

The Narrow Way and the Final Cost

Resurrection, Judgement, and Eternal Destiny

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Book 4 - Chapter 06 – Study 05

The Rapture

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Before you continue, stop and consider this carefully.

What if what you have been taught about the coming of Christ is not written?

Not misunderstood.

Not incomplete.

But built on something that Scripture never actually says.

Many speak with certainty about being taken before tribulation.

Many are comforted by the idea of escape.

Many have never questioned where this teaching truly comes from.

Yet Scripture does not ask how confident you are.

It asks what is written.

If a doctrine is true, it will stand plainly in the Word of God.

It will not depend on assumption, tradition, or repeated teaching.

It will not require explanation to make it appear consistent.

It will be clear.

But if it must be defended, pieced together, and explained to hold its place,

then it is not standing on Scripture, but on reasoning.

This study is not written to agree with what you have heard.

It is written to test it.

Because the question is not whether a teaching is popular.

It is not whether it is widely accepted.

It is whether it is true.

And truth is not established by how many believe it,

but by what God has actually said.

So then, do not move forward assuming you are right.

Test what you believe.

Search the Scriptures.

Prove it.

Because if what you are trusting is not written,

then what you are trusting will not stand.

Opening Exhortation: A Letter Before the Study.

The Rapture - Biblical Truth or Modern Doctrine?

To those who speak of the coming of the Lord,
I have heard and seen that most of you believe in what is called the rapture, and the common belief among you is that you will be taken before any tribulation comes upon the earth. Many hold that there will be a sudden catching away of believers, where they are removed before the time of great trial, leaving the world to face what is to come.

This expectation has spread widely, and it is spoken of with certainty, as though it were firmly established and beyond question. It is taught that the faithful will not see the days of distress, but will instead be taken beforehand, spared from what others must endure.

Such is the understanding that has taken root among many, and it is the message that is often repeated and received without hesitation.

The bigger issue on this belief is that many among you speak of escape while the Scriptures speak of endurance, and you have been taught to look for removal, calling it the “rapture,” while the Word of God calls you to remain, to stand, and to overcome.

Consider carefully the word you use, “rapture,” for this word is not found in the Scriptures, but comes from the Latin *rapere*, meaning to seize, to take, or to carry off suddenly, and from this root come words that show the range of its meaning, a raptor seizes its prey, and to snatch a person is to take them quickly and suddenly, yet the word “rapture” in modern use has been softened into a feeling of joy or emotional ecstasy, and from this shift many

have built a doctrine without testing whether it aligns with the full counsel of truth.

Who told you that you would be taken before the fire comes, and who convinced you that the servants of God are exempt from testing, when every generation before you was proven through it, for the prophets were not removed, the apostles were not spared, and the early church did not escape tribulation, but endured it with faith (Acts 14:22, 2 Timothy 3:12), yet now many expect a different path, as though the standard has changed.

And yet you accept this difference without question. Why do you believe that you will be treated differently than those who came before you? What Scripture declares that this generation will escape what every faithful generation has endured? Or have you accepted a promise that was never written, because it was often repeated?

Look at the works of God throughout history and judge rightly, for in the days of Noah (Genesis 7:21–23), when the flood came, it was the wicked who were swept away, while the righteous remained upon the earth to continue in what God had established, and in the days of Lot (Genesis 19:24–25), when judgment fell upon Sodom and Gomorrah, the destruction consumed the ungodly, removing them from the land, while the righteous were preserved, and when God judged Egypt (Exodus 8:22–23, Exodus 12:12–13), He did not remove His people from the earth, but struck the oppressors while preserving His own in the midst of it, and in every case the pattern stands, the wicked are cut off, and the righteous remain.

And hear also the words of the only begotten Son of God when He prayed to the Father, for He did not ask that His people be taken out of the world, but that they be kept from evil (John

17:15), and He prayed for protection in the midst of the world, not removal from it, and this alone should cause you to pause and examine what you have believed.

For if the Son Himself did not ask for your removal, on what authority do men now promise it? And if His prayer was for your preservation in the midst of trial, why do you prepare only for escape from it?

