

VERSES ON RAPTURE

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

Genesis 7:7 7 ...Noah, his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives with him went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood.

Genesis 19:27-29 27 ...Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before Yahweh. 28 And he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley. And he looked and, behold, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace. 29 So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived.

Joshua 6:22-25 22 ...To the two men who had spied out the land, Joshua said, Go into the prostitute's house and bring out from there the woman and all who belong to her, as you swore to her. 23 So the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab and her father, mother, brothers, and all who belonged to her. And they brought all her relatives and put them outside the camp of Israel. 24 And they burned the city with fire, and everything in it. ...25 But Rahab the prostitute, her father's household, and all who belonged to her, Joshua saved alive. And she has lived in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

Matthew 6:9-13 9 Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread, 12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation ([]), but deliver us from the evil one ([]).

Matthew 24:3-14 3 As [Jesus] sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately saying, Tell us, when will these things be [the destruction of the Jerusalem temple], and what will be the sign of your coming (παρουσία) [at the end of the tribulation] and of the end of the [church] age [at the rapture]? 4 And Jesus answered them, See that no one leads you astray. 5 For many will come in my name saying, I am the Messiah, and they will lead many astray. 6 And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place [in the Church age], but the end is not yet. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are but the beginning of the birth pains [in the church age]. 9 Then they will deliver you [the church or Israel?] up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake.¹ 10 And then many will fall away, betray one another, and hate one another. 11 And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. 12 And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But the one who endures to the end will be saved. 14 And [in the church age] this gospel of the kingdom

¹ The church's tribulation will take place before the seven-year tribulation.

will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end [the rapture and tribulation] will come.²

Luke 21:7-36 7 And [the disciples] asked [Jesus, Teacher, when will these things [the destruction of the Jerusalem temple] be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place? 8 And he said, See that you are not led astray. For [in the church age] many will come in my name saying, I am he! and, The time is at hand!³ Do not go after them. 9 And [in the church age] when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end [of the church age] will not be at once. 10 Then he said to them, Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. 11 There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven [in the tribulation]. 12 But before all this [in the church age] they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. 13 This will be your [church age] opportunity to testify. 14 Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, 15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. 16 You will be delivered up [in the church age] even by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends, and some of you they will put to death. 17 You will be hated by all for my name's sake. 18 But not a hair of your head will perish. 19 By your endurance you will gain your lives. 20 But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by [Roman] armies [in 70 ad], then know that its desolation has come near. 21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, 22 for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. 23 Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress/trouble/calamity/pressure (ἀνάγκη) upon the earth and wrath against this people [Israel]. 24 They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles [the church age] are fulfilled. 25 And [in the tribulation] there will be signs in sun, moon, and stars, and on the earth distress/anxiety/dismay/anguish (συνοχὴ) of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, 26 people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 Now when these things [all end times events] begin to take place [as the rapture and tribulation approach], straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption (ἀπολύτρωσις) is drawing near. 29 And he told them a parable: Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. 30 As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. 31 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 Truly, I say to you, this generation [Israel] will not pass away until all has taken place. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 34 But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. 35 For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth.

² Jesus next discusses the Great Tribulation (Mt 24:15-28), Jesus' second coming (Mt 24:29-51), and the sheep and goats judgment (Mt 25:31-46).

³ There will be many date-setters.

36 But stay awake at all times, praying that you [tribulation believers] may have strength/capability (κατισχύω) to escape (ἐκφεύγω) all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.

John 14:2-3 2 In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I [the Bridegroom] go and prepare a place for you [the bride], I will come again and will take (παραλαμβάνω) you [in close association] to myself, that where I am [heaven] you may be also [for seven years during the tribulation].

John 17:15 15 I [Jesus] do not ask that you take them [the disciples] out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.

Acts 8:39 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord grab/seize/snatch/take away (ἀρπάζω)⁴ Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

Acts 23:10 10 And when the dissension became violent, the tribune, afraid that Paul would be torn to pieces by them, commanded the soldiers to go down and grab/seize/snatch/take away (ἀρπάζω) him from among them by force and bring him into the barracks.

Romans 5:9 9 ...Because we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath (ἀπὸ τῆς ὀργῆς) [the tribulation].

Ro 8.23-25

1 Corinthians 1:7 7 ...So that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing (ἀποκάλυψις) of our Lord Jesus Messiah....

1 Corinthians 15:51-53 51 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed [at the rapture], 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet [of the church age]. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. 53 For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

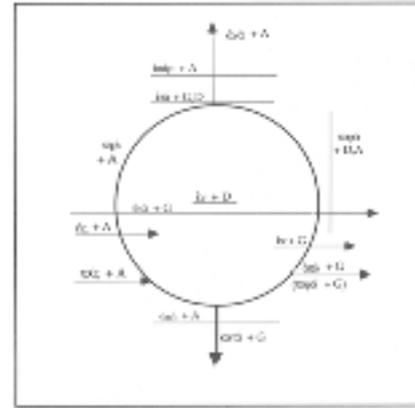
2 Corinthians 12:2 2 I [Paul] know a man [Paul] in Messiah who fourteen years ago was grabbed/seized/snatched up/taken away (ἀρπάζω) to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows.

Php 4.5

1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 9 ...They themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who rescues/saves/delivers/preserves (ρύομαι) us out of the coming wrath (ἐκ τῆς ὀργῆς τῆς ἐρχομένης).

⁴ “[T]o make off w. someone’s property by attacking or seizing, *steal, carry off, drag away*...to grab or seize suddenly so as to remove or gain control, *snatch/take away*...forcefully τινά *someone*” (BDAG, 134).

