

RAPTURE

I. The Mystery of the Rapture: 1 Corinthians 15:51-54

A. A New Truth: vs. 51

Mystery- In the Bible, especially in the NT, it defines an event or truth that has not been defined, taught or revealed previously before this writing. See 2 Cor 5:8. Verse 51 tells of the perishable.

B. A New Event: vs. 52

II. The Mechanics of the Rapture: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A. The Certainty of Its Occurrence: vv 13-15a

B. The Conditions of Its Occurrence: vv 14-17

1. The Reappearance of the Lord Himself (vv 14-16)
2. The Resurrection of the Dead in Christ (vv 15-16)
3. The Rapture of the Living Saints (v 17)
4. The Reunion of All the Saints in Heaven (v 17)

C. The Comfort from Its Occurrence: v 18

4 Reasons for Pre-Tribulation View of the Rapture:

Note: The Rapture and the 2nd Coming are not at the same time.

1. The Rapture is referred to as a mystery. The 2nd Coming is not a mystery.
2. There are distinct places of difference. I.e., Rapture takes place in the clouds. 2nd Coming takes place on earth.
3. Only believers are mentioned at the Rapture. The 2nd Coming is concerned mostly with unbelievers.
4. The Church is promised (Rev. 3:10) that they will be off the scene prior to this time of testing.

2 Peter 3:11-18- Note at least 7 things we are to be giving our attention to today.