

## **The Book of 1 Thessalonians**

Chapter 5 Verses 1-10

### **“Like a Thief in the Night”**

Return To  
All Commentary

In our last study in the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of the book of 1 Thessalonians, we began our discussion on the very important doctrine of **“The Rapture of the Church”**.

**There are some today that will tell you that the Doctrine of the Rapture of the Church is not even taught in the Bible.**

They will tell you that this doctrine was not taught at all by the Church until around the 1800’s.

**They will tell you that the doctrine of the Rapture is made up and is a false doctrine.**

Kind of reminds me of what Eve was told by satan, **“Did God really say that if you eat of this fruit you will die?, You will not die...”**

**Ephraim the Syrian**, was what we call today, **“An early church father”**. He wrote several studies on the doctrine of the **Rapture, the Tribulation period, and the Return of Jesus** around 300 A.D. This means that the doctrine of the Rapture and that it would happen before the Tribulation period, was being taught in the very early beginning of Jesus Church.

#### **Ephraem's Teaching on the Pre-Tribulation Rapture**

***“For all the saints and Elect of God are gathered, prior to the tribulation that is to come, and are taken to the Lord lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins”*** (On the Last Times, the Antichrist, and the End of the World, by Ephraem the Syrian, A.D. 373).

**Ephraem's text revealed a very clear statement** that the Rapture was taught by the early church of Jesus, that the Rapture was true, and that it would occur before the Tribulation period. The early church was teaching that Jesus would take His elect saints home to heaven to escape the coming Tribulation.

**In addition, Ephraem amazingly declares his belief in**

1. **A personal, Jewish Antichrist**, who will rule a revived Roman Empire during the last days.
2. **A rebuilt Temple** in Jerusalem...
3. **The two witnesses** and...
4. **A literal Great Tribulation** lasting 1,260 days or 3 1/2 years!
5. **It is also fascinating to note** that Ephraem taught that the War of Gog and Magog described in Ezekiel 38, would be **before the tribulation period**.

In another text by Ephraem, called *The Book of the Cave of Treasure*, he taught that Daniel's Seventieth Week will be fulfilled in the final seven years at the end of this age that will conclude with Christ's return at the Battle of Armageddon to establish His kingdom.

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**Another claim by the scoffers of the Rapture Doctrine, is that the Rapture is not even taught in the Bible. This is also false. It is clear that the following text that we studied last in 1 Thessalonians Chapter 4, written by Paul, is the clearly doctrine of the Rapture.**

### **1 Thessalonians 4:16-18**

16 For **the Lord Himself will descend from heaven** with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And **the dead in Christ will rise first.**

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.

18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**("Harpazo" in the Greek Language. To seize, pluck, pull up, take by force) It is used 13 times in the N/T, It is always used to "snatch, take by force, or remove" a person away forcibly.**

**"Harpazo"** is the same Greek word that was used in Acts 8:39 to describe what happened to Phillip after he finished witnessing to the Ethiopian Eunuch. Phillip was **"Harpazoed"** away, **"snatched away"** by the Lord.

### **Acts 8:39**

Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord **caught Philip away**, (Harpazo) so that **the eunuch saw him no more**; and he went on his way rejoicing.

In other words, He was Raptured away, Phillip Disappeared. This is the same word that Paul used here in our study in 1 Thessalonians 4 describing for us what will happen to us suddenly...Jesus will descend from heaven with a shout, we will suddenly be snatched away from the earth to meet Jesus in the Air.

**Harpazo is the same Greek word** that Paul used in 2 Corinthians 12:2-4 to describe what happened to Him when He was stoned to death. Suddenly he was in the presence of the Lord, Paul Said that he was **"Harpazo"**, or **"Raptured"** up.

### **2 Corinthians 12:2-4**

I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was **caught up** (Harpazo) to the third heaven.

