1Thess #94

The Rapture was a hidden mystery

We will do the Lord’s Supper this Sunday.

Our current study of 1Thess 4 verses 15, 16,17 and 18 have led us on a set of lessons related to the Rapture.

The Rapture is the first wave of resurrections following the First Fruit of Jesus Christ in HIS resurrection.

/The Rapture is a deeper mystery opened up in the Church age by the apostles. With an emphasis on the Apostle Paul and his personal teachings that he received from Christ. All the apostles were given mystery doctrine by TLJC. The whole of the Bible points to the person and work of Christ and the grace plan of God. \

Therefore, every hint, shadow, mystery or straight-forward teaching from scripture is design to speak to the plan of God and Jesus Christ the uniquely born SON of God.

This is why we never allow teaching to be limited to one apostle, one prophet or one book of the Bible.

Scripture interprets scripture and historical context as well as exegesis, matters in learning the Bible.

/Rom 15:4 For **whatever was written in earlier times was written for our**  **instruction**, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

1Cor 10:11 Now these things happened to them as an example, and **they were written for our instruction**, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. \

The traces of any OT scriptures related to the Rapture are nearly impossible to find.

Yet - there is more than one example of a rapture of Bels who are rescued from a wrath or judgement ahead of them.

Go to the OT – Genesis chapter five RF.

/The New Testament teachings have several portions of scripture dedicated to the Church Age interruption of the Nation of Israel (two separate dispensations). The NT also has several scriptures aligning perfectly with the Rapture of the Church age Bels. Also, many scriptures tying together end time events, the Rapture, Tribulation into the Millennium of Christ in the NT. All of this is woven into OT scriptures as well.\

It is a matter of finding the scriptures and building blocks of the teaching on the doctrines.

The teaching from the NT references mystery doctrine and a new covenant for the CA many times.

And within the OT there are shadows and hints to all of these things. Even the fact that the MESSIAH would be a suffering servant – meaning a man yet still GOD, is written about - but it is far from obvious. REPEAT

In other words when you study the doctrine of the Hypostatic Union, it is in the OT but not sitting in plain sight.

Some shadows, hints and mysteries were layered deeper than others.

/God’s plan and design was a completed canon of scripture (Gen – Rev). It was never the plan of GOD to have one book or paragraph describe clearly the WHOLE of the plan of God. Throughout the Bible, the writers and prophets add one feature after another to the description of the coming Messiah and the cross. As time went on, the picture began to come into focus. This picture is Jesus Christ, HIS person and work along with the grace plan of God and a view to the angelic warfare. \

This is why to simple focus on a set of books or one or two Biblical authors leaves people confused. Judaism is a great example of this exact problem.

Every doctrine in the Bible is incredible, tangible and dependent on several scriptures.

Doctrines build upon doctrines - scripture interpret scripture…never forget that.

/Gen 12:2 And I will make you into a great nation, And I will bless you,
And make your name great; And you
*shall* be a blessing; 3 **And I will bless those who bless you**, And the
one who curses you I will curse. And
**in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.**

Abraham was called to be a father of the faith – not just a Jewish bloodline. \

Right from the early writings of the Bible it was clear God was calling ALL people to become HIS children.

The CA interruption of Israel is a mystery yet not a complete blank in the OT.

Many OT scriptures point to Gentiles entering the plan of God. The first part of the Bible up until Abraham was circumcised was all Gentiles.

Look what the prophet Isaiah writes;

/Isa 42:5 This is what God the LORD says,
Who created the heavens and stretched them out, **Who spread out
the earth and its offspring**, Who gives
breath to the people on it And spirit to
those who walk in it: 6 “I am the LORD, I have called You in righteousness,
I will also hold You by the hand and watch over You, And **I will appoint You
as a covenant to the people, As a light
to the nations**, \

ALL people – ALL nations.

All of the traditions and rituals within the Nation of Israel are a light to guide everyone to the true MESISIAH – TLJC.

Isa 42 is a warning and prophecy for a stumbling nation of Israel. Their savior Jesus Christ called the SERVANT here among other prophecies - will deliver them even though they have failed and fallen into captivity.

Within their own deliverance there is a light to guide other nations to Christ.

/Isa 42:7 **To open blind eyes**, To bring
out prisoners from the dungeon
And **those who dwell in darkness from the prison**. 8 “I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another,
Nor My praise to idols. 9 “Behold, **the former things have come to pass,
Now I declare new things;** Before **they
sprout I proclaim *them* to you.**”\

The dual meaning within this speaks to the Nation of Israel having their hope and future held up in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Also, that something in the future will be fulfilled and arise quickly because of the person and work of Jesus Christ – the Church Age.

/Daniel’s prophecy to Israel is also two-fold or multi-layered ([Daniel 9:24-27](https://biblia.com/bible/niv/Dan%209.24-27)). Highlighting discipline (7 years of Tribulation) that is owed to Israel. But it also revealed how the Lord was going to fulfill the prophecies of Isaiah concerning the Gentiles. You can not study and understand prophecy of the Tribulation without recognizing dispensations in conjunction with Gentiles and Israel. \

Now in Gensis chapter 5 we see the bloodline of Seth a son of Adam.

