

The Rapture Hoax

The real Truth is in the Scriptures!
Fred R. Coulter—October 25, 2025

Now, the other night, I turned to Daystar, just to see what they're talking about on a religious channel. There were three men together around a table, and they were all talking about the rapture! The rapture! And the rapture is going to take place *before* the tribulation!

Oh, they're all so happy, and it's supposed to be millions that are going to be raptured away. That means when they're raptured away, if you're on a plane, the pilot goes and the plane crashes. Or if you're driving a car, you're taken away and your car crashes into someone else.

- Is there a secret rapture like that?
- How can it be a secret when everybody in Protestantville is talking about it?

Because they don't know their Bibles! It's like those three men at the table. They all had a Bible open, but none of them was really reading the Bible. And ***IF*** they read it:

- Could they understand it?
- Where did it come from?
- How did such a doctrine come about?

It's not really new! The concept of rapture came as a pre-tribulation event, and that can be traced back to Nelson Darby in the 1830s.

Guess what? The word *rapture* comes from a Latin word, 'raptura,' and it's not in the Bible. Well, if it's so important, and if there's so many people that are going to be raptured away: Why isn't there a single word about it?

Then it was appeared in commentaries by Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751, and by John Gill, 1697-1771, that believers being caught up, but they had no developed doctrine of a 'secret pre-tribulation rapture.'

That's quite a thing! So, it's been around. Do people really believe hoaxes? *Yes, they do!* We'll talk about *a place of safety* a little later on, but the first thing we need to cover, first thing we need to ask: Who's in heaven right now?

Let's look at one Scripture here in Philip. 1; this is quoted very often. Now, remember after Charlie Kirk was assassinated, they said,

Well, he's with the Lord already, and Charlie is up there looking down on us, and smiling on us, and very happy indeed.'

It's like, this young boy went to funeral services when his grandmother died, and a minister

was there speaking, and he's saying, 'Well now, Grandma is in heaven right now, looking down on us.' The little boy piped up and said, 'Well, I can see her right up there.' Because her coffin was right up front, and she was in the coffin.

It's the same thing that people do all the time when they read the Bible. ***They have an assumption already in their mind, and they go into the Bible looking to prove their assumption, rather than find out what it says!***

Here's Paul in prison, in Rome, and he's saying the different ones are witnessing about Jesus, and even the household of Caesar has heard it.

Philippians 1:18: "What then *shall I say*? Nevertheless, in every way, whether in pretext or in truth, Christ is being proclaimed; and I rejoice in this, yes, and will also *continue to rejoice*."

Now, we have something similar to that today. We have a lot of people with Turning Point USA, and what are they doing? *Well, they're talking about Christ, and they're supposedly helping people come to Christ!*

But I can tell you one thing for sure. The simple Franklin Graham prayer is not going to get you to heaven, it's not going to get you into the tribulation, and it might not even get you to Christ. Now, why is that? Because God says, ***'Return to Me.'*** He doesn't say, pray, *and I will come to you!* That little 10-second, maybe 20-second, prayer is supposed to save your life for all eternity. ***Really?***

Now, let's understand something: What you believe and what the Bible actually says—in the way that it should be understood—is entirely different than from what people think! You ***cannot*** understand the Bible ***unless***:

1. you ***believe*** God, and you ***believe*** in Christ *and this is what they all miss:*
2. you ***obey*** the Truth

The Protestants hate that word 'obey' and 'Truth.' ***The Word of God is the Truth!*** But it also has to be rightly divided, because if you don't rightly divide it, it's like a puzzle with all the pieces put on top of the table, but you don't know where they go. You have to have the picture on the box so you can have a little guidance where they go. The Word of God is much like that.

Verse 19: "For I know that this shall turn out for my salvation through your supplication and *the* supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ."

Now, this supplication is continual prayer, and in the Spirit.

- Who gives the Spirit? *God the Father!*
- What does Christ do? *He helps us by supplying us with the application of God's Spirit in our life all the time!*

Verse 20: "According to my earnest expectation and hope, that in no way shall I be ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, Christ shall also be magnified now in my body, whether by life or by death." *He was thinking he was going to face the death penalty.*

Verse 21: "For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain. Now if I live in *the* flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labor. But I do not know what I should choose. **For I am hard pressed to choose between the two. I desire to depart... [die] ...and to be with Christ, which is far better**" (vs 21-23).

They never asked the question: **When do Christians be with Christ in heaven?** They read this and they say that he's now in heaven; that Charlie Kirk is in heaven. That everyone who dies, they go to heaven.

Did you know?

- there's ***no place in the Bible*** that says when you die, *you go to heaven*
- there is no place ***no place in the Bible*** that says when you die, *you go to ever burning hell*
- there is ***no place in the Bible*** that says when you die and you haven't really been good and you haven't really been bad, *then you go to purgatory*

And purgatory is a special place and they pray for that the day after Halloween because Halloween is coming and Halloween is 'all hallowed eve' and ***that's the day of the devil!*** That's not from God.

