1Thess #95

The Lord returns for HIS bride.

We will do the Lord’s supper at the end of the message today.

Open up in 1Thess 4:16.

The last 5 verses of 1Thessalonians chapter 4 highlight powerful prophecy and this is why we are slowly tearing into these last few verses.

/1Thes 4:16 For **the Lord Himself** will descend from heaven **with a shout**, with **the voice of *the* archangel** and with **the trumpet of God**, and the dead in Christ will rise first.\

[1Th 4:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/4/17/s_1115017) Then we who are alive, who remain, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

1Thes 4:18 Therefore, comfort one another with these words.

I want to open up with some highlights of a traditional ancient Jewish wedding.

The initial engagement and preparation speak directly to the Bride of the CA Bels and the GROOM of TLJC and the imminency of the rapture.

/The Lord will return for HIS bride. The ancient Jewish tradition was first, the man finding his bride and then in doing so going to the father to pay respect and give a gift for her. This was a traditional marriage covenant, with a payment and promise from the groom. The second visit to the bride’s family was to stay in the household separate from the future bride. This could be a 12-month ordeal because it was a familiarization process and preparation process. \

The bride began to educate herself on her future husband. While the future husband got to educate himself on his bride and her family.

/The months of living within the household of the future bride was also a time for the groom to prepare a new home or a place at his own father’s home for the newlyweds to begin their life. The payment, gifts and assembling of all the wedding preparation fell on the groom. Once this was fully prepared the groom moved out and back to his own family.\

The analogies are really powerful in relation to the bride of Christ and the return of Christ in the clouds of the air.

/Now there came a period of waiting or finishing any details that the bride and her family knew nothing about. They simply waited on the return of the groom for the wedding day. Her job was to always be ready and keep herself pure for his return. The return of the groom to snatch his bride was almost a surprise! They would have a joyful wedding parade back to the groom’s house for a celebration. This wedding party lasted 7 days. \

7 years of Tribulation and seven days of wedding celebration…just a coincidence?

I think not! There are no coincidences in the plan of God.

/1Thes 4:16 *For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout-*

The groom always comes for his bride, there is never a replacement to gather her. A wealthy groom would make the parade march back to his home a musical and vibrant march.\

You can assume TLJC is the wealthiest bride-groom you have ever known!

He will spare no expense.

/1Thes 4:16 - *descend from heaven with a shout,*

*Keleusma*, was not only a shout – it was a command term used for the military. Prepare the formation, for the wedding it would have been the sudden announcement that the groom was at the front gate! \

KEL-LOSE-MAH, was designed to be heard and understood by trained troops.

This shout was never a cry for help or a suggestion – it was authoritative and related to a military commander calling his troops.

This is the same term used when TLJC called Lazarus from the grave.

It has the strength of military command and was not to be ignored.

The Greek has well over a dozen terms for – *shout*. Yet this one is very strong and made for specific assemblies.

/If a groom had to ride a distance to gather his bride for the wedding and he knew enemy territory, or rough terrain was ahead, he would gather trusted men with him. This rapture of the bride could be viewed as a military mission because the groom would not forsake the bride. He was willing to pull her out of adverse circumstances if necessary.\

TLJC comes in the clouds of the air full of majesty and a fashion of authority that is beyond reproach.

/1Thes 4:16 - with the voice of *the* archangel,

*Archangelos,* leader, head or chief angel. The two root words speak to rulership, authority and a messenger, angel. That combined points us to the highest rank of angel, certainly of angelic, military ranks. \

The original Greek tells us - *the voice of* -ARCH-ANGLE-US, very definitive and with a singular sense of the title.

There is distinct rank and file of angels and there are wingless angels, as well as winged angels.

All angels are created as adult - MALES.

The number of wings for most angels determines authority. The ARCH-angel is a separate rank.

Cherub and Seraphim angels appear to be high ranking winged angels. Yet by all theological accounts the archangel is a branch of special forces we know only hints and whispers about.

Here in 1Thes 4:16 the Lord returns accompanied by an Arch-angel that may be the leader of angels – Michael.

Satan was the lead Cherub angel and he betrayed the throne of Christ – so, many assume Michael took his place.

This is upheld with deeper studies and seems to make sense.

/Ezk 28:14 “**You were the anointed cherub who covers**, And I placed  
you *there.* You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 “You were blameless in your ways From **the day  
you were created** Until unrighteousness was found in you.\

*The anointed Cherub who covers* - is the Hebrew verb - *sāḵaḵ,* (SAA-HAC) which points to defense or a gate surrounding something.

This is a unique title for Satan.

This is a term we would call today for having security or a bodyguard. Satan had access to the highest places next to throne room of GOD.

Now after this title was destroyed by Satan’s arrogance and rebellion a new title, or special angelic force was created or raised up by the hand of GOD.

We know it is unique because there is little explained about this position other than a few scriptures.

One is 1Thess 4:16.

/Jude 1:9 **But Michael the archangel**, when **he disputed with the devil** and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him an abusive judgment, but said, **“The Lord rebuke you!”**

Michael follows the chain of command. He is under the authority of General Jesus Christ! \

In fact, Michael may only have the Trinity over him and he may well be at the top of all angels.

/Dan 10:13 “But the prince of the kingdom of Persia was standing in my way for twenty-one days; **then behold, Michael, one of the chief princes,** came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia

Angel Gabriel announced the authority of Michael as a leader, above either all angels, or perhaps a unit of archangels.\

Gabriel was considered a messenger angel. But, may hold a title as an archangel as well. What we do know, is even if he is - he is announcing the authority of Michael with clarity.

Archangel appears to be a combat ready role for a select group of angels…perhaps even, Michael by himself?

