

## Caught Up Together!

1 Thes 4:16-17

**16** With a loud command and with the shout of the chief angel and a blast of God's trumpet, the Lord will return from heaven. Then those who had faith in Christ before they died will be raised to life. **17**Next, all of us who are still alive will be taken up into the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the sky. From that time on, we will all be with the Lord forever.

1 Cor 15: 51-52

**51** I will explain a mystery to you. Not every one of us will die, but we will all be changed. **52**It will happen suddenly, quicker than the blink of an eye. At the sound of the last trumpet the dead will be raised. We will all be changed, so we will never die again.

Matt 24: 30-31

**30** Then a sign will appear in the sky. And there will be the Son of Man. All nations on earth will weep when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. **31**At the sound of a loud trumpet, he will send his angels to bring his chosen ones together from all over the earth.

Rev 3: 10-11 CSB

**10** Because you have kept my command to endure, I will also keep you from the hour of testing that is going to come on the whole world to test those who live on the earth. **11** I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one takes your crown.

Luke 21: 34-35

**34**Don't spend all of your time thinking about eating or drinking or worrying about life. If you do, the final day will suddenly catch you **35** like a trap. This day will surprise everyone on earth.

1 Thes 5: 1-11

**1**I don't need to write you about the time or date when all this will happen. **2** You surely know that the Lord's return will be as a thief coming at night. **3**People will think they are safe and secure. But destruction will suddenly strike them like the pains of a woman about to give birth. And they won't escape.**4**My dear friends, you don't live in darkness, and so that day won't surprise you like a thief. **5**You belong to the light and live in the day. We don't live in the night or belong to the dark. **6**Others may sleep, but we should stay awake and be alert. **7**People sleep during the night, and some even get drunk. **8** But we belong to the day. So we must stay sober and let our faith and love be like a suit of armor. Our firm hope that we will be saved is our helmet.**9**God doesn't intend to punish us, but wants us to be saved by our Lord Jesus Christ. **10**Christ died for us, so we could live with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes. **11**This is why you must encourage and help each other, just as you are already doing.

John 14: 1-11 Jesus said to his disciple...

“Don't be worried! Have faith in God and have faith in me. <sup>2</sup>There are many rooms in my Father's house. I wouldn't tell you this, unless it was true. I am going there to prepare a place for each of you. <sup>3</sup>After I have done this, I will come back and take you with me. Then we will be together. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to where I am going.”

<sup>5</sup>Thomas said, “Lord, we don't even know where you are going! How can we know the way?”

<sup>6</sup>“I am the way, the truth, and the life!” Jesus answered. “Without me, no one can go to the Father. <sup>7</sup>If you had really known me, you would have known the Father. But from now on, you do know him, and you have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father. That is all we need.”

<sup>9</sup>Jesus replied:

Philip, I have been with you for a long time. Don't you know who I am? If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. How can you ask me to show you the Father? <sup>10</sup>Don't you believe that I am one with the Father and that the Father is one with me? What I say isn't said on my own. The Father who lives in me does these things.

<sup>11</sup>Have faith in me when I say that the Father is one with me and that I am one with the Father. Or else have faith in me simply because of the things I do.

Mark 13: 24-37

<sup>24</sup> In those days, right after this time of suffering,

“The sun will become dark,  
and the moon  
will no longer shine.

<sup>25</sup> The stars will fall,  
and the powers in the sky  
will be shaken.”

<sup>26</sup> Then the Son of Man will be seen coming in the clouds with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>He will send his angels to gather his chosen ones from all over the earth. <sup>28</sup>Learn a lesson from a fig tree. When its branches sprout and start putting out leaves, you know summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So when you see all these things happening, you will know that the time has almost come. <sup>30</sup>You can be sure that some of the people of this generation will still be alive when all this happens. <sup>31</sup>The sky and the earth will not last forever, but my words will.

32 No one knows the day or the time. The angels in heaven don't know, and the Son himself doesn't know. Only the Father knows. 33 So watch out and be ready! You don't know when the time will come. 34 It is like what happens when a man goes away for a while and places his servants in charge of everything. He tells each of them what to do, and he orders the guard to keep alert. 35 So be alert! You don't know when the master of the house will come back. It could be in the evening or at midnight or before dawn or in the morning. 36 But if he comes suddenly, don't let him find you asleep. 37 I tell everyone just what I have told you. Be alert!

Luke 12: 35-56

35 Be ready and keep your lamps burning 36 just like those servants who wait up for their master to return from a wedding feast. As soon as he comes and knocks, they open the door for him. 37 Servants are fortunate if their master finds them awake and ready when he comes! I promise you he will get ready and let his servants sit down so he can serve them. 38 Those servants are really fortunate if their master finds them ready, even though he comes late at night or early in the morning. 39 You would surely not let a thief break into your home, if you knew when the thief was coming. 40 So always be ready! You don't know when the Son of Man will come. 41 Peter asked Jesus, "Did you say this just for us or for everyone?" 42 The Lord answered: Who are faithful and wise servants? Who are the ones the master will put in charge of giving the other servants their food supplies at the proper time? 43 Servants are fortunate if their master comes and finds them doing their job. 44 A servant who is always faithful will surely be put in charge of everything the master owns. 45 But suppose one of the servants thinks that the master won't return until late. Suppose that servant starts beating all the other servants and eats and drinks and gets drunk. 46 If that happens, the master will come on a day and at a time when the servant least expects him. That servant will then be punished and thrown out with the servants who cannot be trusted. 47 If servants are not ready or willing to do what their master wants them to do, they will be beaten hard. 48 But servants who don't know what their master wants them to do will not be beaten so hard for doing wrong. If God has been generous with you, he will expect you to serve him well. But if he has been more than generous, he will expect you to serve him even better. 49 I came to set fire to the earth, and I wish it were already on fire! 50 I am going to be put to a hard test. And I will have to suffer a lot of pain until it is over. 51 Do you think that I came to bring peace to earth? No indeed! I came to make people choose sides. 52 A family of five will be divided, with two of them against the other three. 53 Fathers and sons will turn against one another, and mothers and daughters will do the same. Mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law will also turn against each other. 54 Jesus said to all the people: As soon as you see a cloud coming up in the west, you say, "It's going to rain," and it does. 55 When the south wind blows, you say, "It's going to get hot," and it does. 56 Are you trying to fool someone? You can predict the weather by looking at the earth and sky, but you don't really know what's going on right now.

