

***Rigged for the Journey***  
**The Rapture**

**Lesson 12B**

Introduction:

- A. The rapture is that event in which Christ will return and gather His Church to Himself in the air. It is distinct from the literal and physical Second Coming of Christ (Acts 1:9-11).
  - B. There are many different theories on when the “rapture” will occur.
    - 1. Some do not believe in a literal “rapture” of the Church (Amillennialists).
    - 2. Some hold that the “rapture” has already occurred in 70 AD and we are now waiting for the literal return of the Lord Jesus (Partial Preterists).
    - 3. Others believe in a “Pre-Tribulation Rapture” where the Church will be removed before the wrath of God is levied against sin (Rev 3:10) (Pre-Tribulation Rapture Futurists).
    - 4. Still others believe the Church will go through the first half of the tribulation and be “raptured” before the beginning of the last 3½ years called “The Great Tribulation.” This is called a “Mid-Tribulation Rapture Theory” (Rev 11:3-12).
    - 5. Still others believe in a “Post-Tribulation Rapture” (Rev 20:4).
    - 6. Some believe in a combination of all the above called the “Partial Rapture Theory.” Rapture is based on obedience to God’s commands.
    - 7. Since there are strong men of faith that hold too many of these listed above. It is difficult to be dogmatic about the issue. With that in mind, some believers call themselves “Pan-Millennialist,” which holds that the end will pan out just the way God intended and we will be with Him forevermore.
  - C. However, this should not discourage a search for truth. This study will be geared from a “Pre-Tribulation Futurist” perspective, but you will have to search the Scriptures “to see if these things are so” (Acts 17:11).
- I. Information concerning the term “**rapture**.”
- A. The term “rapture” does not appear in any English translation of the Bible.
  - B. The English term “rapture” is derived from the Latin word **rapio**, which means to be caught up in ecstasy, emotions, or literally caught up and removed physically.
  - C. **Rapio** is a translation of the Greek word **harpazo**, which means to seize by force or a literal physical removal from one place to another.
    - 1. In 1 Thessalonians 4:17, the Scripture indicates that the **Church** will be physically caught up to Christ in the air.

**“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” (1 Thes 4:17).<sup>1</sup>**

2. In Acts 8:39, **Phillip** was physically caught up and removed from the desert to another physical location (Azotus) by the Holy Spirit.

**“Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing” (Acts 8:39).**

3. In 2 Corinthians 12:2-4, **Paul** was physically caught up and removed to another physical location in the third heaven, or very presence of God.

**“I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter” (2 Cor 12:2-4).**

## II. Scriptures that Support the Rapture

- A. 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 is one passage which sheds light on the **rapture**.

1. In verse 51, one sees that the rapture was a **secret**. Here Paul tells his readers he is opening up a brand new revelation from God to men, “We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.”

**“By which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets” (Eph 3:4-5).**

2. In verse 52, Paul indicates that the rapture will be **swift**. Paul uses a word which indicates the smallest unit of time that was known to man. At the rapture there will not be time to repent, to witness, to mend relationships, or read the Bible on a consistent basis. Now is the time to obey Christ (John 14:15; Luke 6:46; 11:27-28).

**“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” (1 Cor 15:52).**

**“If you love Me, keep My commandments” (John 14:15).**

**“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do the things which I say” (Luke 6:46)?**

**“And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, “Blessed [is] the womb that bore You, and [the] breasts which nursed You!” But He said, “More than that, blessed [are] those who hear the word of God and keep it!”” (Luke 11:27-28 NKJV)**

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise specified, all scriptural quotations will be made from the New King James Version of the Bible. In order to be true to the source, all verses will remain in their original printed format.

3. In verse 52, one also observes the signal of the rapture will be the blast of the last trumpet, which signals the end of the Age of Grace (1 Thes 4.16; Rev 4.1). It will be the last trumpet that calls the Church into the presence of Jesus Christ.

