

THE RAPTURE AND SECOND COMING DISTINGUISHED / CONTRASTED

1. At the Rapture Jesus is coming **for** His Church (John 14:1-3 & 1 Thess. 4:14-17).
At the 2nd Coming He comes **with** His Church (Col 3:4; Jude 14 and Rev. 19:14).
2. At the Rapture Jesus comes in the **air** (1Thess, 4:16,17).
At the 2nd Coming He comes to **earth** (Zech 14:4).
3. At the Rapture **only Christians** will see Jesus (1 Cor. 15:52 & 1 John 3:2).
At the 2nd Coming **every eye** will see Him (Rev. 1: 7).
4. The Rapture **happens in a moment**, in the twinkling of an eye (1 Cor 15:52).
The 2nd Coming **happens slowly** - it will take some time (Zech 12: 10; Acts 1:11;
Matt. 24:30; Rev. 1: 7).
5. The **tribulation** begins after the Rapture (1 Thess. 4,5).
The **Millennial Kingdom** begins after the 2nd Coming (Rev.20).
6. At the Rapture Satan will **not be bound** (2 Thess. 2:9).
At the 2nd Coming Satan **will be bound** (Rev. 20:2,3).
7. The Rapture presents a message of **hope and comfort** (1 Thess. 4:18, Titus 2:13,
1 John 3:3).
The 2nd Coming presents a message of **wrath and judgment** (Joel 3:12-16, Rev.
19:11-21).
8. At the rapture, **Christ Himself** will gather the saints (1 Thess. 4:16)
At the 2nd Coming, **the angels** will gather the elect (Matt. 24:31)
9. The rapture is **imminent** – could happen any moment [no signs] (Matthew 24:42-44)
The 2nd coming is **predictable** -- cannot happen ~~for at least 7 years~~ [many signs] (Daniel 9:26-27)
WITHOUT MANY SIGNS
10. The rapture is a time of **joy** ((Titus 2:13; 1 Thess. 2:19,20; 4:18)
The 2nd Coming is a time of **mourning** (Rev. 1:7)

Note: There is either a major contradiction in the Bible concerning the coming of the Lord or there are two separate phases of His coming – a pre-tribulational rapture and a post tribulational 2nd Coming.