Consider this carefully, if a man prepares for departure but is instead required to stand, will he not be shaken, and if his expectation is escape, will he not stumble when hardship comes, and if he has built his hope on leaving, what will he do when he must remain.

The teaching of a rapture has produced many who are not preparing for endurance, and it has softened the urgency of repentance and weakened the call to perseverance, and it has led some to assume they will not face the hour that tests the earth, when the Scriptures repeatedly warn that faith must be refined and proven (1 Peter 1:6–7).

And here is the warning you must not ignore, if you are expecting to be taken away before the great tribulation, you may fail to prepare for what is coming, and when that hour arrives, it will come suddenly, like a thief in the night (1 Thessalonians 5:2–3), not because God hid the truth, but because you did not test what you were taught, for you waited for escape instead of preparing to endure, and you trusted a doctrine instead of examining it.

And if what you trusted is false, then your preparation is false also. And if your preparation is false, then when the hour comes, you will not stand, not because strength was unavailable, but because you were never trained to endure.

Do not misunderstand, the gathering of the saints is real, and the resurrection is certain (1 Corinthians 15:51–52), and Christ will return, those who are sleep in Christ and alive in Christ will rise, and His people will be gathered, but nowhere are you promised exemption from all hardship before that day, and what is promised is that those who endure, those who remain faithful, those who overcome, will stand (Matthew 24:13, Revelation 2:10).

Do not assume you are among them. That must be proven, not presumed. For many believe they will stand, yet have never tested their faith under pressure, and what has never been tested cannot be trusted.

Ask yourselves this, if pressure rises, if deception increases, if the cost becomes real, will your faith stand, or will it search for an escape that does not come, will you remain, or will you be offended, for Satan does not always work through open rebellion, but through subtle distortion, offering teachings that comfort the flesh while weakening the believer's readiness. For a doctrine that removes suffering will always be received more easily than one that requires endurance, and for that reason alone it must be examined more carefully, not less. A doctrine that removes the need for endurance prepares a man, not to stand, but to fall when endurance is required.

Therefore, examine what you have believed, test every teaching (1 Thessalonians 5:21), search the Scriptures, not for comfort, but for truth, prepare your heart, not for escape, but for faithfulness, and strengthen your walk, not for ease, but for perseverance.

Let no man deceive you with promises that remove the cross you are called to carry (Luke 9:23), for if Christ endured, you will endure, and if He overcame, you must overcome also.

Stand firm, be watchful, and do not build your hope on being taken away, but on remaining faithful, for in the end it is not those who expected escape who are counted worthy, but those who endured to the end.

Do not leave this letter agreeing in mind while remaining unchanged in practice. Agreement without correction is another form of deception. If what you have believed is not aligned with what is written, then it must be abandoned, not adjusted. Truth is not something you add to what you already hold, it is something that replaces what was never true.

For in the end, the question will not be whether you believed in His coming, but whether you were found faithful when it came.

He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

Written in truth and instruction by John, servant and disciple of Christ, Zion's Roar Holy Spirit Ministry.

The Full Biblical Study.

B4-C06-S05- The Rapture - Biblical Truth or Modern Doctrine

To those who speak of the coming of the Lord, a belief has spread widely among those who profess faith, that before tribulation comes upon the earth, the faithful will be removed from it. This belief, commonly called “the rapture,” is held with confidence and spoken of as though it were firmly established in Scripture. Many expect a sudden catching away, where believers are taken before the time of great distress, leaving the world behind to face what is to come. But the question is not how widely a teaching is accepted, nor how confidently it is spoken, but whether it is written, for truth is not established by repetition, nor by tradition, nor by emotional appeal, but by the Word of God. If it is not written, it must not be received.

The Origin of the Teaching

Do not assume that what is widely believed was always believed. The doctrine commonly called the rapture is generally traced to John Darby in the 19th century, and in modern times it was widely popularized in the 1970s through prophecy teaching and later spread even further through books and films.

But truth is not established by how recently something becomes popular. Truth is established by whether it was written from the beginning.

If a doctrine cannot be plainly shown in the prophets, confirmed by Christ, and taught by the apostles, then it must not be received as though it were part of the faith once delivered.

