

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

Titus 2:11-14 is one Greek sentence. It is divided into two sections of sound doctrines based on the Greek word for appear (epiphaino).

Epiphaino is used to teach sound doctrines associated with both the First and Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

- In Titus 2:11-12, it is associated with First Coming.
- In Titus 2:13-14, it is associated with Second Coming.

The Granville Sharpe Greek grammar rule is used twice in Titus 2:13 – “Looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.”

The Granville Sharpe Greek grammar rule says that when two nouns with the same case endings are connected by kai (and). When the first noun has a definite article and the second doesn't, the second noun is a further description of the first.

- The blessed hope and appearing (ten makarios elpis kai epiphaneia / asf).
- The great God and Savior (tou megas Theos kai Soter / gsm).

Paul has made an enormous theological statement regarding Jesus Christ. He said that Jesus Christ is both God and Savior.

Today's lesson will study a special feature of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ called the Rapture of the Church. It is the first stage of the Second Coming.

The English word Rapture is derived from the Latin (rapare / rapio). Rapare is the equivalent Greek word harpazo used in 1 Thess.4:17 which mean to be snatch up or caught up – **“Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord.”**

We will study the Rapture of the Church by the following seven-letter acrostic of the word RAPTURE.
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Resurrection of all Church age believers (1 Thess.4:14-16; 1 Cor.15:51-54, 23)

Air (1 Thess.1:10; 4:15-17; Phil.3:20-21; Acts 1:11)

Presence of Jesus Christ (1 Thess.1:10; 5:23; 1 Tim.6:14; Titus 2:13; 1 John 2:28; 3:2)

Trumpet of God (1 Thess.4: 16; 1 Cor.15: 52-54)

Uniting of entire Church (1 Thess.2: 19; 4:14-17; 2 Thess.2: 1-2; 2 Tim.4: 8; James 5:7-8)

Removal from heaven and earth (1 Thess.4:16-17; 1 Cor.15:52; Col.3:4)

Eye twinkling (1 Cor.15:51-52; 1 Thess.5:2; 1 Tim.6:14-15)