

Oak Bay Gospel Assembly
and
Westview Gospel Chapel

June 12-19,2022

The Church

The Divine Concerns Brought to Completion in the Revelation

1. The Kingdom
2. Israel
3. The Gentiles
4. **The Church**
5. Satan
6. Antichrist
7. Babylon
8. The Second Coming

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,
[PAST]

¹² Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;
[PRESENT]

¹³ Looking for that blessed hope, and [which is] the glorious appearing of the great God and [who is] our Saviour Jesus Christ;
[FUTURE]

¹⁴ Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

The Blessed Hope

The hope of the Church includes four features:

- ✓ The Rapture and First Resurrection [[I Thessalonians 4:13-18](#)]
- ✓ The Judgment Seat of Christ [[II Corinthians 5:10](#)]
- ✓ The Marriage Supper of the Lamb [[Revelation 19:7-8](#)]
- ✓ The Coming World Rule [[I Corinthians 15:20-28](#)]

Erich Sauer, [The Triumph of the Crucified](#), p.101

Hope – The Anchor of the Soul

Hope – A Person – I Timothy 1:1; Titus 2:13

Hope – An Anchor of Our Souls – Hebrews 6:19

Hope's Prospect – Romans 5:2; Romans 8:25; Colossians 1:27; Hebrews 3:6

Hope's Confidence – Romans 5:3-5; 15:4; I Thessalonians 1:3; Hebrews 6:11

Hope Seen by the Eye of Faith – Romans 8:24-25; Galatians 5:5

Hope's Attitude – Romans 12:12; Hebrews 3:6

Hope's Power – Romans 15:13

Hope Abides – I Corinthians 13:13

Hope in the Ministration of the Spirit and Righteousness – II Corinthians 3:6-12

Hope in Salvation – Ephesians 1:18; 4:4

Hope Reserved in Heaven – Colossians 1:5

Hope the Goal of the Gospel – Colossians 1:23

Hope's Protection – I Thessalonians 5:8

Hope – a Gift by Grace – II Thessalonians 2:16

Hope and Eternal Life – Titus 1:2; 3:7

Hope – Our Refuge – Hebrews 6:18

Hope – Living – I Peter 1:3

Hope in God – I Peter 1:21

Hope Purifies – I John 3:3

Daniel 9:24-27

²⁴ Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

²⁵ Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be *seven weeks*, and *threescore and two weeks*: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

²⁶ And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

²⁷ And he shall confirm the covenant with many for *one week*: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

Daniel 9:24-27

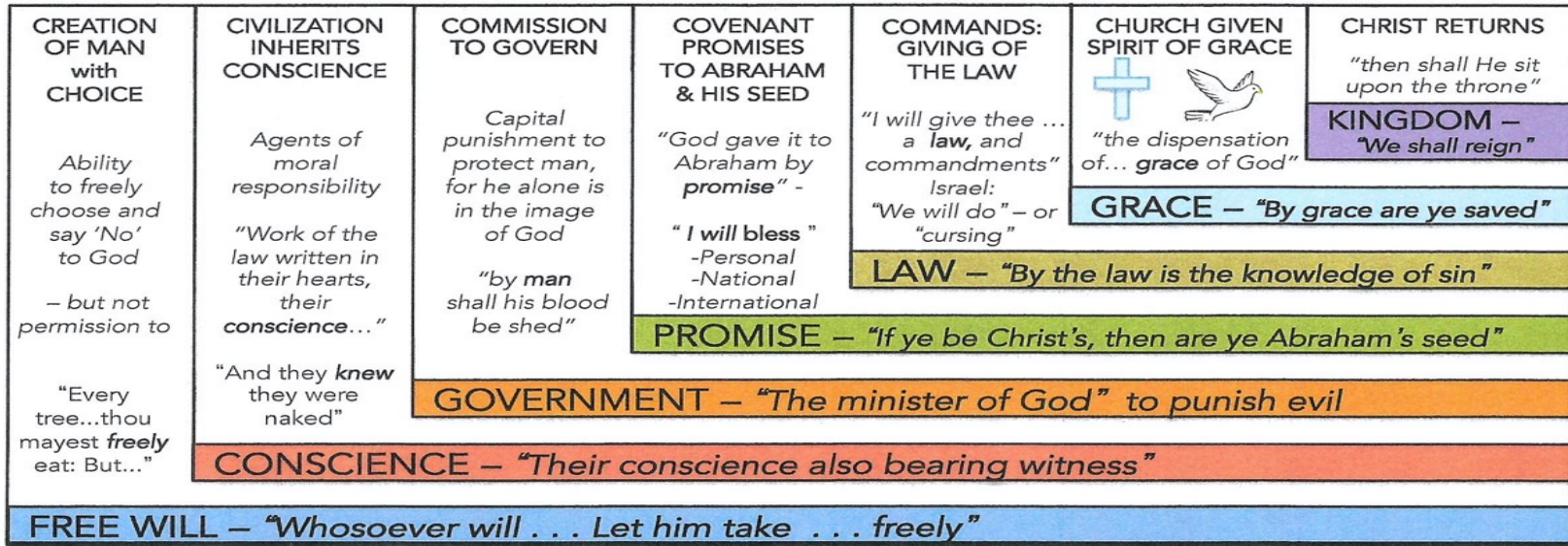
- ❖ v.24 – weeks = multiple of 7 – in this case 1 week = 7 years
- ❖ v.24 – 70 weeks = $70 \times 7 = 490$ years
- ❖ v.24 – thy people – Israel
- ❖ v.24 – thy holy city – Jerusalem
- ❖ v.25 – Commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem – 1st Nisan [14th March], 445 BC – Given to Nehemiah by King Artaxerxes [Nehemiah 2:1-8]
- ❖ v.25 – Messiah the Prince – The Lord Jesus Christ
- ❖ v.25 – 7 weeks [i.e. $7 \times 7 = 49$ years] – completion of restoration of Jerusalem
- ❖ v.25 – 62 weeks [i.e. $62 \times 7 = 434$ years] – the time from completion of Jerusalem until Christ entered Jerusalem on a donkey – 10th Nisan [6th April] 32 AD.
- ❖ Thus 49 years + 434 years = 483 years – the time from the commandment to build Jerusalem until Christ entered Jerusalem on a donkey.
- ❖ v.26 – The ‘prince that shall come’ – double fulfilment:
 - ❖ A. Roman General Titus 70 AD – v.26
 - ❖ B. Antichrist – v.27
- ❖ v.27 – the covenant – a treaty between Antichrist and Israel guaranteeing protection for Israel.