Many among you speak of escape while the Scriptures speak of endurance. You have been taught to look for removal, calling it the

rapture, while the Word of God calls you to remain, to stand, and to overcome. Who told you that you would be taken before the fire comes, and who convinced you that the servants of God are exempt from testing, when every generation before you was proven through it? The prophets were not removed, the apostles were not spared, the early church did not escape, yet you expect something different. What Scripture declares that this generation will escape what every faithful generation has endured? If a doctrine cannot be plainly shown in Scripture, then it does not come from God, and if it does not come from God, it must not be received, no matter how widely it is believed.

A Question That Must Be Faced

Many believe that we are approaching a time of massive war, disease, famine, and global distress, and many comfort themselves with this thought, “That will not happen to me, for I will be taken before it begins.” But consider this carefully, what happens to your faith if that moment never comes, and what happens if tribulation begins and you are still here? Will you stand, or will you fall? For a faith built on an expectation that God never promised will collapse when that expectation fails, so do not allow a teaching that is not written to become the foundation of your hope.

1. The Foundation Must Be Examined

The word “rapture” is not found in Scripture, but more important than the word itself is the doctrine built around it, for even if a word is absent, the teaching it represents must still be plainly found. Yet what is presented is not simply a word, but a system that requires a coming before the coming, a resurrection before the first resurrection, and a gathering before the gathering of the elect, so where are these written? And though the absence of a word alone does not disprove a doctrine, it forces a necessary question, where is the teaching clearly written? If a doctrine is true, it will not depend on one passage, nor on interpretation alone, but will be confirmed throughout Scripture, but if it must be pieced together carefully, defended constantly, and explained repeatedly to make it appear consistent, then it is not standing on Scripture, but on reasoning. If this doctrine were true, it would not require constant explanation to defend it, for it would stand plainly in the text, needing no support from assumption or tradition, but what must be continually explained is not clearly written.

2. Scripture Teaches Endurance, Not Escape

The consistent message of Scripture is not escape from tribulation, but endurance through it.

- Acts 14:22, *“we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.”*
- 2 Timothy 3:12, *“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ shall suffer persecution.”*
- John 16:33, *“In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”*

This is not spoken to a select few, for this is the path of all who follow Christ. The prophets suffered, the apostles suffered, and the early church suffered, so why then is the last generation taught to expect something different? If the Son Himself did not ask that His people be taken out of the world, but that they be kept from evil, then on what authority do men now promise removal? If His prayer was for your preservation in the midst of trial, why do you prepare only for escape from it? Consider this carefully, if a man prepares for departure but is required to stand, will he not be shaken?

The Saints Are Present During Tribulation

This is not only taught in principle, but shown directly: In Revelation 13:7, “it was given unto him to make war with the saints...” And also in Revelation 14:12, “Here is the patience of the saints...”

These are not absent believers, but present ones. They are not removed, but enduring. And again: In Revelation 7:14, “These are they which came out of great tribulation...”

They do not escape it, they come out of it.

And once again: In Revelation 6:9–11, the souls of those slain for the word of God are told to wait until others are killed as they were.

So then answer this: If the church has already been removed, who are these saints?

The term “tribulation saints” is often used, yet it is not written. It is not defined. It is introduced to preserve a system, not because it is found in Scripture.

A Second Coming Before the Second Coming?

Consider what this doctrine requires, it teaches that Christ comes once to take His people away, and then comes again later with them, but where is this written? Scripture does not present two separate comings divided by years, it presents one return, visible, powerful, and final. If a man must divide the coming of Christ into phases in order to defend a teaching, then he is not following what is written, but rearranging it, for the Scripture does not say first a secret coming and then a visible one, it declares one appearing, and all see Him.

3. The Pattern of God's Judgments

God has already shown how He works.

His pattern does not change.

- Genesis 7, Noah remained on the earth, preserved through judgment, while the wicked were taken away
- Genesis 19, Lot was removed from immediate danger, but remained on the earth, while destruction fell upon the wicked
- Exodus 12 , Israel was not removed from Egypt, but protected while judgment passed over them

The pattern is clear:

In the final tribulation, the pattern remains, God does not remove all His people from the earth, He preserves, He protects, and He refines, some are kept, some are tested, and some are even martyred, but nowhere are all taken away beforehand. Preservation does not always mean physical survival, but faithfulness unto the end. Some are kept alive, and some are slain, but all who remain faithful are preserved in Him.

