

SEO SCORE ?

84

SEARCH TRAFFIC ?

n/a

TOTAL IMPRESSIONS ?

n/a



PAGESPEED ?



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# Rapture Revealed — Was the Church Called to Escape the Earth?

## Rapture Revealed — Unveiling Catching Up, Sonship, Spiritual States, and the Plan of the Ages from Genesis to Revelation

By Carl Timothy Wray

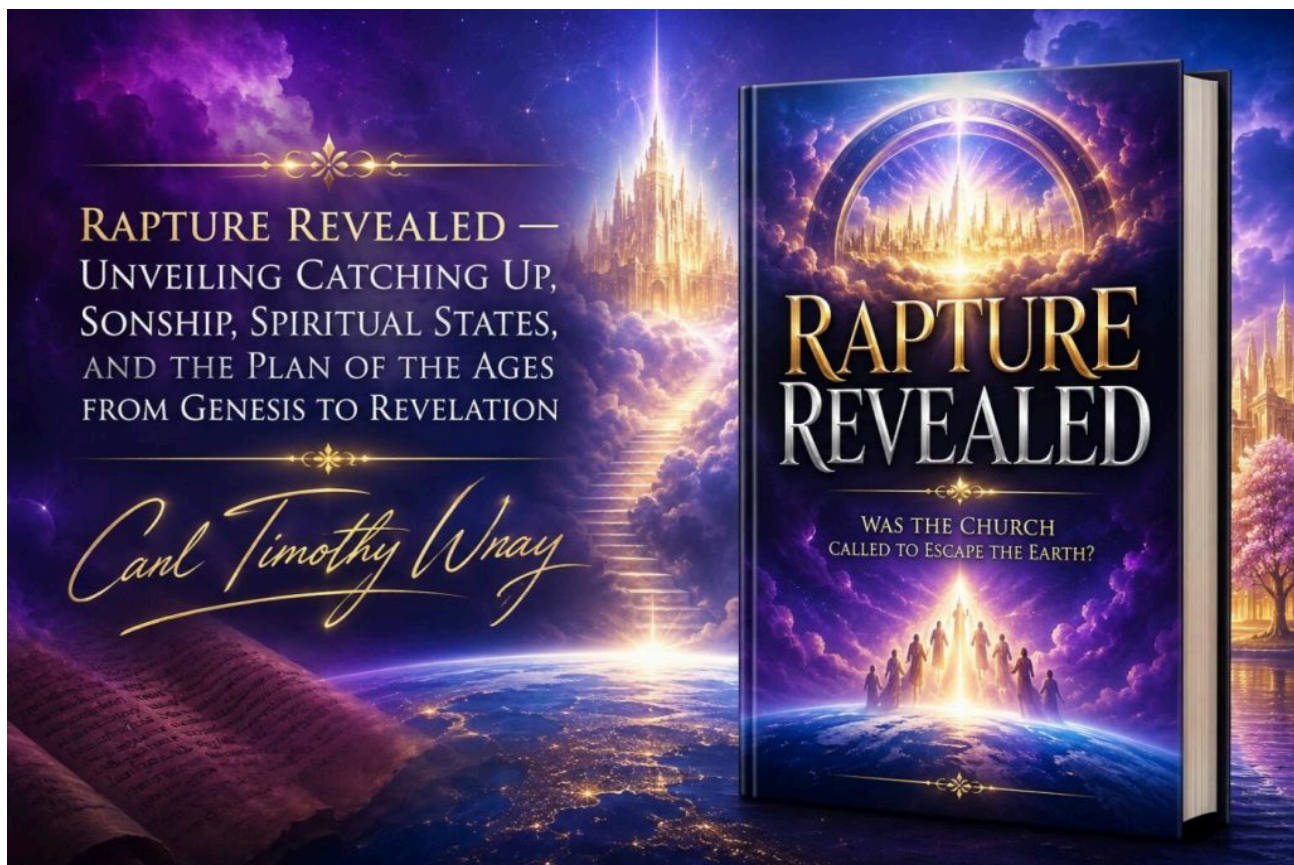


# Author

[Carl Timothy Wray](#) is the founder of *The Finished Work of Christ* and the voice behind a growing library of biblical teachings, Revelation studies, Kingdom books, and Zion-centered content focused on unveiling Christ from Genesis to Revelation. Through hundreds of books and teachings, Carl explores themes including the Finished Work of Christ, the Gospel of Grace, sonship, the Book of Revelation, reconciliation, the Kingdom of God, and the unfolding purpose of God through the ages. His passion is to search the Scriptures, challenge tradition where necessary, and reveal the full counsel of God as one unified mind rather than disconnected fragments.

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**Rapture Revealed** examines one of the most discussed subjects in Christianity today: *Was the Church called to escape the earth, or does Scripture reveal a larger purpose unfolding through the ages?* This book explores catching up, resurrection, sonship, spiritual states, maturity, Kingdom inheritance, and God's purpose from Genesis to Revelation. By following the full counsel of Scripture, readers will discover repeated biblical themes concerning God's desire to fill the earth with His glory, gather all things into Christ, and unveil His eternal purpose through the [manifestation of His life](#).



