

## Seven Rapture Patterns

### Interpretive Lenses

The best scholars use many different lenses to interpret scripture which include allegorical, archeological, anthropological, cultural, feminist/homosexual, German Higher Critical, Grammatical, Hebrew idioms, Rabbinical sayings, rational, rhetorical, and theological. Another lens is the lens of **PaRDeS**, or four levels (Pashat, Remez, Drash, Sod).

A final lens is the lens I call the **ParTy lens**. This stands for **Parallels, Patterns, Pictures, and Types**. Biblical parallels, patterns, pictures, and types tell us who Yeshua is, what his ministry is, and what the future holds. The Rapture parallels, patterns, pictures and types tell us in great detail about this event.

### The First Rapture Pattern: Advance Notices, Witnesses, Horses, and a Bodily Rapture

#### *Who Knew, Who Saw, How Did He Go*

##### **Elijah**

Who Knew? ..... [2 Kings 2:3-5](#)

“Do you know that Yahweh is taking Eliyahu, your master, away from you today?” Twice, scripture tells us that the day of Elijah’s departure, or rapture, was known to the sons of the prophets. The prophets at Bethel knew. The prophets at Jericho knew. Elisha also knew. I call this advance notice!

Who Watched? ..... [2 Kings 2:7-12](#)

“Fifty of the guild prophets went and stood watching Eliyahu and Elisha from a distance. . . . Elisha saw Eliyahu depart and cried out, “My father! My father! Elijah’s ascension was witnessed by both Elisha and the prophets.

How did he go? ..... [2 Kings 2:11](#)

“There appeared a fiery chariot with horses of fire; and as it separated the two of them from each other, Eliyahu went up into heaven in a whirlwind.” Elijah is carried into the clouds with horses of fire.

##### **Yeshua**

Who Knew? ..... [Luke 9:30-31](#)

Both Moses and Eliyahu spoke to Yeshua about his ‘departure’ which he was to accomplish from Yerushalayim. Another instance of advance notice, perhaps.

Who Watched? ..... [Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9-11a](#)

Yeshua was carried up into heaven while the disciples were looking on, and a cloud received him out of their sight. This ascension was so fascinating to those watching that two “men” had to interrupt them and basically tell them to get on with their lives until Yeshua returned! And not to mention that the disciples were in the right spot at the right time to witness Yeshua being taken up, eh?” Yeshua’s rapture was witnessed by many.

How did he go? ..... [Acts 1:11b; Revelation 19:11](#)

“Yeshua will come in just the same way as you have watched him go into heaven.” “Before me was a white horse. Sitting on it is Yeshua who passes judgment and makes war in righteousness.” Yeshua comes back on a white horse. He is taken the same way according to the two “men” who spoke to the disciples!

##### **Enoch**

Who Knew? ..... [Enoch 81:5-6](#)

“One year you will have with your son, Methuselah, until you give your last commands, teach and testify them to your children . . . In the second year, you will be taken” Enoch was given one year to testify to Methuselah and his children before his rapture. He knew he would be raptured, and so did his family. Definitely another instance of advance notice, no doubt about it.

Who Watched? ..... [Enoch 81:5-6; Jasher 3:34](#)

“The seven holy ones will take you from their midst.” Enoch’s ascension was witnessed by his children as he was taken from their midst. Jasher 3:34 tells us that some of the king’s men remained with Enoch when he went to the place where he was to be raptured. Enoch’s rapture was also witnessed by many people.

How did he go?

Jasher 3:36-37

*“Enoch ascended into Heaven in a whirlwind with horses and chariots of fire.”* Jasher 3:27 tells us that the horse paced in the air, and, Enoch, like Yeshua and Elijah, is carried into the clouds with horses.