Interestingly enough the bloodline of Cain and the bloodline of Seth are both covered in chapters 4 and 5.

 We see several similar names in both family trees, highlighting a sense of counterfeits within Satan’s system very early on.

Chapter 5 is the good bloodline of Seth.

Gen 5:18 Now Jared lived 162 years, and fathered Enoch. 19 Then Jared lived eight hundred years after he fathered Enoch, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

[Gen 5:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/5/20/s_5020) So all the days of Jared were 962 years, and he died.

[Gen 5:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/5/21/s_5021) Now Enoch lived sixty-five years, and fathered Methuselah.

This is the direct line to the birth of Noah.

[Gen 5:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/5/22/s_5022) Then Enoch walked with God three hundred years after he fathered Methuselah, and he fathered *other* sons and daughters.

/ Methuselah is the oldest person who ever lived (969 years). His name means – the arrow or dart has been sent, meaning death arrived. The day that Methuselah died was the last day on the earth for the Unbelievers. It was the day the flood began. As long as he lived judgment was being held up. An analogy that when Christ returns, the warrior KING brings death (Unbel) and judgement. \

[Gen 5:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/5/23/s_5023) So all the days of Enoch were 365 years.

/[Gen 5:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/5/24/s_5024) Enoch walked with God; **and he was not, for God took him** (*lāqaḥ*).

Enoch’s faith and relationship with GOD was so deep he was no longer part of the human aspects of family or society. God removed Enoch quickly – a sudden disappearance or to be seized. \

LAH-CACK, this Hebrew verb means to be snatched up, or taken into marriage and removed from where you once lived.

 REPEAT

Jump ahead to Genesis chapter 7.

Enoch was no longer part of this earthly family - he was no longer a member of the human race but brought into the heavens.

This is exactly what happens to the Bel at the moment of the Rapture. Enoch was not subject to the population of the children of Cain who began to dominate society and worship fallen angels.

He was removed from that time.

Even Enoch’s great, grand-son had a symbolic lesson on the coming rapture of the church.

/The family of Noah was rescued and lifted up on the waters of judgement which is also symbolic of the Rapture. Those Bels in union with Christ are saved – the Ark is a typology of Jesus Christ. God’s judgement was for the Unbels and the evil of the Nephilim (children of Fallen Angels). \

Very interesting that in Genesis chapter seven - God allowed 7 days from the time Noah entered the safety of the ark until the flood.

/Gen 7:1 Then the LORD said to Noah, “**Enter the ark**, you and all your household, for **you *alone* I have seen *to be* righteous before Me** in this generation.

The Ark is our union with Christ and points to our resurrected life after the Rapture. \

Just as the flood was a judgement against the evil of mankind and the worship of fallen angels.

While at the same time it stopped the destruction of the bloodline of the humanity of Christ.

The Rapture rescues the Bels from the judgement upon earth and discipline of the Nation of Israel. While at the same time stopping the complete annihilation and corruption of humanity.

 REPEAT

/Gen 7:4 “For **after seven more days, I will send rain on the earth** for forty days and forty nights; and I will wipe out from the face of the land every living thing that I have made.”

7 - being a number of completion and perfection for God. 7 days before judgment, 7 days left for repentance for Unbels. Pointing us to 7 years of Tribulation before judgement. \

Another Biblical shadow of the rapture is seen in the life of Abrahams’s nephew Lot. In Lot’s day, he and his family were removed before God rained down His judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah.

God did not just protect them through His wrath, He removed them prior to judgment.

/Gen 19:15 When morning dawned**, the angels urged Lot**, saying, “Up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or **you will be swept away in the punishment of the city**.”

The warning is within the word of God whether it is the coming Rapture or final judgment – God gives ample warning and answers, before the challenge and judgment arrive. \

The problem is most people refuse to buckle down and study the WORD!

God has not only given mankind the completed canon of scripture. But has placed HIS hand on certain men in every generation to teach and preach HIS word.

/Gen 19:16 But **he hesitated. So the men grasped his hand** and the hand of his wife and the hands of his two daughters, because the compassion of the LORD *was* upon him; **and they brought him out and put him outside the city.**

This removal, like the Rapture, is abrupt and it will even pull along those Bels who love the cosmic system. \

Yes - I believe that all Bels go up in the Rapture. It only makes sense for the Bema Seat Judgement of Christ, to unfold like we are told in scripture.

/The Great Tribulation is *called “the time of Jacob’s trouble, but he shall be saved out of it”* (Jer 30:7). It is also referred to as “the time of the (nations) Gentiles” (Ezk 30:3-6), and many Gentiles will also be saved out of it (Rev 7:9-17). It is always the issue of what you think of Jesus Christ? That answer, is what may be the difference between a Rapture up to the heavens or an excruciating walk on earth for 7 years. \