3 And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—

4 how he was **caught up** (Harpazo) into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

**As we continue our study this morning, it is important to understand the facts of the Rapture:**

1. Jesus will descend from Heaven as the next prophetic event in Human history.
2. The “Rapture” is not “The Second Coming of Jesus”.
3. Jesus is not coming physically to the earth at the Rapture.
4. He will meet us in the atmosphere surrounding the earth, “*In the Clouds...*”
5. Those who have already died believing in Jesus, will be raised from their graves first.
6. Those who have already died believing in Jesus are not in a “**Soul Sleep**”, or a “**Purgatory**”.

## **2 Corinthians 5:8**

8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather **to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.**

## **1 Corinthians 15:51-54**

51 But let me tell you a wonderful secret God has revealed to us. **Not all of us will die, but we will all be transformed.**

52 **It will happen in a moment**, in the **Twinkling of an eye**, (1 10,000th of a second) when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, the Christians who have died will be raised with transformed bodies. And then we who are living will be transformed so that we will never die.

53 For **our perishable earthly bodies must be transformed into heavenly bodies that will never die.**

54 When this happens—when our perishable earthly bodies have been transformed into heavenly bodies that will never die

This English word here “**MOMENT**” in 1 Corinthians 15:52, is from the Greek word

**875** [823] αἰτομοβ, “**ATOMOS**”, **an atom is the smallest particle of matter, so a moment in this context would be a moment in time that is equal in its smallness to the size of an atom.** a. [1.1 + 5533]. in a flash, in a moment, an indivisible unit of time

7. **Those who are alive during this time** (Right Now), will then be gathered also to meet Jesus in the air.
8. **We will then**, all return with Jesus to Heaven.
9. **The Peace plan for Israel and the Arab nations** will begin as described in **Revelation 6:1-2**
10. **This begins Daniel’s 70th week**, the final 7 years of Daniels prophecy.
11. **While this 7 years of Tribulation** and Great tribulation is happening upon the earth, we will be with Jesus in Heaven!
12. **During this 7 years**, we will each appear before Jesus to receive a reward for the way we lived our life after we accepted Jesus.
13. **We will receive from 1 to 5 different literal crowns** as each person appears before Jesus to have the works that you did for Jesus, after He saved you.

## **1 Corinthians 9:25**

25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now **they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.**

Most of the people living on the earth right now are striving to win a material, financial prize that is going to burn up and have no eternal value. We who follow Jesus are to also strive for a prize, those 5 crowns described in scripture, that Jesus will give to those who meet the requirements for them, while they were alive on the earth...

### **1 Thessalonians 2:18 “Soul Winners Crown”**

19 For what is our hope, or joy, or **crown of rejoicing**? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

### **2 Timothy 4:8 “Those Watching for the Rapture”**

8 Finally, there is laid up for me the **crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

### **James 1:12 “Those who endure temptation”**

12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the **crown of life** which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

### **1 Peter 5:2-4 “The Faithful shepherd/Teacher”**

2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;

3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the **crown of glory** that does not fade away.

### **Revelation 2:10 “Those who endure suffering”**

10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the **crown of life**.

**If you did not take it seriously in this life**, the possibility of earning these rewards and did not do anything to earn them, you will suffer the loss of these rewards, but not your salvation.

**Also, after the Rapture**, when Jesus takes us back to Heaven, while the 7 year Tribulation is happening upon the earth, we will experience the “**Marriage feast of the Lamb**”, the formal completion of our betrothal to Jesus as His bride, and the sit down dinner for every believer that has ever lived, gathered together.

### **Revelation 19:7,9**

7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, **for the marriage of the Lamb has come**, and His wife has made herself ready.”

9 Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’ ” And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.”

### **Luke 12:37**

Blessed are those servants whom Jesus the master, **when he comes, will find watching**. Assuredly, I say to you that **Jesus will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them**.

