

## Pre-Tribulation Rapture Proof – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 – January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

- Like many of you, I have personally really been looking forward to this particular passage of scripture for quite some time now.
- This because, the Apostle Paul writes by the Spirit of God, about the rapture of the church and he does so with great specificity.
- In so doing, he provides us with just three of many Biblical proofs that the rapture has to happen before the 7-year tribulation.

### 1. It's the trumpet call of God

- Notice verse 16 where Paul says there will be a loud command, with the voice of the archangel, and the trumpet call of God.
- It's important to understand that there are two trumpets in scripture; one is the trumpet sound of angels and the other of God.
- The difference is that the trumpet sound of angels is for Israel, and the trumpet sound of God is for the church of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 24:30–31 - 30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

### 2. We're caught up in the air

- While I realize that this may be a firm grasp of the obvious but at the rapture, Jesus doesn't come to the earth, He takes us up.
- The word Paul uses for caught up, is Harpazo in the Greek, and Rapturo in the Latin, meaning abducted with speed and force.
- I point this out is because at the rapture, Jesus comes for us; however, at the second coming He comes with us, as His bride.

The Jewish Wedding	Our Wedding	Scriptures
A marriage covenant (Ketubah) is made in writing for the bride as a promise to the bride that it will be fulfilled.	A new covenant is made in the written Word of God, for us the bride. The Old Covenant Promise is fulfilled.	2 Corinthians 3:5-6
They would then break bread and drink from the cup to seal the betrothal (Kiddushin) and new covenant.	He breaks bread and drinks from the cup at the last supper sealing His covenant.	Luke 22:14-20
The groom pays a price (Mohar) showing the bride his love for her.	Jesus paid the price for us on the cross. This shows us the bride how much He loves us.	1 Corinthians 6:20
The groom prepares a place for His bride and builds a room addition on his father's house.	Jesus says He goes to prepare a place for us in His Father's house where there are many rooms.	John 14:1-3
The Father is the only one who knows the day or hour of the grooms return for his bride.	Jesus said that no one but the Father knows the day or hour of His return for us His bride.	Mark 13:32-33
The bridegroom comes, the grooms' men run ahead and shout that he is coming.	When our bridegroom comes, it will be with a shout of the trumpet that Jesus is coming.	Rev. 4:1, 1 Thes. 4:16-17, 1 Cor. 15:51-52
The groom snatches away and abducts his bride.	Jesus our groom will rapture us away as He abducts us His bride.	1 Thess. 4:16-17
The groom takes his bride to the chamber: they consummate (Nissuin), and celebrate for seven (Shavuah) days.	Jesus will take us to His bridal chamber where we will consummate and celebrate for seven (Shavuah) years/days.	Joel 2:16 Daniel 9:27
There is a big feast (the wedding feast) after the wedding celebration.	We too, will go to the Father's house for the Marriage Feast of The Lamb.	Revelation 19:9
The new home of the bride was Jerusalem and it was the bridegroom who came to the bride to dwell with her.	It is from the new Jerusalem that the believers in the Messiah during the Messianic age, or Millennium, will reign with the Messiah.	Rev. 21:1-3 Ezekiel 43:1-2,7 Isaiah 2:2-4 Micah 4:1-5

### 3. We can encourage each other

- If you were to ask me what I thought was one of the best passages proving the pre-tribulation rapture, this would have to be it.
- The reason being is because of what Paul says in verse eighteen about how we're to encourage one another with these words.
- If the rapture weren't before the tribulation then Paul would be warning about surviving, instead of encouraging about escaping.

1 Thessalonians 5:3 - While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.