

The Simple Truth Series #22

# The secret Rapture

## of the Church

*'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.'*

*1 Thessalonians 4:17*

Brother Kevin  
[www.therescueshop.org](http://www.therescueshop.org)

*'And expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.'* Acts 18:26.

# Contents

1. The coming of the Lord	2
2. "What will be the sign of Thy coming?"	3
3. "But of that day and hour knoweth no man."	4
4. God does nothing, except in answer to prayer	5
5. The Apostasy	9
6. The time of the end	10
7. Prepare ye the way of the Lord	11
8. He's coming soon	12

# 1.

## The coming of the Lord

*'15. For this we say unto you by the Word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.*

*16. 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:*

*17. 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.'*

1 Thessalonians 4:15-17

In verse 15, Paul mentions, *'the coming of the Lord.'* The event that Paul is talking about here, is what is commonly known as the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, but it is often referred to as the Catching Away, or the Rapture. I want to share some thoughts here, about the Rapture, and particularly about *when, why, and how*, it will take place.

In Isaiah 57:1, we are told, *'Merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.'* And as all Christian's know, or should know, the Rapture is the return of Jesus Christ for His Elect. He is going to take them off the earth, to protect them, before He punishes the Serpent's Seed during the Great Tribulation. He is going to punish them severely, for their persecution of His Elect, and for their persecution of Israel.

In verse 16, it says, *'For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout.'* Why does this event begin with the Lord shouting? The answer is found in John 11:43, when the Lord stood before the tomb of Lazarus, who had died several days earlier. *'He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.'* And Lazarus came out from the tomb, alive again, and resurrected. At the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, the first thing the Lord will do, is to call for His Elect who have died to, *"Come forth!"* as Paul reveals in verse 16, *'The dead in Christ shall rise first.'*

This is the first resurrection, the resurrection of the just, which is mentioned in Revelation 20:6, *'Blessed and holy is he who hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death has no power.'* The first death is the death of the body, the second death is the death of the soul and spirit, and the end of consciousness and existence forever, for the condemned, in the lake of fire, after the White Throne Judgement (Revelation 20:11-15).

At the time of the Second Coming, the Lord does not set foot upon the earth. Paul reveals this to us in verse 17. After the living and resurrected Saints have spent a period of time together, *'we which are alive and remain, will be caught up together with them,*

*to meet the Lord in the air.'*

We all meet Him in the clouds. It's a secret coming because He is returning to take His own from this world, and this coming does not concern anyone else on earth but them, so the rapture is often called, The Secret Rapture of the Church.

## 2.

### What will be the sign of Thy coming?

In the beginning of Matthew 24 the Disciples asked the Lord 3 questions, one of which was, ***"What will be the sign of thy coming?"*** They meant *sign*, as in *signposts*, because they presumed, He was going to return within their lifetimes, so they asked Him; what do we look for, so we can know it's time for your return?

If you were making a long journey in the dark, there would be times on your journey when you would wonder, "Where am I?" because you don't see anything familiar. Then you see a sign ahead saying Hunterville, and you think, "That's good, I'm at Hunterville," so you know exactly where you are, and you don't need to guess any longer. That's why the Lord revealed certain signs to us, because they are events that we are to look for, so we will know exactly where we are, in relation to His Return, so that we aren't just guessing, or hoping.

When the Lord began talking about the signs that would precede His return, he said, in Matthew 24:6, ***"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet."***

So, we know that wars and rumours of wars are a sign for us to look for, but the Lord said, don't be alarmed when you hear of wars and rumours of wars, because this is not the end, it's only the *beginning* of the end.

But later on in verses 32-33, after He had revealed a lot more signs, He gave us a warning, when He said : ***"Now learn a parable of the fig tree: When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors."*** So, now He is telling us, when you see these later signs appearing it is, ***'even at the doors,'*** so at that time it's getting close to the *end of the end*.

When the Disciples asked what signs they should look for, a part of the Lord's answer is found in Matthew 24:6-13, where He said,

***"6. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.***

***7. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall***

*be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.*

*8. All these are the beginning of sorrows.*

*9. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for My Names sake.*

*10. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.*

*11. And many false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive many.*

*12. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.*

*13. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."*

These are all signposts along the road to the Lord's return. In verse 7 He said, ***"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom"***

In 1914 most of the countries of Europe were still Monarchies, ruled by a King or Queen. So when WW1 began, Kingdoms were fighting against Kingdoms, but by the end of WW2, the Monarchies were gone, replaced by Governments, and WW2 ended with Nations fighting against Nations. That was a step the world took, from kingdoms fighting kingdoms, to nations fighting nations, which the Lord told us to watch for, because it was a sign for us. The countdown to His Return had begun.

