

The Blessed Hope!

“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;” –(Titus 2:13)

Diamond & Nugget #20

The Apostle Paul, in 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18, speaking specifically about the Rapture of the Church, lays out the order of events and then tells us to comfort one another with the Biblical facts of the Rapture of the Church. These words certainly wouldn't be a comfort if we had the Antichrist and the wrath of God to look forward to.

***13*“But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. *14*For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. *15*For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. *16*For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. *17*Then we who are alive and remain **will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.** *18*Therefore comfort one another with these words.” (1st Thessalonians 4:13-18)**

I do not know what you know about the Apostle Paul. Most of the mainline denominations possess a rather condescending view of this man despite the fact Paul actually wrote 28% of the New Testament. In many ways, theologians have disdain for Paul almost as much as that held by the Jews. Neither seem to want to claim Paul as their own. The Jews saw Paul as a traitor to the Pharisee religious laws. Most mainline denominations and Catholics denigrate Paul's message of Grace. The message of God's Love and Grace are stumbling blocks for much of the church since it does support the Mosaic Law. Paul is in many ways, for the institutional church, an enigma. He gets more criticism and ridicule for his teachings, such as the Great **“Harpazo”** Rapture. I can't begin to numerate the times I have heard fellow pastors make comment to the effect, *“I've never liked Paul. What are his epistles? They are just letters to people. We only have the one side of them, so we have to guess what he's talking about anyway.”*

Pastors and Christians saying such things about the Apostle Paul have placed him or herself above the Scriptures, teaching something in violation of John 1.1-3, 2nd Timothy 3.16, and especially James 4:11 which reads, **“Speak not evil one of another,**

brethren. He that speaketh evil of [his] brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.”-(James 4:11).

These professing Christians who are so quick to throw out and malign the Apostle Paul are everywhere, in every supposedly conservative Bible-believing denomination. It got me wondering a long time ago, just how much of the New Testament are they pooh-poohing?

How much of the New Testament Scriptures were written by the Apostle Paul? I noted the figure 28% was written by Paul. Based on the word counts of the 1769 edition of KJV from Bible statistics here's how it works out:

Paul wrote 50190 words of the New Testament, a total of 179011 words.

Book	Words
Romans	9,422 words
1 st Corinthians	9,462 words
2 nd Corinthians	6,046 words
Galatians	3,084 words
Ephesians	3,022 words
Philippians	2,183 words
Colossians	1,979 words
1 st Thessalonians	1,837 words
2 nd Thessalonians	1,022 words
1 st Timothy	2,244 words
2 nd Timothy	1,666 words
Titus	896 words
Philemon	430 words
Hebrews	<u>6,897</u> words
	50,190 total words

You might be one of those who disagree about Paul writing Hebrews; however, the evidence is far greater than most people know on this sticky point, and I would bet coin on Paul being the author of the book of Hebrews.

In the passage at the top of page 1, we have one of the 14 New Testament occurrences of the word ***“harpazo”***, from which we derive the word “Rapture”. Those who attempt to refute the Rapture hope to deceive the reader by manipulating the English rendering of the Biblical language, in this case the Greek. It is important enough to note here that this is precisely one of reasons the Apostle Paul warned us about deception, not to be deceived by any man, not once, but three times: 1st Corinthians 6:9; 15:33; and Galatians 6:7. This negligence of Biblical language training has been an issue in seminary education for decades. Very few seminaries require their students to take Greek, and Hebrew is even rarer. This is tragic as I will soon share below.

In the case of the verse 1st Thessalonians 4:17, I colored the phrase will be caught up together. The Greek word **“harpazo”** can also be translated shall be caught up together as well. The word is a verb but to understand its meaning you must conjugate the verb, which gives us the different forms of (a verb in an inflected language) as they vary according to voice, mood, tense, number, and person. So to break this down for you, I will provide you the conjugation for **“harpazo”** here in 1st Thessalonians 4:17.

Tense:	It is second tense, future
Voice:	It is passive
Mood:	It is indicative
Gender/Person:	It is first person
Case:	It is plural

When the student of the Bible uses a Strong's Concordance, the person is mainly interested in the word's meaning. It is only the beginning since the word's meaning depends on these grammatical details in determining its meaning, and we can't ignore the context of its use since context is king. Context is critical in the nuancing of the root word or passage being interpreted.

My point here is that the critics or those attacking the Apostle Paul's language is errantly flawed because they cannot read the original Greek Textus-Receptus. They are only reading a second-hand translation, albeit one of dozens of English translations. This is equivalent of trying to replace the brakes on your car with one hand.

