

The Mystery of the Rapture of the Church (09)

We are currently studying a series entitled, Mystery Doctrines.

Today we will study the seventh Mystery Doctrine, **The Rapture of the Church** taken from 1 Cor.15:51-57

(Col.1:26) "That is **the mystery** which has been hidden from the **past** ages and generations; but has **now** been manifested to His saints."

We have learned **the MYSTERY** is teaching a doctrine unique to the church age (Eph.1:9-14; 3:9-10).

Today we will examine our lesson text by the following five homiletic points.

(1 Cor.15:51) **Sleep change** _____

(1 Cor.15:52) **Sudden change** _____

(1 Cor.15:53-54a) **Status change** _____

(1 Cor.15:54b-55) **Scriptural change** _____

(1 Cor.15:56-57) **Sting change** _____

HOME STUDY: There are five Greek words are associate with the Rapture of the church.

- Phaneroo (epiphaneia) (Titus 2:13) emphasizes the appearance or manifestation of Jesus Christ (Col.3:4; 1 John 2:28; Heb.9:28).
- Episunagogue emphasizes gathering together of the deceased and living Church Age Believers (CAB) (2 Thess.2:1).
- Parousia emphasizes the arrival or coming of the Lord. It links the Rapture with the Second Coming (1 Thess.4:15; 5:23; 1 John 2:28; 2 Thess.2:1; 1 Cor.15:23).
- Erchomai emphasizes the Coming of Lord in the same manner as His leaving the earth (Acts 1:10-11).
- Harpazo emphasizes being "caught up". The Latin word Rapture (rapare) is derived from this Greek word (1 Thess.4:17).

Doctrine of the The Mystery of the Rapture of the Church

(1 Cor.15:51) “Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.”

Previously we examined (1 Cor.15:51-5) by five homiletic points. We also listed five Greek words used for the Rapture of the Church for home study.

**Today’s lesson will summarize the mystery doctrine of the Rapture of the Church
By the following six points.**

1. The date of the Rapture is a mystery within a mystery.

Jesus Christ will leave heaven at God’s command and return for His bride, the church. There are no foretelling signs for the Rapture. (1 Cor.1:22; 15:52).

(Matt.24:36) “But of the day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.”

2. Jesus Christ will be visible to only the Church Age Believers (CAB) who will be caught up to the Lord and the deceased Church Age Believers (CAB) with Him (1 Thess.4:16-17; 2 Thess.2:1; 2 Cor.5:6-8).

(Acts 1:11) “And they also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.’”

3. Two sounds will be associated with the Rapture that only believers will hear (1 Cor.15:52-54).

(1 Thess.4:16) “For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first.”

4. All living and deceased church age believers will receive their resurrection bodies at the Rapture (1 Cor.15:23; 42-45).

(1 Cor.15:51-52) “Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 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.”

5. All living church age believers will be part of the Rapture whether carnal or spiritual, whether immature or mature (Col.3:1-4; 1 Thess.2:17-20; 4:15-17; 1 John 2:25-29).

(1 Thess.4:17) “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.” (Acts 1:10-11)

6. The Crown of Righteousness will be awarded at the Judgment Seat of Christ to those church age believers who reach spiritual maturity and maintain it to Dying Grace or Rapture (Phil.1:6; 1 Cor.15:58).

(1 Thess.5:23) “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

(2 Tim.4:7-8) “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future 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.”

Review of seven Mystery doctrines

- Hypostatic Union of Jesus Christ (Col.2:1-10) [NOTES](#)
- The Church Age (Eph.1:9-14) [NOTES](#)
- Gentile Equality IN Christ (Eph.3:1-11) [NOTES](#)
- The Church, The Bride of Christ (Eph.5:32) [NOTES](#)
- Ambassadorship of church age believers (Eph.6:18-20) [NOTES](#)
- The Partial hardening of Israel (Rom.11:25-29) [NOTES](#)
- The Rapture of Church (1 Cor.15:51-57) [NOTES](#)