He also said, ***"And there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places."*** We know about famines and pestilences, and in the 1970's it was stated, that there had been more earthquakes in the first 70 years of the last century, than there had been in all of recorded history. So that was another sign we were to notice, there would be an increased occurrence of earthquakes before His return. Then in verse 8 the Lord said, ***"All these are the beginning of sorrows."*** That was still only the *beginning* of all that will take place.

### 3.

***"But of that day and hour knoweth no man."***

In verse 36, after He had revealed a lot of these signs, He said, ***"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only."*** So no-one knows the exact time when the Lord will return, but we are told to watch for these signs, and when we see them coming to pass, we will know it's time to get ready.

I have a friend who is fond of saying, "If anyone thinks they know what year the Lord will return, they're wrong, because Jesus said no-one will know what year He will return." No, Jesus didn't actually say that, He said, "No man will know the day nor the hour." He never said we couldn't know the year, the month, or the week, He could

reveal them to us, but that's as much as we could know, because we won't know the exact day, nor the exact hour, until it happens.

In the 1830's there was a farmer in the US named William Miller, who studied the Book of Daniel, and from his studies he concluded that the Lord was going to return on a certain day in 1843, even though he didn't consider the signs that were to take place beforehand.

So, for several years he preached that date as the time of the Lord's return, and he amassed a huge following. Then on the night before the Lord was to return, all of his followers gathered up on a hill, to welcome the Lord when He arrived, but He didn't arrive.

These people believed William was right, and many of them had given away everything they owned. Those who had farms hadn't planted any crops, because they were convinced they wouldn't be around to harvest them, so, they had a hard time over the following year. But William went back to his figures and he found that he had made a mistake, the year was actually 1844, so once again everyone gathered on a hill on this certain night, to welcome the Lord when He returned, but once again He never showed, and again, Godly people starved, because they weren't prepared for another year on earth.

William Miller was a good man and he was honest. He really believed he had worked out the day and hour, but he was wrong, so he publicly admitted that he was wrong, and he apologised to everyone. But the Lord did give us definite signs to look for, because He's coming for us, so He wants us to recognise the signs, and be ready to meet Him at that time.

## 4.

### God does nothing, except in answer to prayer

When the Lord said, "***No man knows the day nor the hour,***" He makes it sound like a *coming-ready-or-not* situation, and because of that we hear people say, "The Lord could come this afternoon, or tonight." Yes, He could, but I don't believe He will, because He isn't going to come just because He has nothing better to do, on some particular day, His Return is going to happen in response to something, because that's how things take place between Heaven and earth. Something happens on earth, and Heaven responds to it. That's why John Wesley reminded us God does nothing, except in answer to prayer, so, we'll look at a couple of examples of this.

Joseph was the youngest of Jacob's 12 sons. Joseph was Spiritual, and the Lord spoke to him in dreams, and Jacob loved him above the others, so he spoiled him. Because of

this his brethren were jealous of him, and when they found him away from his father, they caught him. Some of them wanted to kill him, but instead they sold him to some traders going to Egypt, who sold him into slavery there.

Joseph's brethren thought they were getting rid of him, but the Lord was taking Joseph to Egypt, because that's where his calling was, his brothers were merely following the leading of the Holy Spirit, and the Lord used their dislike of their brother to fulfil His Divine Will.

The Lord gave dreams to Pharaoh at this time, in which he revealed what was going to happen on earth, and Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dreams for him. He told Pharaoh there would be 7 years of exceptionally good harvests, followed by 7 years when nothing would grow. And Joseph suggested to Pharaoh that he should appoint someone to gather and store a fifth of the harvest during the 7 years of plenty, to feed the people during the 7 years of famine. And Pharaoh said, in Genesis 41:38, ***"Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?"***

So, Joseph was appointed to oversee the storing of grain. The grain came to Joseph in bushels, by hundreds, then thousands, then they stopped counting it because it was beyond measure. Then the 7 years of plenty ended, and the 7 years of famine began. The famine covered the north of Africa and the Middle East, but Egypt survived it well, because Pharaoh was fore warned about it by the Lord, and because Joseph was sent there by the Lord, to store up food for the years of famine. That food wasn't stored up so the Egyptians would survive the famine, it was stored up so God's people would survive it. Joseph was sent to Egypt so Jacob and his family would survive it, because they were a part of the Plan of God. That's the way it's always been. The things the Lord does on earth are for the sake of His Elect, those who are a part of His Divine Plan.