When we first moved back to Kentucky to help raise grandchildren while their mother was in college and nursing school, we lived in the small village of Fredericktown, a population of about 200, and home of Trinity Catholic Church. I have not been able to drive since 2012, and my wife was working part-time as a church secretary and played piano and organ at a different church on Sunday. One day the local priest stopped by to introduce himself and I always welcome conversation and so invited him in. In our discussion, I managed to bring up the Lord's soon return. I never mention the fact that I was an ex-United Methodist pastor. In about thirty seconds, it became obvious he knew very little about End Times matters. He did not believe the Rapture and said it was a lie from Hell.

The local priest had a pleasant disposition and was friendly, but grossly ignorant of the Bible, and the Greek text. When I mentioned the word **“harpazo”** and what it meant, he had a blank stare on his face as if I was from another galaxy. I soon discovered that he did not read the Bible, but his religious faith came out of his little Missal that he proudly noted he had got at Lourdes when he made a pilgrimage there with a group of priests from his order and was blessed at the Sanctuaire Notre Dame de Lourdes. It soon became crystal clear that we were galaxies apart, and soon he indicated that he had to make some calls and needed to leave. Before departing he invited me and my wife to their annual Thanksgiving Turkey dinner held at the fellowship hall. This is a big money raiser for the church, so big that it requires the Kentucky State Police to provide traffic control in and out of the little burg for the annual Turkey dinner weekend.

It is this kind of ignorance that finds favor with the satanic deception to keep people in darkness from the light of God's Word. Millions of Christians this very day are living in great fear and insecurity about tomorrow. The Rapture of the Church (The Blessed Hope of the Church) is probably the most thought about, debated about, and wondered about topic as events of this day and age play out with an increasing speed that can only be described as staggering. Many Christians find themselves full of questions; wondering if they can know for sure (without a doubt), living in needless fear:

- Will the Rapture happen or is this a false teaching stemming from confusion about the second coming of Christ?
- Can I know for sure if the Rapture will happen before, during, or at the end of tribulation?
- Does Tribulation start when the rapture occurs; what happens after the Rapture?

The Rapture is an event when the Lord Jesus himself will come from heaven and with a command, believers who have died and have gone on to heaven will rise first (in their new glorified body) to meet Jesus in the air. Those who are alive at that time and have accepted Jesus as their Savior will instantly be transformed into their new glorified body and at the same time rise up to meet Jesus in the air -(1st Corinthians 15:50, 52). This event will happen in an instant, a nanosecond, or as the Apostle Paul puts it **“in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye”** -(1st Corinthians 15:51-52; 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18).

This will not be an event that living people (at that time) who have not accepted Jesus will see. They will certainly see the effects of it though; huge amounts of people from around the world will instantly vanish, faster than one can blink.

The Apostle Paul was not alone on this topic. The Apostle Peter foretold that at the end of the age of Grace (Church Age): **“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation”** -(2nd Peter 3:3-4).

The term Paul uses in Titus 2:13 **“while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ”**. That is exactly what the Rapture is, a blessed hope! When the Bible uses the term “hope” here, it does not mean a nice thing that we earnestly suspect might happen, but rather a certified fact of the future, promised by God's unfailing Word.

When the more than three hundred Bible references to the Second Coming are carefully examined, it becomes clear that there are two phases to the Lord's return. I did an article which differentiated 32 explicit references of how the Rapture is different from the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. There are far too many conflicting activities connected with His return to be merged into a single coming. Since we know there are

no contradictions in the Word of God, our Lord must be telling us something here. Scholars who take the Bible literally know He is talking about one “coming”, but in two stages.

First, He is coming suddenly in the air to Rapture His Church and takes believers to His Father’s house, in fulfillment of His promise in John 14:1-3. There they will appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ and participate in the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. -(Revelation 19:1-10) Second, He will finish his Second Coming by returning to earth gloriously and publicly in great power to set up his Kingdom with those He Raptured seven years before.

No Scriptural proof-text in God’s Word more clearly points to the first of the two phases of Jesus Christ’s Second Coming than does the following:

“For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.” –(1st Thessalonians 5:2).

While many passages describe both the Rapture and the Glorious Appearing, five primary passages illustrate how very different those events are. The passages that describe the Rapture are: -(John 14:1-3, 1st Thessalonians 4:16-17, and 1st Corinthians 15:50-58. The passages that best details the Lord’s Glorious Appearing is Jesus’ own description of His coming in Matthew 24:27-31 and the description given in Revelation 19:11, 14, and 20:6. Note the details carefully!