Then November 1st is ***all souls day!*** We can pray for all the souls in the world that are in purgatory and our prayers if we say enough rosaries and if we give enough money to the pope we may get them out of purgatory.

Verse 21: "For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain. Now if I live in *the* flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labor. But I do not know what I should choose. For I am hard pressed to choose between the two. I desire to depart... [die] ...and to be with Christ, *which is far better*" (vs 21-23).

- When will they be with Christ?
- What has to happen before that?

The rapture is *if you are alive you're going to be snatched away and taken up into heaven and you're going to miss the tribulation!*

Well we will see **that's not true!** So, Paul is hard pressed.

Verse 24: "But to remain in the flesh *is* more necessary for your sakes. And being persuaded of this, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your advancement and joy in the faith; so that through my presence with you again, your rejoicing for me may abound in Christ Jesus" (vs 24-26).

Now then, **nowhere does it say** that he's going to be **raptured or translated!**

1-Thess. 4—Here's where they turn to prove that there is a rapture! One of the rules of Bible study is to read the verses before and the verses after so you know what it's talking about:

1-Thessalonians 4:7: "For God has not called us to uncleanness, but to sanctification. Accordingly, the one who rejects *these commands* is not rejecting man, but God, Who also gave His Holy Spirit to us. Now concerning brotherly love, you have no need *for me* to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another. And you also practice this toward all the brethren who *are* in all of Macedonia; but we exhort you, brethren, to abound *even more in love*; and to aspire to live *a quiet life*, and to tend to your own business..." (vs 7-11).

Now there are some people that especially today with the telephone you get on the telephone and you walk up and down in the telephone numbers and you call everyone and 'yickety-yackety, yickety-yackety' your false doctrine ***and you're just wrong!*** So, hang up the phone and get right with God!

"...and to work with your own hands, exactly as we have instructed you; so that you may walk honestly toward those *who are* without... [outside the Church] ...and may not need *anything* from anyone. But I do not wish you to be ignorant, brethren..." (vs 11-13).

Now here is the verse right here: "...concerning those who have fallen asleep... [died, because death is likened unto sleep] ...that you be not grieved, even as others, who have no hope. For **IF** we believe that Jesus died and rose again, in exactly the same way also..." (vs 13-14). Now listen carefully:

- How did Jesus die. He was buried! He was resurrected!
- Did God save Him from destruction? *No!*
- Did God intervene to lift Him up to heaven before time? *No!*

So, what he's saying is, ***you're going to die and you're going to be in the grave the same as Christ,***

because, as we'll see a little later on, *as in Adam all die!*

"...in exactly the same way also, those who have fallen asleep in Jesus will God bring with Him" (v 14).

- What does that mean?
- Does that mean there are people in heaven right now? *No!*
- How do we get with Christ?
- Where is Christ when we meet Him?
- Is He on the earth?
- Is He in heaven?
- Is He on his way back to the earth?
- Is He in the atmosphere?
- How's that going to be?

We'll cover that!

Verse 15: "For this we say to you by *the* Word of *the* Lord, that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall in no wise precede those who have fallen asleep."

Now those who believe in the rapture pre-tribulation... Why do they believe that? ***Because they don't believe the resurrection!*** So when they read this verse that Christ is going 'to bring them with Him' they never ask the questions:

- How do we get from here to there where Christ is?
- What happens after that?

We'll find that in the book of Revelation!

"...that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall in no wise precede those who have fallen asleep, because the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with *a* shout of command, with *the* voice of an archangel and with *the* trumpet of God; ***and the dead in Christ shall rise first***" (vs 15-16).

Mark that because *they don't believe in the resurrection*, and if you're caught up in the rapture you get up there before those who already died in Christ. ***They have it all mixed up! "...the dead in Christ shall rise first..." That's a resurrection!***

Rev. 20—let's see what it says right here because this tells us something very important about resurrection. Your soul does not go to heaven and there is no pre tribulation rapture!

Here's Christ, now he comes to the earth and He's bringing all the saints with Him. Why is that? ***Because as we will see with the resurrection at the seventh trump or the last trump the dead in Christ shall rise and meet Christ in the air in the clouds!***

We will see we'll meet Him on what Rev. 15 says is a great Sea of Glass. Then on that great Sea of Glass there are going to be a lot of things take place:

Note: ***What Will Happen on the Sea of Glass?*** {<https://www.cbcbg.org/images/What-will-Happen-on-the-Sea-of-Glass.pdf>}

Some which are:

- we have to know our new names
- we have to receive our assignment
- we have to receive our new garments
- the wedding of the Bride^[transcriber's correction] and the Lamb/Christ takes place
- we are all guests of it
- the Marriage Supper of the Lamb
- then Christ and the saints come to the earth (Rev. 19)

What's the first thing that happens? ***The beast*** and ***the false prophet*** are cast into the Lake of Fire and ***Satan is bound***, put in jail and locked up!