When the Lord was going to flood the earth in Noah's day, He told Noah to build the Ark. What was the Ark built for? To save anyone who wanted to be saved? No, it was built to save Noah and his family from the Judgement of the flood, because they were the last of God's Elect on earth at that time.

In 2 Peter 2:5 it says, ***'And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eight person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly.'*** The flood did not drown any of God's Elect, it only destroyed the ungodly. That's what Hebrews 11:7 also tells us, ***'By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an Ark to the saving of his house.'*** The Ark was prepared to save Noah's *house*, his *family*, not just any random person who wanted to escape the flood. And the Rapture is prepared to save the last of God's Elect upon earth, from the judgements of the Great Tribulation. It isn't prepared to save anyone else on earth who wants to be saved from the Tribulation.

When food became scarce in Canaan, and people were dying of starvation, Jacob sent

some of his sons to Egypt to buy grain, and we have the well-known event happening, when Joseph revealed himself to his brothers, and they found out that he had become Pharaoh's right-hand-man. When Pharaoh found out Joseph's family were living in a land that was starving, he invited Joseph to bring them to Egypt, to sustain them over the years of famine to come.

When the famine began the people bought grain from Joseph for money, and we're told in Genesis 47:14, ***'And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, for the corn which they bought; and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house.'***

When money ran out Joseph traded grain for horses and cattle, and when they were all sold the people sold their land for grain, and in Genesis 47:23-24 we read, ***'Then Joseph said unto the people, Behold I have bought you this day and your land for Pharaoh: lo, here is seed for you, and ye shall sow the land. And it shall come to pass in the increase, that ye shall give the fifth part unto Pharaoh, and four parts shall be your own.'***

That was 4000 years ago, and I don't know how true this is, but many years ago I read a book which stated, the Pharaoh's had owned the land of Egypt from the day Joseph bought it until 1952, when the last King of Egypt was deposed.

When Jacob and his family arrived in Egypt, they were welcomed as royalty, and in Genesis 47:6 Pharaoh said to Joseph, ***'The land of Egypt is before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and brethren to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell.'***

Pharaoh was eternally grateful to Joseph, because his people and his land had survived the famine. But then that Pharaoh died, and Joseph died, and Pharaoh's were born who did not know what a great thing it was, to be delivered from the 7 years of famine, because they did not have to endure it personally. And they loathed these people living in their land, so they began to persecute them, then they enslaved them, to be used as forced labour.

And Israel would still be slaves in Egypt today, except for something that happened. They began to pray. For deliverance from slavery, and for deliverance from Egypt. They lived in Egypt, but it was not their home. They were strangers in a strange land, but they wanted to go to their own land, so they cried out to the Lord, begging Him to set them free, and take them home.

And in Exodus 2:23-25 we read, ***'And it came to pass in process of time, that the King of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.'***

We all know the story, how Moses was shepherding his father in law's sheep, when

he saw a bush that was burning, but it wasn't being consumed, so he went for a closer look, and the Lord spoke to him. It's recorded in Exodus 3:7-8, ***'And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of My people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their task masters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians.'***

Why did the Lord come to deliver them? Was it because His appointment that morning was cancelled, and he had nothing else on? No, it was because He heard His people crying out for deliverance, and He responded to their prayers by delivering them from slavery, and leading them to a land of their own.

When Adolf Hitler became Chancellor of Germany in 1932, he wanted a scapegoat to blame for Germany's defeat in WW1, and someone to blame for the hardships Germany went through in the 1920's and early 1930's, so he blamed the Jews. And he began persecuting them until WW2 started, when he began what he called, The Final Solution, which was his plan to eradicate every Jew from Europe.

So, as the German Army over-ran other European countries, they rounded up the Jews in them, and shipped them off to concentration camps to be murdered. Jews all over Europe were trying to escape from the Germans, but once again they had nowhere to escape to, because everywhere they went they found they were strangers in a strange land, with nowhere to run, and nowhere to hide. So again, they did the only thing they could do when mankind couldn't help them, they began to pray for deliverance, and for a homeland to escape to; and the Lord heard their cries once again, and He came down to help them. So, the Germans were defeated, and the Nation of Israel was reborn in 1948.