So, what is the context of 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18?. What has Paul been talking about so far? **Jesus descending from heaven with a shout at the Rapture...**

Keeping this in mind, what subject we have been talking about, as we move on this morning to chapter 5 of 1 Thessalonians...

### **1 Thessalonians 5**

1 But **concerning the times and the seasons, of the brethren**, (The Times and seasons of the Rapture of the Brethren) you have no need that I should write to you.

2 For you yourselves know perfectly **that the day of the Lord** so comes **as a thief in the night**.

The term, “**The day of the Lord**”, is the term that is used in the Old and New Testament, for the time beginning with the tribulation period, and concluding with the 1,000 year Millennium.

Paul say that they have no need that he should write to the believers in Thessalonica concerning the Day of the Lord, because He had already taught them about it.

**I believe that the church has made 2 primary mistakes in the last 200 years**, The church has not done what Paul had done so well for the Early church: Teaching them about the Rapture and the last days.

1. **Churches today**, and their pastors, have failed to teach the people “**The Full Counsel of God’s Word**” from Genesis to Revelation. Churches today teach studies ranging in topic from current political controversy to the pastors own pet peeve that week.. God’s own people today do not know what God’s Word says because it is not being taught to them by pastors and ministers.
2. **Pastors are not teaching** their people about the soon return of Jesus in the Rapture and the Tribulation period. Pastors are not, for the most part, teaching prophetically based studies at all.
3. **For this reason**, some of you, even if you have known Jesus for a number of years, may have never been taught some of the material we will cover today.
4. **Some of the things** we are going to talk about today are even viewed as “**Controversial**”. Only because of the same reasons that Jesus scolded the Pharisees for...”You don’t know what the Scriptures say...”
5. **Because we are at this place in 1 Thessalonians**, I am going to cover a few controversial subjects. Allowing you to be like the Berean’s Searching the scriptures yourself to see if these are so.

**First, this subject of chapter 5 of 1 Thessalonians:** “For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.”

If you have ever had someone steal something from you or even break into your home and steal something, you will understand what this term means: “**As a thief in the night**”.

1. **Most Thieves do their stealing at night** when it is dark and no one can see what they are doing.
2. **Most people who are robbed**, never had any idea that they were going to be robbed.
3. **When a robbery occurs**, it is usually sudden and unexpected...

Many years ago, an older gentleman came in to a famous New York jewelry shop and said that he was looking for a special pearl for his wife's birthday.

The price was no object as he had declared that he was a wealthy Texas oil Millionaire and he had the credentials to prove it.

He finally picked out a beautiful pearl and paid \$5,000.00 cash for it.

A few weeks later, the same gentleman was back at the same Jewelry store. He said that His wife was absolutely crazy about the pearl he had purchased for her.

He explained that he would like to purchase a matching pearl to make a pair of earrings.

The manager of the store explained to the man that he doubted that he could find a match for the pearl he had previously bought.

**“Advertise”, suggested the customer, “I’ll pay up to \$25,000 for a duplicate of that pearl”**

A few days later, an ad seeking just such a pearl was placed in the news paper by the jewelry store owner. A lady in Chicago contacted the Jewelry store stating that she had a pearl that she was willing to sell for **\$20,000.00**.

The Jewelry store purchased the pearl from the lady, and then waited for the Texas Millionaire to return an purchase it.

**The Jewelry store is still waiting...!**

What the man had done of course, was sell the store back the pearl he had bought for 4 times the price he paid.

**Even if they ever found the man**, it is doubtful that they could convict him of any crime...

**This is exactly the point of why the Rapture is called “A thief in the Night”.**

If the manager of the Jewelry store had known ahead of time that the Thief was coming, he would have prepared himself.

**Because he was not expecting a thief, he didn't recognize him when he showed up at his store.**

When the Rapture happens.

