

The Rapture

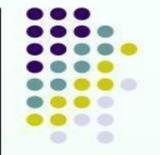
The Rapture Concealed

The Rapture Revealed





Proverbs 25:2



"It is the glory of God to conceal a matter and the glory of kings to investigate a matter."

The Lenses Used to Interpret Scripture:

Hermeneutics, PaRDeS, and ParTy

Parallels, Patterns, Pictures, and Types

The Rapture Pattern in the Weddings:

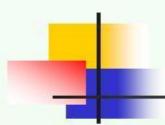
At Mount Sinai with Moses At Jerusalem with Yeshua

The Three Prophets:

Elijah, Yeshua, and Enoch



It Really is a Wedding . . .



Wedding imagery is very prominent in Scripture. From Mount Sinai, to a Jewish Wedding Ceremony, All four elements can be seen.

- A typical wedding ceremony has four essentials:
 - Mikveh, Ketubah, Chuppah, Ôth
- The gathering at Mount Sinai is a wedding ceremony between Yahweh and his chosen people, the Hebrew slaves now called Jews
 - The gathering at Mount Sinai incorporates all four essentials
- At a Jewish Wedding the groom carries his bride home to his father's house only when the father allows him to do so
- The Bride and Groom are concealed for seven days, then exit for the wedding dinner
 - A Jewish Wedding Ceremony also incorporates all four essentials
- Both events are pictures or patterns of the rapture!

The Three Prophets



"They were all filled with awe and gave glory to God, saying, 'A great prophet has appeared among us'."

Who Got Advance Notice?

Elijah, Yeshua, Enoch

2 Kings 2:3-5

Luke 9:30-31

Enoch 81:5-6

Who Got Watched?

Elijah, Yeshua, Enoch

2 Kings 2:7-12

Luke 24:51 Acts 1:9-11a Enoch 81:5-6 Jasher 3:34

How Did They Get Taken Up?

Elijah, Yeshua, Enoch

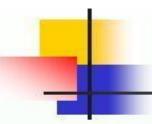
2 Kings 2:11

Acts 1:11b Rev 19:11

Jasher 3:36-37

Review

Advance Notice?



Will it be a hundred year notice? Will it be a week's notice? Will it be a three day notice? Will it be just a few hours or minutes? Scripture doesn't give us a definite answer to this question.

People

- Eliyahu
- Yeshua
- Enoch
- Methuselah
- Noah
- Lot
- The Bride of Yeshua

Events

- Weddings
- Three Days
- Birth Pangs
- The Moedim

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

It's All Greek To Me . . .



- Acts 27:15 "The ship was caught up and unable to face the wind so we gave way to it and were driven along."
- 1 Thessalonians 4:17 "We who are left still alive will be caught up with them in the clouds to meet Yeshua in the air; and thus we will always be with him."
- 2 Corinthians 12:2 "I know a man in Mashiach who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, Yahweh knows."

The word translated caught up in Greek is: harpazō (ἀρπάζω)

Classical Meaning: to seize, carry off by force, to snatch out or away.

If we compare the Newer Covenant word harpazo with the Older Covenant Hebrew word laqach [H3947 לְּקְהַן] we find that laqach also means: to take, seize, send for, fetch, carry away.

The harpazo, the snatching away, the catching up, the seizing, or whichever verb one uses, will not be something that human beings accomplish.

When Yeshua shouts, he will be expecting us to comply and be taken up, not asking if we would mind coming up once we've gotten showered and dressed in our finest linens!

It's All Greek To Me . . .



Genesis 22:2-4 – "Yahweh said to Abraham, Will you please take your son..."

Revelation 3:20 – "Here, I'm standing at the door, knocking. If someone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him."

There another definition of harpazo that may better fit the compassionate Yeshua who asks the willing to gather?

Indeed there is and that definition is:

To eagerly gather together those who are loved

And it is this definition that best fits the Rapture pattern. Yeshua comes to gather us together in love, not to brutally force us to head up to the clouds. Yahweh and Yeshua both honor their commitment to giving each individual free choice – to obey or not.

Will you freely go when called to come up, or refuse?

Review

Yahweh Gives Advance Notice

Three Days Advance Notice

At Mount Sinai, according to Exodus, the people are commanded to cleanse themselves and prepare for the coming of Yahweh. According to Joshua, prior to the people being brought into the promised land, (a picture of The Rapture when the Bride of Yeshua is taken in their promised land, Heaven), the people must first prepare for three days. These three day warnings definitely sound like 'Advance Notice'.