**“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” (1Thes 4:16).**

**“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” (Rev 4:1).**

4. In verse 53, Paul gives the significance of the rapture. Here one learns that believers' corruptible bodies will be transformed to incorruptible and immortal bodies.

**“For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal [must] put on immortality” (1 Cor 15:53).**

**“Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” (1 Peter 1:3-5 NKJV)**

5. In verses 54-55, Paul writes down the song of the rapture.

**"Death will be swallowed up in victory" (Isa 25.8).**

**"O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory" (Hos 13.14)?**

6. It is verses 56-57, which provide the answer to these questions. The victory over sin and the law is found only in the finished work and ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ applied to the life of the Christian.

**“The sting of death [is] sin, and the strength of sin [is] the law. But thanks [be] to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor 15:56-57).**

**“For He made Him who knew no sin [to be] sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV)**

7. The last verse of this passage provides the stimulus of the rapture. The reality of the rapture should motivate believers to work for Christ while awaiting His glorious return (1 Cor 15:58).

B. Another text which teaches about the rapture is 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18.

1. This passage is designed to bring comfort to living believers who have lost loved ones in Christ to physical death. The reality of the rapture of the Church is to be used as a source of comfort for grieving believers (vs 18).

**“Therefore comfort one another with these words.” (1 Thessalonians 4:18 NKJV)**

2. There is comfort in knowing that are loved ones in Christ are presently in His presence (vs. 13; Phil 1:21-24; 2 Cor 5:8-9).

**“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.” (1 Thessalonians 4:13 NKJV)**

**“For to me, to live [is] Christ, and to die [is] gain. But if [I] live on in the flesh, this [will mean] fruit from [my] labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, [which is] far better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh [is] more needful for you.” (Philippians 1:21-24 NKJV)**

**“We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.” (2 Corinthians 5:8-9 NKJV)**

3. Comfort should come to believers because of the resurrection of the **sleeping** saints (vs 14-15; John 6:38-40).

**“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 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” (1 Thes 4:14-15).**

**““For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. "This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”” (John 6:38-40 NKJV)**

4. **Comfort** should come to believers with the thought of Christ's return. It should not be something to fear (vs 16; Rom 8:1; John 5:24).

**“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” (1 Thes 4:16).**

**“[There is] therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.” (Romans 8:1 NKJV)**

**““Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.” (John 5:24 NKJV)**

5. Comfort should come with the knowledge that the living and resurrected saints will be **united** and then called to meet Christ in the air (vs 17a; John 11:25-26).

**“Then we who are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.” (1 Thes 4:17a).**

**“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. “And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”” (John 11:25-26 NKJV)**

6. Comfort should come through the understanding that from this moment forward the believer will never be **separated** from Christ for all eternity (vs 17b; John 17:24).

**“And thus we shall always be with the Lord” (1 Thes 4:17b).**

**““Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.” (John 17:24 NKJV)**

C. In John 14.1-3, Christ gives validity to the concept of the rapture.

1. In the opening of this passage, Christ tells the disciples not to be **troubled**.
2. In this passage, Christ teaches the apostles from the picture of a Jewish **wedding**.
  - a. A Jewish marriage took place in **three** major stages, the covenant stage, the conveyance stage, and the consummation stage.<sup>2</sup>

1) In the **covenant** stage the following events occurred:

- a) The prospective **groom** would leave his father's home and go to his prospective bride's home. This could have been a bride whom the groom's father had prearranged many years before (John 1.1, 14).

**“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (John 1:1).**

**“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14).**

- b) He would then negotiate a price to be paid as a dowry or **mohar** (Roms 6.23; John 1.29; 1 Peter 1.17-21).

**“For the wages of sin [is] death, but the gift of God [is] eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom 6:23).**

**“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29)!**

**“And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay [here] in fear;**

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<sup>2</sup> Steven Cook, *The Gospel of the Jewish Wedding*, <http://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/the-gospel-of-the-jewish-wedding-steven-cook-sermon-on-22183.asp?Page=1>, January 18, 2014.

knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, [like] silver or gold, from your aimless conduct [received] by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God” (1 Pet 1:17-21).