The Dispensations

ETERNAL COUNSELS

"The eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord"
Eph. 3:11

ETERNAL REST



Dispensation
New Responsibility Dispensed by God
Man's Failure
God's Judgment
God's Grace to Continue

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
FREE WILL Gen.1:26-3:24	CONSCIENCE Gen.3:7-8:22	GOVERNMENT Gen.9:1-11:32	PROMISE Gen.12:1-Ex.18	LAW Ex.19-John	GRACE Acts-Rev.19	KINGDOM Rev.20
Ability to Choose	Knowledge of Good & Evil	To fill the Earth - Authority to Prosecute	Covenant of Blessing - to Seed	Covenant of Commandments Blessing or Cursing	New Covenant Grace to nations: Remission - Spirit	Rule of Justice - from Jerusalem
Chose to Disobey	Thought Evil Continually	Unified Together - Exalted Man, Not God	Enslaved Promised Seed	Broke Word in Book & Body	Legalized & Liberalized Gospel of Grace	Attacks City of God
Death & Separation	Flood & Destruction	Babel: Languages Confusion	Plagues & Death of Firstborn	Destruction of Temples & Nation	7 Seals of World Judgment	Fire from Heaven
Sacrifice Covering for Shame	Noah & Ark Covenant of Protection	People Dis-unified: scattered over the whole earth	Passover Blood	Return & Gospel to Jew First	Some Saved From All Nations	Banishment of all evil - forever

New Heaven
New Jerusalem
New Earth
Rev.21-22

Daniel's Seventy Weeks

(Daniel 9:24-27)

