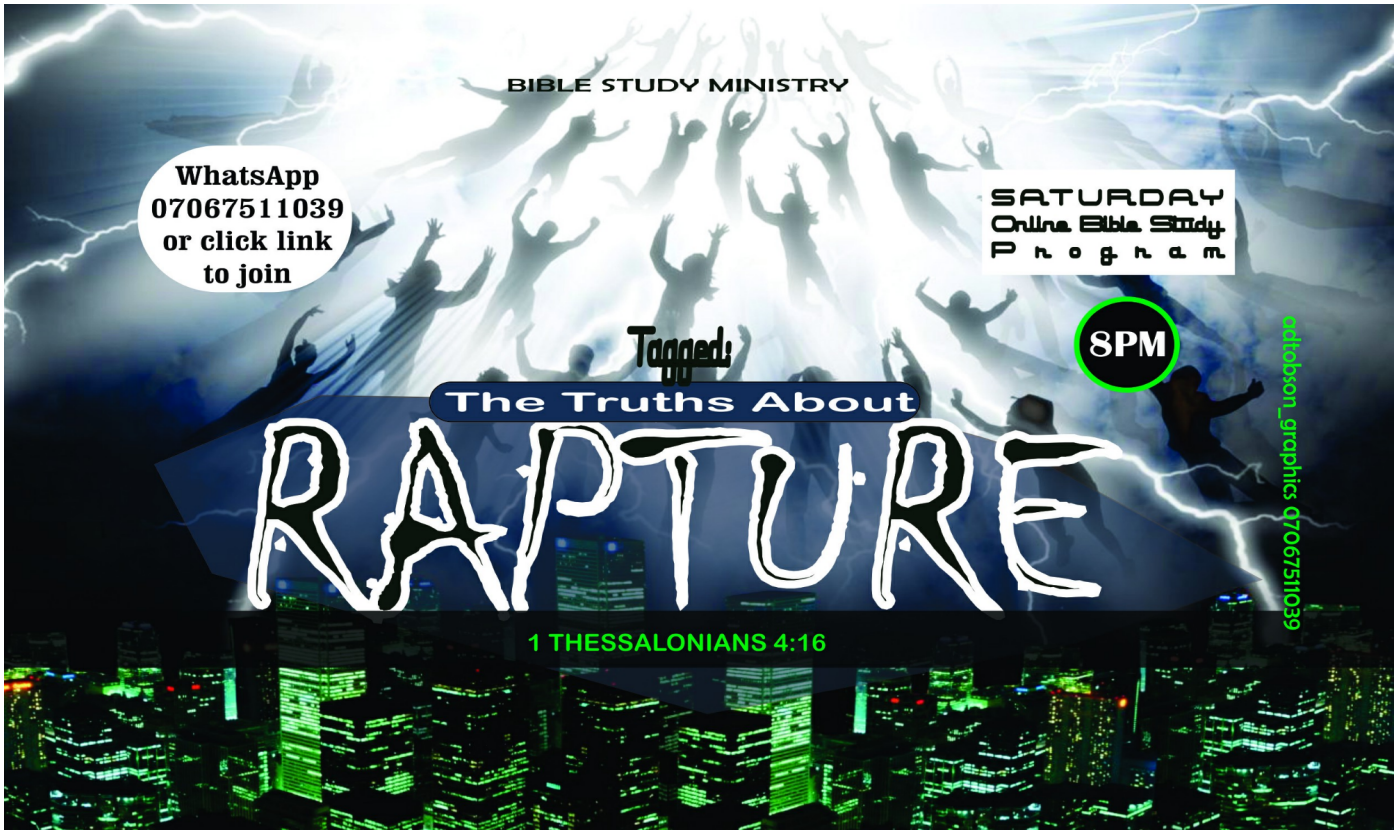


Topic: The truths about rapture

Bible text: 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

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Please follow me carefully,

I know the word rapture is no longer new to us all, in fact we have heard about it countless number of times but what does that word mean?

Let's check our dictionary to know the meaning of the word rapture.

The word rapture could mean to carry away, enrapture, enthrall (or enthral), rap, entrance, ravish, transport. This simply means that it is the carrying away or transportation of people from the earth through divine influence or ways.

The word RAPTURE itself can not be found written anywhere in the Bible. But its meaning can be traced to what is written in 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 KJV

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:

1 Thessalonians 4:17 KJV

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.