The Pattern Repeated, Not Isolated

Christ did not give only one example, but confirmed the same pattern again.

Consider also what is written:

· Luke 17:28–30, “Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot... the same day that Lot went out... it rained fire and brimstone from heaven... Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.”

The order is not stretched across time, but joined together in the same day. Deliverance and judgment are not separated by years, but occur together. And again, the Lord confirms this pattern through another parable:

· Matthew 13:47–50, the net was cast into the sea, gathering fish of every kind, and only after it was full did the separation take place, where the wicked were cast away.

This is not a different pattern, but the same:

The gathering happens first,

The separation happens at the end,

And the wicked are removed in judgment.

This is not one example, but a repeated testimony.

And what is repeated cannot be overturned by interpretation.

4. The Words of Christ Must Govern All Doctrine

No teaching can stand if it contradicts the plain words of Christ.

- Matthew 24:29, *"Immediately after the tribulation of those days..."*
- Matthew 24:30, *"they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."*
- Matthew 24:31, *"And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect..."*

The order is not unclear.

Tribulation first. Then His coming. Then the gathering.

Also consider:

- Matthew 13:30, *"Gather ye together first the tares..."*

The wicked are gathered first for judgment.

This directly opposes the idea that the righteous are taken first.

The order of the end is not left to interpretation, but is declared plainly by Christ, and what He has spoken cannot be rearranged without overturning His words. For He said, "Let both grow together until the harvest" (Matthew 13:30), and again, "the harvest is the end of the world" (Matthew 13:39), so then the separation does not happen before the end, but at the end, and not according to man's expectation, but according to His command, for He said, "Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn" (Matthew 13:30), and again, "the Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend" (Matthew 13:41), so the order is fixed, the wicked are gathered first, they are removed, they are

judged, and only then are the righteous gathered, so how then has it been taught among many that the righteous are taken first and the wicked remain, when Christ Himself has said the opposite, and who has reversed what He has made plain?

This same pattern is not isolated, but is confirmed again by the words of Christ concerning His coming, for He said, “as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be” (Matthew 24:37), and He did not leave the example unclear, but explained it, saying, “the flood came, and took them all away” (Matthew 24:39), so then who were taken, was it the righteous, or was it the wicked, for Noah remained, preserved through judgment, while the world that rejected God was taken away, and immediately after establishing this pattern, He says, “Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left” (Matthew 24:40), so the context has already been set, the taking is not a rescue of the righteous, but a removal in judgment, for it follows the same pattern that He has just described, and cannot be made to mean the opposite without breaking the flow of His own words.

This must be understood clearly, the taking in judgment is not the same as the gathering to Christ. One is removal in destruction, the other is gathering in glory. They are not the same event, and they must not be confused.

This agrees also with what is written elsewhere, for “the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night... then sudden destruction cometh upon them” (1 Thessalonians 5:2–3), so the suddenness is not a secret removal of the righteous, but an unexpected destruction upon the unprepared, and again it is written, “when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them... and they shall not escape” (1 Thessalonians 5:3), so the focus remains on judgment falling upon the wicked, not escape for the righteous before it.

And this same order is confirmed by the resurrection, for “the dead in Christ shall rise first” (1 Thessalonians 4:16), and this resurrection is not before the end, but at the last, for it is written, “in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump... the dead shall be raised incorruptible” (1 Corinthians 15:52), and this is called “the first resurrection” (Revelation 20:5–6), so if this is the first, then there is none before it, and if the dead are not raised before the end, then neither are the living gathered before it, for the dead rise first, and after that, the living are gathered together with them (1 Thessalonians 4:17), and this gathering is not before tribulation, but after, for it is written, “Immediately after the tribulation... He shall send his angels... and they shall gather together his elect” (Matthew 24:29–31), so the resurrection, the gathering, and the coming are not separate events, but one.