**The Decree
to Restore**

**Messiah
the Prince**

**The Coming
Prince**

**Messiah
Returns**

69 Weeks

Messiah Apr. 3,
"cut off" A.D. 33

**Church
Age**

1 Week

**1/2
Week**

**1/2
Week**

**March 5,
444 B.C.**

**March 30,
A.D. 33**

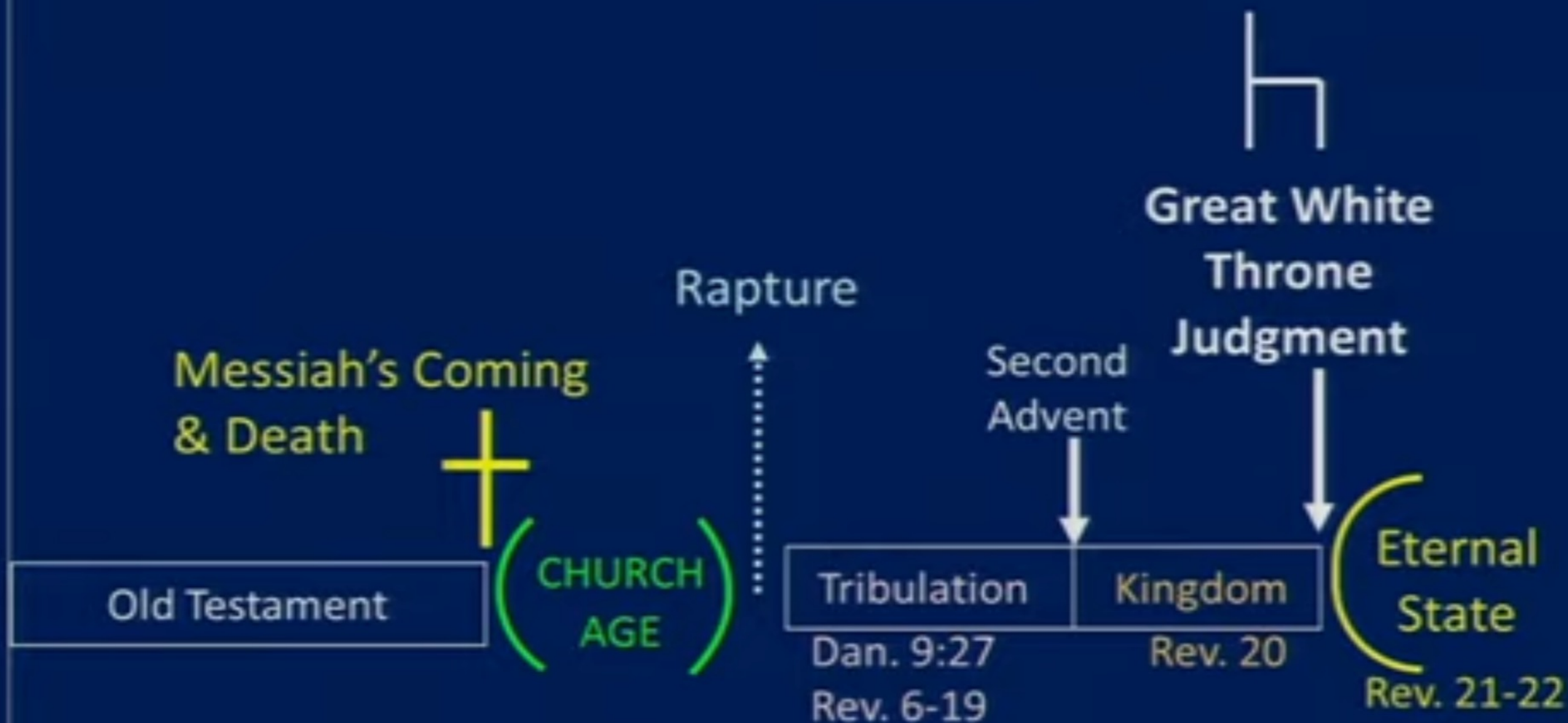
City &
Temple
destroyed
Aug. 6,
A.D. 70

Artaxerxes' Decree
Neh. 2:1-8

Triumphal Entry
Luke 19:28-40



Prophecy Panorama



Day of Christ and Day of the Lord

The Day of Christ:

- ❖ I Corinthians 1:8
- ❖ Philippians 1:6,10; 2:16

The Day of the Lord:

- I Thessalonians 5:2,4
- II Thessalonians 2:2
- II Peter 3:10

What is the Rapture

1. The Fulfilment of Jesus' Promise – [John 14:1-4](#)
2. Foundational Church Truth – [I Thessalonians 4:13-18](#)
3. A Resurrection of the 'Dead in Christ' –
[I Thessalonians 4:13-18](#)
4. A Transformation of the Body – [I Corinthians 15:50-58](#)
5. An Instantaneous Catching Up of Dead and Living Church Age Believers – [I Thessalonians 4:13-18](#)

What is the Rapture

1. The Fulfilment of Jesus' Promise

John 14:1-4

John 14:1-4

14 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. *I go to prepare a place for you.*

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, *I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

What is the Rapture

2. Foundational Church Truth

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

Foundational Church Truth

Context of the Letters to the Thessalonian Believers

James: AD 44-49

Galatians: AD 49-50

Mark: AD 50-60

Matthew: AD 50-60

I Thessalonians: AD 51 **

II Thessalonians: AD 51-52 **

I Corinthians: AD 55

II Corinthians: AD 55-56

Romans: AD 56

Luke: AD 60-61

Ephesians: AD 60-62

Philippians: AD 60-62

Philemon: AD 60-62

Colossians: AD 60-62

Acts: AD 62

I Timothy: AD 62-64

Titus: AD 62-64

I Peter: AD 64-65

II Timothy: AD 66-67

II Peter: AD 67-68

Hebrews: AD 67-69

Jude: AD 68-70

John: AD 80-90

I John: AD 90-95

II John: AD 90-95

III John: AD 90-95

Revelation: AD 94-96

Foundational Church Truth

Context of the Letters to the Thessalonian Believers

What did Paul teach the Thessalonians?