There is a set of teachings that Michael only protects or fights on behalf of the nation of Israel.

This may be accurate which means another archangel appears for the Rapture of the church.

I believe there is enough evidence that points to a group of archangels led by Michael. Just as Cherubim and Seraphim angels are a limited group.

The analogy for the Bels is the fact that we have winners and losers – blessing, crowns and rewards for those who reach maturity.

Some angels have been elevated for how well they have grown and obeyed the protocol of GOD.

There is complete bliss and perfection in heaven - yet not equality.

/1Thes 4:16 - *with the trumpet of God*,

This is the last trumpet for the close of a dispensation of the church. It is a call to the bride for the wedding as well as a military call to begin the Tribulation. \

Satan and his fallen army are powerful yet they have to wait for the plan of God to unfold.

Satan himself has to request permission from God to even attack Bels - such as the case seen in the book of JOB!

This attributes to most of the heated, frustration Satan is encompassed in.

The Tribulation is the removal of restraint from the power of God the HS on the earth through the CA Bels.

Trumpets are used over 50 times in the original scriptures from Exodus into the NT book of Hebrews.

Then you have several trumpets of judgement in the book of Revelation on top of that!

Turn to the OT – Isaiah chapter 26 RF.

The first use of the trumpet was GOD calling the Exodus generation into formation to prepare for the commands and the LAW.

/Exo 19:16 So it came about **on the third day,** when it was morning, that there were thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud over the mountain and **a very loud trumpet sound**, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.

On the 3rd month after the exodus, on the 3rd day, GOD called them to gather for a dispensational, pivot toward something important. The trumpet was used! \

They were called to be ready and cleanse themselves for what was about to happen.

They knew to be ready - because GOD warned Moses.

Yet they did not know exactly when they would be called to gather together.

The LORD Himself returns for HIS bride, with a shout and a military presence of an Archangel and the trumpet of God.

Extremely unique call in 1Thess 4:16 yet analogies abound all over the word of God.

This portion of Isa 26 is highlighting the coming rapture and tribulation period that is clearly unmistakable;

/Isa 26:19 Your dead will live;  
**Their corpses will rise**. You who lie in the dust, **awake and shout for joy**, For  
your dew *is as* **the dew of the dawn**,  
And **the earth will give birth to the departed spirits.**

The dew of a morning speaks to new (resurrection) life! This is all written in a prophetic, future tense. \

There is a layer to this pointing ahead to the tribulation that is undeniable, but within in it, is a view to the Rapture of the CA Bels.

/[Isa 26:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/26/20/s_705020) **Come, my people**, **enter your rooms** And close your doors behind  
you; **Hide for a little while Until  
indignation runs *its* course**.

The warning for Bels during the time of Tribulation is to take cover. Yet this emphasizes a secure location. Bels during the Tribulation will be exposed to great adversity – some seem to have special rooms (Jhn 14). \

Bels during the Tribulation have to endure as well as duck and cover that is clear from scripture. This is pointing out a secure set of rooms or a place of safety. This is not a call to hide in the caves and mountains as some scripture tells the Bels of the Tribulation.

/[Isa 26:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/26/21/s_705021) **For behold, the LORD is about to come out from His place To punish**  
the inhabitants of the earth for their wrongdoing; And **the earth will reveal her bloodshed** And will no longer cover her slain.

This insinuates a warning and security established just before the tribulation begins. \

Let us close today in the gospel of JOHN chapter 14.

We will also close with the Lord’s supper, so be prepared.

Now in John 14 it was after the last supper, TLJC was speaking intimately to the 11 apostles.

Speaking of a future event that they would need to teach to all the early churches.

This is a hint of the rapture to come.

Jhn 14:1 “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

/[Jhn 14:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/14/2/s_1011002) “**In My Father’s house are many rooms**; if *that* were not *so,* I would have told you, because I am going *there* **to prepare a place for you**.

Rooms - (plural, as in Isa 26:20) related to safety, comfort and an abundance of dwelling places. Established in the Father’s house, as the tradition was for the groom to prepare for the bride. \

Jesus Christ is coming in the clouds of the air to bring us with HIM.

/[Jhn 14:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/14/3/s_1011003) “And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I am coming again and will take you to Myself**, so that where I am, *there* you also will be.

The groom always came for the bride no matter what the circumstance was. The groom gathered her up quickly without warning. \

[Jhn 14:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/14/4/s_1011004) “And you know the way where I am going.”

There is only one way - it is the narrow way, of faith alone in Christ alone. No other name under the heavens can save you, except the Lord and savior Jesus Christ.

The scriptures are clear on the Rapture, the Tribulation and HIS 2nd Advent.

As we get ready to do the one ritual we are called to habitual do in this church age. Let us remember all that HE has said and all HE has already done for us.

Leaving no doubt as to when HE will gather up HIS bride removing us from the wrath to come.

He came to save this lost and dying world and many rejected HIM. Yet HE still fulfilled the payment for sins.

What more could we ask for?

What more could HE have done then lay HIMSELF down for even those who reject HIM.

God so loved the whole world, that HE gave is only begotten SON that whomsoever believes upon Him – shall be saved!

There is no greater sacrifice, no greater love, than what TLJC displayed for all of us.

Remember HIM and remember HE is coming back for you & I!

On the night our Lord was betrayed.

He took the bread – broke it and gave thanks.

Saying – “This is My body, take and eat.”

In remembrance of our Lord Jesus Christ let us eat the bread.

In the same manner – our Lord took the cup, lifted it up and gave thanks.

Saying – “This is the MY blood, the blood of a new and everlasting covenant. Each time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you will call me into remembrance, until I return to you.”

Let us drink the cup.

Let us pray…..amen.