



Rapture and the Second Coming

Distinguishing the differences between these two phases of the Lord's return

A study of Scripture related to the return of the Lord reveals that the Rapture of the Church and the Lord's Coming to establish His Millennial Kingdom are two separate events. The differences between these two phases of His return simply can not be reconciled as a single event. The following chart outlines the important differences between

the Rapture and the Lord's Second Coming. A key representative Scripture passage is given as an example.

Note: Scripture used in this Bible Study hand-out is from the New King James Version.

	Rapture <i>Resurrection of the Church</i>	Second Coming <i>Establishing God's Kingdom on Earth</i>
Seeing Jesus	Believers only Hebrews 9:28	All people Revelation 1:7
Meeting Jesus	In the air 1Thessalonians 4:17	On earth Zechariah 14:4, Acts 1:10-11
Resurrection	All believers Colossians 3:4, Hebrews 9:28	No one Revelation 19:11-15
The Church	Goes to heaven John 14:3	Returns to Earth 1Thessalonians 3:13, Jude 14
Judgment	Believers' works Peter 1:7, 1 Corinthians 3:13-15	Nations Matthew 25:31-32
Predictability	Imminent 1 Thessalonians 5:2	Tied to key events Daniel 12:11-13
Timing	Before God's wrath, the tribulation 1Thessalonians 5:9 & Revelation 3:10	At the end of the tribulation Revelation 19:11
Scripture References	Veiled in the Old Testament Psalm 12:1-2, Micah 7:1-2, Enoch type	Prophesied often in Old Testament Daniel 7:13, Zechariah 14:4...
Application to Satan	No reference to Satan 2Thessalonians 2:7	Satan will be bound in prison Revelation 20:1-3

Exercise

For the following verses, identify which of them apply to the Rapture and Second Coming by marking either a "R" or "2" in the blank. The answers are at the end.

1. ____ **Dan 7:13** - I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him.
2. ____ **Zech 14:4** - And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south.

3. ____ **Matt 24:27** - For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.
4. ____ **Matt 24:41-42** - Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.
5. ____ **Matt 26:64** - Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."
6. ____ **John 14:3** - And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

7. _____ **Acts 1:10-11** - And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

8. _____ **Rom 8:19** - For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

9. _____ **1 Cor 1:7** - so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ

10. _____ **1 Cor 15:52** - in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

11. _____ **1 Cor 16:22** - If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come!

12. _____ **Phil 3:20-21** - For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

13. _____ **Col 3:4** - When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

14. _____ **1Thes 2:19** - For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

15. _____ **1Thes 3:13** - so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

16. _____ **1Thes 4:17** - Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

17. _____ **1Thes 5:9** - For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

18. _____ **2 Thes 1:7-8** - and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

19. _____ **2 Thes 2:1** - Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you,

20. _____ **1 Tim 6:14** - that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing,

21. _____ **2 Tim 4:1** - I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

22. _____ **Titus 2:13** - looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

23. _____ **Heb 9:28** - so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

24. _____ **Heb 10:24-25** - And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

25. _____ **James 5:7** - Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain.

26. _____ **1 Pet 1:7** - that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

27. _____ **2 Pet 3:10** - But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

28. _____ **1 Jn 3:2** - Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

29. _____ **Jude 1:14** - Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,

30. _____ **Jude 1:21** - keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

31. _____ **Rev 1:7** - Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

32. _____ **Rev 3:10** - Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

33. _____ **Rev 19:11** - Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

34. _____ **Rev 22:7** - "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

Answers:

Rapture – 6, 8-14, 16, 17, 19-26, 28, 30, 32
 Second Coming – 1-5, 7, 15, 18, 27, 29, 31, 33, 34