1. The substitutionary death of Christ, His resurrection from the dead, and that He was the Messiah. **Acts 17:3**
2. The person and ministry of the Holy Spirit. **I Thessalonians 1:5; 4:8; 5:19**
3. The return of the Lord Jesus from heaven. **I Thessalonians 1:10; 2:19; 3:13**
4. The Gospel of God. **I Thessalonians 2:9**
5. The personality and opposition of Satan. **I Thessalonians 2:18**
6. The inevitability of suffering as a Christian. **I Thessalonians 3:3-4**
7. The necessity of practical sanctification. **I Thessalonians 3:11-4:12**
8. The translation of the Church. **I Thessalonians 4:13-18**
9. The Day of the Lord. **I Thessalonians 5:1-11**
10. Responsibility to leadership. **I Thessalonians 5:12-13**

What is the Rapture

3. A Resurrection of the 'Dead in Christ'

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

A Resurrection of the 'Dead in Christ'

in I Thessalonians 4:13-18

The Thessalonians' Problem:

What about those who die I Thessalonians 4:13 – what of the Rapture then???

Paul's Reassurance:

I Thessalonians 4:13-16 – The happy destiny of Believers who have died.

I Thessalonians 4:18 – The essence of the doctrine of the Rapture is comfort.

[Online Dictionary – Comfort: the easing or alleviation of a person's feelings of grief or distress.]

Parallels Between John 4:1-4 & I Thessalonians 4:13-18

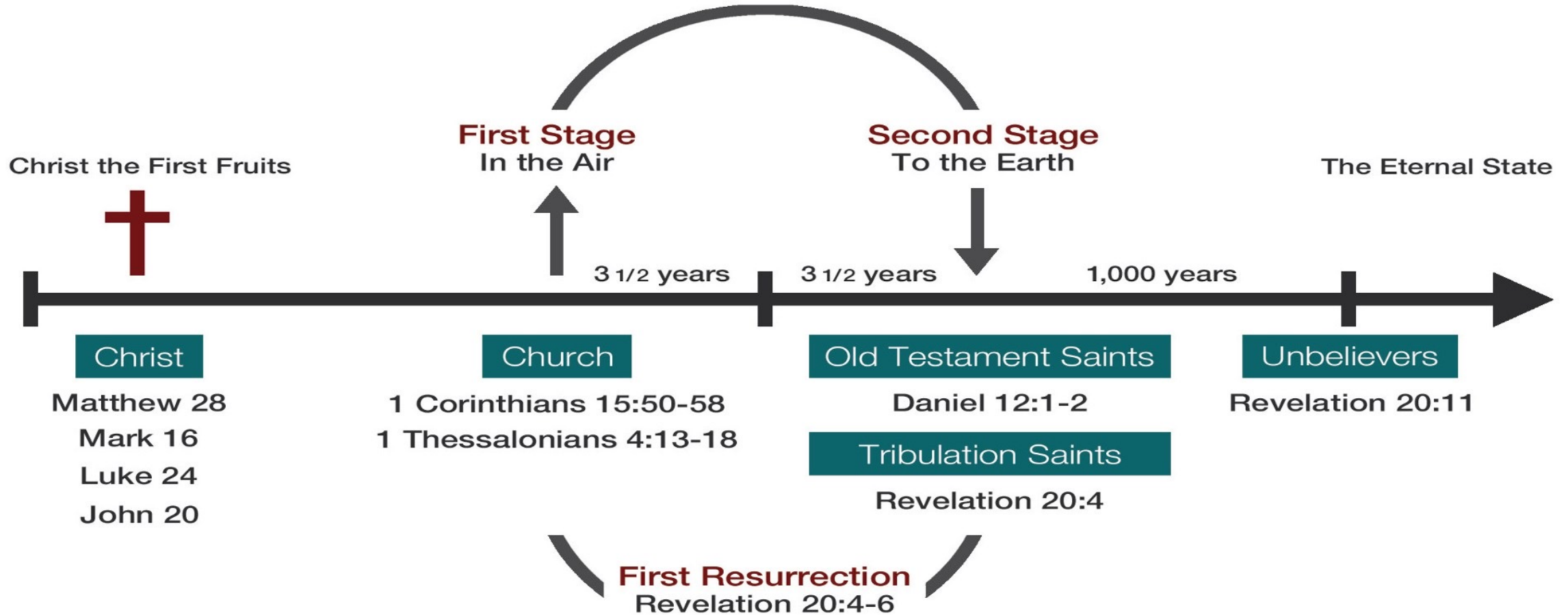
John 14:1-4	I Thessalonians 4:13-18
Trouble 14:1	Sorrow 4:13
Believe 14:1	Believe 4:14
God, Me 14:1	Jesus, God 4:14
Told You 14:2	Say Unto You 4:15
Come again 14:3	Coming Of The Lord 4:15
Receive You 14:3	Caught Up 4:17
To Myself 14:3	To meet the Lord 4:17
Where I Am, There Ye May Be Also 14:3	Ever Be With The Lord 4:17

Resurrections

(1 Corinthians 15:23-24)