### **Conclusions on The Prophets Who Were Bodily Raptured**

In every case those who have been raptured In the Body have several things in common:

- The person being raptured knows he will be.
  - Enoch had a full year of advance notice (Enoch 81:5-6).
  - Elijah and two schools of prophets knew the day of his departure (2 Kings 2:3-5).
  - Moses and Elijah spoke to Yeshua about his departure prior to his going to Yerushalayim to be crucified (Luke 9:30-31).
- Other people are present who see them being raptured:
  - Enoch was in the presence of his children and the King’s men when he was raptured (Enoch 81:5-6 and Jasher 3:34).
  - Elijah was in the presence of Elisha and perhaps fifty or more of the sons of the prophets when he was raptured (2 Kings 2:7).
  - Yeshua was in the presence of the apostles, and perhaps others when he was raptured (Acts 1:10-11).
- Horses are always present and often Chariots of Fire.
  - Enoch was raptured into Heaven with both horses and chariots of fire (Jasher 3:36).
  - Elijah was also raptured into Heaven with both horses and chariots of fire (2 Kings 2:11).
  - Yeshua rose riding upon his white horse (Acts 1:10-11 and Revelation 19:11), but there is no mention of a chariot of fire.
- Whirlwinds are often present.
  - Both Enoch and Elijah went up to Heaven in a whirlwind. Scripture, however, gives no indication if a whirlwind was present at Yeshua’s rapture.
- Angels and Clouds are often present.
  - Enoch was accompanied by seven holy ones (Enoch 81:6) A cloud hid Yeshua from the witnesses (Acts 1:9). The Bride of Yeshua will hear the voice of the archangel and then meet Yeshua in the clouds (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

In other words, Enoch, Elijah, and Yeshua were all raptured to Heaven and into Yahweh’s presence in the body by horses, while others watched. Angels and clouds are also frequently present. I have heard that clouds can be translated as almost any flying object. That being said, do the horses simply take us to a spaceship? Will angels accompany the horses which take us into a craft which then transports us to heaven? This could be a distinct possibility.

### **The Second and Third Rapture Patterns: The Exodus And Thessalonian Midrash Patterns At Mount Sinai With Moses: The Journey Begins**

**Exodus 3:7-8** – *“Then Yahweh said, ‘I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey’.”*

**Exodus 33:1** – *“Yahweh said to Moshe, ‘Leave, you and the people you brought up from the land of Egypt; and move on from here toward the promised land’ [i.e. Israel].”*

**Ezekiel 37:12-13** – *“Therefore prophesy; say to them that Adonai Elohaim says, ‘My people! I will open your graves and make you get up out of your graves, and I will bring you into the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am Yahweh — when I have opened your graves and made you get up out of your graves, my people!’”*

The Hebrew slaves were in Egypt, if you will, in the [graves](#) of Egypt:

- They received 14 days notice about their redemption, if you will, their “[resurrection](#)”.
- They were witnessed as they departed.
- And, in turn, witnessed to the Egyptians that their God, Yahweh, was greater than any other God.
- It took them several weeks to get to Mt. Sinai.

### **The resurrection of the Hebrew Slaves was not an instantaneous event.**

The Hebrew slaves resurrection from their Egyptian “graves” did not result in an instantaneous disappearance – it took time for them to walk away in full view of the Egyptians. It took more time to arrive at Mt. Sinai.

Upon arriving at Mt. Sinai:

- They received three days notice that Yahweh was to descend.
- Yahweh descends and Moses is called up.
- They witness Moses' ascension, if you will, his "rapture" into the cloud.

**Moses rapture was not an instantaneous disappearance, either – it took time for him to ascend while the people watched.**

### At Jerusalem With Yeshua: Paul's Midrash on the Exodus

**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17** – *"Yeshua himself will descend from Heaven, with a loud shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the shofar call of Yahweh. The dead in Yeshua will rise first, then we who are still alive will be caught up in the clouds to meet Yeshua in the air."*

Yeshua comes in a cloud, the shofar sounds, the bride goes up! The unbelieving watch from below as the bride is carried up by the very same horses that they will be riding when they return.

Rabbi Paul takes the same approach to the Exodus account as Rabbi Peter takes to the Joel 2:28 prophecy:

- Peter applies Joel 2 to the giving of the Spirit at Shavuot (**Acts 2:17-21**).
- Paul applies the pattern of the exodus of the Hebrews slaves out of the graves of Egypt, their trip to Mt. Sinai, and the subsequent ascent of Moses to meet with Yahweh on the mountain to the future rapture (**1 Thessalonians 4:16-18**).

