

Revelation 4:1, 8/27/17 Rapture / 2nd Coming

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

-Apostle Paul was also taken into Heaven: 2 Corinthians 12:1-4

-So Paul tells the Christians in Corinth a mystery: 1Co 15:51-52

We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye,

-a twinkle is around 1/6 billionth of a second. That's fast!

The greek word "be changed" means to be change from one form to another- to be transformed.

Paul said the same thing to the Christians in Thessalonica in a little different way.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

-The word for "caught up" in the greek is harpazō and means, "to snatch away, to seize, carry off by force".

-The Latin word for Harpazō (English 'caught up') is rapiemur

-Other Latin translations use rapturo or raptus, both forms of the verb rapiemur and have the English translation of Rapture.

-This event in which, living Christians are caught up to meet the Lord in the air is referred to as the Rapture of the Church.

Matthew 24:36-44 36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, ...39 so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 "Then two [men] will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 "Two [women will be] grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. 42 "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.44 "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Difference Between:

The Rapture of the Church and the Second Coming of Christ

The Rapture of the Church

-Jesus comes for His Church!

-He does not descend all the way to the earth but ascends to meet the church/saints in the air.

-This event is sudden, unannounced and totally unanticipated.

1 Cor 15:51-52 Matt 24:36-44

Second Coming of Christ

-Jesus will descend all the way to the earth, accompanied by multitudes of His saints.

-This will be a very predictable day that will occur immediately after the seven-year-long Tribulation.

-The whole world-everyone, every person, every eye-will see it happen.

Rev 1:7;19:11-14 Matt 24:15-27

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

-“Write the things which will take place after this “

-(After these things-meta-*tauta*): the future... After the church age!!!

-The phrase *after this* (*meta tauta* in ancient Greek) in Revelation 1:19 is also repeated twice in Revelation 4:1.

[Rev 4:1-2 NKJV] 1 After these things (Meta *tauta*) 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 (Meta *tauta*)." 2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and [One] sat on the throne.

So, after these things, the things of the church, the church age,

John see an open door in heaven, here Christ say, Come on Up! and immediately, in the twinkling of an eye, John is before the throne of God!

The main theme in Chapter 2/3 was the church-which is mentioned 19x in the first 3 chapters.

Note: Significantly, the word *church* never occurs in Revelation chapters 4 through 19- (0x);