Second Coming

Those that are Christ's at His Coming



What is the Rapture

4. A Transformation of the Body

I Corinthians 15:50-58

Foundational Church Truth

Context of the Letters to the Corinthian Believers

James: AD 44-49

Galatians: AD 49-50

Mark: AD 50-60

Matthew: AD 50-60

I Thessalonians: AD 51

II Thessalonians: AD 51-52

I Corinthians: AD 55 **

II Corinthians: AD 55-56 **

Romans: AD 56

Luke: AD 60-61

Ephesians: AD 60-62

Philippians: AD 60-62

Philemon: AD 60-62

Colossians: AD 60-62

Acts: AD 62

I Timothy: AD 62-64

Titus: AD 62-64

I Peter: AD 64-65

II Timothy: AD 66-67

II Peter: AD 67-68

Hebrews: AD 67-69

Jude: AD 68-70

John: AD 80-90

I John: AD 90-95

II John: AD 90-95

III John: AD 90-95

Revelation: AD 94-96

Transformation of the Body

I Corinthians 15:51-54

⁵¹ Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed [*allassō*],

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 [*allassō*].

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.

[*allassō* – to make other than it is, transform, change]

A Transformation of the Body

in I Corinthians 15:50-58

The Necessity – I Corinthians 15:50

Dishonour	->	Glory
Natural	->	Spiritual
The Image of the Earthy	->	The Image of the Heavenly
Corruptible	->	Incarnation
Mortal	->	Immortality
Death	->	Victory

A Transformation of the Body

in I Corinthians 15:50-58

- Q. How long does the process last?
- A. In a moment [*en atomō* – lit. means “indivisible” from a, negative, and *temno* “to cut;” Eng., “atom”].
- A. In the twinkling of an eye [*rhipe* – used of any rapid movement].

- Q. What signals the start of the process?
- A. At the last trump. cf. I Corinthians 15:52; I Thessalonians 4:16

What is the Rapture

5. An Instantaneous Catching Up of Dead and Living Church Age Believers

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

I Thessalonians 4:16-17

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 [*harpazō*] together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

harpazō

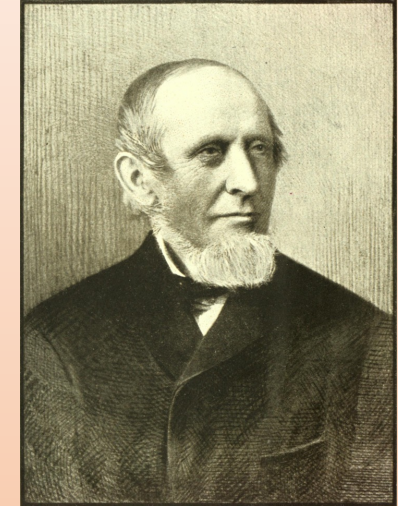
[Pronounced: *har-pad'-zo*]

Young's Analytical Concordance:

I Thessalonians 4:17 ...caught up...

harpazō – to catch up; to snatch away

Translated: catch [1]
catch away [2]
catch up [4]
pluck [2]
pull [1]
take by force [3]

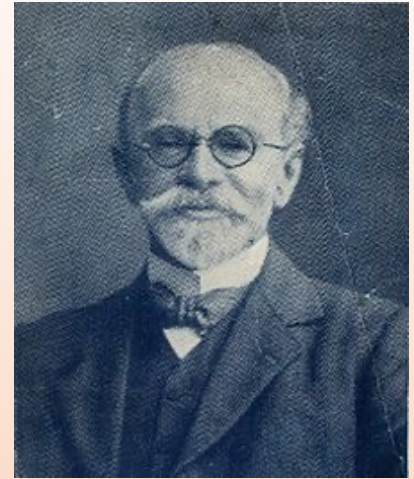


Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the NT:

I Thessalonians 4:17 ...caught up...

harpazō – 1. to seize, carry off by force
2. to seize on, claim for one's self eagerly
3. to snatch out or away

harpazō



Vine's Expository Dictionary of NT Words:

harpazō – "to snatch or catch away"

Is said of the act of the Spirit of the Lord in regard to Philip in [Acts 8:39](#); of Paul in being "caught" up to paradise, [2 Corinthians 12:2,4](#); of the Rapture of the saints at the return of the Lord, [1 Thessalonians 4:17](#); of the rapture of the man-child in the vision of [Revelation 12:5](#). This verb conveys the idea of force suddenly exercised, as in [Matthew 11:12](#), "take (it) by force;" [Matthew 12:29](#), "spoil" (some mss. have diarpazo here); in [Matthew 13:19](#), RV, "snatcheth;" for forceful seizure, see also [John 6:15](#); [10:12,28,29](#); [Acts 23:10](#); in [Jude 1:23](#), RV, "snatching." See [PLUCK](#), [PULL](#), [SNATCH](#), TAKE (by force)

harpazō

Catch [1]	John 10:12
Catch away [2]	Matthew 13:19; Acts 8:39
Catch up [4]	II Corinthians 12:2,4; I Thessalonians 4:17; Revelation 12:5
Pluck [2]	John 10:28,29
Pull [1]	Jude 23
Take by force [3]	Matthew 11:12; John 6:15; Acts 23:10

Related verb:

sunarpazō [Pronounced: *soon-ar-pad'-zo*] *sun*, used intensively, and *harpazō*, "to snatch, to seize, to keep a firm grip of," is used only by Luke.