1. **Most of the world will not be expecting the Rapture to happen.** Most of the world does not believe that the Rapture could, or will happen.
2. **When suddenly millions of people** are gone from the earth, it will have the same effect that this man at the jewelry store felt....**SUDDEN UNEXPECTED, SURPRISE.**
3. **There will be all kinds of answers** put forth for why we are all gone.

**Inevitably, when I get to the places in the bible where** The doctrine of the Rapture, the Tribulation period, the antichrist and the deception of the last days, I always seem to get into trouble with some people because these subjects must include a discussion on the subject of **Aliens** and what I believe they mean to the last days.

- **In the New Age Religion books** that have been published in recent years, there are statements to the effect: *“There are a group of individuals that live on the earth right now that are out of sync with the rest of the world. Some day very soon our alien brothers will remove this group of people from the earth and take them to their planet where they will reprogram these individuals with New Age thought processes...”*
- **Many scholars believe** that there will be some kind of an Alien connection with the Antichrist.
- **If this is true, then** “The Big Lie” that is described in 2 Thessalonians starts to take on a new meaning...

## **2 Thessalonians 2:7-11**

7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.

8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

9 **The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,**

10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, **that they should believe the lie...**

The Bible describes the time in which the antichrist will be introduced to the world during the beginning of the Tribulation Period. In just 3 1/2 short years, **“All the world will marvel after and follow this man...”**

## **Revelation 13**

2 Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.

3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And **all the world marveled and followed the beast.**

4 So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, **“Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him**

Notice verse 2 of 2 Thessalonians 2, the power that the antichrist will demonstrate to the world will be by **“Powers, Signs and Lying Wonders...”**

**What kind of power would someone have to demonstrate to the world, so that the whole world marvels after him and actually begins to worship him?**

- **It is interesting that today**, the largest money making movies are those about Extra Terrestrials visiting earth.
- **As in no other time in history, America**, and the whole world is fascinated with the possibility of extra terrestrial life and the possibility that they may one day visit earth.

**What if, a few days after the Rapture comes like “A Thief in the Night”, the antichrist arrived on the scene by landing on the White House lawn in a flying Saucer?**

**How hard do you think it would be for the world to embrace, accept and follow after such a person?**

**Is the Discussion of Aliens and UFO’s something that Christians should be talking about?**

**One thing is for certain: OVER 15 MILLION AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVE STATED THAT THEY HAVE SEEN A UFO.**

**We can just pretend that 15 million people are delusional**, or we can follow the evidence that suggests that there is some kind of phenomenon that is happening **since 1947** all over the face of the earth.

1. What does the massive amount of sightings of UFO’s mean?
2. Why only now in the last 60 years?
3. How do we put this in proper perspective as Bible believing Christians?

It appears that satan knowing that his time is short, could be himself behind all of the alien phenomenon.

### **Revelation 12:12**

Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, **because he knows that he has a short time.**”

- **The Bible has more to say** about the subject of the “**Last Days**” prior to the return of Jesus to the earth than any other subject.
- **Because we live in the days** where the movie screens, the newspaper, and other media are filled with reports and scandals about aliens, it is important to understand the Christian perspective on this issue.

### **Here are some of the FACTS**

1. **There have been 12 Astronauts** who have publicly stated that they have seen UFO’s—surprisingly on almost every mission!
2. **AS I SAID BEFORE**...Over 15 million American Citizens have stated that they have seen a UFO.
3. **Over 100 Commercial airline pilots** have filed reports stating that they have seen UFO’s. **These sightings occur by the thousands and are increasing in frequency.**

4. **The Unidentified Craft** that are being sighted are becoming more aggressive and more public as time passes.
5. **Every major ancient culture** on the face of the earth has recorded UFO sighting.

We know, is that UFO's travel at incredible rates of speed, even here within our own atmosphere.

1. **They have been clocked in excess of 16,000 mile per hour—without making a sonic boom!**
2. **The United States, nor any other Country,** has the technology to move at these speeds—certainly not without sonic booms.
3. **Alien vehicles can make right angle turns instantaneously—which means they are free of mass, completely contrary to the laws of physics.**
4. **They have the ability** to materialize and dematerialize instantaneously—without a trace.