Revelation 20:4: "And I saw thrones; and they that sat upon them, and judgment was given to them; and *I saw the souls* of those who had been beheaded... [those who were alive, but were beheaded] ...for the testimony of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and those ***who did not worship the beast or his image, and did not receive the mark in their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.***"

Verse 5: "(But the rest of the dead did not live again... [that is another resurrection that's after the thousand years] ...until the thousand years were completed.).... [then John says] ...This is the first resurrection." *That tells you another story, too!*

If there is a first resurrection there has to be another resurrection to follow and that's the one "(...the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were completed.)...."—over!

Verse 6: "Blessed and Holy is the one who has part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power. But they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years." *That shows what happens when Christ returns!*

Now let's look at a little bit more about this so we can answer the question:

Has anyone ascended into heaven, yet, except Christ? We'll look at a couple of other things gives kind of an appearance of it, but let's come to John 3:13, and here is an interesting verse. The one who wrote this was the Apostle John, and he put in a parenthetical statement:

John 3:13: "(And no one has ascended into heaven, except He Who came down from heaven, *even* the Son of man, Who is in heaven.)"

Jesus was talking about *being born again!* Now a lot of those in the Protestant world think that *if they profess the name of Jesus they are born again!*

That's not true! We've got in in the Bible here two appendices:

- Appendix P: What Does It Mean to be "Born Again"?
- Appendix Q: What Does It Mean to be "Born of God"?

In John 3—Jesus told this to Nicodemus. Now Nicodemus came to Jesus at night and he said '*we know You're a man sent from God.*'

John 3:3: "Jesus answered and said to him, 'Truly, truly I say to you, unless anyone is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.'"

What does born again mean? *Jesus defines it!* It's not an emotional experience that someone has when they are baptized.

- ***IF you're converted***, you're still in the flesh!
- ***IF you receive the Holy Spirit of God*** as a begettal from the Father you're still in the flesh!

But you have the Spirit of God!

When Jesus says 'born again' He's talking about resurrection, and that you can't see the Kingdom of God just like we pointed out there in Rev. 20 until you're a spirit being.

Verse 3 "Jesus answered and said to him, 'Truly, truly I say to you, unless anyone is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.' Nicodemus said to Him, 'How can a man who is old be born? Can he enter his mother's womb a second time and be born?'" (vs 3-4).

Of course, that's a foolish question and Jesus said that he didn't really know what he was talking about.

Verse 5: "Jesus answered, 'Truly, truly I say to you, unless anyone has been **born of water and of Spirit**... [that's a very interesting phrase right there] ...he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God."

Let's see how He defined it: v 6: "That which has been born of the flesh is flesh..."

That's what it means to be *born of water*; it **does not mean** be born with baptism. The water of baptism has nothing to do with being born of the flesh.

Verse 6: "That which has been born of the flesh...[and every one of us have] **...is flesh**... [that's what we have] ...and that which has been born of the Spirit **is spirit**." *That means composed of spirit!*

We will see when we get to 1-Cor. 15 that that takes place at the coming of Christ; *born of Spirit **IS** spirit!*

- ***IF*** you've been baptized and raised out of the water *are you still flesh? Yes!*
- ***WHEN*** you've had hands laid on you for the receiving of the Holy Spirit, are you still flesh, *but now possessing the Spirit of God? Yes!*
- Are you spirit, composed of spirit? *No!*

That's what it means to be born of spirit you are composed of spirit!

That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and you're born of water because your existence in your mother's womb was in amniotic fluid, which is water.

The very first thing that happens before you are born is that embryonic sac breaks and the water that you are living in there plus the contraction of your mother's muscles forces you out into the world and you are born of water!

Then to continue in the flesh what has to happen? *You have to breathe!* So, the very first thing that is done—either by the midwife or the doctor—the newly born baby is kind of held upside down and spanked on the bottom, and then the baby cries, really cries! I know what it's like, because I've seen all of our children born and that's exactly what happens.

- Why do they cry? *Because they've entered into the world and now they're no longer in their mother's womb and they **now have to breathe!***
- In order to breathe what has to happen? *You have to have the lungs expanded!*
- How do the lungs get expanded? *The baby takes a breath and starts crying and crying and crying!*

That flushes out all of the water that they may have in their mouth in their throat, because they may have some amniotic fluid in them, and they breathe in the air!

- that which is born of the water *is flesh*
- that which is born of the Spirit *is spirit*

So, to be born again means you are changed *from flesh to spirit!* Everyone out there who thinks that they're born again you take a little pin test! You have flesh and blood, you're born of water; you're **not** born again!