These two verses simply talks about the rapture since the meaning of the word rapture is carry away, caught up, transport, enrapture etc

Therefore, according to this biblical passage the rapture (carting away of the saints) is real

This is against the teaching that says that the rapture is not real and that the saints would remain here on earth to inherit it, and that those who are to go to heaven are already complete.

This is the first truth.

1. The rapture is real and biblical, clearly explained in the bible

Many people, have been made to understand or think that the rapture and the second coming of Christ are the same.

Please let's see what the word of God says about this.

The above scriptures has explained how the rapture will look like.

Jesus Christ will appear in the sky, his legs will not touch the ground, the saints would catch up with him in the air.

Revelation 19:19 KJV

And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

This verse talks about the second coming of Christ.

If the rapture is the second coming of Christ, then it means this verse will be talking about the third coming of Christ and the scriptures did not in any where mean that Christ would come the third time.

This means that Christ has come the first time (his feet touching the earth) that was when he came to die for the world, then rapture is the next.

At rapture His feet will not touch the earth, then after rapture come the second coming of Christ.

The purpose for His second coming is to fight the Armageddon war.

Revelation 16:16 KJV

And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

This is also against the general teaching that, after rapture Jesus Christ will still come and take believers who paid with their blood with him to heaven.

This is not true, as the Bible did not in any place mention that believers would pay with their own blood, the only name and blood by which you might be saved is Jesus.

So if any body misses the rapture, that is the end. No second chance. You might be wondering that what would happen to those who would not receive the mark of the beast after rapture.

It is practically impossible for anyone not to receive the mark, this is simply because after rapture the HOLY SPIRIT would no longer be on earth. It is the Holy Spirit that is helping us to leave righteously. And without Him it is not possible to please God.

Another point is this, if you pay with your blood then the place of Christ's death is of no relevance to you which is against the scriptures which says in Colossians 1:14 KJV

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: and

Colossians 1:20 KJV

And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

Therefore with this, we are made to know that believers have only one chance to go with Christ and it is at rapture

This is the Second Truth

2. Rapture is the only escape root to missing God's wrath, you can not pay with your blood.

Let's move to the next,

Many people believe that the rapture would be a silent event - happening like a thief in the night

Truthfully, the scriptures says that the Lord would come like a thief in the night.

1 Thessalonians 5:2 KJV

For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*

But it is important to note that this is referring to our the Lord would come unexpectedly not silently, is coming would be sudden just at anytime. Our bible text described how His coming would look like

1 Thessalonians 4:16 KJV

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:

WITH A SHOUT, AND TRUMPETS

does trumpets sound silently?, when you shout would it sound silently? Please take note of this another part of the scriptures says that every eyes would see him... This tells us that it would not be secretive it is an open event.

This is the third truth

3. The Rapture would not be a secret event but a very loud events.

This leads us to another one, please are you following me?

It is generally believed that the rapture will happen before tribulation period. And that the Christians would have left the world before tribulations so they would not face tribulations.

How true is this, please let's see what the scriptures says about this.

Acts 14:22 KJV

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

This verse tells us that, it is true much tribulations that we would enter the kingdom of God, this means that the tribulation is meant to test our faith, it is meant to try us if truly we love Christ or not

But in all these tribulations we are not left alone, that is why our Lord Jesus Christ says in

John 16:33 KJV that

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

The joy of it is that we would come out strong

So after this... What happens next?

Matthew 24:29-30 KJV

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.

This simply tells us that the rapture comes after the tribulation that is why another verse of the scriptures tells us that if the days of trials are not shortened even the very elect will fall away.

So as Christians please get your minds ready that you'd face tribulations before rapture except you die before then. You must be tested, your faith must be tried. Only those that to the end shall be saved.

This is the fourth truth

4. The tribulation period comes before the rapture, Christians should prepare to face it. But be cheerful Christ has conquered the world.

In conclusion,

Please be reminded that it is only the pure, holy and righteous that will go with the Lord at rapture. This talks about holiness within and without.

endure!!!

The rapture can happen anytime from now as nobody knows the time or hour. Christians in some parts of the world are already experiencing tribulations.

We are in the last days already 2 Timothy 3:1-5 KJV warns us strictly that

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. [2] For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, [3] Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, [4] Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; [5] Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

If we look at these things we would know that they are already happening. We have to prepare For our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ cometh soon

I pray that none of us would be left behind after rapture in Jesus Christ name. Amen