[Luke 8:29](#), [Acts 6:12](#), [Acts 19:29](#), [Acts 27:15](#).

harpazō

Characteristics of *harpazō*:

- ✓ Suddenness.
- ✓ Unexpectedness.
- ✓ Involuntary, forceful, removal from one place to another.

Other Examples

1. Enoch – Genesis 5:22-24; Hebrews 11:5
2. Elijah – II Kings 2:11
3. Christ – Acts 1:1-2; Revelation 12:5
4. Philip – Acts 8:39
5. Paul – II Corinthians 12:2-4
6. John – Revelation 4:1-2
7. The Two Witnesses – Revelation 11:11-12

Rescued Before Judgment?

1. Enoch – Genesis 5:22-24 [Godly]
2. Noah and Family – Genesis 7:1-7 [Godly]
3. Lot – Genesis 19:15-22; II Peter 2:6-9 [Fleshly]
4. Elijah – I Kings 17:1-16 [Godly]

Imminence

The doctrine that Christ can return at any moment and that no predicted event must intervene before that return.

Evangelical Dictionary of Theology

Imminence

To be imminent means that:

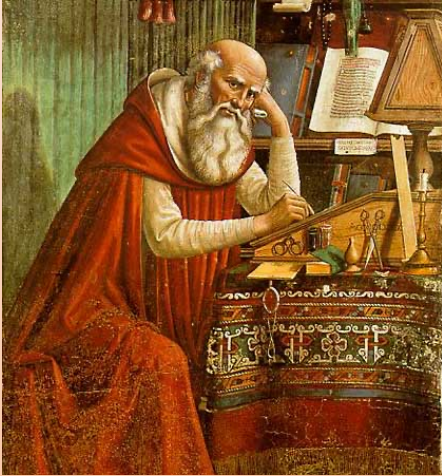
1. We cannot count on a certain amount of time before the anticipated event, thus we must be always ready.
2. We cannot set a date for the imminent event.
3. We cannot say that the anticipated event will happen soon, for soon implies a short interval.

Jn.14:2-3; Acts 1:11; I Cor.15:51-52; Phil.3:20-21; 4:5; Colossians 3:4; I Thess.1:10;
I Tim.6:14; James 5:8; I John 3:2-3.

Terms Paul Uses For The Rapture

Reference	Greek Word
I Thessalonians 1:10 – delivered	<i>rhuomai</i> – to rescue from
I Thessalonians 4:17 – caught up	<i>harpazō</i> – to snatch or catch away
II Thessalonians 2:1 – coming	<i>parousia</i> – arrival and consequent presence with
II Thessalonians 2:1 – gathering	<i>episunagōgē</i> – a gathering together; assembly
II Thessalonians 2:3a – falling away	<i>apostasia</i> – a move away; departure
I Corinthians 1:7 – coming	<i>apokalupsis</i> – uncovering, revelation
Titus 2:13 – appearing	<i>epiphaneia</i> – manifestation

harpazō to Rapture



Epistula Ad Thessalonicenses I - 4:17

deinde nos qui vivimus qui relinquimur
simul *rapiemur* cum illis in nubibus obviam
Domino in aera et sic semper cum Domino
erimus

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The Rapture



Our modern understanding of rapture appears to have little or no connection with the eschatological event. However, the word is properly used of that event. Rapture is a state or experience of being carried away. The English word comes from a Latin word, *rapio*, which means ***to seize or snatch in relation to an ecstasy of spirit or the actual removal from one place to another***. In other words, it means to be carried away in spirit or in body. The Rapture of the church means the carrying away of the church from earth to heaven.