**Both Peter and Paul employ a very typical rabbinical approach to scripture in applying Older Covenant passages to current or future events. Rabbi John does the same thing throughout the Book of Revelation. This teaching style is called a Midrash.**

### The Parallels

#### In Exodus:

- The "dead" Hebrew slaves in the graves of Egypt were resurrected.
- The "resurrected" Hebrew slaves are a witness of Yahweh's power over death to the Egyptians.
- They are gathered together, taken to Mount Sinai, consecrated, and become a people holy to Yahweh.
- Yahweh (Ēlôhîym / God) comes down from Heaven in a cloud and his voice is heard, sounding like thunder.
- Moses then ascends into the clouds.

#### In Thessalonians:

- The dead in Yeshua resurrected and are consecrated (made incorruptible) at the moment of resurrection.
- Yeshua (Ēlôhîym / God) comes down from Heaven in a cloud with a loud shout, sounding like thunder.
- The shofar (or trumpet), also known as the voice of Yahweh, sounds a long blast.
- The newly resurrected people rise up into the clouds.
- Then those who were already alive people rise up into the clouds to meet them.

#### CHART: A Closer Look At The Rapture In Exodus 19 And The Coming Of Yeshua

##### Passages In Exodus

19:5 – Israel shall be a peculiar treasure  
19:6 – Israel is a kingdom of priests  
19:7 – The Elders are called before Yahweh  
19:9 & 16 – God came down in a thick cloud  
19:10 – The people were to sanctify their garments  
19:11 – Yahweh came down on third day  
19:16 – Yahweh came with lightning  
19:18 – Yahweh descended on the mount  
19:18 – Yahweh descended in fire  
19:19 – A trumpet waxed long and loud  
19:19 – Yahweh answers Moses in a loud voice  
19:20 – Yahweh descends from heaven  
19:20 – Yahweh calls Moses to come up

##### Newer And Older Covenant Parallels

1 Peter 2:9 – The Church is called a peculiar people  
Revelation 1:6, 5:10 – The Church of kings and priests  
Revelation 4:10 – The 24 Elders are in heaven  
Acts 1:9-11, Rev 1:7 – Yeshua will return in a cloud  
Revelation 16:15 – The people are given clean garments  
Hosea 6:1-2 – The Church will be raised on the 3rd day  
Matthew 24:27 – Yeshua's coming is as lightning  
1 Thessalonians. 4:16 – Yeshua will descend from Heaven  
2 Thessalonians. 1:7-10 – Yeshua returns in fire  
1 Thessalonians. 4:16 – Yeshua descends with trumpet of God  
1 Thessalonians. 4:16 – Yeshua shouts, voice of archangel  
1 Thessalonians. 4:17 – Yeshua descends from heaven  
1 Thessalonians. 4:17 – The believers are caught up

## The Fourth Rapture Pattern: The Jewish Wedding Pattern

**John 14:1-3** – *“Yeshua said, ‘Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in Yahweh, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house; I would not tell you this if it were not true. I am going there to prepare a place for you. After I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me so that you may be where I am’.”*

You have heard it said that the Rapture is a sign-less event. You have heard it said that it can happen at any moment, without notice. You have heard it said that no one knows the day or hour. But this is not what the Jewish Wedding Ceremony pattern shows. Yeshua gives his bride many clues as to the time frame when her Rapture will happen. Famines, pestilences, earthquakes in diverse places, wars, ethnic tensions, and the budding of the fig tree, just to name a few.

### Putting It All In Context

The wedding ceremony is the best guideline to the timing of the Rapture. The bride is chosen, the bride-price is paid, and the bridegroom heads back to his father’s house to build a new home for himself and his bride.

### Building a House is a Very Planned Out Event

- The location is measured
- The building supplies begin to arrive.
- The walls go up.
- The roof is put on.
- The windows and doors are installed.
- The furniture is built and placed inside.

Finally, the father gives his approval, saying that the building is complete, and then gives his son permission to go get his bride. The son then puts the actual wedding party in high gear:

- ✓ The Chuppah is erected
- ✓ The transportation for the bride is arranged
- ✓ Most importantly, the food is prepared for the week-long celebration

### The Process Begins

**1.** The foundation of the new addition has been laid, and ready for the walls to be placed upon it. Next-Door Neighbor Nancy, who lives just across the street, has both eyes glued to the building of the new addition to the Father’s house. At the laying of the foundation, Nancy heads to the watering well to inform her friends that the building of the groom’s addition to the Father’s house is now under way.