The Rapture will be the same, it's going to happen in response to *our* cries for deliverance. I don't believe the Lord will take us out of here tomorrow, because we're at home here today, and we've never had it so good. None of us ever go without a meal, we never go without anything. Whenever a group of Brothers get together what does the Lord hear from their lips? Does He hear them crying out, "Lord get us out of here?" No, He hears them planning a fishing trip, or a hunting trip, or talking about some sports game. We aren't ready to go yet, because life is so good here, and the Lord doesn't have a reason to take us off this world, because we aren't being persecuted, but that time is coming.

There will come a time when we won't care about our houses, or our cars, or our boats, or anything else we have on this earth, the only thing we will care about at that time will be getting out of here. And that's what the Lord will hear from our lips, our cries for help, "Lord get us out of here." Then He will come for us, and the Rapture will take place.

## 5.

### The Apostasy

We were given signs to look for, so we could know how close we were to the Lord's return, and in 2 Tim 4:3-4 Paul prophesied, ***'For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.'***

Paul was warning us that people who called themselves Christian's in the last days would reject the truth, and prefer to listen to fables instead. What are fables? They're stories that men have made up without God, they're fiction. Back in the late 1800's, Charles Spurgeon wisely said, "The time will come when, instead of shepherds feeding the sheep, we will have clowns entertaining the goats." That's what many 'churches' are like today. They don't want the truth, so clowns are telling them fables to tickle their ears and entertain them. These people attend 'church' regularly, but they are starved of the Word of God, and are Spiritually illiterate.

Even worse than this is the demonic kundalini spirit from India, which has been welcomed into many 'churches' around the world, in place of the Lord's Holy Spirit. A high percentage of mainly charismatic 'churches' have been polluted by this ungodly spirit, and the people are led astray by the unscriptural teachings. Paul warned us about this, when he said, 'In the last days there would come an apostasy.' Meaning a falling away from Divinely revealed truth. This is what happens when unconverted 'christians' follow unconverted 'ministers,' the Spiritually blind lead the Spiritually blind, and they always lead them away from the Word of God by their fables.

During the 1990's a group of Pastors were finding it hard to keep people in their 'churches' and they wondered what they could do to change it. There were two obvious things that were needed, the first was prayer, because in John 15:5 the Lord said, ***"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, for without Me ye can do nothing."*** Without Me ye can do nothing. They ignored that, because they thought *they* could figure it out without Him.

The other thing that was needed was evangelism, because sinners don't go to Church. We have to take the Church to them, meet them on their own turf, and share the Gospel with them there. But these Pastors didn't consider that either.

In their wisdom, these Pastors decided that if they gave the ungodly the things that satisfied them in the world, then they would be satisfied in 'church,' and stay. So, they took the pulpit out of their 'churches,' and replaced it with a stage. Out went the keyboard, and they replaced it with a band, electric guitars and drums. Out went Hymn

books, to be replaced with loud modern music. Out went the Lord, to be replaced with the world. And no more telling people *'you must be born again,'* or *'unless you repent.'* All preaching had to be positive, and it had to be based around the slogan, 'Jesus loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.'

And so, the Seeker Sensitive Movement was formed, which revolved around marketing Christianity to fit consumer demand, consumer demand being the desires of the ungodly. Because the 'church' experience revolved around what non-Christians wanted it had to be appealing to them to attract them. Rock-concert style music, strobe light shows, popcorn to eat while you're being entertained, and a soft-serve sermon which never convicts anyone.

All the Mega-Churches around the world are Seeker Sensitive Churches. They have high attendance with low commitment. But they aren't really given popcorn to eat, they're fed on over-sweetened fables. That's what Charles Spurgeon foretold back in the 1800's.

Here is another quote, from about the same time. It's from William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army. He said, "I consider that the chief dangers which will confront the twentieth century will be, religion without the Holy Spirit, Christianity without Christ, forgiveness without regeneration, morality without God, and heaven without hell." And sadly, we have witnessed all of that coming to pass.

## 6.

### The time of the end

So, we have signs to look for, not only in Matthew 24, but signs of the end-time were given to us in many other books of the Bible as well. We'll just take one example from the Book of Daniel. In Daniel 12:4, the Angel Gabriel said, ***"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."***

***'Knowledge shall be increased'*** at the time of the end. The pool of knowledge which the whole world shared, doubled every century from the Garden of Eden, to 1900. By 1945 it was doubling every 25 years. By 1982 it was doubling every 12 months. Today it's doubling every 12 hours or less. Today mankind is learning as much new knowledge every 12 hours, as it has learned since the Garden of Eden. Knowledge is definitely increasing.

