

In A Moment

INAM-06 “TWO DAYS: THE DAY OF CHRIST - INTRO”

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03/24/2026

“THE DOCTRINE OF THE RAPTURE OF THE SAINTS”

1 THESS 4:13A; 15-17 *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers...¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the LORD, that we who are alive, who are left 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 cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of GOD. And the dead in CHRIST will rise first.¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the LORD in the air, and so we will always be with the LORD.*

In this **Lesson** we will study the **ARRIVAL** – RAPTURE vs the **APPEARANCE** – 1ST OR 2ND COMING. Just as there are “2” Distinct Events, [*The Appearance and The Arrival*] presented in Scripture, there are “2” Distinct Days, [*THE DAY OF THE LORD* and *THE DAY OF CHRIST*]. As we study of the references to each of these WORDS and DAYS, we see that there are clearly different “EVENTS” that accompany each of them... events that cannot be resolved by seeing them as referring to the same “DAY”.

In the previous Lesson we studied THE APPEARANCE and THE DAY OF THE LORD. Now we will concentrate on THE ARRIVAL and THE DAY OF CHRIST in the way they differ from the former, and what they actually present in the context of Scripture. THE DAY OF CHRIST is for the Church alone... THE DAY OF THE LORD is for the whole World.

TWO WORDS – TWO EVENTS: THE APPEARANCE VS THE ARRIVAL

It becomes apparent when we consider numerous verses of Scripture regarding the “End Times” (*Eschatology*) that there are differences... even seeming contradictions between certain events.

In order to arrive at Scriptural understanding of the subject of THE RAPTURE it is necessary to follow the use of the Greek word, “PAROUSIA – Arrival.” Using only isolated verses (*as some false teachers, false prophets were doing*) can lead to a mis-understanding of this subject – an issue that was already prevalent in Paul’s day.

- *In 1 THESS. 4:13, Paul does not want the Believers in this young Church to be “uninformed”.*
- *In 2 THESS 2:1-3, Paul again has to remind this Church “not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us...” meant to deceive them.*
- *Then in 2 THESS 2:5-6 Paul reminds them: “Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?”*

These false messages fit into a pattern of false teaching / prophecy that was general problem in the Churches:

- *In COL 2:8-23 Paul instructs the Leaders of the Churches to be prepared to engage and refute the False Teachers that are trying to lead Believers astray.*
- *In 1 TIM 4:1-2, Paul tells Timothy that there are many deceivers who are inspired by Demons teaching things as “truth” even though they know they are false.*
- *IN 1 TIM 6:3-5 Paul warns Timothy to be prepared to refute False Teachers who are desirous to lead astray God’s people, and destroy their Churches.*
- *2 TIM 4:1-5 Paul warns that those “set into the ministry” must be prepared to engage those who teach false doctrines in order to lead Believers astray.*
- *And other passages...*

Lets study what the Scriptures DO say regarding the Rapture.

First of all, the word specifically used in reference to the 2ND COMING / DAY OF THE LORD is: "EPIPHANEIA". There is also another word used that CAN be used to refer to the 2nd Coming OR the Rapture.

Arrival / Coming... - **PAROUSIA** – to be present / an arrival at certain place or time / to come to a place...

In the NT, the understanding of the **Arrival (PAROUSIA)** must be determined by its context in relation to the "**Occasion of the ARRIVAL**" It is used for: **natural events**; **THE RAPTURE**; and **THE 2ND COMING**.

➤ **THE SECOND ADVENT**

MATT 24:3 "As HE sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to HIM privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your **Coming** and of the end of the age?"
24:27 For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the **Coming** of the SON OF MAN.

2 THESS 2:1 "Now concerning the **Coming** of our Lord Jesus Christ and **our being gathered together to HIM** [to be assembled together in one place]"

2:8 "And then the Lawless One will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of His mouth and bring to nothing by the **Appearance [Epiphaneia]** of His **Coming [Parousia]**."

JAS 5:7-8 "Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the **Coming** of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the **Coming** of the Lord is at hand."

2 PET 3:4 "They will say, 'Where is the promise of His **Coming**?'"

3:12 "...waiting for and hastening the **Coming** of THE DAY OF GOD, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!"

The passages above make references to a DAY of **judgment, fear, destruction**... This is a DAY of great terror, great impenetrable darkness, The Battle of Armageddon, the Sun becoming dark while the Moon becomes red, and the Stars refusing to shine.

There is NO mention of **joy, relief, reward, deliverance**, the **resurrection** of all who have believed, and the **transformation** of believers who are alive. IN FACT, the only mention of the "CHURCH" is in their inclusion in the great Army that comes WITH the LORD to defeat the enemies of GOD.

As we look into the **other references** to the "**PAROUSIA**" we see a totally different picture...

➤ **THE RAPTURE / CATCHING AWAY (HARPAGMOS) –**

1 COR 15:20-22 "But in fact **CHRIST has been raised from the dead**, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For as by a man came death, **by a man has also come the resurrection of the dead.**

²² For as in Adam all die, so also in **CHRIST** shall all be made alive. "But each in his own order: **CHRIST** the firstfruits, then at **His coming** those who belong to **CHRIST**."

1 THESS 1:10 "...and to wait for his SON from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, **JESUS** who delivers us from the wrath to come."

1 THESS 2:19-20 "For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at His **coming**? Is it not you? ²⁰ For you are our glory and joy.

1 THESS 3:13 "...so that HE may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our GOD and FATHER, at the **coming** of our LORD JESUS with all His saints."

1 THESS 4:15 “For this we declare to you by a word from the LORD, that we who are alive, who are left until the **coming** of the LORD, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.”