Therefore the pattern cannot be divided, for in Noah’s day the wicked were taken and the righteous remained (Genesis 7:23), in the parable the tares are gathered first and the wheat remains until it is gathered (Matthew 13:30), and at His coming the wicked are removed and the righteous are gathered (Matthew 24:29–31), so this is not three different patterns, but one consistent testimony, and if anyone teaches that the righteous are taken first while the wicked remain, they are not following what is written, but opposing it.

So then answer plainly, if Christ said the tares are gathered first, and if the harvest is the end of the world, and if the wicked are the ones taken in judgment, and if the resurrection is at the last trump, and if the gathering is after the tribulation, where then is it written that the righteous are taken before these things, and who has taught this, for it is not found in the words of Christ, nor in the prophets, nor in the apostles, and what is not written must not be received.

5. The Parable of Readiness Does Not Teach Escape

Consider also the parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25:1–13

All were waiting. All were present. All were expecting the coming of the bridegroom. There is no removal beforehand. There is no separation before the delay. The distinction is made at His arrival, not before it.

If a prior removal were true, then some would have been taken before the waiting, yet all ten remain until the moment of His coming.

So then ask plainly: Why are all still present, if some were already taken?

This parable does not support escape, but readiness at the time of His appearing.

Consider what is written concerning Daniel, for he was told, “thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days” (Daniel 12:13), and in that same chapter there is a time of trouble such as never was, followed by the awakening of those who sleep in the dust of the earth (Daniel 12:1–2). Therefore Daniel’s standing is not placed before the end, but at it. And if the dead are raised at the end, then the resurrection is not before that time, and if the resurrection is not before that time, then neither is the gathering, for “the dead in Christ shall rise first,” and only after this are the living gathered together with them (1 Thessalonians 4:16–17). And since the gathering of the elect is after the tribulation (Matthew 24:29–31), then the resurrection and gathering are not before it, but after it, therefore a prior removal before that time is not written.

6. The Prayer of the Son of God

- John 17:15, *“I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.”*

This is not a small statement, but the prayer of the Son to the Father, not for removal from the world, but for preservation within it.

7. The Danger of False Expectation

- 1 Peter 1:6–7, *“though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith...”*

Faith is not proven in comfort, but in trial. A man who is taught he will escape suffering is not being prepared for Christ, but for collapse, and when tribulation comes, he will not endure it, because he was never taught to.

8. The Day Comes Like a Thief

- 1 Thessalonians 5:2–3, *“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night... then sudden destruction cometh upon them...”*
- It is not secret, but sudden, and unexpected to the unprepared.

9. Examining the Four Key Passages Together

Many take one passage, 1 Thessalonians 4, and build an entire doctrine upon it, yet no doctrine is established by one passage alone, for Scripture must agree with Scripture. When one passage is separated from the rest, error is not only possible, it is inevitable, and this is where understanding is either established or corrupted. Scripture must not be separated, it must be brought together.

First Passage, 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17

- *“the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout...”*
- *“with the voice of the archangel...”*
- *“with the trump of God...”*
- *“the dead in Christ shall rise first:”*
- *“Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds...”*

This passage describes the gathering, but it does not give the timing.

Second Passage, Matthew 24:29–31

- *“Immediately after the tribulation...”*
- *“coming in the clouds...”*
- *“with power and great glory...”*
- *“a great sound of a trumpet...”*
- *“they shall gather together his elect...”*

Now the timing is revealed ,after the tribulation.

Third Passage, 1 Corinthians 15:51–52

- *“We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,”*
- *“In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump...”*
- *“the dead shall be raised incorruptible...”*

This is not just any trumpet, it is the last trump.

This is not an undefined trumpet.

The last trumpet is revealed in the Scriptures as the final trumpet, after all that comes before it. There is no earlier “last.” It is not one among many separate final events, but the last in order, leaving no room for another gathering before it.

Fourth Passage, Revelation 20:4–6

- *“this is the first resurrection.”*

There is no earlier resurrection written.

If this is the first resurrection of the final age, then there is none before it in that order.