IF you're baptized, that's the first step in order to receive the Holy Spirit of God, but the Holy Spirit of God that comes into you **does not** convert your whole body to spirit! ***You receive into your spirit of mind***, which you received when you were begotten in your mother's womb—the *spirit of man—and that unites with your spirit!*

1-Peter 1—let's see how Peter explains this very clearly this is this is really quite something. It lets you know exactly what it is to be born again, and to be born again takes place after you have been begotten with the Holy Spirit of God because:

- we live our lives with the Holy Spirit of God
- we love God
- we obey God
- we keep His Commandments
- we develop the character of God
- we develop the Spirit of Christ in us

1-Peter 1:1: "Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the elect strangers scattered in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia; *who have been chosen according to the predetermined knowledge of God the Father...*" (vs 1-2).

That means God has His Plan and everything is working out according to His Plan and for all of those who receive the Holy Spirit of God, ***we're looking forward to the first resurrection*** (Rev. 20).

By sanctification through the Spirit and obedience... There's that word again, ***you have to obey!*** You cannot live your life any old way you want to and expect that God is going to raise you from the dead or change you from flesh to spirit.

"...**unto obedience** and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied to you. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who, according to His abundant mercy, **has begotten us again...**" (vs 2-3).

Before you can be born again ***you must be begotten again!*** Just like you cannot be born of the flesh ***unless you're begotten!*** Likewise, you can't be born of the spirit ***unless you have been begotten and unless you grow spiritually and develop*** and die in the faith or remain alive until Christ returns.

But you have to be begotten! Notice it says right here "**...has begotten us again...**" Now the Greek is very clear:

"...**has begotten us again** unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; unto an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and unfading, reserved in heaven for us, who are being safeguarded by the power of God through faith for salvation *that is* ready to be revealed in the last time" (vs 3-5). *Not now!* So, that's very important for us to understand!

Now let's come back to John 3 and let's finish this and let's ask: Who is in heaven now? We'll look at that! *Jesus went on to explain:*

John 3:6: "That which has been born of the flesh is flesh; and that which has been born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'It

is **necessary** for you to be born again'" (vs 6-7)—*obligated!*

That is you're not going to be raised from the dead unless you have received the Spirit of God, and you're not going to be born again unless you have been faithful unto the end and put in the grave or wait until Christ returns if you're still living.

Verse 8: "The wind blows where it wills, and you hear its sound, but you do not know *the place* from which it comes and *the place* to which it goes; so *also* is everyone who has been born of the Spirit."

If you're spirit you're spirit, and you can become invisible or you can, as Christ did, make yourself visible.

Verse 9: "Nicodemus answered and said to Him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered and said to him, 'You are a teacher of Israel, and you do not know these things? Truly, truly I say to you, We speak that which We know, and We testify of that which We have seen; but you do not receive Our testimony. If I have told you earthly things, and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?'" (vs 9-12). *We'll look at that in just a little bit!*

Verse 13—*here's what Christ said; this talks about why there will be no secret rapture:* "(And **no one has ascended into heaven, except He Who came down from heaven, even the Son of man, Who is in heaven.**)"

That parenthetical statement was put there by John because Jesus had ascended to the Father. He was standing right there talking to Nicodemus, so he couldn't have been in the bosom of the Father at the same time he's talking with Nicodemus. ***That shows that there has to be a resurrection!***

We'll look at the ***vision of transfiguration*** because they turn there and they say well there's Moses and Elijah in heaven really let's see what it actually says because this says, "(And no one has ascended into heaven, except He Who came down from heaven...)" (v 13).

- Did Moses come from heaven? *No!*
- Did Elijah come from heaven? *No!*
- Did any of the apostles come from heaven? *No!*
- Who was the only One that came from heaven? *Jesus Christ!*

He's the only One, through the power of the resurrection, that ascended back to heaven. That was on the Wave Sheaf Offering Day after He had been dead for three days and three nights in the grave, and raised from the dead and then ascended to heaven.

Remember how He ascended to heaven. He was with the eleven apostles, because Judas was already dead. They saw, they handled Him, they knew

that He was resurrected from the dead. Now He's standing here on the Mount of Olives and He's telling them: 'I'm going to leave you, but you go into Jerusalem and after you receive power...'

So, they asked Him: 'Are you going to restore the Kingdom to Israel at this time?' Jesus said, 'That's in the authority of the Father.'

They were standing right there talking to Jesus and He gave them these instructions. Then all of a sudden He started rising in the air and disappeared in a cloud. ***They all saw it! He's the only One Who ascended into heaven,*** and He was the One Who had descended from heaven to become the pinpoint of life and be impregnated in the womb of the virgin Mary, and be born and live a life; the whole thing concerning the life of Christ. Then He was crucified and died and was buried and raised from the dead after three days. Then on the Wave Sheaf Offering Day He ascended to heaven to the Father.

We'll look at the Mount of Transfiguration

(break@43:15)

Matt. 17—here's where a lot of people turn to say that people go to heaven when they die. So, 'the rapture' and 'going to heaven when you die' are kind of all tied together with ***the hoax of the rapture*** that those who are alive will be, before the tribulation comes, will be raptured away so you won't have to experience the tribulation.