**2.** The walls are raised. Nancy now heads to the watering well to inform her friends that the walls are going up. Her friends, upon returning home, tell their husbands and families the news. *For most of the townsfolk, the day of the wedding is still too far away to get overly excited.*

**3.** The roof and guard rail are built. (**Deuteronomy 22:8** – *“When you build a new house, you must build a low wall around your roof; otherwise someone may fall from it, and you will be responsible for his death.”*) Nancy again heads to the watering well to inform her friends that the walls are in place and the roof has been installed, along with the mandatory guard rails. Her friends, upon returning home, tell their husbands and families the news. *The townsfolk take it all in stride. Still no need to get excited just yet.*

**4.** The windows and door are hung. Nancy sets off to the watering well to inform her friends that windows and doors are now there. Her friends, upon returning home, tell their husbands and families the news. *The townsfolk are starting to get excited as they see the signs of an forthcoming wedding. Time to buy gifts and clean the wedding outfits.*

**5.** The Furniture is built or delivered. Nancy hastens to the watering well to inform her friends that the furniture has now arrived. Her friends, upon returning home, tell their husbands and families the news. The townsfolk are now really excited and their husbands start to query the groom: *“When are you going to get your bride?”* He answers: *“Don’t ask me, don’t ask mom or my siblings; ya’all will have to ask pops - only he knows the day and hour!”* *Folks now know the wedding day is near.*

**6.** The Chuppah is erected and transportation for the Bride is arraigned. Nancy runs to the watering well to inform her friends that the Chuppah has been erected, and the horses providing the Bride’s transportation has been arranged. Her

friends rush home to tell their husbands and families the news. They now know time is short. **The Wedding is imminent. Time to prepare to hear the shofar blow!**

7. The food is prepared and set out. When the townsfolk saw the food arrive, they knew without any shadow of doubt that the Father had given the Groom permission to go get his bride, and that the Wedding would begin either that night or the following night. And the announcement, thanks to the next-door neighbor, went out. Nancy races as fast as she can to the watering well to inform her friends that the food has arrived. Did you hear? The food has arrived!!! Her friends rush home to tell their husbands and families the news. Panic has fully set in. ***The Wedding is ON. Stay alert, get ready, because the groom is ready, near, at the door!***

### **The Day and Hour is at Hand**

At the time of Yeshua, refrigeration did not exist. Food, especially up until just recently, spoiled quickly. So, when the neighbors and the bride's family saw the food being prepared and ready to be served, they **KNEW** the wedding was now in motion. The bridegroom's neighbors and bride's family are now very, very alert.

The rest of the village's residents still take little or no notice of these activities. They are the "they/them" who are totally surprised when the bridegroom's friends go to the bride's house, singing, blowing shofars, shouting, and carrying the bride back to the bridegroom's house. Are you awake, are you paying attention, or are you still asleep?

### **The Rapture of the Bride**

A Jewish Wedding Ceremony is full of significant rituals and is a perfect prophetic parallel of the coming of Yeshua to take his church to be his Bride, a dress rehearsal for The Rapture. As the addition to the Father's home is being built, the townsfolk are paying attention to the many signs of how close the day of the Wedding approaches. That day was not a totally unknown event. Each new process completed gave a sign as to how much longer it would be. Every so often, one of the groom's buddies would ask him about the actual day.

When the disciples asked Yeshua about his day of return to take them to be with him, he answered and told them to be alert to the signs, and with a wink and a smile, said: "*Concerning that day and hour no one knows - neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son - only the Father*" (**Mark 13:32**). Yeshua simply quoted the well known Hebrew idiom that all grooms would quote when asked about their Wedding Day. In other words, Yeshua wasn't telling them that the day was impossible to figure out, but that it could be accurately determined within just a day or two by being alert!

**Mark 13:37** – "***And what I say to you, I say to everyone: Be alert!***"

At the time of Yeshua, refrigeration did not exist. So, when the townsfolk saw the food arrive, they knew without any shadow of doubt that the Father had given the Groom permission to go get his bride, and that the Wedding would begin either that night or the following night. And the announcement, thanks to the next-door neighbor, went out: "The Wedding is ON. Stay alert, get ready, because the groom is ready, near, at the door!"