Rapture of the Church

1“Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. 2“In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. 3“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.” -(John 14:1-3).

16“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.” -(1st Thessalonians 4:16-17).

Notice in the above two passages that it is Jesus alone who comes. He comes to raise the dead in Christ and “catch up” those of us who are alive and remain.

50“Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, 52in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 53For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54But when this

perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory. ⁵⁵"O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?" ⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; ⁵⁷but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord." –(1 Corinthians 15:50-58)

Glorious Appearing, 2nd Advent

¹¹"And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war." – (Revelation 19:11)

¹⁴"And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses." –(Revelation 19:14)

The "armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean" that are "following Him on white horses" are the previously Rapture believers who have appeared at the Judgment Seat of Christ. –(Revelation 19:6-8)

²⁷"For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ²⁸Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather. The Glorious Return ²⁹But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory. ³¹And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other. –(Matthew 24:27-31)

Notice the differences here. In the Rapture, it is Jesus who comes alone and calls us. We then meet him in the air. Here, at His Second Coming, the Angels will be gathering the Tribulation Saints. Here too, Jesus returns publically in "power and great glory" and "all the tribes of the earth will mourn". This is a completely different set of events with a completely different tone from John 14, 1st Thessalonians 4, and 1st Corinthians 15."

"Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years." –(Revelation 20:6)

How we know the Rapture is Pre-Tribulation

Probably the most thought about aspect of the Rapture is when the Lord will come back for His Church, will it take place before the seven year Tribulation period [Pre-

Tribulation Rapture], in the middle of the seven year Tribulation period [Mid-Tribulation Rapture], or right after Armageddon [Post-Tribulation Rapture]? I'm not dealing with either of these other views simply because they have far too many inconsistencies to be considered logical.

Many who dislike the factual Biblical teaching of the Pre-Tribulation rapture claim it is a "Johnny come lately" theory invented in the 1830's by John Darby. Some claim that this lack of teaching by the early forefathers of the Church indicates that it is not a valid teaching because it would have been carried down in the Church writings.

In a previous segment, I showed the evidence to the contrary, the concept of a millennial reign was taught by the early church fathers up to at least until 375 A.D. I have the complete 38-volume of *'The Early Church Fathers'* by Philip Schaff. Those who attack the Pre-Tribulation Rapture are largely ignorant of the evidence to the contrary. The first 10-volumes are devoted to the 'Ante Nicene Fathers', which includes the early church fathers before the Council of Nicea, held in 325 A.D., called and convened by Emperor Constantine I.

Recent translations of the writings of Ephraem the Syrian, circa 373 A.D., have proved this lie about John Nelson Darby is simply not true. Ephraem the Syrian was a great Christian saint. He was a Deacon and a Bishop. He wrote extensively in the early church. He wrote a book on the *'Antichrist and the End of the World'* in 373 A.D.; in which he clearly states that the Lord will descend from Heaven and will take us to be with Himself so that we might escape the confusion that overtakes the whole world. This is a clear Pre-Tribulation Rapture statement made fifteen centuries before most people thought it was ever discussed.

For all the saints and Elect of God are gathered, prior to the tribulation that is to come, and are taken to the Lord lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins. Ephraem the Syrian wrote (On the Last Times, the Antichrist, and the End of the World, 373 A.D.)

When properly understood, the Scriptures are quite clear on the subject. There is no doubt or ambiguity that the Rapture of the Church will happen before Tribulation begins. Consider these four things:

1: The Lord Himself promises to deliver us before Tribulation begins. One of the best promises guaranteeing the Church's Rapture before the Tribulation is found in Revelation 3:10:

"Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth."

This verse is Christ's own promise to his church, the church of Philadelphia. The seven churches of Asia Minor were selected out of the hundreds of young churches at the time

because they were types of the seven church ages that would exist from the first century on to the present. The message of Revelation 2 and 3 is to the churches (plural), not just the seven churches of Asia Minor. Otherwise, the majority of Churches through the years would have been excluded. The message to the church at Philadelphia was not only for that little church but also to the “open door” church – that is, the evangelistic, missionary-minded church, which started about 1750 and will exist right up to the time Christ comes to Rapture His church.