They point to Matt. 17 to show that when people die, they go to heaven. But let's look at it and see what it actually says.

Matthew 17:1: "And after six days, Jesus took with *Him* Peter and James and his brother John, and brought them up into a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured..." (vs 1-2).

Now that means it was a vision and Jesus was still in the flesh, and after the vision He was still in the flesh. But in this vision:

Verse 2: "And He was transfigured before them; and His face shined as the sun, and His garments became white as the light. Then behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah talking with Him. And Peter answered *and* said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here. If You desire, let us make three tabernacles here: one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was speaking, a bright cloud suddenly overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, '***This is My Son, the Beloved, in Whom I delight. Listen to Him!***'" (vs 2-5).

This was a message directly from God the Father! Probably an angel speaking, because it just says, 'a voice from heaven.'

Verse 6: "And when the disciples heard it,

they fell on their faces in extreme terror. But Jesus came *and* touched them, and said, 'Arise, and do not be terrified.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus alone. Now, as they were descending from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, 'Tell the vision to no one...' (vs 6-9).

So, this was a vision. It was not an actual change or that Moses and Elijah were already in heaven. ***Because none are going to be spirit beings until the first resurrection!*** Has any part of the first resurrection occurred? *No!* So, this is exactly what Jesus said:

"...Tell the vision to no one until the Son of man has risen from *the* dead" (v 9).

Now then, let's look at another scene. Let's come to Rev. 4. Now let's see if there are any in heaven when John sees this vision.

Revelation 4:1: "After these things I looked, and behold, a door opened in heaven; and the first voice that I heard *was* as if a trumpet were speaking with me, saying, 'Come up here, and I will show you *the* things that must take place after these things.' And immediately I was in *the* Spirit..." (vs 1-2).

He saw this in vision! He wasn't changed from flesh to spirit, but it was a spiritual experience and vision to see it.

"...and behold, a Throne was set in heaven, and *One* was sitting on the Throne. And He Who *was* sitting was in appearance like a jasper stone and a sardius stone; and a rainbow *was* around the Throne, like an emerald in its appearance. And around the Throne *were* twenty-four thrones; and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting..." (vs 2-4).

Created beings by God! What did it say back there in John 3:13? *No one has ascended to heaven except the Son of Man who has come down from heaven!* So, all of these things that portray what we're covering now *are seen in vision!* John was not translated from flesh to spirit, because he later died.

Verse 5: "And proceeding from the Throne were lightnings and thunders and voices; and seven lamps of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, *were* burning before the Throne. And before the Throne *was* a Sea of Glass, like crystal. And around the Throne and over the Throne *were* four living creatures, full of eyes before and behind" (vs 5-6).

You can tie this together with Ezek. 6, and see that Ezekiel saw something very similar with the cherubim. Then it talks about the four living creatures and the 24 elders.

How many saints are there? *None!* So, no one has ascended to heaven because the first resurrection has not taken place. The first resurrection is not going

to take place in a series of events, but it's going to take place at one time.

Now, let's come back to 1-Cor. 15, because this is what you call *the resurrection chapter*. It explains many things about being resurrected from flesh to spirit and so forth. We're going to see something very interesting here, because the Corinthians were believing in the false doctrine *that there was no resurrection!* That is for those who were with Christ.

IF you believe that when you die, that you automatically go to heaven, **THEN** there's no need for the resurrection! So, this started early on.

1-Corinthians 15:1: "Now, I am declaring to you, brethren, the *same* Gospel that I proclaimed to you, which you also received, *and* in which you are now standing; by which you are also **being** saved..." (vs 1-2).

Now, this tells us that **salvation is a process!** We've been begotten again, as we saw with the Apostle Peter, from God the Father, not yet born! *The resurrection will be born again, but not until that time!*

So, anyone today who says they have been born again are completely mistaken, because they're still living in the flesh. Many of those who say they have been born again, ***they haven't even received the Holy Spirit of God to even start the begettal process, because they haven't repented and been baptized the way that they should!***

"...**IF** you are holding fast *the* words that I proclaimed to you; otherwise you have believed in vain. For in the first place, I delivered to you what I also had received: that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures; and that He was buried; and that He was raised the third day, according to the Scriptures" (vs 2-4). ***That is a resurrection! Being changed from flesh to spirit. And He was raised from the dead!***

Verse 5: "And that He appeared to Cephas, *and* then to the twelve. Then He appeared to over five hundred brethren at one time, of whom the greater part are alive until now, but some have fallen asleep.... [they died] ...Next He appeared to James; then to all the apostles; and last of all He appeared to me also, as one who was born of a miscarriage. For I am the least of the apostles, *and* am not fit *even* to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. But by *the* grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me has not been in vain; rather, I have labored more abundantly than all of them; however, *it* was not I, **but the grace of God with me**" (vs 5-10).