I'm sure we've all heard of the mark of the Beast – which is to come at the end. In Revelation 13 :15-17 it says, ***'And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not***

*worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.'*

When we read these verses that say, *'As many as would not,' 'he causeth all,' 'And that no man,'* it seems as though this will be a world-wide event, under a World Government, so it can be implemented World-wide. And the Mark of the Beast, and the persecution to follow it will be World-wide, so that no-one on earth is excluded from the mark and the persecution. That's the way we usually explain it. But when Scriptures are fulfilled, it mostly happens in such a simple way that everyone misses it, except those for whom it was written.

## 7.

### Prepare ye the way of the Lord

A good example of this is the Ministry of John the Baptist. In Isaiah 40:3-4, we're foretold what it will be, *'The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.'*

It sounds like earth-shaking events are going to take place, the valleys will be brought up high, and the mountains and hills will be made low, the crooked will be made straight, and the rough places will be made smooth. But we are told about the fulfilment of this in Matthew 3:3, *'For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.'*

Then verses 5-9 it says, *'Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, And were baptised of him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Saducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.'*

What was John doing, castigating the Pharisees and Saducees? The mountains and hills were being brought low. And then in Luke 3:10-14 we read, *'And the people asked him, saying, What shall we do then? He answered and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do*

*likewise. Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him, Master, what shall we do? And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you. And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages.'*

What was he doing here? The valleys were being exalted, the rough was being made plain, and the crooked was being made straight. The Scripture was fulfilled exactly as it was written, but it was fulfilled in such a simple way, that the religious people who claimed to be looking for the forerunner missed him. And because they missed the forerunner, they also missed the Messiah when He came.

Even the Lord's disciples missed the fulfilment of both Isaiah's, and Malachi's prophecies. When He spoke to them of His coming crucifixion and resurrection, in Matthew 17:10-11, they asked, *"Why then say the Scribes that Elias must first come?"* He said, *"Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed."* And it says, *'Then the disciples understood that He spake unto them of John the Baptist.'*

Whenever Scripture is fulfilled, there is always an element of doubt to it, so that those whom it was written for, will recognise it, but those whom it wasn't written for, will miss it. And it will be the same at the Lord's return. The whole 'Christian' world claims to be actively looking for the return of Jesus Christ. But in 1933, when Brother Branham was baptising and that light came down and hung over his head, a voice said, *"As John the Baptist was sent to forerun the first coming of Jesus Christ, so, you are sent with a Message to forerun His Second Coming."* Almost the whole so-called 'Christian' world rejected that Message, as though it was optional, but those for whom it was sent will recognise it, and accept it.

When the Lord was crucified, the veil in the Temple was torn in half, from the top to the bottom, by the Lord. But the Priests sewed it back together again, and like a dog to its vomit, they carried on with their ceremonies, as if Calvary had never happened. And the same thing is happening again in our day, all those who rejected the Messenger and his Message, carry on with their ceremonies, as if the Lord never sent a Message to prepare them for His return.

## 8.

### He's coming soon

About 45 years ago, I listened to one preacher who was talking about the Lord's return, and he said, "One day it will flash around the world on radio and television, Jesus has

landed.” And the whole world will know about it. No, the world won’t know anything about it because He’s coming as a thief in the night. When a thief steals into a house in the night he doesn’t announce his arrival. And when the Lord returns there will be no fanfare, and no announcing it on TV and radio. As the Scriptures clearly reveal to us, the dead in Christ will rise first, and they will be with us for a period of time, as the Old Testament Saints were, after their resurrection in Matthew 27:52-53, ***‘And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after His resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.’*** Then we will all be caught up together, to meet the Lord in the air as 2 Thessalonians promises us.

Who is going to go up at that time? Is He going to say, “Okay, you, and you, and you, pack your bags, you’re coming with Me?” No, it’s not a naughty or nice choosing. He is coming for His Bride, those who are in love with Him, and those whom *He* is in love with.

At the Rapture, He is going to take His Spirit from the earth, and all those who have a part of that Spirit living within them, will be taken with it. No-one else will go, no matter how good they are as people, no matter how faithful they have been to their Church. It’s only those who have been faithful to Him, who He is returning for, the love of His life, His Bride, His wife.

In Revelation 19:7, it says, ***‘His wife hath made herself ready.’*** That’s what He’s waiting for, for His wife to make herself ready, to meet Him, and to hear her cry out, ***“Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”*** Then He will return for her.

This literature is in the Public Domain, and may be freely copied, quoted, or stored by any means, without prior permission. [www.therescueshop.org](http://www.therescueshop.org)

Ed.D.