



The Voice Of Truth

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What Is Wrong About The Rapture?

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As we look at this false doctrine, the rapture calls for only a portion of humanity, not the entire universe, to see Jesus when he comes the second time. Only the righteous dead and the righteous living will see Him when He first comes. The remainders of the living will not see Him for at least seven years. Those among the unrighteous dead will not see Him until the thousand years of the pre-millennial reign are finished.

The second coming of Christ is no where depicted as secret. In fact, just the opposite is true! Notice these passages: Blazing fire (**2 Thess. 1:7**); Trumpet will sound (**1 Cor. 15:52**); Shout, voice of archangel, trump of God (**1 Thess. 4:16**); every eye will see Him (**Rev. 1:7**). These passages show that all persons everywhere will see and hear this event! There will be no rapture!

In **John 5:28-29**, Jesus said the righteous dead and the wicked dead will come forth in the same hour. But the rapture does not have it

that way. Here is what is wrong with the rapture. The Rapture theory has the righteous dead raised to meet the Lord in the air. They remain with Him during the entire years of the rapture. But they still have the wicked dead in their tombs all this time. Yet the Lord said they would be raised the same hour. **John 5:28-29** is inspired and thus is right; the rapture theory is false and cannot be right. There will be but one resurrection composed of both the good and the evil (**Acts 24:15**).

If Christians are removed seven years before the coming of Christ, then no passage should speak of Christians remaining on the earth until the coming. However, many passages do just that, **Matthew 13:30-40, 49** is one. You will notice in this passage that the righteous and the wicked grow together until the very end. The separation of the two comes at the end, not seven years before the end. Those who believe in the rapture claim

that the righteous will be taken out from among the wicked. The Bible says just the opposite: the wicked will be taken out from among the righteous.

In **Matthew 28:20**, the use of the word "end" comes from a word that refers to "full end" and in the New Testament always refers to the end of the world, judgment day. Jesus promised to be with the sowers of the gospel message to the very "end." This means the church will remain on earth, preaching the gospel, until the judgment day. If the church is raptured away seven years before the end, she cannot fulfill what Christ commanded her to do!

There is no room at all for the rapture when you allow the Bible to speak!

Could you explain Matthew 7:1-2? Is it always wrong to judge?

In **Matthew 7:1-3**, our Lord warns against finding faults in others while neglecting our own. The truth of the matter is that we are to judge in some cases and under some conditions. Jesus also commanded, "Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment" (**Jn. 7:24**). The apostle Paul commanded the Christians at Corinth to judge (**1 Cor. 5:12-13**). They were not to fellowship such a person as is described earlier in that chapter, but to withdraw: but that demanded judging the man to be unworthy of fellowship.

Jesus warns (also in **Matt. 7:15-16**) about false teachers. And He said, "Ye

shall know them by their fruits." Are we judging when we deem someone to be a false teacher? The Lord tells us to do it! John warns much later, "Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world" (**1 Jn. 4:1**). Again in **2 John 9-11** a similar warning is found, and we are warned that even to "bid God speed" to the false teacher is to become guilty with him. Determining that one is teaching false doctrine demands judgment on our part.

No, we are not to blind ourselves to our own faults while finding faults in others. That is the warning in **Matthew 7:1-2**. But we must continually try and prove our own selves (**2 Cor. 13:5**), and we must try (prove or examine) the teaching and teachers who come to us. We must also determine with whom we will have fellowship (**1 Cor. 5:1-13; 2 Jn. 9-11; 2 Cor. 6:14-18**). Every one of these actions is commanded by the Lord, and each one demands that we judge. The warning in **Matthew 7:1-2** is against hypocritical judging, but righteous judging is still commanded by the same Lord (**Jn. 7:24**).

ONE MAN SAID

"I do not go to church on Sunday because I was never taught to go when I was young, so I did not form the habit," so said one man. Another man says: "I do not go to church on Sunday because I was forced to go when I was young, and it grew distasteful to me." Someone else said: One excuse is as good as another when you do not want to do a thing." Still another man said: "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord," **Psalms 122:1**. We ought to pay attention to the wisest one!

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