That's what's important. Those of us who are converted, ***those of us who are elders and teachers, we do what we do:***

- by the grace of God
- by the Spirit of God

and teach the Word of God! That's what we are to do!

- no hierarchy
- don't rule over the brethren
- don't live their lives for them

Because each one of us have to live our lives before God in accordance with what He has given to us in His Word!

Verse 11: "Now then, whether I or they, so we preach, and so you have believed. But if Christ is being preached, that He rose from *the* dead... [a resurrection] ...*how is it that* some among you are saying that there is no resurrection of *the* dead?" (vs 11-12).

The false doctrine of when you die, you go to heaven, ***that is a pagan doctrine!*** Everything that is found in Christendom today is a ***false doctrine*** from Satan to devil ***with a false Christ, with a false hope,*** and, as we will see, ***there will be no rapture!***

Let's see what Paul says here. If there were any rapture to take place, *this is where he would say it!* If there was no resurrection, then he would be agreeing with those in Corinth who were preaching a false doctrine that there's no resurrection.

Verse 13: "For **IF** there is no resurrection from *the* dead, neither has Christ been raised. And **IF** Christ has not been raised, **THEN** our preaching *is* in vain, and your faith *is* also in vain. And we are also found *to be* false witnesses of God..." (vs 13-15).

- Isn't that something?
- How many false witnesses are there out there today? *They're everywhere!*
- Didn't Jesus say that there will be false prophets saying that he is the Christ and many will believe it? *Yes!*

Verse 14: "And **IF** Christ has not been raised, then our preaching *is* in vain, and your faith *is* also in vain. And we are also found *to be* false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that He raised Christ, Whom He did not raise, **IF** indeed *the* dead are not raised. For **IF** *the* dead are not raised, **neither has Christ been raised**" (vs 14-16).

How do they square that in Protestantism and Catholicism, that when you die, you go to heaven, you go to hell, or you go to purgatory if you're lucky?

Verse 17: "But **IF** Christ has not been raised, **your faith is vain; you are still in your sins.**"

Now, think about that! Doesn't that tell you exactly what it is with the Protestants? *Because if you*

believe, then you repent! **IF** you repent, **THEN** you get baptized. When you get baptized, and you commit to that covenant with God, and receive the Holy Spirit, *you're not born again, **you are begotten again***, as Peter said. Then we're to live our life the way that God wants:

- to grow in grace and knowledge
- to develop the character of God
- to live by every Word of God

So, all of this is involved in what he's written here in 1-Cor. 15.

Verse 17: "But if Christ has not been raised, your faith *is* vain; you are still in your sins, and those who have fallen asleep in Christ have then perished" (vs 17-18).

In other words, they died. There's no way out of that grave. There's no way out of it if there's no resurrection. We read in Rev. 20 that there's also another resurrection. But that's another story. We'll get to that later.

Verse 19: "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most miserable. But now Christ has been raised from *the* dead; He has become the Firstfruit **of those who have fallen asleep**" (vs 19-20).

So, the vision of the transfiguration doesn't prove anybody's in heaven now. What we saw there in Rev. 4 & 5 shows there's God the Father, Jesus Christ, the 24 elders, there are angels.

- none of the saints are there
- none of the apostles are there

Verse 21: "For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came the* resurrection of *the* dead. For as in Adam **all die...**" (vs 21-22).

We all have the death gene in us, and that's just the way it is. ***All die!***

If you're taken alive in a rapture, you're not going to die. They never thought of that!

Verse 22: "For as in Adam **all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.**"

You have to be resurrected from the dead as Christ was. Now, notice carefully:

Verse 23: "**But each in his own order...**"

- first resurrection
 - second resurrection
- and
- the second part of the second resurrection

"...**each in his own order**, Christ *the* Firstfruit; then those who are Christ's at His coming" (v 23).

How can you have a rapture, which takes you to heaven before the tribulation occurs, and Christ has not yet returned and you are not yet raised from the dead?

Very interesting indeed! ***You need to think on that!***

Verse 23: "**But each in his own order**, Christ *the* Firstfruit; then those who are Christ's at His coming. **Afterwards the end comes, when He shall have delivered up the Kingdom to Him Who is God and Father, when He shall have put an end to all rule and all authority and power.** For it is ordained that He reign until He has put all enemies under His feet" (vs 23-25). *Now, that takes a clean sweep of everything:*

- Satan the devil is removed
- the demons are removed
- all evil people are thrown into the Lake of Fire and burned up

Clean sweep of everything, all enemies!

Verse 26: "*The* last enemy *to be* destroyed is death. For He has put all things in subjection under His feet. But when it is said that all things have been put in subjection, *it is* clearly evident that *it does* not include Him Who put all things in subjection under Him. But when He has put all things in subjection to Him, then shall the Son Himself also be subject to Him Who put all things in subjection to Him... [God the Father] ...so that God may be all in all. Otherwise, what shall they do who have been baptized for the *resurrection of the dead?*" (vs 26-29). ***That's why you are baptized!***

Now, the Mormons like to take this and say, well, you can be baptized for all your relatives. They don't have to be baptized. You can be baptized for anyone. And they also have special baptismal ceremonies where they take famous people back in history and someone is baptized on their behalf. Now, that's a foolish doctrine to have. Never was anything in the Bible like that.