The argument that the letters were just to the churches of Asia Minor simply cannot be the case. Jesus’ message couldn’t have been to just the little church at Philadelphia because it was completely destroyed by the Turkish invasion in 1382, long before the “hour of trial that will come upon the whole world” (Which is the period the Lord calls the “great tribulation, such has not been since the beginning of time, no, nor ever shall be”). Obviously the church of Philadelphia has end-time significance because it is referred to as “alive” during the last days.

What most people miss in the world around them is that Tribulation does not occur out of the clear blue sky, it begins gradually, ever so slightly, yet it builds in a way that most people do not notice its effects. What we are seeing this year began many years ago, with the repeal and removal of states’ “blue laws”; the banning of prayer and Bible reading in school; legalizing of abortion; jumping forward to today with swift move to the “Cashless” society; and the Gates’ call for ID2020. Without it [an implanted microchip], a person will be denied membership in the global system. No chip, no job, no nothing! In that secular government forces imposed persecution on churches being closed was a signal in my understanding, get ready to go home. Pentecost was the birth of the church and the blatant persecution, i.e., outdoor church services were greeted with the blue and whites flashing their emergency lights, etc.; this was a clear message to the church, you are not welcome. That could not be a clearer message to the Lord that it is time to bring the church home! With the True Pentecost calculated to be July 19th/20th we ought to be ready to make our “Departure!”

This verse teaches that the faithful church of the open door which will not deny His name but will practice good works, evangelism, and missions, will be kept “out of” the hour of trial (the Great Tribulation) that shall try the whole earth. The guarantee of the Rapture before Tribulation could hardly be more powerful! No wonder one it is referred to as a “cardinal Scripture”. Failure to recognize this truth has Christians believing they are going into Tribulation which is completely contrary to our Lord’s promise.

2: The church is to be delivered from the wrath to come.

The promise of 1st Thessalonians 1:10 (“***Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come***”) was given by the Holy Spirit through the Apostil Paul to a young church on a missionary journey. The context of this passage is the Rapture because Christians are not waiting for the Glorious Appearing. Paul tells them in 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-12 that the Glorious Appearing will not occur until Antichrist (or “lawless one”) is revealed. The Christians in Thessalonica were awaiting the coming of Christ for His church; that is the

Rapture. They already knew the Tribulation (or “wrath to come”) would follow the Rapture, and that is what God has promised to keep Christians out of.

3: Christians are not appointed to wrath.

According to 1st Thessalonians 5:9, **“God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”** This passage, which follows the strongest passage about the Rapture in the Bible, must be considered in light of its context. 1st Thessalonians 5:9 makes it clear that God did not “appoint us to wrath” (the Tribulation) but to “obtain deliverance”. Since so many saints will be martyred during the Tribulation, this promise cannot then mean He will deliver believers during the time of Tribulation because the saints mentioned there are the Tribulation saints and they will not be delivered; in fact most will be martyred (Revelation 6: 9-11). Probably the most clear proof is: Revelation 15:7.

“Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever.”

We clearly see that the bowls that are about to be poured out on the earth are filled with the wrath of God. If we (believers in Jesus) have been promised to be delivered from the wrath of God, then how can we be here when God’s wrath is poured out on the earth? It would violate the nature of the Lord. As Chuck Missler used to say, “God is not going to beat up His bride, and then take her on a honeymoon!”

Peter explains that the present world is **“reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men”** -(2nd Peter 3:7). The church is pictured in the Scriptures as the wife of the Lamb -(Revelation 19:7-9). He may discipline her in love, but His ultimate purpose is to present her to the Father as His perfect bride not as an object of wrath.

4: The church is absent in Revelation chapter 4 through chapter 18.

The church is mentioned in the first three chapters of Revelation, but after John (a member of the church) is called up to heaven in chapter 4, he looks down on the events of Tribulation which begin in chapter 4 and the church is not mentioned or seen again until chapter 19 when she returns to earth with her bridegroom at His glorious appearing. Why? The answer is obvious: She isn’t in the Tribulation. She has been **“caught up”** to be with the Lord before it begins.

After the Rapture

The Rapture will be mystifying, and to some an inexplicable phenomenon. Its impact on those who are left will be enormous. We are not told how long the time gap between when the Rapture happens and the start of Tribulation is. The trigger that starts Tribulation is the signing of the treaty between Israel and the Antichrist (Daniel 9:27).

