

RAPTURE AND RESURRECTION
I THESS. 4:15-18

I. THE AUTHORITY.

- A. v15 "by the word of the Lord."
 - 1. Paul heard the voice of Jesus.
- B. Not the words of men.

II. THE ORDER OF THE GATHERING.

- A. This is the order for the saved.
 - 1. There is another order for the lost.
 - 2. Rev. 20:4-5.
- B. The living are not first.
 - 1. The resurrection is first event.
 - a. "shall not go before, [precede]."
 - 2. I Cor. 16:51-52.

III. THE RETURN OF JESUS BRINGS RESURRECTION.

- A. For the Lord Himself.
 - b. Acts 1:10-11.

IV. THE NOISIEST DAY IN THE CHRISTIANS FUTURE, RESURRECTION

- A. v16 "a shout."
 - 1. "the shout of command, encouraging rowers; hunter his hounds; general shouting orders.
- B. "voice of the archangel."
 - 1. The voice of the archangel.

C. "...the trump of God."

1. A trumpet belonging to God.
2. I Cor. 14:52.

V. THE RAPTURE. V17

A. Caught up = a sudden and forceful seizure, to swing up, to carry up by force.

1. arpazo - airazo
2. Latin = Rapturo = Rapture

B. Never separated.

VI. THE COMFORT.

A. Comfort = tharseo = take courage, it is imperative, cheer up, take heart, feel confident.