Where do they go when we cannot see them? One of the current theories in alien craft research is that they are “**Hyper Dimensional**” vehicles.

1. **No Alien craft has ever been tracked coming into our atmosphere from outer space.** They always appear suddenly within earths atmosphere, and they always disappear within our atmosphere.
2. **It is apparent by their nature,** that these vehicle are from another “**dimension**” outside of our own and have found a way to move between their dimension and ours.
3. **Albert Einstein** went to his grave believing that there were at least 4 dimensions—we know today that there may be as many as 10 dimensions.
4. **We know that Spirit Being such as Angels,** even Jesus in His glorified body, was not limited by normal physical limitations that we are.
5. **In Luke chapter 24,** Jesus suddenly appear in the same room where the disciples are gathered together. Jesus tells them that He is not a Spirit, or a Ghost, He is a Physical being, Jesus demonstrates this by asking for something to eat.
6. **How could Jesus be a physical being like us,** but have the ability to pass between the walls of the room without disturbing them?

### **Luke 24:33-41**

33 So the disciples rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,

34 saying, “**The Lord is risen indeed,** and has appeared to Simon!”

35 And they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.

36 Now **as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them,** and said to them, “Peace to you.”

37 But **they were terrified** and frightened, and **supposed they had seen a spirit.**

38 And He said to them, “Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts?”

39 **Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.**”

40 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.

41 But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, “**Have you any food here?**”

**If you were dwelling in body that is made up of different atoms than those of this earth, you would be able to pass through any physical object on this earth.**

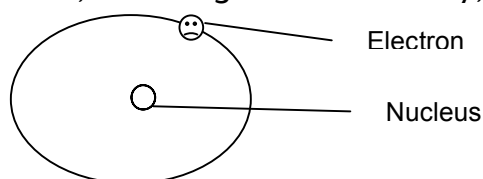
1. **Inside every atom in the universe** are what is described as “Positive charges”, these positive charges that repel each other.
2. **Clustered together**, these positive charges are defying the laws of electricity, What these positive charges want to do is quickly move away from each other to the farthest place in the universe.
3. **You can demonstrate this** by trying to hold 2 positive sides of a magnet together, it takes force to hold these positive sides together, because they are repelling each other.
4. **Every atom in the universe wants to just blow itself apart**, but there is a mysterious power that is holding them together. The book of Hebrews says that it is Gods power that holds all things together.
5. **When you upset these positive charges** in an atom that Are repelling each other, you can release the power of these atoms and you get an atomic bomb.
6. **The power that is released in one of those atomic bombs is the same power that is necessary to hold that bomb together.**
7. **In an atomic bomb** all that you are really doing is releasing the energy that is already there, being held together.
8. **The universe has a self destruct mechanism** built into it, all God has to do is let go, and the universe would melt in a fervent heat.
9. **God said in the beginning “Let there be...”** and everything came into existence, all that the Lord has to do now is to say is **“Let it go”**, and the Universe will collapse and melt with a fervent heat.
10. **So is the power that is in the Word of God...**It is your Jesus that is this Word that holds all things together.

**Our body is made up of atoms, we experience this repelling force of the positive atoms that are in our body if we try to walk through a wall, try it right now, see what happens.**

- **Theoretically** you should be able to walk right through that wall, because it is mostly open space. More space than solid matter
- **And your body, made up also of atoms, is also just empty space, Women who have a husband already knew this,** (you know what I’m Talking about!)
- **The solid matter of your body** is actually very small. if you were to collapse all of the space that is inside of the atoms of your body, all that would be left is a microscopic particle the size of a piece of dust.
- **You would weigh the same,** except you would just be a spec of dust. You are mostly air!