Verse 29: "Otherwise, what shall they do who have been baptized for the *resurrection of the dead*, if *the* dead are not raised at all? Why then are they baptized for the *resurrection of the dead?*"

That's why you're baptized. That pictures your *spiritual death* right there. And also, **you pledge your life to be faithful unto death because Christ will raise you from the dead!**

Verse 30: "Why are we also in danger every hour? I die daily..." (vs 30-31). *That is:*

- overcoming the flesh
- overcoming sin

- putting to death those things that lead us away from Christ mentally

Verse 31: “I die daily by our boasting, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord. If I fought as a man with beasts in Ephesus, what *did it* profit me, if *the* dead are not raised? Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die. **Do not be deceived; evil companionship corrupts good behavior**” (vs 31-33).

That’s what he’s talking about with *the false doctrine that there will be no resurrection!*

Verse 34: “Awake to righteousness, and do not sin, for some *of you* do not have the knowledge of God. I say *this* to your shame. Nevertheless, someone will say, ‘How are the dead raised? And with what body do they come?’” (vs 34-35).

Now that’s a very interesting question. You watch these archaeological programs where they find all kinds of human remains and things like this.

- What is it? *It’s not going to be the same body!*
- Why? *Because there is **a spirit in man**, which comes with the begetting of you as an individual in your mother’s womb!*

You can read about that in the book: *Why Were You Born?* That *spirit of man* gives you:

- life
- consciousness
- makes you a human being

*That’s why you have to be **begotten again to receive the Holy Spirit of God**, which unites with your *spirit in man*, and then at the resurrection the Spirit of God gives you:*

- a whole new body, spiritual
- a whole new mind, spiritual
- you’re able then to be *a born again son or daughter of God* at that point

Now notice how all of this lays aside everything concerning a rapture!

Verse 36: “Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.”

Then Paul talks about planting a seed; you plant a seed and then it sprouts new life. Then he compares this to other living things.

Verse 37: “And what you sow *is* not the body that shall be; rather, *it is* bare grain—it may be of wheat, or one of the other *grains*; and God gives it a body according to His will, and to each of the seeds its own body. *Likewise*, not all flesh *is* the same flesh. Rather, *there is* one flesh of men, and another flesh of beasts, and another of fish, and another of birds. And *there are* heavenly bodies, and earthly bodies; but the

glory of the heavenly *is* different, and the *glory* of the earthly *is* different. *There is* one glory of *the* sun, and another glory of *the* moon, and another glory of *the* stars; for *one* star differs from *another* star in glory. **So also is the resurrection of the dead....**” (vs 37-42).

Again, comes back to a resurrection! No pre-tribulation raptured away from the tribulation. Now, we’ll have to cover about a place of safety later. We don’t have time to cover that today, but they confuse going to a place of safety, which are just a few as we will see. I’ll try and cover that next week. But let’s continue on here.

Verse 42: “So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption... [that is true; everything fleshly disappears] ...it is raised in incorruption”—*a spirit being!*

*This also disproves **the rapture!** **Nothing** in the Bible, **nothing** in the writings of the Apostle Paul, have to do with a rapture where you’re taken off into heaven as a fleshly being, and therefore, you’re going to be with the Lord forever.*

That’s a twisting of the Scriptures, because **no one** can accomplish that **unless they have been raised from the dead first!** But the first resurrection of the saints has not occurred. And that’s another whole story.

You have to follow that through on what we cover with the Day of Pentecost and when that will likely occur. But it’s going to be at the last trumpet; we’ll see that here.

Now, remember, the only place in the Bible where there is a last trumpet is in the book of Revelation, where you have the:

- 1st trumpet
- 2nd trumpet
- 3rd trumpet
- 4th trumpet
- 5th trumpet
- 6th trumpet

*and the 7th trumpet sounds **and the dead are raised!** **That’s the last trumpet!***

Verse 42: “**So also is the resurrection of the dead.** It is sown in corruption; **it is raised in incorruption.** It is sown in dishonor; **it is raised in glory.** It is sown in weakness; **it is raised in power**” (vs 42-43).

That is true! All of us who are getting older, we know we’re getting weaker. And just like it says here, there is a natural body:

Verse 44: “**It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body....**”

There's *nothing in the rapture* that shows that you're going to be changed. Because if there's a rapture before the tribulation, then that occurs before the resurrection.

How can that happen? *It can't!* And it's not going to happen, *because the rapture is a hoax!*

Verse 44: "**It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body.** There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body; accordingly, it is written, 'The first man, Adam, **became a living soul...**'" (vs 44-45). *That's what he was!*

The soul is your whole physical being. The soul that sins shall die (Ezek. 18). Animals have souls, as well. When they die, their soul disappears, as well.

