

The Lord Jesus and the Apostle Paul Agree on the Rapture



John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Two key rapture passages are John 14:1-3, spoken by the Lord Jesus, and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, written by the Apostle Paul. The two passages parallel each other with remarkable agreement. Consider the following categories: **Comforting Words.** Jesus—"Let not your heart be troubled." Paul—"Comfort one another with these words." **The Necessity of Personal Faith.** Jesus—"Ye believe in God, believe also in Me." Paul—"If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him." **We Can Take Christ at His Word.** Jesus—"If it were not so, I would have told you." Paul—"This we say unto you by the Word of the Lord." **The Promise of His Coming.** Jesus—"I will come again." Paul—"The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven." **The Remarkable Removal from Earth.** Jesus—"I will... receive you unto Myself." Paul—"We...shall be caught up...to meet the Lord in the air." **Forever Present with the Lord.** Jesus—"That where I am, there ye may be also." Paul—"and so shall we ever be with the Lord." In the mouth of two witnesses the matter is established!

Believers are not looking for the undertaker, we are looking for the Uppertaker! "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13). May we live with the moment by moment expectancy of our Lord's coming: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:16). "And now, little children, abide in Him; that, when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming" (1 John 2:28). May we be counted among those who truly love His appearing (2 Tim. 4:8)!

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

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