**An electron that circles the center of every atom is even smaller. 2 1/2 quintillion of them would be 1 inch long,**

If you were to Count 250 Electrons a minute, it would take you 19 million years to count a one inch long strand of Electrons, counting 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



- **If the center of an atom**, also called the “**Nucleus**,” was the size of a basket ball, the electron rotating around it would be 3,000 mile away. This is how much space there is in an atom.
- **There is more space** than solid matter...
- **If your body** was made up of a different molecular structure, you would be able to walk through a wall or any solid object, just as Jesus did above.

**In theory, it is possible for 2 worlds to exist together at the same time, and you would never know that it was here.**

- **All that is necessary**, is that this other world is made up of a different molecular structure than you are and you would never be able to see it.
- **There could be another world** existing here right now that you are not even aware of.
- **This the truth that scripture declares, there is another Spirit world that exists all around us and we are totally unaware that they are here.**
- **“Angels, Ministers” helping us**, encouraging us, in many cases protecting us, they are all around us and we never know they are here.

### **Hebrews 1:14**

Are angels not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

**And so, regarding these Alien Space craft.** They do not need to be from another planet or Galaxy, they could simply be constructed of different molecular structures than we can see, giving them the ability to appear and disappear at their will. We call this “**Interdimensional**”.

**In our last study in the book of Judges, we were discussing (Heavily), the 6th chapter of Genesis, where it says:**

### **Genesis 6:1-10**

1 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them,

2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.

(IN HEBREW: “The Sons of God” are called “**THE B’NAI ELOHIM**”)

- **This term the “B’nai elohim, occurs only 5 times in the Scripture and only in the O/T. All 5 of these places in the Old Testament, It is ONLY used to describe angels.**
- **Not one place in the Old Testament are Men ever called “The Son’s of God”.**
- **It is not until the New Testament** that men are given this title: “**Sons of God**”
- **Even the Hebrew Torah** calls these ones who take human women and have children by them, “**Divine Beings**”
- **So it is most definitely** that it was angels who bred with human women, that created a new race of 1/2 angel, 1/2 Human being.

**The result of this sexual union between women and angels were called “Giants”, or in Hebrew “**Nephalim**”**

**The word Nephalim** is from 2 Greek Words: that mean “To fall”

### **Genesis 6:4**

4 There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.

- **The Nephalim were killed in the flood of Noah**, along with the rest of the human race, except for Noah and his family of 8 people.
- **The Nephalim lost their bodies** in the flood and became what many of us believe are the “**demon**” spirits that inhabit the earth today.
- **In Matthew chapter 8**, verses 28-32 where these demons are desperately searching for bodies to inhabit—they were even willing to be cast into a herd of pigs by Jesus.

### **Jude 6-7**

6 “And **the angels who did not keep their proper domain**, but left their own abode, (Oiketerion oy-kay-tay-ree-on. Their Body He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;

7 **as Sodom and Gomorrah**, and the cities around them **in a similar manner** to these, having **given themselves over to sexual immorality** and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

**OIKETERION** oy-kay-tay-ree-on, “Their habitation”, house, literally their Body. **The only other place this Greek word is used in the N/T is in 2 Corinthians 5:2** where Paul is discussing the fact that we long for the day when we put of our current “**Oiketerion**”, Body to be clothed with our new “**Oiketerion**” from heaven.

### **2 Corinthians 5:2**

5:2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be **clothed** with our **habitation** which is from heaven,

**Jude 6 and 7 above** makes the statement here that the ones in Sodom and Gomorrah are guilty of the same sin—that the angels who fell were judged for, that of going after “strange flesh” **The angels were of a higher order than men and as such, were judged more severely—being held in a dark place of confinement for thousands of years.**

### **Matthew 24:37**

Jesus said "**But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.**

- **One of our problems today**, is that we really do not have an understanding of what the “**days of Noah**” were all about.
- **If we go back into our Old Testament** in Genesis chapter 6, we see that Jesus was talking about at least 2 things.
  1. **Every thought of man’s heart** was towards wickedness constantly.
  2. **Angels had been for some time breeding** with Human women.
  3. **Because of these things**, the Lord destroyed the world and everyone in it, except Noah and his family.