### **Conclusions on the Jewish Wedding Ceremony**

The Jewish Wedding Ceremony is, indeed a dress rehearsal for The Rapture. Yeshua came down from Heaven, gave his life as a ransom for his bride and offered her eternal life. He returned to heaven to prepare a place for his bride and will return to take her home.

During the process of building the home, the next-door neighbors are watching every step. When the food arrives, they rush to tell everyone: The Wedding is ON – the groom is going to bring his bride home either tonight or tomorrow!

The Jewish Wedding Pattern clearly shows that the rapture cannot happen at any ol' time. The house must be fully built, furniture installed, and the food must be ordered and delivered before the groom goes to get his bride.

### **Final Wedding Pattern Thoughts**

**Amos 3:7** – "***Yahweh, does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.***"

You have heard it said that the Rapture is a sign-less event. You have heard it said that it can happen at any moment, without notice. You have heard it said that no one knows the day or hour. I say scripture may say differently.

**Matthew 24:33** – "***When you see all these things, you are to know that the time is near, right at the door.***"



**Mark 13:8** – “Nations will fight each other, there will be earthquakes in various places, there will be famines; this is but the beginning of the ‘birth pains’.”

True, it was not for Yeshua’s disciples to know the date, but what about his future bride? Yeshua gives his bride many clues as to the time frame when her Rapture will happen. Famines, pestilences, earthquakes in diverse places, wars, ethnic tensions, and the budding of the fig tree, just to name a few.

**Matthew 24:32; Mark 13:28** – “Now let the fig tree teach you its lesson: when its branches begin to sprout and leaves appear, you know that summer is approaching.”

Israel is back as a nation. The alliances of nations are virtually all in place. The Temple instruments are ready, the priests are being trained, and the Temple is ready to be built. The tenth red heifer may have been found.

To say that the Rapture is a sign-less event may not be entirely accurate. The signs are burgeoning and quite evident for those who are alert and watching. The wedding day is at hand, very near.

The Rapture is not a sign-less event.

Yeshua has given advance notice of the many things that will precede the taking of the bride – famines, wars, etc. These are equivalent to the walls, roof, furniture, etc. of the house building.

The great day of Yahweh is getting really near, even at the door. It hastens forth and will not delay. We do NOT set dates, but clearly Yahweh is getting ready to change the course of human history once again.

The signs are clear for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear. The bridegroom’s and bride’s families are alert and watching all of these activities. They are prepared.

**Are you awake, are you paying attention, or are you still asleep?**

## **The Fifth and Sixth Rapture Patterns: The Resurrection Pattern**

You have heard it said that the rapture is an instantaneous event that happens at the same time as the resurrection of the dead. But I say scripture presents an entirely different scenario. For instance:

### ***Pattern Five: The Many Resurrections From The Dead***

**The son of the Shunammite woman, also known as the widow from Zarephath in Sidon**

**1 Kings 17: 22** – “The child’s soul came back into him, and he revived.”

**Luke 4:26** – “Elijah was sent to none of them but only to a widow of Zarephath, a city of Sidon.”

The full narrative can be found in: **1 Kings 17:21-22**, and **2 Kings 4:31-35**

**The dead man placed into the tomb of Elisha**

**2 Kings 13:21** – “When the body touched Elisha’s bones, the dead man came to life and stood on his feet.”

The full narrative can be found in: **2 Kings 13:20-21**

**The prophet Jonah**

**Jonah 2:6** – “Yahweh brought me up alive from the pit.”

The full narrative can be found in: **Jonah 2:1-10**

**The daughter who is only “asleep”, also known as the daughter of Jairus**

**Luke 8:54-55** – “But he took her by the hand, called out, ‘*Little girl, get up!*’ and her spirit returned.”

The full narrative can be found in: **Matthew 9:23-25 ; Mark 5:22, 5:35-42; and Luke 8:41, 8:52-55**