10. Scripture Comparison Chart - One Event, Not Two

Event	1 Thessalonian s 4:16–17	Matthew 24:29–31	1 Corinthians 15:51–52	Revelation 20:4–6
Christ Appears	“the Lord himself shall descend from heaven”	“they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds”	implied at transformation	tied to His reign beginning
Location	“in the clouds”	“in the clouds of heaven”	not stated directly	earthly reign follows
Sound / Announcement	“with a shout... voice of the archangel... trump of God”	“with a great sound of a trumpet”	“at the last trump”	not repeated, but same resurrection
Trumpet	“trump of God”	“great sound of a trumpet”	“last trump”	connected to same resurrection event
Resurrection	“the dead in Christ shall rise first”	implied in gathering	“the dead shall be raised incorruptible”	“this is the first resurrection”
Living Believers	“we which are alive... caught up”	“gather together his elect”	“we shall be changed”	reign with Christ after resurrection
Timing	not stated	“Immediately after the tribulation”	“at the last trump”	at beginning of Christ’s reign

Order	dead first, then living	gathering after tribulation	transformatio n at last trump	first resurrection, then reign
Number of Events	one gathering	one gathering	one transformatio n	one first resurrection

The Gathering Cannot Come First

Consider also what is written:

2 Thessalonians 2:1–3, concerning the coming of the Lord and our gathering together unto Him, “that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed...”

The order is not unclear.

The gathering does not come before these things.

It does not precede them. It follows them.

So then how is it taught that the gathering happens before the very events that Scripture says must come first?

This is not a matter of interpretation, but of order.

11. Putting It All Together

Now these cannot be separated without breaking Scripture.

They describe the same event:

- Christ comes in the clouds
- A trumpet sounds
- The dead rise
- The living are changed
- The saints are gathered

This is one unified event with order within it, not separate comings divided by time.

And the timing is consistent:

- after the tribulation
- at the last trump
- at His coming

12. The Critical Proof

Follow this without skipping:

- The dead rise first, 1 Thessalonians 4
- The dead rise at the last trump, 1 Corinthians 15
- The gathering happens after tribulation, Matthew 24

Therefore:

1 Thessalonians 4 cannot describe an earlier event, for it is the same event, and if this doctrine were true, then Scripture would plainly show a resurrection before the first resurrection, a coming before the coming of Christ, and a gathering before the gathering of the elect, yet none of these are written. Therefore, the doctrine does not come from Scripture, but from men. Do not misunderstand, the gathering of the saints is real, the resurrection is certain, and Christ will return, but nowhere are you promised exemption from hardship before that day. What is written is this, those who endure, those who remain faithful, those who overcome, will stand, so do not assume you are among them, for that must be proven, not presumed.

13. The Error of the Rapture Teaching

The doctrine requires what Scripture never does:

- separating passages that belong together
- inserting a second coming before the coming
- creating a resurrection before the first resurrection

This is not interpretation, this is alteration. This is not a matter of interpretation, but of what is plainly written and what is not. This teaching did not come from the prophets, it did not come from the apostles, and it is not found in the early church, the idea is generally traced to John Darby in the 19th century, and in modern times it was widely popularized in the 1970s through prophecy teaching and later spread even further through books and films, what came late must not be treated as though it were apostolic, and what was popularized by men must not be confused with what was established by Scripture, it spread because it was received, not because it was proven, and what is received without proof will be defended without truth.

This teaching also depends on what is called a secret coming.

Yet the Scripture describes:

a shout

a trumpet

the voice of the archangel

and the visible appearing of Christ

Nothing about this is hidden. Everything about it is announced.

14. The Truth!

Christ is coming and the Saints will be gathered.

But it will be:

- after the tribulation
- at the last trump
- at His coming

The Resurrection Is at the Last Day

Christ Himself confirms the timing repeatedly:

· John 6:39, 40, 44, 54, “I will raise him up at the last day.”

Not before the last day. Not in stages. Not in phases.

If the resurrection occurs at the last day, then it cannot occur before the events that lead to that day.

And again:

· Revelation 11:15, at the sounding of the seventh trumpet, the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord.

This is the final trumpet, not an earlier one. So if the resurrection is at the last trump, and the last trump is at the end, then the resurrection cannot be placed before it.

15. Examine Yourself

Do not assume your faith will stand, test it now, for a belief in escape does not prepare a man for endurance.

16. The Nature of Deception

A teaching that removes suffering will always be easier to accept, and for that reason it must be tested more carefully.

17. The Command

- 1 Thessalonians 5:21, *“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.”*
- Luke 9:23, *“If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.”*

Prepare to endure.

18. Why This Teaching Is Widely Accepted

A teaching that promises escape will always be received more easily than one that calls for endurance, for the flesh does not resist what comforts it, and when suffering is removed from the expectation, the cost of following Christ appears lower than it truly is. This is why such teachings spread quickly, not because they are true, but because they are easier to accept.

One Consistent Testimony

This is not built on one passage,
nor on one example.

It is confirmed repeatedly:

- In Noah, the wicked were taken, the righteous remained.
- In Lot, judgment and deliverance occurred the same day.
- In the parables, the separation happens at the end.
- In the words of Christ, the gathering is after tribulation.
- In the apostles, the resurrection is at the last trump.
- In Revelation, the saints endure through tribulation.

This is not a scattered message,
but a unified one.

And if a doctrine must ignore, rearrange, or redefine these,
then it does not come from Scripture.

Final Exhortation

Do not leave this agreement in mind while remaining unchanged in practice, for agreement without correction is deception. If what you have believed is not written, abandon it, do not adjust it, replace it. For a doctrine that removes suffering prepares a man not to stand, but to fall when endurance is required.

Prepare your heart not for escape, but for faithfulness, strengthen your walk not for ease, but for perseverance, and let no man deceive you with promises that remove the cross you are called to carry. Do not wait for that day to test your faith, for by then it will be too late to build it, and in the end the question will not be whether you believed He would come, but whether you were faithful when He came.

Do not build your faith on what you hope will happen, but on what God has said will happen.

Final Consideration

You have now seen what Scripture says, not what is commonly taught, not what is assumed, but what is written. At this point, the issue is no longer understanding, it is response. God does not measure what you agreed with while reading, He measures what you obey after seeing it. If something in this study exposed an area of your life, that was not accidental, that was light, and Scripture is clear that light brings responsibility. What you now know, you are accountable for.

This is where many fail. They read, they agree, they feel conviction, and then they delay. But Scripture does not treat delay as neutral. “To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.” So, the question is not whether this study was correct, the question is simple, what will you do with what God has shown you? Will you obey immediately, or will you explain it away? Will you remove what He has exposed, or will you manage it? Will you submit, or will you delay? There is no third option.

God is not asking you to fix everything at once, but He is requiring that you stop defending what He has already revealed. Repent where you must repent, cut off what must be cut off, and obey what you already know. Do not wait for a better moment, do not wait for stronger feelings, do not wait for more clarity. Scripture has already spoken, “Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart.” This is that moment.

If the fear of the Lord is present, obedience will follow. If obedience does not follow, fear was never received. The line is clear, and the responsibility is now yours. Choose.

Additional Studies Available

These studies are provided freely so anyone may examine the Scriptures carefully.

All studies follow the numbering system shown below.

Letters are connected to specific study numbers and are meant to be read together with the corresponding study for deeper understanding.

The complete list and description of studies are available at: zionsroar.org/biblical-studies.

Letters to the Churches (Continued volumes)

Letters are connected to specific study numbers and are meant to be read together with the corresponding study for deeper understanding.

VOLUME I

B2-C02-S01 - Letter - The Power of Names

B3-C02-S01 - Letter - How much is God worth

B2-C03-S03 - Letter - Examine Yourselves for an Indwelling

B3-C01-S03 - Letter - The Warning Hidden in the Obedience of Demons and the Gift of Free Will

B3-C03-S01 - Letter - Discipleship Commitment accountability

B3-C03-S02 - Letter - Called to be set apart - the chosen

VOLUME II

B2-C03-S08 - Letter – A Letter to Those Who Preach a Watered-Down Gospel

B3-C02-S03 - Letter - When Faithfulness Feels Like Failure

B3-C01-S03 - Letter - The Fear of the Lord Is the Beginning of Wisdom

B4-C02-S02 - Letter - The Gray area church - how unity became and excuse to avoid truth

B4-C02-S03 - Letter - Psychology within the church - When the Cross was replaced with comfort

B4-C05-S01 - Letter - Open Rebuke Is Better Than Secret Love

B4-C05-S05 - Letter - In the Details Is Where God's Glory Is Revealed and Salvation Is Either Preserved or Corrupted

VOLUME III

B3-C01-S03b - Love, Allegiance and the First Command

B3-C06-S01 - The Loneliness of Obedience

B4-C05-S03 - The Mathematics of Deception

B4-C05-S05 - The Rapture – Biblical Truth or Modern Doctrine?

