

A STUDY IN THE EPISTLES
LESSON 5 (part 2)
1st.Thessalonians
Chap. 4

C. What will the Rapture be like? This is an age old question but we'll try to give you the Bible answer to it.

1. We will be caught up. "--than we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air:--". IE we'll simply go up. Gravity will have no affect on us then. If we're talking with someone we'll disappear before their eyes. Nothing will be left but our clothes in a little pile. (Remember, Jesus left his clothes in the tomb.)

2. what kind of body will we have? John says in 1st. Jn. 3:2 "--it doeth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him: for we shall see Him as he is." When Jesus ascended into heaven following His resurrection He was glorified. (See St. Jn. 12:13 and 7:38-39). After that His appearance was always very illuminating and bright. For instance (1) Paul on his way to Damascus to persecute the Christians, saw Jesus "--brighter than the noon day sun--". and (2) John on the Isle of Patmos. When he saw Jesus he "--fell at His feet as A dead man--". This illumination appearance of Jesus was because He was in His glorified body. The same kind of body we're going to receive when the rapture takes place. "--we shall be like Him--". Now Paul speaks more of this fact in Phil. 3:31 when he said "--Who shall change our vile body, that it might be fashioned like unto His glorified body,--".

3. How fast will it be? "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye,--" (1 Cor 15:52). IE instantly.

4. What will be the affect on the world?

a. Every Apostolic church in the world will be packed out immediately following the Rapture. Backsliders and family members of Saints, and others who know the truth but had failed to do anything about it will lead the way to altars of repentance. But it will do no good. It will be to late. The opportunity to be saved will have forever been lost . They must then go through the Great Tribulation spoken of in the book of Revelation in which all manner of judgment will come upon the earth. Unbelievable wars, earthquakes, tidal waves, volcano eruptions, pestilence, famines and meteorite bombardment from the heaven above await them. In just a few short years one half the world population will die. See Rev. 6:8 and 9:15&18.