



## All Citizens Christian Church Calgary

**Bible Study:** Thursday June 17<sup>th</sup> 2014.

**Topic:** Rapture.

**TEXT:** Luke 17:26-36

**INTRODUCTION:** The word rapture is one of those words which you will not find in the Bible. It was coined from certain words in the Bible. The Rapture (in Greek harpazo, in Latin rapio or rapturo) means "to seize upon by force", taken away suddenly or to snatch by force. This was interpreted from the words of Apostle Paul in I Thess 4: 13-17. The rapture refers to the sudden removal of all of God's people on the earth. In the twinkling of an eye, born again Christians will suddenly be transformed out of our human bodies and will rise up into the air to join Jesus Christ.

Interestingly the doctrine of the rapture has also torn believers apart for years and it is still doing it today. The uniting part of this division however is that the Jesus is going to come and that He is going to come for a church without spot or wrinkles. If we know this why should we bother ourselves so much about the period when He is going to come? If you are a wise person then you should be focused on getting prepared for Him since no one argues about His coming but about the time of his coming.

Today however we are going to take some time out to study a few points about the rapture.

### **DISCUSSION:**

**When did the idea of the rapture start?** Isa 26:19-21, John 11:24

**Do we have previous events in the Bible that resembles the rapture?** Heb 11: 5, II Kings 2: 11-12

**Why and how will the rapture take place?**

To keep the promise of Jesus to His disciples John 14: 1-3

To preserve the seed of Abraham- Gen 22: 15-18

To save the believers from the scourge of the anti Christ. - Rev 3: 10, Matthew 24: 21

To be with the Lord – I Thess 4:16-18.

To give room for the anti Christ to be revealed. II Thess 2:1-8

How - I Cor 15: 51-58

There are three schools of thought when it comes to the time of the rapture

The Pre-tribulation group

The mid tribulation group

The post Tribulation group

So

**When will the rapture take place:** Matt 24:36, 25:13,

**Who will go with Jesus during the rapture?** I Thess 4:15-16, Rev 3: 10 Eph 5: 27.

**What are the signs when the rapture will occur?** Matthew 24: 3-14, 2 Tim 3: 1-5, 7, I Tim 4: 1-3.

**What will be the state of the earth after the rapture?** II Thess 2: 3, 6-7.

What is the difference between the rapture and the second coming of Jesus.

<b>The Rapture</b>	<b>The 2nd Coming</b>
Christ comes for His own 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Christ return with His own Revelation 19:14
Believers taken to Father's House John 14:3	Believers come to Earth Matthew 24:30
Seen only by believers 1 Corinthians 15:52, 19:11-16;	Every eye will see Him Revelation 1:7 Matthew 24:30
No reference to Satan	Satan bound Revelation 20:1-3
Earth not judged	Earth judged Revelation 20:4-5
A Mystery 1 Corinthians 15:51	Foretold in Old Testament Dan. 12:1-3; Zech. 12:10; 14:4

**CONCLUSION:** Having had a brief understanding of what the rapture is, its purpose, the people that will be involved in it, what manner of person ought you to be. It does not matter what the big scholars and theologians are saying about it. They might be arguing about dates and times but they have almost all agreed that the rapture is a sure thing. Since we know that it is a sure thing how prepared are for this event especially seeing that the signs of the times tells us that the time of the event is very near.