The Apostle Paul's Indication of Advance Notice

Paul, after discussing the resurrection of the dead and subsequent rapture of the living states very clearly: "You, brothers, are not in the dark, so that the Day should take you by surprise . . ." This also definitely sounds like 'Advance Notice' will be given. The Bride has had two thousand years advance notice that Yeshua will return.

Yahweh's Promise of Advance Notice

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



The Wedding Procedure

In a Jewish marriage, the husband-to-be (groom) would consult with his father regarding the woman he wished to take as a bride. If the father agreed to the groom's plan, then the groom would leave his father's home and travel to his betrothed's (bride) home and speak with the betrothed's father.

Yeshua left His heavenly home, where his father dwells, and traveled to the Earth, the home of his betrothed, the Church, also called the *Bride of Christ*.

Once the groom reached the bride's home, he would establish and pay the purchase price for the bride, guaranteeing that he was serious about the marriage.

Yeshua paid the ultimate price by being crucified and shedding his blood.

The groom would compose and verify a written marriage contract, the Ketubah, with the bride's father, then offer the cup of covenant to his prospective bride, thereby pledging his life to and for his bride. If the bride accepted this promise, she would then drink of the cup confirming that she, too, would pledge her life to and for her betrothed.

Yeshua offers us the cup at every communion – you either accept his offer or reject it.



The Wedding Procedure

Once the proposal had been given and accepted, the groom would say to his bride, "I go to prepare a place for you" then go back to his father's home. He would build an addition for himself and his bride and wait for his father's approval. The new addition had to be exceptional, stocked with all the newlyweds would need for their seven days of honeymoon.

It was customary for the groom to be gone for a long time and for the bride to wait in anticipation of his return. At the end of the separation, the groom would show up unannounced to take his bride home, but only after his father had given him permission to do so.

Yeshua has returned to Heaven and promises to return for His Bride. Yeshua will show up when the time is ripe, at the appointed time, at that day and time that the Father in Heaven has chosen.

Yeshua has returned to the Father in Heaven to prepare a home for his bride!

Review

Yahweh Gives Advance Notice

Three Days Images

Exodus 19:11 – Cleanse and prepare for on the third day Yahweh will come down.

Joshua 3:11-16 — Be cleansed and prepared for on the third day the water of the Jordan River coming downstream piled up far upstream at Adam (the city near Zarethan).

Hosea 6:2 – After two days, he will revive us; on the third day, he will raise us up; and we will live in his presence.

Esther 5:1 – On the third day, Ester put on her royal robes and stood in the inner courtyard of the king's palace, opposite the king's hall.

Yahweh's Promise of Advance Notice

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

Pattern of the Moedim

The moedim are one-time events that do not repeat.

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

- 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.

That have of the Rapture do you have?

Is This the Image You Have of the Rapture? We just float up into heaven? And no one even notices . . .



Or . . . Is This the Image You Have of the Rapture?

We ascend into heaven while many watch . . .

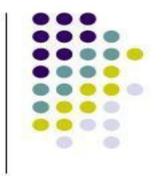


Perhaps this image of the Rapture is more accurate! We are carried into Heaven by white horses - while many watch . . .

The Real Rapture Image According to the Prophet's Bodily Rapture Patterns



A Party Like No Other



The patterns have been established by two or more witnesses.

Celebrations in Heaven are noisy, joyous, heart warming, glorious occasions. Heaven celebrates every single time a sinner repents. Heaven celebrated with a triumphal parade when Yeshua won the victory over sin, hell, the devil, and death.

Yeshua's victory over Satan was fully, openly, and loudly celebrated in Heaven. This was no quiet, private celebration between Yahweh, Yeshua, and the Ruach Ha'Kodesh. All of Heaven was involved, giving praise for his victory.

Just imagine how great the parade and celebration will be when Yeshua raptures his entire Bride and brings them home to his Father's house in Heaven!! This gathering is accompanied by Yeshua shouting, an Archangel speaking in a loud voice, and the shofar (voice) of Yahweh. A quiet affair – not likely!

Titus 2:13 calls it the blessed hope.

