

1 Thessalonians 4:13 "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope."

Verse 14 "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."

Verse 15 "For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep."

Verse 16 "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:"

Verse 17 "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

Verse 18 "Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

Verses 13 - 15 says sorrow not for those that are asleep or dead, Jesus died and rose again and so conquered death. When He comes again these people He will raise from the grave as verse 16 explains and then in verse 17 we which are alive and remain will be caught up with those that have been raised from the grave to be ever with the Lord Jesus Christ. This quote can fit nowhere else but the second coming of Jesus - verse 15.

John 14:3 used in number 2 tells us that after Jesus arose, He told His disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them, referring also to all the righteous, and that he was coming again to receive all the righteous unto

Himself. It is referring to the time when Christ comes at His 2nd coming.

John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me."

Verse 2 "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."

Verse 3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

2 Thessalonians 2:1 used in number 3 is correct but let us put the correct interpretation to it. Read verses 1, 2, and 3 and the reader will see that verse 1 tells us that Christ is coming again to gather His people to Himself; verse 2 tells us not to be troubled but hold firm; verse 3 tells us not to be deceived for that day shall not come until the man of sin - "The Pope" - is revealed; and verse 4 gives us a description of what the man of sin is like.

2 Thessalonians 2:1 "Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,"

Verse 2 "That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand."

Verse 3 "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;"

Verse 4 "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in

the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

So don't be deceived, hold firm.

1 Corinthians 15:51 used in number 4 is taken completely out of context. By reading verse 52 also we find that we shall not all sleep, but those that are alive when Christ comes the second time at the end of the seven last plagues, shall be changed in the twinkling of an eye and the dead shall be raised incorruptible. This is the very same meaning as in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 which is talking about the second coming.

1 Corinthians 15:50 "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption."

Verse 51 "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,"

Verse 52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

Verse 53 "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."

**Problems with the secret rapture.**

1. Part of Daniel's time prophecy referring to the 7 years found in Daniel 9:26 has been taken out from where it is supposed to be - the time from Christ's baptism in the Jordan river to the death of Stephen - and placed at the end time. If this 7 years is incorrectly put at this time

the rest of the 2,300 years prophecy loses its meaning.

2. There is no 7 year tribulation in the scriptures at the end of time, but the man of sin will be revealed before Christ's second coming. We already know that the Pope is the man of sin. The Catholic church is the Beast of Revelation 13:1 - 10. Apostate Protestant churches unite with the government forming an image to the beast - dictating what people can or cannot do, with offenders being punished with death - and try to make everyone receive the mark of the beast - worshipping on Sunday instead of the Lord's Sabbath, Saturday. We are very close to this time. Probation will close for all men when they least expect it, the same as it was in the days of Noah. God closed the door of the ark, but it was another 7 days before it began to rain, but it was too late for those left outside as probation closed when the door was shut. When probation closes the time of Jacob's trouble begins, which is the 7 last plagues.

3. The 1,000 years referred to is not a time of peace for God's people on earth. After the seven last plagues the wicked are dead, the righteous have been taken to heaven and Satan is bound to this earth for 1,000 years with no one to tempt and nothing to do but to think on what he has done. The only ones here with him are his evil angels.

Revelation 20:1 - 3 "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a

thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season."

Verse 4 "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

Verse 5 "But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection."

Verse 6 "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

Verse 7 "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison."

After reading all the bible texts in context it is very plain to see that there is no secret rapture, but "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matthew 24:27.

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# IS THE SECRET RAPTURE SCRIPTURAL?

All Bible texts are from the King James Version unless otherwise stated.

A large part of the Christian world has accepted an idea that if you are a Christian you will be caught up in the secret rapture to be with Christ. To arrive at this idea Bible texts have to be miss read and taken out of context. As we go through this study we will show why the rapture is just another one of Satan's deceptions.

Here are some of the texts that have been quoted as referring to the rapture:-

- I. The Church will meet Christ in the air -  
1 Thessalonians 4:17
- II. The Church will be taken to heaven -  
1 Thessalonians 4:17 and John 14:3
- III. Christ will come for His saints -  
2 Thessalonians 2:1
- IV. The rapture is a mystery -  
1 Corinthians 15:51
- V. The righteous will be removed -  
1 Thessalonians 4:17

The verse, 1 Thessalonians 4:17 used in 1, 2, and 5 has been twisted to make it seem to say the things they claim. Let us look at this verse in context with the verses around it.