We do know that very shortly after the Rapture, the Antichrist will be unveiled. Not that he isn’t somewhere on the scene right now, he surely is; however after the rapture occurs he will then assume his final role as world dictator and those who become

believers after the Rapture and are Biblically aware will be able to recognize him for who he is -(2nd Thessalonians 2:6-8). As I have shared in other articles, Mr. 666 is the Rothschild-designated Prince Charles of Wales. The evidence for my identifying Prince Charles is well documented in my series: ***“The Satanic Talmud and the Synagogue of Satan – Part 6”***. Tim Cohen’s book, *‘The Antichrist and A Cup of Tea’* made this so clear. Tim Cohen’s book was banned in the UK from the day it was published.

After the Rapture the world’s economy will crash. You have witnessed the events of the past six months As of July 9th, 50 million U.S. workers have filed for unemployment benefits. Dozens of companies have filed for bankruptcy. 80% of New York City restaurants could not make their June rent payments. I monitor many business, financial sites and it is worse than anyone will admit. Over the past five years, approximately 50,000 retail businesses have closed, including franchisees, major corporations. This past week NPC International, the largest U.S. franchisee of Yum Brands' Pizza Hut, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. The company operates more than 1,200 Pizza Huts and nearly 400 Wendy's restaurants here in the U.S.

The Antichrist, along with the False Prophet, will stabilize it and during the course of Tribulation will create strict controls over who can buy and sell. Every man, woman, and child will receive a mark, without which one cannot participate in the economy leading to great suffering for those who refuse it. The mark will either be the name of the beast or the number of his name...**666** -(Revelation 13:17-18).

For those who have accepted the gift of Salvation purchased through the Blood of Jesus, what will happen at and after the Rapture cannot be put into human words.

However, as it is written: ***“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.”*** -(1st Corinthians 2:9). The first thing that will happen, which will happen instantly at the Rapture, we will receive our “Glorified Body”. A body fit for Heaven and eternity. I don’t know about you, but mine is overdue for replacement.

“Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.” -(1st John 3:2).

In 1st Corinthians 15:42-44 and 52-54, Paul tells us that the glorified body will be ***“imperishable”*** and ***“immortal”***. It will be raised in ***“glory and power”***. There will be no human limitations to what it can do. It will not be bound by the laws of physics. You will be able to move throughout the universe and Heaven at the speed of thought. This new perfect and powerful body will be spirit controlled, rather than controlled by the flesh. In Philippians 3:21 Paul further states that the glorified bodies which will be given to believers will be like the body that Jesus had after His resurrection. What a promise!

Jesus appeared in the flesh after His resurrection. In Luke 24:39, He told His disciples when He appeared to them after His resurrection, ***“Behold my hands and my feet,***

that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have." He specifically states that He was made of flesh and bones and not just a spirit. In another post-resurrection appearance, Jesus ate bread and fish with the disciples -(John 21:12-13). These were not the actions of a spirit.

However, we need to remember that this body was a resurrected body--like the body we will have when we are resurrected. This body is also called a glorified body. The glorified body does not have the limitations of our present body. Jesus appeared in rooms where the doors had been shut and certainly locked: ***"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you"*** -(John 20:19). Christ never passed through closed doors during His earthly ministry; only after His resurrection.

1st Corinthians 15:44 speaks of our death and resurrection: ***"It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body."*** The spiritual body is what I earlier called the glorified body. It is the body of the saints when it has been resurrected. It is an incorrupt body, but it is a body.

Following our instant transformation at the Rapture is the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Paul, in 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18, speaking specifically about the Rapture of the Church, lays out the order of events and then tells us to comfort one another with the Biblical facts of the Rapture of the Church. These words certainly wouldn't be a comfort if we had the Antichrist and the wrath of God to look forward to.

¹³"But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. ¹⁴For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. ¹⁵For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words. -(1st Thessalonians 4:13-18)

¹¹For the grace of God (His unmerited favor and blessing) has come forward (appeared) for the deliverance from sin and the eternal salvation for all mankind. ¹²It has trained us to reject and renounce all ungodliness (irreligion) and worldly (passionate) desires, to live discreet (temperate, self-controlled), upright, devout (spiritually whole) lives in this present world, ¹³Awaiting and looking for the [fulfillment, the realization of our] blessed hope, even the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Christ Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One), ¹⁴Who

gave Himself on our behalf that He might redeem us (purchase our freedom) from all iniquity and purify for Himself a people [to be peculiarly His own, people who are] eager and enthusiastic about [living a life that is good and filled with] beneficial deeds. ¹⁵Tell [them all] these things. Urge (advise, encourage, warn) and rebuke with full authority. Let no one despise or disregard or think little of you [conduct yourself and your teaching so as to command respect].” –(Titus 2:11-15).