## Matt 24: 36-51

**36**No one knows the day or hour. The angels in heaven don't know, and the Son himself doesn't know. Only the Father knows. **37** When the Son of Man appears, things will be just as they were when Noah lived. **38**People were eating, drinking, and getting married right up to the day the flood came and Noah went into the big boat. **39** They didn't know anything was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. This is how it will be when the Son of Man appears.**40**Two men will be in the same field, but only one will be taken. The other will be left. **41**Two women will be together grinding grain, but only one will be taken. The other will be left. **42**So be on your guard! You don't know when your Lord will come. **43** Homeowners never know when a thief is coming, and they are always on guard to keep one from breaking in. **44**Always be ready! You don't know when the Son of Man will come. **45**Who are faithful and wise servants? Who are the ones the master will put in charge of giving the other servants their food supplies at the proper time? **46**Servants are fortunate if their master comes and finds them doing their job. **47**You may be sure a servant who is always faithful will be put in charge of everything the master owns. **48**But suppose one of the servants thinks the master won't return until late. **49**Suppose this evil servant starts beating the other servants and eats and drinks with people who are drunk. **50**If that happens, the master will surely come on a day and at a time when the servant least expects him. **51**This servant will then be punished and thrown out with the ones who only pretended to serve their master. There they will cry and grit their teeth in pain.

## 2 Thes 2: 1-12

**1** When our Lord Jesus returns, we will be gathered up to meet him. So I ask you, my friends, **2**not to be easily upset or disturbed by people who claim the Lord has already come. They may say they heard this directly from the Holy Spirit, or from someone else, or even that they read it in one of our letters. **3**But don't be fooled! People will rebel against God. Then before the Lord returns, the wicked one who is doomed to be destroyed will appear. **4** He will brag and oppose everything holy or sacred. He will even sit in God's temple and claim to be God. **5**Don't you remember I told you this while I was still with you?**6** You already know what is holding this wicked one back until it is time for him to come. **7**His mysterious power is already at work, but someone is holding him back. And the wicked one won't appear until this someone is out of the way. **8** Then he will appear, but the Lord Jesus will kill him simply by breathing on him. He will be completely destroyed by the Lord's glorious return. **9** When the wicked one appears, Satan will pretend to work all kinds of miracles, wonders, and signs. **10**Lost people will be fooled by his evil deeds. They could be saved, but they will refuse to love the truth and accept it. **11**So God will make sure they are fooled into believing a lie. **12**All of them will be punished, because they would rather do evil than believe the truth.

Rev 7: 9-17

9 After this, I saw a large crowd with more people than could be counted. They were from every race, tribe, nation, and language, and they stood before the throne and before the Lamb. They wore white robes and held palm branches in their hands, 10 as they shouted,

“Our God, who sits  
upon the throne,  
has the power  
to save his people,  
and so does the Lamb.”

11 The angels who stood around the throne knelt in front of it with their faces to the ground. The elders and the four living creatures knelt there with them. Then they all worshiped God 12 and said,

“Amen! Praise, glory, wisdom,  
thanks, honor, power,  
and strength belong to our God  
Forever and ever! Amen!”

13 One of the elders asked me, “Do you know who these people are that are dressed in white robes? Do you know where they come from?” 14 “Sir,” I answered, “you must know.”

Then he told me:

“These are the ones who have gone through the great suffering.  
They have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb  
and have made them white.

15 And so they stand before the throne of God and worship him in his temple  
day and night. The one who sits on the throne will spread his tent  
over them.

16 They will never hunger or thirst again, and they won't be troubled  
by the sun or any scorching heat.

17 “The Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd.  
He will lead them to streams of life-giving water, and God will wipe all tears  
from their eyes.”

Rev 22: 12-21

12 Then I was told:

I am coming soon! And when I come, I will reward everyone for what they have done. 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

14 God will bless all who have washed their robes. They will each have the right to eat fruit from the tree that gives life, and they can enter the gates of the city. 15 But outside the city will be dogs, witches, immoral people, murderers, idol worshipers, and everyone who loves to tell lies and do wrong.

16 I am Jesus! And I am the one who sent my angel to tell all of you these things for the churches. I am David's Great Descendant, and I am also the bright morning star.

17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!"

Everyone who hears this should say, "Come!"

If you are thirsty, come! If you want life-giving water, come and take it. It's free!

18 Here is my warning for everyone who hears the prophecies in this book:

If you add anything to them, God will make you suffer all the terrible troubles written in this book. 19 If you take anything away from these prophecies, God will not let you have part in the life-giving tree and in the holy city described in this book.

20 The one who has spoken these things says, "I am coming soon!"

So, Lord Jesus, please come soon!

21 I pray that the Lord Jesus will be kind to all of you.