1 THESS 5:23 “Now may the GOD OF PEACE himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the **coming** of our LORD JESUS CHRIST.”

2 TIM 4:8 “Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the LORD, the RIGHTEOUS JUDGE, will **award to me on that day**, and not only to me but also **to all who have loved** His **“coming / Arrival [PAROUSIA].”**

1 JN 2:28 “And now, little children, abide in HIM, so that when HE **appears [PHANEROS – to be seen]** we may have confidence and not shrink from HIM in shame at HIS **Coming [PAROUSIA - arrival].”**

➤ **THE DAY OF CHRIST [JESUS]** – A **NEW TESTAMENT** phrase used in reference to the **“DAY” CHRIST comes for the Saints...** The **“CATCHING AWAY!” (RAPTURE)**

PHIL 1:6 “And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion **[until] THE DAY OF CHRIST JESUS.**”

- GOD’S work WITHIN us will continue until the time of the **RAPTURE...**
- **THEN** we will be **“fully changed”** into His glorious image...

PHIL 3:20-21 “But **our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a SAVIOR, the LORD JESUS CHRIST,** ²¹ who **will transform** our **lowly body ... to be like** His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to HIMSELF.”

“Transform...” – **metaschematizo** – to make **“outward change ONLY”**

“Our “lowly” bodies...” – the **“change”** is ONLY to the **“lowly body”** in which we dwell...

“To be like...” – **summorphos** – To be fashioned into the **“form”** of another’s which is **NOT** representative of the previous **“form”**

WHY only “outward change”? – **Because** we are **Already** created in **His own** image and likeness **Within...**

Contrast ROMANS 12:2

1 COR 15: 50-57 I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of GOD, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 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 imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.” ⁵⁵ **“O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”**

⁵⁶ **The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.** ⁵⁷ **But thanks be to GOD, who gives us the victory through our LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

PHIL 2:16 “holding fast to the word of life, so that in **THE DAY OF CHRIST** I may be confident that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.”

- Our **“labor”** will be complete at the time of: 1) **Death**; or 2) **RAPTURE**
- Our **“rewards”** will then be recognized based on what we have done in **THIS** life...

1 COR 3:12-13 Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.

JOHN 14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."

COL 3:4 When CHRIST who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

1 THESS 2:19-20 For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our LORD JESUS at his Coming? Is it not you? ²⁰ For you are our glory and joy.

2 TIM 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the LORD, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

REV 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the LORD from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the SPIRIT, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!"

➤ **DELIVERED FROM WRATH:**

1 THESS 4:17-18 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the LORD in the air, and so we will always be with the LORD. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 THESS 5:8-11 "But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For GOD has not destined us for wrath..."

"destined to wrath..." – to be once and for all given over to the receiving of a pending judgment of wrath - reserved for those who have NOT believed upon the LORD JESUS CHRIST

JOHN 3:36 Whoever believes in the SON HAS eternal life; whoever does not obey the SON shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

JOHN 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

1 THESS 1:10 "... and to wait for HIS SON from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, JESUS who delivers [rescues] us from the wrath to come."

"...but to obtain salvation through our LORD JESUS CHRIST, ¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are:

- awake - those who are alive and remain...
- or asleep - those who have died in the Lord...

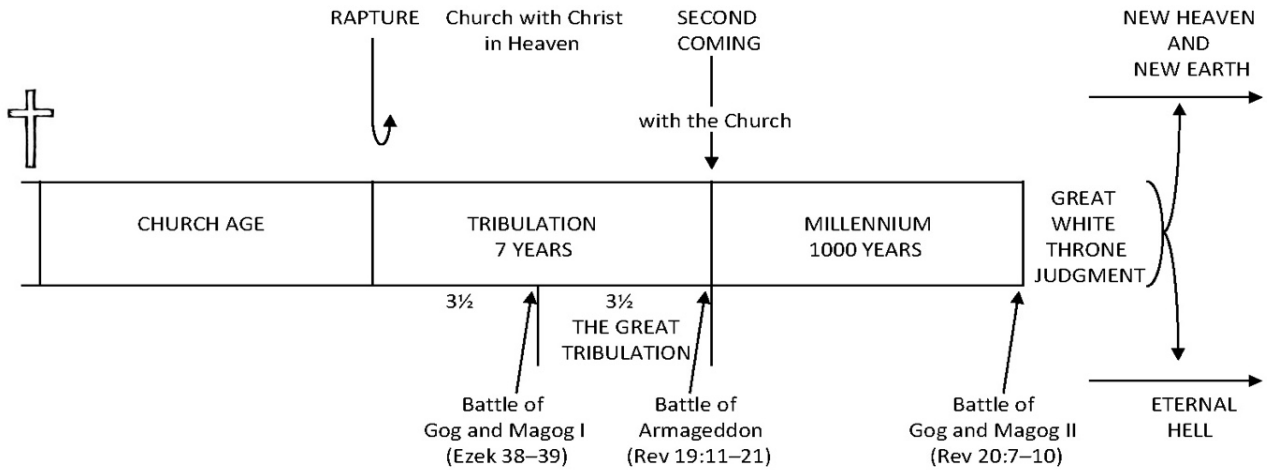
we might live with HIM.

¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

- Addition Of "Building-Up" – re-enforce / Mend / Repair / Complete...
- THE LAST DAYS = PENTECOST...TRIBULATION... to the 2ND COMING
- THE DAY OF THE LORD = The 2ND COMING
- THE CHURCH AGE = PENTECOST to the RAPTURE are a part THE LAST DAYS

The End Times Chart

"THE PRE-TRIBULATIONAL ... PRE-MILLENNIAL VIEWPOINT"



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