Charles Ryrie, Basic Theology

The Rapture and the Second Coming

<h2>The Rapture</h2> <p>John 14:1-3; I Thess.4:13-18; I Cor.15:50-58</p>	<h2>The Second Coming</h2> <p>Revelation 19:11-16</p>
Christ comes to the <u>air</u> . I Thess.4:16-17	Christ comes to the <u>earth</u> . Zech. 14:4
Christ comes <u>for</u> His saints. I Thess.4:15-17	Christ comes <u>with</u> His saints. Rev.19:14
A matter of <u>comfort</u> and <u>victory</u> . I Thess.4:18; I Cor.15:54-57	A matter of <u>judgment</u> . Rev.19:15
Affects only <u>believers</u> . Jn.14:1-3; I Thess.4:16-17; I Cor.15:50-58	Affects both <u>believers</u> and <u>unbelievers</u> . Rev.19:15

The Rapture and the Second Coming *continued*

The Rapture <i>continued</i> John 14:1-3; I Thess.4:13-18; I Cor.15:50-58	The Second Coming <i>continued</i> Revelation 19:11-16
<u>Invisible</u> to the earth. I Thess.4:16	<u>Visible</u> to all on the earth. Rev.1:7
Announced only with the voice of an Archangel. I Thess.4:16	Involves ten thousands of His saints [hagios – ‘holy ones’]. Jude 14
<u>Resurrection</u> of Church Age saints. I Cor.15:51	<u>Resurrection</u> of OT and Tribulation saints. Daniel 12:1-2; Rev.20:4-6
<u>Rescue</u> of the Church. I Thess.1:10	<u>Rescue</u> of Israel. Matt.23:37-39; 24:29-31

Consequently

I John 3:2-3 ² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

³ And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

I Corinthians 15:57-58 ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

The Judgment Seat of Christ

End Time Judgments

	Israel	Sheep & Goat	Bema Seat	Great White Throne
Scripture	Ezekiel 20:33-44	Matthew 25:31-46	I Corinthians 3:10-15	Revelation 20:11-15
Place	Earth, Wilderness	Earth, Jerusalem, Valley of Jehoshaphat	Heaven	Neither in Heaven Nor on Earth
Under Judgment	Jewish Tribulation Survivors	Gentile Tribulation Survivors	Church Age Believers	Unsaved of All Ages
When?	After Tribulation	After Tribulation	After Rapture	After Millennium
Purpose	Entrance to the Kingdom	Entrance to the Kingdom	Degree of Reward for Believers	Degree of Punishment in Lake of Fire
Criteria	Passing Under the Shepherd's Rod	Treatment of Christ's Brethren	Works Which Survive Fire	Content of the Books and Not in Book of Life

A Necessary Appearance

Romans 14:10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for **we shall all** stand before the judgment seat [*bēma*] of Christ.

II Corinthians 5:9-10 ⁹ Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. ¹⁰ For **we must all** appear before the judgment seat [*bēma*] of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Judgments in Scripture

1. John 12:31
2. I Corinthians 11:31
3. II Corinthians 5:10
4. Matthew 25:32
5. Ezekiel 20:37
6. Jude 6
7. Revelation 20:11-15

When?

I Corinthians 3:13

...the day shall declare it...

I Corinthians 4:5

...until the Lord come.

I Thessalonians 2:19

...at his coming.

II Timothy 4:8

...the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day...

I Peter 5:4

...when the chief Shepherd shall appear...

1 John 2:28

...when he shall appear...at his coming.

Revelation 3:11

Behold, I come quickly...

The Day of Christ

The Day of Christ:

❖ I Corinthians 1:8

❖ Philippians 1:6,10; 2:16

The Nature of The *Bēma*

The word primarily means a step or a pace. In [Acts 7:5](#) it is translated “to set [his foot] on.” Literally “foot-room.” It became used to denote a raised place or platform from where orations were made. From there it became used for a tribune, two of which were provided in Greek law-courts, one for the accuser and one for the defendant. It further became the designation of the tribunal of a Roman magistrate or a ruler – see [Matthew 27:19](#); [John 19:13](#); [Acts 12:21](#).

In [Acts 14:10](#) *bēma* is used to denote the ‘judgment seat of God.’ In [II Corinthians 5:10](#) it denotes ‘the judgment seat of Christ.’ This is the Divine tribunal before which all believers will stand.

Webster: *Tribunal* – A court of justice; the seat occupied by a judge or magistrate when presiding in a court.

Bēma in the New Testament

to set...on
throne
judgment seat

Acts 7:5

Acts 12:21

Matthew 27:19

John 19:13

Acts 18:12,16,17

Acts 25:6,10,17

Romans 14:10

I Corinthians 5:10

} Of God/Christ

The Apostle Paul's Testimony

II Timothy 4:6-8 ⁶ For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

⁷ I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

II Timothy 4:6-8

Paul speaks of:

- **4:6** His readiness to be offered.
- **4:6** The end of his life.
- **4:7** His performance in life.
- **4:7** His faithfulness in **...the faith...**
- **4:8** A performance award **...laid up** [*apokeimai* – to lie, be laid away] for him.
- **4:8** A **...righteous judge...** [*kritēs* – one who separates, selects, chooses, determines, pronounces judgment] who bestows the award.
- **4:8** A specific day when the award will be bestowed
- **4:8** Others, in addition to Paul, who will also receive the reward
- **4:8** The other recipients being **...all them also that love his appearing...**

The Apostle John's Exhortation

I John 2:28 ²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

His Appearing

II Timothy 4:8 ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing [*epiphaneia* – manifestation].

