

In the Twinkling of an Eye

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (KJV) 13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

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.

18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Corinthians 15:51-58 (KJV) 51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we

shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55 O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

56 The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law.

57 But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

The two passages above refer to an event that is called the rapture. The word rapture is not found in scripture but as we read, study and meditate on these verses it should be clear that the truth of the rapture is revealed.

Paul even said of the event in **1 Thessalonians 4:13**, "**But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.**"

You see that? Paul does not want the Thessalonians to be ignorant as to the resurrection and the rapture. We to need that enlightenment.

At the time of the rapture there will also be a resurrection. The dead in Christ will be raised with eternal, glorified bodies and those in Christ who are still alive at the time shall be changed.

In the next few days let us take a look at what has been called the believer's blessed hope. Let us consider the rapture under the following headings; The Coming, The Certainty, The Christ, The Change, The Comfort, and the Challenge.

For now I have a question for you. Are you in Christ?

The question is have you come to Jesus by faith and let Him by grace remove all your sins so that you will be in Christ when He comes for His own? If not, now is a good time to ask Christ to make you a Child of God.

Why not pray something like this?

God I come to you knowing I am a sinner and believing that Jesus Christ died to take away my sin, and was raised from the dead. I ask that you forgive me of my sin and make me your own child. Thank you for saving me from a lost eternity

without you.

Do not trust the prayer, but trust God to love and forgive you. Go forward into life living like a child of God and looking for that great change that is to come, the blessed hope, the rapture.

(JWR)