- c) Once this price had been set, the groom would pay the established price for his bride. At this point, the union was considered **legal**. The bride was considered sanctified or set apart for the groom and it took a legal act of divorce to sever the union (Heb 9:11-12, 22; 10:16-18).

**“But Christ came [as] High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.” (Heb 9:11-12 NKJV)**

**“And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.” (Heb 9:22 NKJV)**

**“”This [is] the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,” [then He adds], “Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” Now where there is remission of these, [there is] no longer an offering for sin.” (Heb 10:16-18 NKJV)**

- d) To **seal** the covenant a cup of wine was shared as a sign that the price had been paid and the bride was now set apart for the groom (1 Cor 11:23-26; John 1:12-13).

**“For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the [same] night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke [it] and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” In the same manner [He] also [took] the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink [it], in remembrance of Me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes” (1Cor 11:23-26).**

**“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God” (John 1:12-13).**

- e) After they drank the cup of the covenant, the groom would return to his father's home and leave the bride at her father's home. This time of **separation** lasted about a year (Acts 1:9-11).

**“Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white**

apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This [same] Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:9-11).

- f) During this time, he would go back and **build** a house on his father's land where he and his bride to live (John 14:1-3).

**"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. "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. "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" (John 14:1-3).**

- g) Her main occupation would be to **get ready** for the groom's return. She had to get her wedding dress ready and prepare for her new life with her husband (1 Cor 15:58; Matt 24:44, 46).

**"Therefore, 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" (1 Cor 15:58).**

**"Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect" (Matt 24:44).**

- 2) Next came the **conveyance** stage of the marriage.

- a) The groom worked hard to prepare a place for His bride, but the Father of the groom decided when the work became a home. Once completed, the Father would tell his son to go get his bride.

**"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." (Mr 13:32 NKJV)**

- b) The groom, best man, and other male escorts would leave the house of the groom's father to go get the bride. Ordinarily this occurred at **night** and the precession was by torchlight (Matt 25:10-13).

**"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. "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' "But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming." (Mt 25:10-13 NKJV)**

- c) The best man would shout "The groom is coming, the groom is coming." The bride would be forewarned of the groom's arrival by the **shout** (Matt 24:36-42).

**"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. "But as the days of Noah [were], so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the**



ark, "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. "Then two [men] will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. "Two [women will be] grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming" (Matt 24:36-42).

- d) At the shout, the bride would get her wedding attendants ready and would be **taken** by the groom's wedding party back to his father's home (1 Thes 4:16-17).

**"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. 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" (1 Thes 4:16-17).**

- e) At the groom's home, the wedding party would find a great big group of people ready to **celebrate** the marriage (Rev 19:6-7).

**"And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, 'Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 'Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready" (Rev 19:6-7).**

- 3) The last stage is the **consummation** stage.

- a) Once at the father's house, the bride and groom would be escorted to a bridal chamber called the **chuppah** (covering or canopy) to consummate the marriage and get to know each other (2 Cor 5:9-10).

**"Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things [done] in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad" (2 Cor 5:9-10).**

- b) The marriage guests would be celebrating the marriage. After the marriage was consummated, the bride and groom would **emerge** from the bridal chamber and appear before their guests. In front of the guests, the bride's veil would be removed and she would be introduced to the world (Rev 19:8-9).

**"And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, 'Write: 'Blessed [are] those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God" (Rev 19:8-9).**

- b. The picture of a Jewish wedding provides a great analogy for the believer concerning the **return** of Christ for His bride, the Church.

- 1) The covenant stage represents Jesus leaving His Father's house to live a perfect life among men; and willingly **paid** the purchase price for His bride through His shed blood (1 Cor 6:19-20).



