

The Rapture Unveiled

Introduction:

- Inscribed on the wall of the reading room in the Library of Congress is the following: “One God, One Law, One Element, and one far-off divine _____, to which the whole creation moves.”
- Not too long ago, May 2004, Newsweek did a poll and __% of Americans “think that the faithful will be taken up to heaven in the Rapture.” (David J. Jefferson and Anne Underwood, “the Pop Prophets,” *Newsweek*, 24 May 2004, p. 48)

1) The _____ with the Rapture: Why isn't the Word “Rapture” in the Bible?

- a) The term *rapture* is taken from 1 Thessalonians 4:17 “Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be _____.”
- b) The words *caught up* are translated from the _____ word *harpazo*
 - i) Defined: catch away, catch up, pluck, pull, take by force.
 - ii) The word *harpazo* appears __ times in the NT (Matt. 11:12; 13:19; John 6:15; 10:12, 28-29; Acts 8:39; 23:10; 2 Cor. 12:2, 4; 1 Thess. 4:17; Jude 1:23; Rev. 12:5)
- c) Our English word *rapture* is derived from _____.
- d) In the 4th century AD, Jerome translated the New Testament from the original Greek language to Latin. His translation is known as the _____. In 1 Thess. 4:17, Jerome rendered the Greek word *harpazo* into Latin with the word *raeptius*. The Latin word *rapio* means “to seize, snatch, or seize away.” This was eventually brought over to English as _____.
- e) While it is true that the word “rapture” does not occur in the Bible, the _____ does (John 14:1-3; 1 Thes. 4:17)

2) The _____ of the Rapture

- a) “For every prophecy on the first coming of Christ, there are _ on Christ’s Second Coming.” (Dr. George Sweetimng, “Today in the Word,” *Moody Bible Institute*, December 1989, p. 40)
- b) Titus 2:13 “Looking for that _____ hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ”
- c) Philippians 3:20-21 “For our conversation is in _____; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ...”
- d) Heb 9:28 “...and unto them that look for him shall he appear the _ _ _ _ _ time without sin unto salvation.”
- e) 1Peter 5:4 “And when the chief Shepherd _ _ _ _ _ appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.”
- f) Others: John 14:1-3; Romans 8:19; 1 Corinthians 1:7-8; 15:51-53; 16:22; Philippians 4:5; Colossians 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 2:19; 4:13-18; 5:9, 23; 2 Thessalonians 2:1, 3; 1 Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1, 8; James 5:7-9; 1 Peter 1:7, 13; 5:4; 1 John 2:28-3:2; Jude 1:21; Revelation 2:15; 3:10

3) Answering Your Questions

- a) Question: “Will the antichrist have a disabled arm and bad eye? See Zechariah 11:15-17
- b) Answer: It appears that most theologians believe this text is in regards to the _____ and that it is a _____.

4) What _____ Does it Make?

- a) The Rapture Has a _____ Influence on Seeking Hearts