**Jesus said that just before He returns, the word will be exactly like it was in Noah's day**

- **Every thought** of man's heart was towards wickedness constantly.
- **Angels have possibly again**, have been for some time, breeding with Human women, most likely through removal of egg and sperm.
- **Many believe the sightings of these Gray small beings** are really the New "Nephilim".

**Of course, this is all very interesting, and it seems to explain the Alien Phenomenon, but it is all only speculation.**

**I personally feel that the body of scriptural evidence indicates that this is a possibility, but you will have to make up your own mind.**

### **1 Thessalonians 5**

3 For when they say, "**Peace and safety!**" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

**What is the cry of the world today? "Peace, we want peace..."**

1. **Israel and the Palestinians need a peace plan.** Interesting that the introduction of the antichrist to the world, will begin by the signing of a 7 year peace plan. I personally believe it will be between the nation of Israel and the Palestinians.
2. **As we sit here together this morning**, it appears that the United States is about to again go to war with the nation of Iraq. It is important to remember that **Iraq is "Babylon"**.
3. **The world is calling for "Peace"**. Many in America are calling for peace instead of war.
4. **The bigger threat to the world today is North Korea** who already has at least 2 nuclear weapons and the Ballistic Missile system to deliver them. The president of N Korea said that he will not hesitate to use nuclear weapons if any of N. Korea's Nuclear power plants are bombed.
5. **This prophecy in verse 3 says** that "**When they are calling for "Peace and Safety"**", this is the time when Jesus will return, and the Tribulation period will begin.

**If the return of Jesus is tied to a call in the world for peace, and no peace can come to Israel and the Arab world without a peace plan, then the return of Jesus is nearer that anyone could possibly imagine.**

### **1 Thessalonians 5**

4 But **you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you** as a thief.

**You, who have been trusting in Jesus, are not in the dark, so to speak, about the coming of Jesus, hopefully you are living each day in constant expectation that Jesus could come at any moment...**

5 **You are all sons of light and sons of the day.** We are not of the night nor of darkness.

6 Therefore **let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.**

7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night.

8 But let us who are of the day be sober, **putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.**

**Paul reminds us that we are not in the dark about the sudden return of Jesus for His church at the Rapture or Harpazo, we know Jesus is coming soon.**

**Because of this knowledge** we should be keeping the breastplate of faith, that is continuing to believe, and also keep constantly in our minds like a helmet upon our head the knowledge that Jesus has saved us and is coming for us soon...

9 **For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation** through our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

**This is one of the most important proof texts in your bible to show that Jesus will come for us in the Rapture BEFORE the time of Wrath called the Great Tribulation.**

The entire point so far of 1 Thessalonians, has been to teach us about the Rapture and the Tribulation period. Here Paul says that you are not appointed to this wrath, but to be snatched out before it begins by Jesus...

**Verses 11-22 are the 22 commandments** that the Lord has given to those who are believing in and following after Him.

**We will cover these 22 commandments next Sunday as a separate study.** You will not want to miss this very important study. Before you came to a knowledge of what Jesus has done for you and accepted His sacrifice for your sins, there were 10 commandment for you. Their purpose was to bring you to the conclusion: "If this is what I must do to be saved, I cannot do it".

Then, being driven to find another way, you would discover that Jesus paid the full price for all of your sins for you on the Cross. That when you accept Jesus, you have fulfilled every requirement that the Father has placed upon your life.

After you have given your life to Jesus, you are under a much higher calling. These 22 commandments detail the kind of life that Jesus commands you to lead for Him. Every person that calls Calvary Chapel their home church needs to be present for this study.