

Raptures and Resurrections 2025 - Essay

The ParTy Lens -- Four Levels of Meaning (ParTy)

A fourth lens – my favorite-- is the lens of **ParTy**. This stands for **Parallels, Patterns, Pictures, and Types**. This lens brings scripture to life, and allows every verse or chapter multiple applications.

Parallels, Patterns, Pictures, and Types.

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

Ecclesiastes 3:15 – “*Whatever is has already been, and what will be has been before; and God will call the past to account.*”

Biblical parallels, patterns, pictures, and types tell us who Yeshua is, what his ministry is, and what the future holds. Historical and secular parallels and patterns also help us understand the direction history and nations are headed. These parallels become very important when we try to determine if scripture and prophecy have anything to say to us today, especially since scripture informs us that patterns are cyclical.

I am about to rattle some cages, upset some carts, and ruffle some feathers, so fasten your seatbelts.

No doubt you have heard it said that “*the rapture is an instantaneous event that happens at the same time as the resurrection of the dead*” and that “*there are no signs that precede the rapture – the rapture is a sign-less event.*” But I say the Biblical scriptures present an entirely different scenario. Those who say there are no signs are greatly mistaken. Yeshua gave us numerous signs to look for: many coming in his name, famines, pestilences, wars and rumors of wars, signs in the heavens, and great earthquakes in various places, just to name a few signs. At the very least, the **dead** in Yeshua must **rise first**.

Witnessed Resurrections

The Ten Resurrections From The Dead

(Wait: None of Them Just Disappeared!)

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:

The son of 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**

The son of the wealthy Shunammite woman from Shunem

2 Kings 4:35 – “*The child sneezed seven times, and opened his eyes.*”

The full narrative can be found in: **2 Kings 4:18-35**

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 from Gath-Hepher, the son of Amittai

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 from Bethany, the brother of Martha and Mary

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**

Tabitha from Joppa, also known as Dorcas

Acts 9:40 – “Peter said, ‘Tabitha! Get up!’ She opened her eyes; and on seeing Peter, sat up.”
The full narrative can be found in: **Acts 9:36-42**

Eutychus from Troas, who fell from the third story to the ground

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, presumed to be dead

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 The Ten People Disappeared!

Not one of the ten resurrected people mentioned above just instantly disappeared when they came back to life.
Just the opposite. ALL were seen alive by many after their resurrection.

But, But, But: None of Them Got Glorified Bodies

The above statement is absolutely true: **Not one** of the ten resurrected people mentioned above received a glorified, incorruptible, immortal body. Most, we assume, later died and were buried, as is the case of Paul.

The Two Resurrections From The Dead

(Wait: None of Them Just Disappeared!)

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. They appear to have witnessed during the forty days after their resurrection.

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.

Two Future Resurrections From The Dead

(Wait: None of Them Will Just Disappear Either!)

The Dead and Living in Yeshua

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 – “Not all of us will die! But we will all be changed! It will take but a moment, the blink of an eye, at the final shofar. For the shofar will sound, and the dead will be raised to live forever, and we too will be changed.”

If two scriptural patterns indicate that neither Yeshua nor the Holy Ones instantly disappeared but spent time witnessing for up to forty days, then the Bride may also spend some time witnessing before being raptured.

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 after 3½ days and then stand on their feet., Shortly thereafter, they are called to come up, and finally are raptured as their enemies watch.

Wait: None of These People Just Disappeared!

Scripture gives us twelve examples of those who have already died (or been presumed dead) who were resurrected. Interesting number, 12! Neither the Holy Ones, nor Yeshua, instantly disappear after their resurrection. Scripture also gives us two more examples of those who will die and be resurrected – the Dead in Yeshua and the Two Witnesses of Revelation.

Wait: None of These People Disappeared! **Just the opposite. ALL were (or will be) seen alive by many after their resurrection.** This pattern is consistent, and it is reasonable to anticipate that neither will the Bride of Yeshua simply instantly disappear. Two witnesses establish a fact, according to the Bible (**Deuteronomy 19:15, Matthew 18:16, 2 Corinthians 13:1**, etc.).

Witnessed Bodily Raptures

Who Knew?

Elijah [2 Kings 2:3-5](#)

“*Do you know that Yahweh is taking Elijah, 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!

Yeshua [Luke 9:30-31](#)

“*Suddenly there were two men talking with him — Moshe and Eliyahu!*” Both Moses and Eliyahu spoke to Yeshua about his ‘departure’ which he was to accomplish from Yerushalayim. Another instance of advance notice, perhaps.

Enoch [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.

The Bride of Yeshua [1 Thessalonians 5:4-6](#)

Many ask: “Will the Bride of Yeshua also have advanced notice?”

The answer to that is perhaps yes. Paul appears to say just that in **1 Thessalonians 5:4-6**: “*But you, brothers, are not in the dark, so that the Day should take you by surprise like a thief; for you are all people who belong to the light, who belong to the day. We don’t belong to the night or to darkness, so let’s not be asleep, like the rest are; on the contrary, let us stay alert and sober.*”

Adonai Elohim’s Promise of Advance Notice [Amos 3:7](#)

Amos 3:7 – “*Adonai Elohim does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.*”

Adonai Elohim firmly states that he gives Advance Notice.

I believe an Advance Notice will be the first sequence of events that leads up to the resurrection and rapture of the Bride of Yeshua. I do not know what form this advance notice may take, but believe that his promise to do so is still valid today.

