapture.

Those born-again Christians who have not been doing these "works" will have to endure at least part of the tribulation. They will be raptured partway through or at the end of the tribulation period.

# **What does the bible say about Rapture?**

**<https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/rapture-bible-verses/>**

**The Rapture - the raising of the Church into heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:17)—is the next event on the prophetic calendar. The Rapture is when Christ comes back and takes every Christian that is still on this earth and resurrects all of those who have died and takes them to heaven with Him**

# Some Scriptures for Rapture

## 23 different

### 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 Same

**For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.**

# Why did Paul write these versus

The end of 1 Thessalonians, as well as much of 2 Thessalonians, is focused on the return of Jesus Christ in what we now call "the rapture." Based on these passages, we surmise the Christians of Thessalonica might have been struggling with false teachings, rumors, or fears. **In response to those who wondered what happens to a believer who dies before Jesus returns, Paul exhorts his readers not to grieve as the unsaved grieve.** He explains that when Jesus returns, He will resurrect the bodies of departed Christians and then catch up living Christians to be with Him forever. Paul called upon the Thessalonians to use these truths for each other's encouragement

[www.bibleref.com](http://www.bibleref.com)

## Matthew 24:29-31 Different 24:34-40

**29** Immediately **after the tribulation** of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: **30** And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. **31** And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

**Some Web sites start at verse 30 and leave off 29**

## **Matthew 24:40-42 Different 24:47-49**

**Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken and the other left. Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.**

## **John 14:3 Different 14:3**

**And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.**

## **Luke 10:20 Different 10:21**

**However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”**

## **Revelation 3:10 Different 3:10**

**Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.**

# **Will my children be raptured?**

**Many prophetic writers make blanket statements that all children will be raptured. I do not foresee an all-inclusive rapture of every child. However, I do look for the children of Christians to be raptured because of a blessing from their parents' faith.**

**The two greatest biblical examples of God's wrath being poured out on man both involved the saving of the righteous and their children. When Noah got into the ark, his children accompanied him. When Lot left Sodom, his two daughters went with him. In both cases, all of the children who remained behind perished.**

# Will some Christians miss the rapture?

<https://www.raptureready.com/faqs/#RAPTURE-READY>

This is new this year.

A special category of Christians may miss the rapture due to their lack of faith in God's ability to remove His people ahead of the tribulation. The Bible says we need to pray that we're accounted worthy to escape the tribulation.

"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man" ([Luke 21:36](#)). **Different 21:36**

# **Will some Christians miss the rapture?**

**Those who lacked faith in the pre-trib rapture run the risk of blocking this blessing. When Jesus was on His healing mission, He said that He could not heal people in some towns because of their lack of faith.**

**I think Satan fully knows the destruction that doubt causes. This is probably why he's tricked so many Christians into opposing the pre-trib rapture.**

# **Will some Christians miss the rapture?**

**The Word of God does not give us solid proof that Christians who oppose the pre-trib rapture will miss out on the blessed event; however, it is my understanding that the devil doesn't do anything for nothing. If you are someone in hostility to the pre-trib rapture doctrine, I would caution you to reexamine your end-time view.**

# **Can People Repent and be Saved after the Rapture?**

**Back in 2005 (when I researched this) the answer would be no, from my research!**

**Revelation 7:14 Same**

**And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

# **Can People Repent and be Saved after the Rapture?**

**Many believe the previous verse means people who had a chance to be saved before the Rapture but rejected Christ won't have any hope of salvation after the Rapture. But the 2 Thessalonians 2 account doesn't actually say that will be the case. This Scripture indicates that all who reject God's call to salvation and choose to stay in their sin will be given over to Satan and his man of the Tribulation hour, Antichrist. They will fall for his lies and be damned forever. They will be damned without hope of redemption when they take Antichrist's mark. (See Revelation chapter 13.)**

# **The Word Rapture is not found in the Bible!**

**I've always been totally amazed at how some folks write me and try use the fact that the word “rapture” does not appear in the Bible as an argument against its validity. The issue should be whether or not the concept of the rapture appears in the Bible.**

**[www.raptureready](http://www.raptureready.com) .com**

**With 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 giving us such a clear description of the rapture, you would have to conclude some people are just playing games with the Word of God. I could change the name of my site to “Catching-Up Ready” to satisfy these folks, but I hardly think that would improve things.**

# **The Word Rapture is not found in the Bible!**

**Their logic runs very thin because a huge number of words don't appear in the Bible, including the word “Bible.” Because God's Word was originally written in Hebrew and Greek, one could truthfully say that no English words are found in the Bible.**

# **How do you plan to maintain this site after the rapture?**

**I have no master plan for maintaining Rapture Ready all the way through the seven-year tribulation. After the big event takes place, I expect RR to last several months. After all, the internet was designed to survive a nuclear war. It should be able to survive the great catching up of all believers**

# **What if the Rapture Doesn't Occur?**

## **The Rapture will Happen!**

## **Biblical Journeys Video Library by Jerry Falwell Sr. (with Ed Hindson & Tim Lahaye)**

**He states that the bible does not tell us when the rapture will take place. He compares the Christian to the Bride of Christ which is Christ Church. He says that he cannot believe that Christ will let his Bride suffer thru 7 years of tribulation, so he will rapture his people up before the tribulation. The definition of tribulation is “distress or suffering resulting from oppression or persecution; a trying experience.”**

**He also states that there are other raptures in the bible,**

**Acts 8:39-40**

**And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were come up out of the water, the spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea.**

**I just want to point out that this is a horizontal Rapture not a vertical Rapture.**

# Tribulation

**When Susan was preparing for her class, she found this quote that is a good reminder for us as Christians.**

***We are all going to suffer through scary situations. We all have and we all will again. But we can suffer differently than the rest of the world suffers. We can cry and wrestle through the deep pains of life like people who know that hope is up ahead. - Scarlet Hiltibidal Fear of all Things.***

# **Tribulation**

**Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.**

**Job 13:15 Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him; but I will maintain mine own ways before him.**