

### **Quick overview of the Rapture:**

Jesus descends from heaven along with a shout, an archangel's voice, and a trumpet. Christians who have died are raised from the dead to meet Jesus in the air. Then Christians who are still alive on earth will then be caught up to meet them in the air. This event happens right before the 7-year Tribulation that will end with the 2nd Coming of Jesus to the earth (for Israel).

### **Timeline:**

The church age (now) —> The Rapture of the Church —> 7-year Tribulation —> 2nd Coming of Jesus —> 1000 year Millennial Kingdom —> Final Judgement —> New Heaven on earth for eternity

### **5 Biblical distractions between the Rapture and the 2nd Coming of Christ:**

- 1. Knowledge:** Scripture speaks of the Rapture as a mystery not seen in the OT with no signs to predict. But the 2nd coming is found in both the OT and NT with many signs to predict.
- 2. Location:** The Rapture will take the church from the earth to meet Christ in the air. The 2nd coming will have the church returning to the earth with Christ reaching the ground.
- 3. Fulfillment:** At the Rapture Christ comes specifically to the church as Bridegroom, Lord, Head. At the 2nd coming Christ comes specifically to Israel as King, Messiah, and Immanuel.
- 4. Judgement:** At the Rapture the saints will be judged for rewards & escape future destruction. At the 2nd coming the nations will be judged for entrance into the millennial kingdom after experiencing destruction.
- 5. Restoration:** The Rapture will call up the saints but leave creation and evil unchanged. The 2nd coming will deliver and restore creation from bondage of corruption and destroy evil.

### **Earliest Church mention of the Rapture:**

2nd Century, Shepherd of Hermas, Book 1, Fourth, Chapter 2 (ante-Nicene Fathers).

### **Relevant passages referenced in Calvary Distinctives:**

#### **Genesis 5:24, 6:5, 18:23-33, 19:5-7**

**5:24** And Enoch walked with God; and he *was* not, for God took him.

**6:5** Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every intent of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.

**18:23** And Abraham came near and said, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? **24**

Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous that were in it? **25** Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" **26** So the Lord said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes." **27** Then Abraham answered and said, "Indeed now, I who am but dust and ashes have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: **28** Suppose there were five less than the fifty righteous; would You destroy all of the city for lack of five?" So He said, "If I find there forty-five, I will not destroy it."

**29** And he spoke to Him yet again and said, "Suppose there should be forty found there?" So He said, "I will not do it for the sake of forty." **30** Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Suppose thirty should be found there?" So He said, "I will not do it if I find thirty there." **31** And he said, "Indeed now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: Suppose twenty should be found there?" So He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of twenty." **32** Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but

once more: Suppose ten should be found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy it for the sake of ten.” **33** So the Lord went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

**19:5** And they called to Lot and said to him, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them *carnally*.” **6** So Lot went out to them through the doorway, shut the door behind him, **7** and said, “Please, my brethren, do not do so wickedly!

### **Isaiah 11:12, 53:2, 5**

**11:12** He will set up a banner for the nations, And will assemble the outcasts of Israel, And gather together the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth.

**53:2** Shake yourself from the dust, arise; Sit down, O Jerusalem! Loose yourself from the bonds of your neck, O captive daughter of Zion!

**53:5** Now therefore, what have I here,” says the Lord, “That My people are taken away for nothing? Those who rule over them Make them wail,” says the Lord, “And My name is blasphemed continually every day.

### **Daniel 7:21**

**7:21** “I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them,

### **Zechariah 14:4-5**

**14:4** And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south. **5** Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the Lord my God will come, And all the saints with You.

### **Matthew 6:20, 16:18, 24:2-3, 15, 24, 29-31, 42-44, 46, 25:2, 10-13**

**6:20** but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

**16:18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

**24:2** And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not *one* stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.” **3** Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”

**24:15** “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand),

**24:24** For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

**24:29** “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. **30** Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. **31** And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

**24:42** Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. **43** But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. **44** Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

**24:46** Blessed *is* that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.

**25:2** Now five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish.

**25:10** And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. **11** “Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ **12** But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ **13** “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

### **Luke 21:28, 36**

**21:28** Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.”

**21:36** Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

### **John 14:1-3, 15:15, 18, 16:33, 21:22**

**14:1** “Let not your heart be troubled; you 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 to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

**15:15** No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

**15:18** “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before *it hated* you.

**16:33** These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you [f]will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

**21:22** Jesus said to him, “If I will that he remain till I come, what *is that* to you? You follow Me.”

### **Acts 1:6-8**

**1:6** Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” **7** And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. **8** But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

### **Romans 1:18, 5:9, 13:11**

**1:18** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

**5:9** Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

**13:11** And *do* this, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation *is* nearer than when we *first* believed.

### **1 Corinthians 15:51-53**

**15:51** Behold, I tell 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 trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. **53** For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

### **Colossians 1:27, 3:4**

**1:27** To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

**3:4** When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

### **1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:5**

**4:13** But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. **14** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. **15** For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. **16** For

the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

**18** Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**5:1** But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. **2** For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. **3** For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. **4** But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. **5** You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.

## **2 Thessalonians 2:6-8**

**2:6** And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. **7** For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way. **8** And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

## **Titus 2:13**

**2:13** looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

## **Hebrews 12:1**

**12:1** Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

## **1 Peter 1:12**

**1:12** To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

## **2 Peter 2:5-9**

**2:5** and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, *one of eight people*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; **6** and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned *them* to destruction, making *them* an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; **7** and delivered righteous Lot, *who was* oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked **8** (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented *his* righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing *their* lawless deeds)— **9** *then* the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,

## **1 John 3:2-3**

**3:2** Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **3** And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

## **Jude 1:14**

**1:14** Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,

## **Revelation 1:7, 19, 3:1, 8, 20-21, 4:1-2, 8, 11, 5:2-10, 6:2, 7:13-14, 8:13, 10:7, 13:7, 20:4-5**

**1:7** Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

**1:19** Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

**3:1** “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, ‘These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: “I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.

**3:8** “I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

**3:21** To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. **22** “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’ ’

**4:1** After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard *was* like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, “Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this. **2** Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and *One* sat on the throne.

**4:8** *The* four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!” For You created all things,

**4:11** “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; And by Your will they exist and were created.”

**5:2** Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?” **3** And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. **4** So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. **5** But one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.” **6** And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. **7** Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. **8** Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. **9** And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, **10** And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.”

**6:2** And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

**7:13** Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?” **14** And I said to him, “Sir, you know.”

**8:13** And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, “Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!”

**10:7** but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

**13:7** It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

**20:4** And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. **5** But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection.