

## JESUS, COMING FOR HIS SAINTS

### John 14:2-3

**Introduction:** There is still yet unfulfilled prophecy within the Bible. Although 1/4 of the Bible was written in prophecy/prediction, much has been fulfilled but not all. The Christ was born of the tribe of Judah, a son of Abraham, a son of David, born of a virgin in Bethlehem, 1000 years after foretold. There is still yet more prophecy concerning the Christ for the Bible not only spoke of His death, burial and resurrection but it also spoke of His coming back with His saints someday.

### I. PROPHECIES OF THE "RAPTURE" (Coming for His Saints) (A catching away)

1. *John 14:2-3* is a "hint" that Christ will come back before the end of time.
2. The disciples were unprepared for this as they were looking for Jesus to set up His kingdom.  
*Matthew 24:26-31*
  - They had no idea that Jesus would come back for the Saints before setting up His kingdom.
  - The text promises that Jesus will return for His own.
3. *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18* gives the order of events of Jesus' return for His Saints.
  - The Lord Jesus leaves His heavenly throne.
  - He descends to the air above the earth.
  - A great shout of command will be given.
  - Michael, the angel, will join in the shout.
  - The trump of God will sound.
  - *John 5:28-29* - Dead bodies of Saints (believers) will rise from their graves.
  - The souls of these dead bodies will be joined to their new resurrected bodies.
  - Next will the living believers caught up into the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.
  - The entire Church will be removed from the earth, thus fulfilling *John 14*.
4. *1 Corinthians 15:51-58*
  - This mind boggling event will take place in a moment of time.
  - Believers' dead bodies will be changed to never grow old, will be immortal and never die.
  - The believers' new bodies will be sinless and changed.
5. The wicked, the unbelieving dead will not be raised at this time. *Revelation 20:5-6*

### II. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMING FOR (RAPTURE) AND COMING WITH (THE SECOND COMING)

1. Jesus comes to move His saints from earth to heaven but at His second coming Jesus comes WITH His saints from heaven to earth to set up His Davidic kingdom.
2. At the "rapture" saints are changed. At the second coming, there is no change in the saints.

3. At the "rapture," saints go to heaven. At the second coming, any believer on earth remains unchanged.
4. At the "rapture," the world remains unchanged, unjudged and sin continues. At the second coming the earth is judged and righteousness is established.
5. The "rapture" delivers the saints (church) from the wrath to come (tribulation). The second coming delivers those believing during the tribulation and who survived.
6. The "rapture" is imminent and could happen at any moment. The second coming is preceded by signs and events.
7. The "rapture" is revealed only in the New Testament but the second coming is mentioned in both the Old and New Testaments.
8. The "rapture" involves only the believers. The second coming involves the entire world.
9. The "rapture" does not bind Satan but the second coming causes Satan to be bound.
10. No unfulfilled prophecy stands in front of the "rapture." The second coming has many signs before it happens.
11. There is no mention of any believer being changed at the second coming.
12. The sequence of events of the second coming give no place for an event like the "rapture." *Matthew 25:31-46* finds believers and unbelievers together at that moment.

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. *1 Thessalonians 1:10. "...and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come..."*
2. The "rapture" is a comforting hope, a purifying hope, a blessed expectation.
3. Only believers will see Jesus Christ in His glory at the "rapture." Only believers will hear His shout or the trump of God.
4. If it happened right now, would you hear it? Would you be caught up with the Lord?