

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1262: Do I Suffer From Rapture Anxiety? (Part III)

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1262-rapture-anxiety-3/>

See:  **CQ.Rewind**
SHOW NOTES

1. Using the first blog post, describe what Dan Foster was taught about the rapture as he grew up. What is the motivation to follow Christ of some of those who believe in this teaching?
2. Why did the Apostle Paul write this letter to the Thessalonians? How was this an encouragement to them? (See 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18)
3. Thoroughly explain the process of Jesus' return. How is it like a sunrise? Describe the symbols (the shout, the voice of the archangel, the trumpet) in 1 Thessalonians 4:16. What three things do we know about "the dead in Christ" rising? (See John 5:28-29, Leviticus 25:8-10, Acts 3:20-21, 1 Corinthians 15:52)
4. Does 1 Thessalonians 4:17 indicate that all Christians, dead or alive, will be "caught up together" in an instant? What is the import of the word "then"? How is this scripture confused with Matthew 24:40? What are the differences between the meanings of "caught up" and "taken"?
5. Who are the "we who are alive and remain"? What is their fate compared to those believers who died before Jesus' return? Why would Paul's words bring the Thessalonians "joy"? How can we explain the "caught up" or "snatched" in Acts 8:39-40 and 2 Corinthians 12:2-4? How do the parallel scriptures of 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 help us understand "caught up"?
6. What is the symbolic meaning of "clouds" in 1 Thessalonians 4:17? What will the clouds bring to the world? How does the rapture belief differ from Scripture in the understanding of clouds? What does Daniel 7:13-14 tell us that those who believe in a rapture might overlook? (See Matthew 26:64, Zephaniah 1:14-15)
7. Where did the rapture teaching originate? How has it continued? Was this teaching well-known in the early church and to the apostles? Why is love a better motivator than fear? Why is love more appropriate? (See 1 John 4:7-9, John 3:16-17)
8. Does 1 Thessalonians 4:17-18 say believers are going to heaven? What does "to meet the Lord in the air" indicate as far as what is happening and where it happens? What will resurrected faithful followers of Jesus be doing to help him? What is Satan doing? When do we know the faithful church as a group is for sure in heaven? (See Ephesians 2:1-2, Revelation 19:1,7-8)
9. How are 1 Thessalonians 4:18 and John 14:15-17 related? Why should this give us comfort? What gift from God did Jesus promise us the night before his crucifixion? (See John 12:23-26, 14:1-3, 17:22-24)
10. What is the difference between the God of the rapture teaching and the God of Scripture?
11. How does James 1:17-18 negate the rapture teaching? How do these verses inspire you?