Verse 45: "Accordingly, it is written, 'The first man, Adam, became a living soul; the last Adam became an ever-living Spirit.'"

Why? *Because Jesus received a spirit body, or received a heavenly body composed of spirit!* That's how we would define it.

Verse 46: "However, the spiritual *was* not first, but the natural—then the spiritual. The first man *is* of the earth—made of dust. The second Man *is* the Lord from heaven. As *is* the one made of dust, so also *are all* those who are made of dust..." (vs 46-48). *Every human being is the same:*

- you have flesh
- you have physical parts in your body to make it work
- you have a mind, which has the spirit of man in it

What you need is the Spirit of God to unite with that, which comes with repentance and baptism. And laying on of hands, and that prepares you to grow in grace and knowledge to prepare for what Paul is talking about here *for the resurrection!* *When you're resurrected from the dead, you will be composed of spirit!* Every part of you. *You will then be born of God, born of the Spirit.* So that all ties together there with John 3.

"...and as *is* the heavenly One, so also *are all* those who are heavenly" (v 48).

IF you have been *born again*, you should *no longer have any physical body!* Very clear! So all of the Protestants who say, 'I've been born again,' *never happen!*

- Do you have a spiritual body? *No!*
- Do you have a spiritual mind? *No!*
- Are you a fleshly human being? *Yes!*
- Are you subject to death? *Yes!*

Then you have not been born again!

Verse 49: "And as we have borne the image of the *one* made of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly One.... [Christ] ...Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood **cannot...** [that's the strongest in the Greek meaning *it's impossible*] **...inherit the Kingdom of God,** nor does corruption inherit incorruption.... [it must be given to you by God] ...Behold, **I show you a mystery: we shall not all fall asleep...**" (vs 49-51).

That's what he talked about in 1-Thess. 4; *we who are alive*—when those who died in Christ first are raised from the dead—*also will be changed.* And the angels, as we find in Matt. 24, will take all of those resurrected from the dead up to a great Sea of Glass where there will be Christ and the angels and all the resurrected saints.

Verse 51: "Behold, **I show you a mystery: we shall not all fall asleep, but we shall all be changed, in an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet...** [that's the seventh trumpet of Revelation] **...for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed**" (vs 51-52).

Think on that, all of those of you *who claim you're born again now.*

- Are you incorruptible?
- Are you immortal?
- Have you been changed?
- *No!*

Maybe you have a little change of thinking, but that won't go anywhere *unless you receive the Holy Spirit of God as a begettal,* and a down payment for eternal life from God.

Verse 53: "For this corruptible must put on incorruptibility... [which comes from God] ...and this mortal must put on immortality. [which comes from God] ...Now, when this corruptible shall have put on incorruptibility, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: **'Death is swallowed up in victory.'**" (vs 53-54).

There it is! Now, through all of this, there is *nothing that says anything about a rapture!* *The word does not appear in the Bible, and it's a figment of the imagination of theologians going clear back to 1830!*

Verse 55: "O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory? Now the sting of death *is* sin, and the power of sin *is* the Law. **But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.** So then, my beloved brethren, **be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord**" (vs 55-58).

So there you have the complete picture *that there will never be a rapture that takes place before the tribulation!*

As a matter of fact, when you read the Scripture, it shows that there's going to be a lot of saints martyred during the Tribulation. So how can there be a lot of saints martyred during the Tribulation if you're raptured off before the Tribulation?

It's a hoax! And all of the Protestants are in 'Hoaxville'! Who sets that up? *Satan the devil!*

- another Jesus
- another salvation
- a different thing that's contrary to the Word of God

So if anyone asks you: Are you going to be in the rapture, brother? *You can just tell them:*

No thank you; the rapture is not Scriptural and it is a hoax. ***We look for the resurrection from the dead at the last trumpet when Christ returns and then we will meet Him in the air!***

*So that's the Truth of the rapture; **a hoax!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Philippians 1:18-26
- 2) 1-Thessalonians 4:7-16
- 3) Revelation 20:4-6
- 4) John 3:13, 3-6
- 5) 1-Peter 1:1-5
- 6) John 3:6-13
- 7) Matthew 17:1-9
- 8) Revelation 4:1-6
- 9) 1 Corinthians 15:1-15, 14-58

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 15; 19
- Ezekiel 6; 18
- Revelation 4; 5
- Matthew 24

Also referenced: {truthofgod.org}

What Will Happen on the Sea of Glass?
{<https://www.cbcbg.org/images/What-will-Happen-on-the-Sea-of-Glass.pdf>}

From *The Holy Bible In Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*:

- Appendix P: *What Does It Mean To Be "Born Again"?*
- Appendix Q: *What Does It Mean To Be "Born of God"?*

Book: *Why Were You Born?*

FRC:bo/po
Transcribed: 10/29/25

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