More letters will follow!

The Study Series

Book 1 - The Call

Foundational message explaining why mankind fell, why salvation is necessary, and how Christ restores the path to God.

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B1-C01-S03 - Christ, the Son of God

B1-C01-S04 - Grace and Mercy What God Gives and Withholds

B1-C01-S05 - What the Holy Spirit Does for Us and In Us

B1-C01-S06 - What Every Believer Must Know

B1-C01-S07 - If You Die Today, Are You Ready

B1-C01-S08 - How to Call Upon the Lord According to Scripture

B1-C01-S09 - Believers and Disciples Not the Same Thing

Book 2 - Salvation According to Scripture

A full biblical examination of salvation, repentance, faith, baptism, and the New Covenant.

Chapter 1 - The Biblical Examination of Salvation

B2-C01-S01 through **B2-C01-S10**

Chapter 2 - Responding to the Gospel

B2-C02-S01 through **B2-C02-S06**

Chapter 3 - Entering the New Covenant

B2-C03-S01 through **B2-C03-S08**

Book 3 - Walking Worthy

A study of identity in Christ, obedience, discipleship, holiness, and spiritual discipline.

Chapters include:

- Identity in Christ
- Obedience and Doctrine
- Counting the Cost of Discipleship
- Holiness Expressed in Life
- Disciplines that Sustain the Walk
- Love, Discernment, and Sacrifice

Book 4 - The Narrow Way and the Final Cost

A deeper examination of doctrine, deception, obedience, and final judgment.

Topics include:

- Testing doctrine
- God's appointed times
- Resurrection and judgment
- False religions and cults
- Preservation of Scripture

Book 5 - Biblical Covenant Order in the Home

Examining marriage, leadership, and accountability within the covenant family structure.

Book 6 - Spiritual Warfare

Understanding the believer's battle against sin, deception, and spiritual opposition.

If you would like guidance while working through these studies, you are welcome to contact me for help and direction at any time. All studies including my time are provided freely for every disciple of Christ.

Do not delay this examination. Open your Bible today and test everything you have been taught.

Do Not Keep This Message to Yourself

If this study has caused you to examine the Scriptures more carefully, do not keep that examination to yourself.

Truth spreads when it is shared.

Consider passing this booklet to someone else who may also need to ask these same questions.

You may:

- Request another booklet and give it to someone you love
- Give this booklet to a friend or family member
- Leave it where another person may discover it
- Share it with someone who sincerely desires to understand salvation according to Scripture

The apostles did not hide the truth. They spoke it openly so that others could hear it and examine it.

You can do the same.

Continue Studying the Scriptures

This booklet is only the beginning.

Additional Bible studies that examine salvation, obedience, and the teachings of Christ and the apostles are available here:

<https://zionsroar.org/biblical-studies>

Take time to search the Scriptures carefully and test everything that you have been taught.

Do not accept or reject anything without examining the Word of God for yourself.

Truth never fears examination.

Test Everything by Scripture

Do not believe this booklet simply because you have read it.

Open your Bible.

Search the Scriptures.

Examine every claim carefully.

The Bereans were called noble because they searched the Scriptures daily to verify whether the things they heard were true.

Follow their example.

Test everything by the Word of God.

NEED HELP?

You were not meant to figure this out alone.

If you have questions, need clarification, or want to go through these studies with someone, reach out.

We will study the Scriptures with you, step by step, so that what you learn is clear, proven, and grounded in truth.

**If what you believe is true, it will stand.
If it is not, it must fall.**

Zion's Roar Holy Spirit Ministry

Proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and calling believers back to the foundation laid by God in Zion, the doctrine of Christ delivered through His apostles.