1 Thessalonians 4:15-5:11 15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord [Jesus], that we who are alive, who are left until the coming (παρουσία) of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Messiah will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up/ carried off/grabbed/seized/snatched/taken away (ἀρπάζω, fut. pass.)⁵ together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. 18



Therefore encourage one another with these words. 1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord [Jesus]⁶ will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, There is peace and security, then sudden destruction will come upon them as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers and sisters, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober [as we wait for the rapture]. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But because we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has not destined us for [his tribulational] wrath (ὀργή), but to obtain deliverance (σωτηρία) through our Lord Jesus Messiah, 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake [alive] or asleep [dead] we might live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

2 Thessalonians 1:5-8 5 This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering— 6 because indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, 7 and to grant relief/rest/relaxation (ἄνεσις) to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels 8 in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 1 Now concerning the coming (παρουσία) of our Lord Jesus Messiah and our being gathered together (ἐπισυναγωγή)⁷ to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, 2 not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord [Jesus] [including his second coming] has come. 3 Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day [the day Jesus'

⁵ "Quint. Smyrn. 11, 291 [Aphrodite 'snatches away' Aeneas, who is in danger]... ὁ. τι grasp something quickly, eagerly, with desire" (BDAG, 134).

⁶ The day of Yahweh includes all end times events (rapture, tribulation, Jesus' second coming, the Messianic kingdom, final judgment, etc.), not just Jesus' second coming.

⁷ "...[A] gathering together to or toward at some location, *meeting*, of a Christian group... the action of ἐπισυνάγεσθαι, *assembling*" (BDAG, 382).

second coming] will not come, unless the [church age?] rebellion (ἀποστασία) comes first, and the man of lawlessness [Antichrist] is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat [at the midpoint of the tribulation] in the temple of God [in Jerusalem], proclaiming himself to be God. 5 Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? 6 And you know what [the Holy Spirit in the church] is restraining him [Antichrist] now so that he may be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he [the Spirit in the church] who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. 8 And then [as the tribulation begins] the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming (παρουσία). 9 The coming (παρουσία) of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power, false signs, and wonders, 10 and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 11 Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, 12 in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

1 Timothy 6:14 14 ... To keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing (ἐπιφάνεια)⁸ of our Lord Jesus Messiah....

2 Timothy 4:8 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord [Jesus], the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing (ἐπιφάνεια).

Titus 2:13 13 ... Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing (ἐπιφάνεια) of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Messiah....

James 5:8-9 8 You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming (παρουσία) of the Lord [Jesus] is at hand (ἐγγίζω). 9 Do not grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be judged. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

1 Peter 1:6-7 6 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials [church age tribulation before the tribulation], 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honour at the [two-phase] revelation (ἀποκάλυψις) of Jesus Messiah.

1 Peter 1:13 13 Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the [two-phase] revelation (ἀποκάλυψις) of Jesus Messiah.

1 Peter 4:13 13 But rejoice insofar as you share Messiah's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed (ἀποκάλυψις) [in two phases].⁹

⁸ The appearing includes both the rapture and Jesus' second coming. It is viewed as one event in two phases.

⁹ Jesus will reveal his glory to the church at the rapture. He will reveal his glory to the world at this second coming.

2 Peter 2:5–9 5 if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; 6 if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; 7 and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked 8 (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); 9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment,

Revelation 3:10 10 Because you [the church in Philadelphia] have kept my word about patient endurance, I [Jesus] will keep/protect (τηρέω) you from the hour of testing (ἐκ τῆς ὥρας τοῦ πειρασμοῦ) that is coming on the whole world, to try those dwelling on the earth (τοὺς κατοικοῦντας ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς).¹⁰

Revelation 12:1-17 1 And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman [Israel] clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. 2 She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. 3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon [Satan], with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. 4 His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child [the church] he might devour it. 5 She [Israel] gave birth to a male child [the church],¹¹ one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron,¹² but her child [the church] was caught up/carried off/grabbed/seized/snatched/taken away (ἀρπάζω)¹³ to God and to his throne, 6 and the woman [Israel] fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days [3 1/2 years]. ...17 Then the dragon became furious with the woman [Israel] and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring [tribulation believers], on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea.

Revelation 19:14 14 And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following [Jesus] on white horses.

¹⁰ In Revelation, “those who dwell on the earth” or “the earth-dwellers” is a technical phrase for unbelievers in the tribulation (Re 6:10; 8:13; 11:10; 13:8, 14). **Jn 17:15** 15 I do not ask that you take (αἴρω) them out of the world, but that you keep/protect (τηρέω) them from the evil one.

¹¹ **Is 66:7-8** 7 Before she travailed, she brought forth. Before her pain came, she gave birth to a boy. 8 Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Can a land be born in one day? Can a nation be brought forth all at once? As soon as Zion travailed, she also brought forth her sons [the church].

¹² **Re 2:27** 27 ...And [the one who conquers] will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. **Re 19:15** 15 From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he [Jesus] will rule them with a rod of iron.

¹³ This verb doesn't seem to describe Jesus' ascension. **Ac 1:9** 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted/held/taken up (ἐπαίρω), and a cloud took him out of their sight.

Revelation 20:4-6 4 Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed [church age believers?]. Also I saw the souls of those [tribulational believers] who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Messiah for a thousand years. 5 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection.¹⁴ 6 Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Messiah, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

¹⁴ The rapture is the resurrection for church age believers. This first resurrection applies to tribulation believers only. Old Testament believers were resurrected when Jesus was resurrected (Mt 27:52-53).