We could go into great detail about the Apostle Paul's trials and tribulations. Paul's trials and persecutions are recorded in 2nd Corinthians 11:24-28:

²⁴“Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. ²⁵Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; ²⁶In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; ²⁷In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. ²⁸Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

With all of what Paul endured throughout his four detailed missionary trips, he never once said the church should be looking for the Great Tribulation. Many scholars on Paul suggest he made several more shorter missionary trips as well. His words always were to comfort his new Christians, four times in 1st Thessalonians: 3:2; 4:18; 5:11; and 5:14. Overall Paul expressed this admonition more than a dozen times in his letters. Studying Paul, his life, his ministry, one can only conclude that he had experienced a special relationship that cannot be explained in earthly terms.

A Christian brother in Demark offered an insightful calendar presenting a thematic motif, through a parallel of God giving the Law to Moses, which seems to mirror the birth of the church at Pentecost and a Rapture of the church at Pentecost. His name is Ola Ilori, and I share this with you. Ola Ilori has been saying that July 19th, is the Rapture!

**Ola Ilori (12 July 2020)
"8 More Days before a Pentecost Rapture"**

We're now just 8 DAYS away from a Pentecost Rapture on the 19th of July!!! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcOLAUjpbqg&t=18s>
"...The sun shall be turned into darkness [Annular Solar Eclipse] [21st June] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4K3GEWtlgoU>

And the moon into BLOOD [Penumbra Lunar Eclipse] [4th/5th of July], <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LndjObGiNb8>

BEFORE the coming of the GREAT and AWESOME DAY of the LORD [Pentecost on the 19th of July]. And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord

shall be saved [That is, whoever calls on the Name of the Lord Jesus at Pentecost on the 19th of July shall be taken up in the Rapture] [Acts 2:20,21] [words in bracket are mine]

This is the Calendar for 2020 that I put together. It perfectly aligns the Sabbaths of the Hebrew Month with the correct phases of the Moon.

New Moon Day [Dark Moon] of the New Year Day 1 Month 1 [25th of March 2020]

First day of the week Day 2 Month 1 [26th of March 2020]

Sabbath [First Quarter] Day 8 Month 1 [1st of April 2020]

Passover Day 14 Month 1 [7th of April 2020]

Sabbath [Full Moon] Day 15 Month 1 [8th of April 2020] [1st Day of Unleavened Bread]

First-fruits Day 16 Month 1 [9th of April 2020]

1st Sabbath of Pentecost count [Third Quarter] Day 22 Month 1 [15th of April 2020]

2nd Sabbath [Last Sliver] Day 29 Month 1 [22nd of April 2020]

3rd Sabbath [First Quarter] Day 8 Month 2 [30th of April 2020]

4th Sabbath [Full Moon] Day 15 Month 2 [7th of May 2020]

5th Sabbath [Third Quarter] Day 22 Month 2 [14th of May 2020]

6th Sabbath [Last Sliver] Day 29 Month 2 [21st Of May 2020]

7th Sabbath [First Quarter] Day 8 Month 3 [30th of May 2020]

On Day 9 of the 3rd Month the 50 Day Pentecost count begins [31st of May 2020]

Day 16 Month 3 Moses ascends up Mount Sinai the first time [7th of June 2020]

Day 18 Month 3 [The Lord descends over Mount Sinai to meet with Israel] [9th of June 2020]

Day 19 Month 3 [Moses ascends up Mount Sinai for a second time to receive the Law of the covenant, inscribed by the Lord's finger, on two tablets of stone] [This is Day 1 of a 40 Day count to Pentecost] [10th of June 2020]

Day 1 Month 4 [Annular Solar Eclipse] [Dark Moon] [Acts 2:20, 21] [21st of June 2020]

Day 8 Month 4 [Penumbral Lunar Eclipse] [Sabbath, Full Moon] [5th July 2020]

Day 29 Month 4 [Pentecost Rapture] [After 40 Days Moses descends from Mount Sinai with the Law of the covenant on two tablets of stone [Last Sliver] [19th of July 2020]

Blessings,

Pastor Bob, EvanTeachr@aol.com
www.pastorbobreid.com

P.S. In the event of July 19th/20th being uneventful, do not lose hope. Rosh Hashanah in 2020 will be September 18th to the 20th. Rosh Hashanah for forty years was the "Unknown Day", my pick for the Rapture, which was until I discovered the errors the church made in determining True Pentecost.