**The only son of a widow from the town of Nain**

**Luke 7:14-15** – “Yeshua said, ‘*Young man, I say to you: get up!*’ The dead man sat up and began to speak.”

The full narrative can be found in: **Luke 7:11-15**

**Lazarus**

**John 11:43-44** – “Having said this, Yeshua shouted, ‘*Lazarus, come out!*’ The man who had been dead came out.”

The full narrative can be found in: **John 11:11-44**

### Dorcas/Tabitha

**Acts 9:40** – “Peter said, ‘Tavita! Get up!’ She opened her eyes; and on seeing Peter, sat up.”

The full narrative can be found in: **Acts 9:37-42**

### Eutychus

**Acts 20:10** – “Paul said, ‘Do not be distressed, for he is still alive!’”

The full narrative can be found in: **Acts 20:9-10**

### And possibly, the Apostle Paul

**Acts 14:19** – “They presumed Paul to be dead . . . but he got up and went back into the city.”

The full narrative can be found in: **Acts 14:19-20**

### *Wait: None of Them Just Disappeared or Got Glorified Bodies!*

The above statement is absolutely true: **Not one** of these nine resurrected people instantly disappeared when they came back to life. Just the opposite. **ALL** were seen alive by many after their resurrection. The above statement is also absolutely true: **Not one** of these nine resurrected people mentioned above received a glorified, incorruptible, immortal body. Most, we assume, later died and were buried, as is the case of Paul.

### *Pattern Six: Three More Resurrections From The Dead*

#### The Holy Ones

**Matthew 27:50-53** – “The graves were opened, and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life; and after Yeshua rose, they came out of the graves and went into the holy city, where many people saw them.”

Those who were already in the grave were resurrected at the moment Yeshua died and later were seen by many as they witnessed in the city of Jerusalem.

#### Yeshua

**Matthew 28:7** – “He has been raised from the dead, and now he is going to Galilee ahead of you.”

**Mark 16:9** – “When Yeshua rose early on Sunday, he appeared first to Miryam of Magdala.”

**John 20:17** – “*Stop holding onto me,*” Yeshua said to her, “*because I have not yet ascended to the Father.*”

When Yeshua rose early on Sunday, he appeared first to Miriam of Magdala and commanded her not to cling to him as he had “*not yet ascended to his Father*”, saying he would meet them in Galilee.

#### The Two Witnesses of Revelation

**Revelation 11:11-12** – “But after the three-and-a-half days a breath of life from God entered them, they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. Then the two heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, ‘Come up here!’ And they went up into heaven in a cloud, while their enemies watched them.”

The two witnesses are resurrected, stand on their feet, were called to come up, finally were raptured.

### *Wait: None of These People Disappeared Either!*

Neither the Holy Ones nor Yeshua, nor the Two Witnesses instantly disappeared after their resurrection. Just the opposite. **ALL** were seen alive by many after their resurrection.

### *Coinkydink, I think not*

Scripture gives us twelve examples of those who have died (or been presumed dead) who were resurrected. Interesting number, 12!

### **The Seventh Rapture Pattern: The Moedim of Yahweh**

**Ecclesiastes 1:9** – “What has been is what will be, what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.”

You have heard it said, history repeats itself, and that is true to some extent. Previous happenings in history tend to happen again and again, but not in exactly the same way. The same holds true for scriptural events. Each event in scripture, prior to its final fulfillment, may repeat more than once, but is only a shadow of the real event prophesied.

#### Shadows

**Numbers 21:9** – “Moshe made a bronze serpent and put it on the pole; if a snake had bitten someone, then, when he looked toward the bronze serpent, he stayed alive.”

The bronze serpent, for instance, was a shadow of Yeshua being hung on the cross. **John 3:14** affirms that the serpent is merely a shadow: *“Just as Moshe lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up.”* The reign of Antiochus Epiphanes (**Daniel 11:31**) is merely a shadow of the real event, the reign of the future antichrist (**Matthew 24:15, Mark 13:14**). There are many more examples of shadows throughout the scriptures.

### Only Once

**Colossians 2:17** – *“These are a shadow of the things to come.”*

**Hebrews 10:1** – *“The Torah has in it a shadow of the good things to come.”*

There are many events which only happen once, even though they are also a shadow of future events. Eleazar only went to Paddan-Aram once to get a wife for Isaac (**Genesis 24:4**), a shadow of Yeshua coming to get his bride. Lot was only taken out of Sodom once (**Genesis 19:15**), a shadow of the rapture. The Hebrew slaves were only taken out of Egypt once (**Jude 1:5**) and Lazarus was only resurrected once (**John 11:43**). Each event is a shadow of either the future one-time only event of the Resurrection of the dead in Yeshua or the Rapture of the Bride.