I John 2:28 ²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear [*phaneroō* – to make manifest], we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming [*parousia* – arrival and consequent presence with].

The Judgment Seat of Christ

Primary passages:

Romans 14:7-12

II Corinthians 5:9-10

I Corinthians 3:5-15

I Corinthians 4:1-5

Other passages:

I Corinthians 9:24-27

I Timothy 6:13-16

Romans 14:10

Context:

- Believers
- Judging or despising a fellow-believer 14:10
- The believer's accountability to the Lord 14:8
- All believers to stand before the judgment seat of God 14:10
- All will bow [*kamptō* – to bend, used especially of bending the knees in religious veneration – Romans 11:4; Ephesians 3:14; Philippians 2:10] to the Lord 14:11
- All will confess [*exomologeō* – here to confess by way of celebrating, giving praise. cf. Romans 15:9] to God 14:11
- All will individually give account [*logos* – here, an account which one gives by word of mouth] of himself to God 14:12

II Corinthians 5:9-10

Context:

- Desire to be with and in the presence of the Lord 5:6-8
- Labouring [*philotimeomai* – to seek after honour, and hence to be ambitious] to be accepted [*euarestos* – well-pleasing] to the Lord 5:9
- Anticipating appearance before the judgment seat of Christ 5:10
- Individually receiving [*komizō* – here, to receive back, recover cf. Matthew 25:27; Hebrews 11:19] what has been done in the body 5:10
- The criteria for accountability is what has been done, good or bad 5:10

I Corinthians 3:5-15

Context:

- Believers as labourers together with God 3:9
- Building on the foundation of Jesus Christ 3:10-11
- Caution in building on the foundation 3:10
- Building materials of various values 3:12
- The quality of each believer's work will be made visible 3:13
- The quality of each believer's work will be made evident by the test of fire 3:13
- Work which survives the test of fire will be rewarded 3:14
- Work which does not survive the fire will be a loss to the labourer 3:15
- Despite loss of reward the labourer will be saved 3:15
- The testing of the labourer's work will be on "the day" 3:13

I Corinthians 4:1-5

Context:

- That which is required of stewards – faithfulness 4:1-2
- The only judgment that counts for the steward is the judgment of the Lord/Master 4:3-5
- The Lord will detail His judgment of His stewards when He comes 4:5
- His judgment will shine a light on the thoughts, words and actions of His stewards which have been concealed by darkness 4:5
- His judgment will reveal the motives underlying the thoughts, words and actions of His stewards 4:5
- Ultimately every steward will be commended by God 4:5

I Corinthians 9:24-27

Context:

- Running the Christian life to win 9:24
- Self-discipline to win 9:25
- The prize – an incorruptible crown 9:25
- Intentionality in life 9:26
- No shadow-boxing – genuine spiritual advance 9:26
- Bodily discipline subject to the will 9:27
- The consequence of a failure of spiritual discipline – disqualification from receiving the reward 9:27

Crowns

Types:

1. Crown of Rejoicing – I Thessalonians 2:19
2. Crown of Righteousness – II Timothy 4:8
3. Crown of Life – James 1:15; Revelation 2:10
4. Crown of Glory – I Peter 5:4
5. Crown of Life – Revelation 2:10

Notes:

1. The crowns received by the believer are incorruptible –
I Corinthians 9:25
2. Crowns can be forfeited – Revelation 3:11
3. Crowns are for casting at the feet of God – Revelation 4:10-11

Warnings

1. Colossians 2:18 *Let no man beguile you of your reward* in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,
2. I John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may *have confidence, and not be ashamed* before him at his coming.
3. II John 8 Look to yourselves, that we *lose not those things which we have wrought*, but that we receive a full reward.
4. Revelation 3:11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, *that no man take thy crown.*

A Judgment of Reward

Not a Penal Judgment:

See: Romans 8:1; John 5:24; II Corinthians 5:21;
Psalm 103:12; Micah 7:19

Note: Revelation 20:12-13

Other Rewards:

See: Luke 6:22-23,35; 14:12-14 I Corinthians 9:16-17;
Colossians 3:23-24

The Cost

1. Acts 5:41-42 ...rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name...
2. II Timothy 1:7-12 ...be not...ashamed of the testimony of our Lord...
3. II Timothy 2:15 Study...a workman that needeth not to be ashamed...
4. Hebrews 12:1-4 ...endured the cross, despising the shame...ye have not yet resisted unto blood...
5. I Peter 3:14-15 ...if ye suffer for righteousness sake, happy are ye...be ready always to give an answer...
6. I Peter 4:16 ...if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed...

Final Words

Hebrews 11:6 ...without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Revelation 22:12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

The Marriage of the Lamb

The Marriage of the Lamb: Part 2



Revelation 19:7-10

Revelation 5:6

The Marriage Feast of the Lamb