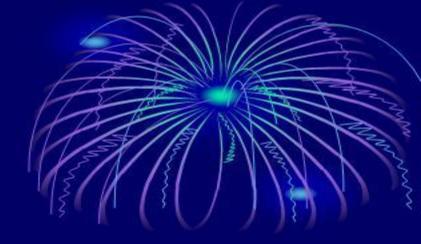
1 Peter 1:3 calls it the *living hope* and verses 1:6-7 calls it a wonderful joy.

Undoubtedly a very glorious, noisy, joyful, heart warming, stupendous affair!





In A Twinkling or In A Time



In A Twinkling

1st Corinthians 15:52-53:

"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 will be changed.

For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality."

In A Time

2 Kings 2:11

"As they were walking and talking, a chariot and horses of fire appeared and separated Elijah from Elisha. Then Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw it and shouted.

Elisha saw it and shouted, "My father! My father!" I see the chariots and charioteers of Israel!" And as they disappeared from sight, Elisha tore his clothes in distress."

The Resurrection Is Not The Rapture

1 Corinthians Is Not About The (Pre-Tribulation) Rapture

The words used in the Newer Covenant describing a seizing, snatching, or carrying away are:

- G726 ἀρπάζω harpazo to seize, carry off by force, to snatch, to claim for one's self eagerly
- G305 ἀναβαίνω anabaino to ascend, to go up, to rise, mount, be borne up, spring up
- G359 ἀνάλυσις analusis a dissolving (into separate parts), a departure (as a ship from its moorings)
- G867 ἄφιξις aphixis (properly) arrival, (by implication) departure
- G1841 ἔξοδος exodos to exit, depart (from life), one's final fate, to become deceased
- G4872 συναναβαίνω sunanabaino to ascend at the same time, come up together to a higher place

The words used in the describing a disappearing, becoming invisible, or vanishing:

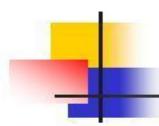
- G853 ἀφανίζω aphanizo to snatch out of sight, put out of view, make unseen, cause to vanish away
- G854 ἀφανισμός aphanismos to disappear, to vanish
- G855 ἄφαντος aphantos taken out of sight, to become invisible, vanished
- Not one single word used to describe a Rapture [seizing, snatching, carrying away, disappearing, becoming invisible, or vanishing] can be found in the *entire chapter* of 1 Corinthians 15.

The words used for rise, arise, be resurrected are:

- G1453 ἐγείρω egeiro to recall the dead to life, to cause to appear, bring before the public (1 Corinthians 15:52).
- G450 ἀνίστημι anistemi to raise up from the dead, to raise up, to cause to appear, bring forward (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17)
- According to the Greek words for rise, arise, or resurrect all indicate a return to life and public witnessing! Just like Yeshua and the Holy Ones

(Matthew 28:7, Mark 16:9, John 20:17, etc.) (Matthew 27:50-53)

Zombies and a Pregnant Pause



Matthew 27:52 – "The graves were opened, and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life."

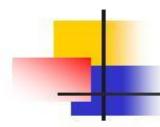
- A Pregnant Pause? Most interesting are the holy ones who were raised to life at Yeshua's death. (Matthew 27:52-53)
 - No doubt about it, while in Yerushalayim, they witnessed to the many who saw them. Scripture does not clearly indicate how long they remained alive.
 - These holy ones were living breathing human beings, not zombies!
- When Yeshua was carried up, he took captivity captive (Ephesians 4:8)

The "gone in an instant" image makes for great reading, for simply good fiction. This image, I believe, is *not* supported by scripture.

The Rapture patterns clearly show that it will be a visible event, that it will take a moment or two in time from beginning to end, and that it will be clearly watched as it transpires.

It is only the change from mortal to immortal that scripture describes as instantaneous in nature, followed by The Rapture which could either be simultaneous or even at a later time.

Leading Captivity Captive



Psalm 68:18 – "After you went up into the heights, you led captivity captive . . ."

The Results

Ephesians 4:8 – "When he ascended on high, He led captivity captive."

2 Corinthians 2:14 – "But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph . . ."

Colossians 2:15– "Having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."

The word thriambeuo is used to describe victory in Christ. In Colossians 2:15 it is Ha'Satan and his demons that are marched in front of the heavenly hosts.

The above two passages say that those who trust Yeshua for salvation are the captives who he proudly displays as being his conquered possessions.

- Those who trust in Yeshua as their Lord are marched in front of all the angels in His triumphal parade.
- Those who trust in Yeshua are the spoils of war that are put on display, but who are in triumph, not in defeat.
- The captives have been brought to a better, more wonderful captivity.