**“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit [who is] in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s” (1 Cor 6:19-20).**

- a) At this moment, the Church was **set apart** as the bride of Christ (Eph 5:25-27).

**“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish” (Eph 5:25-27).**

- b) Christ left His bride the **cup** of the covenant to remind her that she had been bought with a price (1 Cor 11:26).

**“For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes” (1 Cor 11:26).**

- c) After he paid the price, Christ ascended back to His Father's home to **prepare** a place for His bride (Acts 1:9-11).

**“Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This [same] Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven” (Acts 1:9-11).**

- 2) The conveyance stage represents the future **return** of Christ to gather the church to Himself.

- a) No man knows the exact **time** that Jesus will return (Matt 24:36).

**““But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only” (Matt 24:36).**

- b) However, there will be a trumpet blast to **signal** His return (1 Thes 4:16).

**“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” (1 Thes 4:16).**

- c) Christ will then gather the Church and take all members back to His **Father's** house (1 Thes 4:17).

**“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” (1 Thes 4:17).**

3) The consummation stage is a picture of the **Marriage** of the Lamb in heaven.

- a) During the **seven** years of the Great Tribulation, the Church will be united with Christ in heaven at the Bema Seat Judgment (1 Cor 3:10-16).

**“According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation [with] gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is. If anyone’s work which he has built on [it] endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.” (1Co 3:10-15 NKJV)**

- b) At the end of the seven years Christ's bride will be **revealed** before all the world when she returns to rule with Him during the millennium (Col 3.4; Rev 19.11-14; 20.6).

**“When Christ [who is] our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory” (Col 3:4).**

**“Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes [were] like a flame of fire, and on His head [were] many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He [was] clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses” (Rev 19:11-14).**

**“Blessed and holy [is] he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years” (Rev 20:6).**

### III. Conclusion:

- A. Though we can know the signs of the times, believers need to be looking for a **Savior** instead of a sign. Although there are many signs that need to be fulfilled before the literal Second Coming of Christ, there is nothing left to be fulfilled before the rapture. Once the Church is removed, God will pour His wrath out upon the Earth (1 Thes 5.1-10). We will discuss this in the next lesson.
- B. If a believer truly believes Christ can come at any moment, there are two things which will consume his life.
1. He will desire to live **holy**, because at any moment he might find himself in the physical presence of the Lord Jesus (1 Pet 1.13-16).

**“Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest [your] hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children,**

**not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, [as] in your ignorance; but as He who called you [is] holy, you also be holy in all [your] conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy" (1 Pet 1:13-16).**

2. He will be about the Lord's **business** because of the sense of urgency to warn those who have not accepted Christ of the reality of the Day of Judgment (2 Cor 6:1-2).

**"We then, [as] workers together [with Him] also plead with [you] not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now [is] the accepted time; behold, now [is] the day of salvation" (2 Cor 6:1-2).**

3. God has promised a Crown of **Righteousness** for those who love His appearing, because they will desire to live holy and be faithful to the Master (2 Timothy 4:8).

**"Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing" (2 Tim 4:8).**

- C. If you are a Christian, are you ready to meet the Lord face-to-face? **Today** may be the day!

### Spending Time with the Master<sup>3</sup>

Day 1: Revelation 6:1-17

What God said:

My Response to God:

Day 2: Revelation 7:1-17

What God said:

My Response to God:

Day 3: Revelation 8:1-13

What God said:

My Response to God:

Day 4: Revelation 9:1-21

What God said:

My Response to God:

Day 5: Revelation 10:1-11

What God said:

My Response to God:

Suggested reading: *Rigged for the Journey*, Chapter 11

**Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 15:51**

**“Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—”  
(1 Cor 15:51).**

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<sup>3</sup> Idea taken from MasterLife “Daily Master Communication Guide”, Avery T. Willis, Jr. and Kay Moore, *The Disciple’s Cross*, LifeWay Press: Nashville, TN., 1996, p. 14.