Adonai Elohim always informs his prophets in advance and Paul clearly states that we, the Bride of Yeshua, will not be caught off guard by the coming of Yeshua to rapture his bride when he says *“You, brothers, are not in the dark, so that the Day should take you by surprise.”*

Yeshua arriving without advance notice does not correspond to the many instances in scripture that state very clearly, precisely, and definitively that Advance Notice is given. Yeshua showing up without Advance Notice being given would violate Adonai Elohim’s promise as set forth in **Amos 3:7**.

Who Knew Conclusions

Advance Notice is the scriptural norm. In every case the person being raptured knows he will be.

- 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).
- Enoch had a full year of advance notice (Enoch 81:5-6).
- The Bride of Yeshua, according to Paul, will also receive advance notice.

Who Watched?

Elijah [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! Eliyah’s ascension was witnessed by both Elisha and the prophets.

Yeshua [Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9-11a](#)

“As he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.” “After saying this, he was taken up before their eyes.” 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.

The Two Witnesses of Revelation [Revelation 11:11](#)

“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 as their enemies watched.

Enoch [Enoch 81:5-6; Jasher 3:34](#)

“The seven holy ones will take you from their midst.” Though the description of Enoch’s ascension is not found in the scriptures, it is found in two non-canonical books that are mentioned or quoted from in the Bible. 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.

Who Watched Conclusions

In every case, the person being raptured is witnessed by more than one other person. Not once does the person raptured in the body just disappear in an instantaneous rapture event.

- 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).
- Enoch was in the presence of his children and the King's men when he was raptured (Enoch 81:5-6; Jasher 3:34).
- The rapture of the Bride of Yeshua will more than likely also be a witnessed event.

How Did They Go?

Horses, Chariots of Fire, and Whirlwinds are often present. There are some who believe that it is the whirlwind that carries the person aloft. I believe that the horses are the mode of transportation that carries the person to the fiery chariot when present. Fiery Chariots may be what today we would call a rocket ship. Any modern rocket during takeoff creates a whirlwind. To the ancients it may have looked like the whirlwind was carrying the person aloft, but I say this was just the result of the fiery chariot blasting off.

Elijah [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 [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 [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.

How Did They Go Conclusions

The person being raptured does not lazily float up to the clouds, as if by magic – he is **carried** aloft.

- Horses are always present – and often Chariots of Fire and a whirlwind.
- Elijah was carried to Heaven with horses, chariots of fire, and a whirlwind present (2 Kings 2:11).
- Yeshua rose riding upon his white horse (Acts 1:10-11; Revelation 19:11), but there is no mention of a chariot of fire or a whirlwind.
- Enoch was carried to Heaven with horses, chariots of fire, and a whirlwind present . (Jasher 3:36).
- No doubt, the Bride of Yeshua will also be carried to Heaven by horses.

The Resurrection is a Witnessed Event

The son of the widow from Zarephath
The son of the Shunammite woman
The dead man in the tomb of Elisha
The prophet Jonah
The daughter of Jairus
The son of a widow from Nain

and

Lazarus
The Apostle Paul
Eutychus
Dorcas/Tabitha
Yeshua
The Holy Ones
The Two Witnesses of Revelation

Scripture gives us twelve examples of those who have died (or been presumed dead) who were resurrected but did not instantly disappear or get instantly raptured. Just the opposite. *All were seen alive and well after their resurrection.* Scripture also gives us another example of two who will die, be resurrected, but who will not instantly disappear or get instantly raptured. The Bible only asks for two witnesses to establish a fact!

The Rapture is a Witnessed Event

2 Kings 2:7-12..... Elijah's ascension was witnessed by both Elisha and the prophets.
Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9-11a..... Yeshua's rapture was witnessed by the disciples.
Revelation 11:11..... The two witnesses will be raptured as their enemies watch.
Enoch 81:5-6; Jasher 3:34..... Enoch's rapture was also witnessed by many people.

Two or More Witnesses are Required

The Bible only asks for two witnesses to establish a fact! Scripture gives us twelve examples of resurrections that were witnessed, and three examples of those whose raptures were witnessed. Not one of these people instantly disappeared. The instant disappearance paradigm is not supported by the patterns revealed in the scriptures that show a progression of well witnessed events over time. The belief that "*the resurrection is the rapture*" also fails to adhere to the Biblical requirement that two or more witnesses are necessary to establish a fact.

The Witnessed Resurrection and Rapture Gives The Glory To Yahweh/Yeshua

Deuteronomy 4:24 – "*Yahweh your Elohim is a consuming fire, a jealous Elohim.*"

Isaiah 42:8 – "*I am Yahweh; that is my name; my glory I give to no other.*"

Isaiah 48:11 – "*For my own sake, I do it . . . My glory I will not give to another.*"

Yahweh does not give nor share his glory with anyone, especially not with Satan. That is why the Resurrection and Rapture of the Bride of Yeshua will be witnessed by all. The fully witnessed resurrection and rapture of the Bride of Yeshua will be hard, if not downright impossible to deny – all will know it was done by Yeshua and will bring great glory to Yahweh.

Final Conclusions

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

- does not conform to the Greek or Hebrew Word Definitions
- does not conform to the Witnessed Resurrection Pattern
- does not conform to the Witnessed Bodily Rapture Pattern
- does not conform to the Exodus Pattern
- does not conform to the Thessalonians Midrash Pattern
- and does not conform to the Jewish Wedding Pattern

All of the above are **witnessed** events – not instant disappearance events

Y'varekh'kha Yahweh v'yishmerekha
Ya'er Yahweh panav eleikha vichunekka
Yissah Yahweh panav eleikha v'yasem l'kha shalom whole

Yahweh blesses you and keeps you
Yahweh makes his face shine upon you and is gracious to you
Yahweh lifts up his countenance upon you and makes you whole.