### The Moedim

**1 Peter 3:18** – *“Yeshua himself died for sins, once and for all . . . He was put to death in the flesh but brought to life by the Spirit.”*

The moedim are one-time events that do not repeat. True, they are rehearsed many times before the real event, but those dress rehearsals are mere shadows. For instance, the actual Pesach (Passover), Yeshua’s crucifixion, only happened once. The same holds true for Chag Ha’Matzot (Unleavened Bread) and Reishit Katzir (Firstfruits) – Yeshua was only buried once, and was resurrected only once (**1 Peter 3:18**). But what about Shavuot (Pentecost)? Peter states very clearly that the giving of the Ruach Ha’Kodesh (Holy Spirit) fulfilled Joel 2:28-32 (**Acts 2:16-21**). Again, this only happened once, and today are celebrated as memorials to what Yahweh has already accomplished.

What, then, can we say about Yom Teruah (Trumpets), Yom Kippurim (Atonements), and Sukkoth (Booths)? Will they, too, be one-time events? Indeed they will. There will only be one resurrection of the dead in Yeshua and rapture of the Bride, fulfilling the Yom Teruah moed. Likewise, there will only be one seven year Tribulation Period, and only one millennial reign of Yeshua, fulfilling the Yom Kippurim and Sukkoth moedim.

### Conclusions on the Moedim

**Leviticus 23:2** – *“The moedim of Yahweh, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my set feasts.”*

The moedim are one-time events that do not repeat. Yeshua was crucified, was buried, and was resurrected only once, fulfilling the Pesach, Chag Ha’Matzot, and Reishit Katzir moedim. The giving of the Ruach Ha’Kodesh, allowing the apostles to speak in other languages, only happened once and fulfilled the Shavuot moed. Each of these moedim only happened once in history, and will not be repeated.

**Daniel 12:1** – *“When that time comes, there will be a time of distress unparalleled between the time they became a nation and that moment.”*

**Joel 2:2** – *“There has never been anything like it, nor will there ever be again.”*

**Matthew 24:21** – *“There will be nothing like it again!”*

The resurrection of the dead in Yeshua and subsequent rapture of the Bride will fulfill the Yom Teruah moed. The Tribulation Period and Millennial Reign of Yeshua will fulfill Yom Kippurim and Sukkoth. These, too, will only happen once and will not be repeated again (**Daniel 12:1; Joel 2:2; Matthew 24:21**).

### Final Thoughts

In not one of the many resurrection narratives does scripture indicate that a person’s resurrection resulted in an instantaneous rapture, even for those who have received an immortal, glorified body! In summary:

1. Not once does scripture give an account of an instantaneous rapture after a resurrection.
2. Even without a prior resurrection, every bodily rapture in scripture has three common components:
  - Advance notice is given to the person to be raptured;
  - Witnesses see the rapture as it takes place;
  - Horses are involved in the mode of transportation.
  - Angels and Clouds may also be present.



The instant rapture paradigm, which has been espoused for way too long, simply:

- ❖ does not conform to the three-fold bodily Rapture Pattern of Advance Notice, Witnesses, and Horses
- ❖ does not conform to the Exodus Pattern
- ❖ does not conform to the Thessalonians Midrash Pattern
  - (which in itself is a Rabbinical Midrash on the Exodus -- many miss this point, too)
- ❖ does not conform to the Jewish Wedding Pattern
- ❖ does not conform to the Many Person Resurrection Pattern
- ❖ does not conform to the Three Resurrection Pattern
- ❖ and certainly does not conform to the Moedim Pattern.

The instant rapture paradigm, including “the resurrection is the rapture” statement, is a narrative which may need to be reevaluated in light of the many patterns revealed in the scriptures that show a progression of well witnessed events over time. Perhaps it is time to reconsider our rapture teachings and include the patterns described above, which may be even more exciting than simply disappearing into nothingness! Think of it: horses, chariots, angels, clouds, and thousands upon thousands of witnesses. What a blessed hope and joy; what a glorious celebration! **What do you say?**