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## INTRODUCTION

### BABYLON'S VIEW VS GOD'S PURPOSE

For generations millions of believers have heard a familiar message:

*"One day the Church will suddenly disappear."*

*"The earth will be left behind."*

*"The purpose of God is ultimately to remove His people from creation."*



For many, this understanding has become deeply rooted and almost unquestioned. Books have been written, movies produced, charts drawn, timelines created, and systems developed around this expectation.

Yet a question quietly waits beneath all the discussion:

### **What has God been saying from the beginning?**

Because if Scripture reveals one mind from Genesis to Revelation, then isolated verses cannot stand apart from God's larger purpose.

The Bible opens with God saying:

▮ *"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion..."*

The story begins with image.

It begins with likeness.

It begins with dominion.

It begins with earth.

And as we move through the Scriptures, another pattern repeatedly appears:

- life and death
- sleep and awakening
- children and sons
- maturity and inheritance
- heaven and earth
- Christ and His body



continually speaks concerning condition, growth, capacity, and union.

This book is not written to create controversy.

It is written to search the Scriptures.

Together we will examine catching up, resurrection, sonship, heaven coming to earth, and the larger purpose of God through the ages.

Because before asking:

| *“Where are we going?”*

Perhaps we should first ask:

| *“Where has God been going all along?”*

Let us begin.

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**EN**

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# CHAPTER 1

## WHAT IS THE RAPTURE? — BEGINNING WITH SCRIPTURE INSTEAD OF TRADITION

*“Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air...” — 1 Thessalonians 4:17*

### WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

When most people hear the word **rapture**, an entire picture immediately forms in their mind.

Many imagine:

- believers suddenly disappearing
- empty cars on highways
- airplanes without pilots
- chaos across the earth
- the world left behind
- saints escaping to heaven

For many believers this picture has become so familiar that it almost feels as though it came directly from the Bible itself.

But before we build our understanding on inherited ideas, there is a simple question that must be asked:

**Where do we actually begin?**



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with movies?

Do we begin with charts?

Do we begin with traditions?

Do we begin with systems developed by men?

Or do we begin where we always should:

**with Scripture itself?**

Because if we misunderstand the first stone, the mountain itself can begin leaning.

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## **THE WORD “RAPTURE” IS NOT THE FIRST LANGUAGE OF SCRIPTURE**

One of the first discoveries many people make is this:

The word **rapture** itself is not the repeated language of Scripture.

This does not mean there is no concept of gathering or catching up.

The concept certainly exists.

But Scripture repeatedly uses words such as:

- caught up
- gathered
- appearing
- resurrection



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- coming

Those are the repeated words of the Spirit.

The question is not whether catching up exists.

The question becomes:

### **What is God actually describing?**

Because if Scripture uses one language repeatedly while men use another language repeatedly, wisdom tells us to begin with God's language.

---

## **THE SPIRIT SPEAKS IN PATTERNS**

As we move through the Scriptures something begins appearing over and over again.

The Spirit continually speaks concerning:

- life and death
- sleep and awakening
- children and sons
- maturity and inheritance
- blindness and sight
- earth and heaven

Notice what happens:

Many things that appear natural often contain spiritual realities hidden within them.



Jesus Himself continually taught this way:

| *"Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die..."*

| *"I am the Vine..."*

| *"The kingdom of God is within you..."*

Natural language often became the vessel carrying spiritual truth.

---

## **BEFORE ASKING WHERE WE ARE GOING, WE MUST ASK WHERE GOD IS GOING**

Many conversations surrounding the rapture begin with this question:

| *"Where are believers going?"*

But perhaps there is a larger question waiting underneath it:

| **Where has God been going from the beginning?**

Because Genesis begins with:

| *"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion..."*

The story opens with:

- image
- likeness
- dominion
- earth



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...on closes with:

| *"Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men..."*

The story closes with:

- union
- reconciliation
- glory
- God dwelling with man

Perhaps before asking:

| *"How do we leave?"*

we should first ask:

| *"What purpose has God been unfolding all along?"*

---

## **THE FIRST STONE HAS NOW BEEN LAID**

The mountain begins here.

Not with arguments.

Not with fear.

Not with systems.

But with Scripture.

The question is no longer simply:



| *"Is there a catching up?"*

The question now becomes:

## What language does God repeatedly use?

Because before we examine catching up itself, we must first understand **how the Spirit speaks.**

And that is where we now go.

## CHAPTER 2

# THE LANGUAGE OF GOD — SPIRITUAL STATES AND CONDITIONS

*“And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.” — Ephesians 2:1*



## THE SPIRIT SPEAKS DIFFERENTLY THAN MAN

We have now laid the first stone.

We did not begin with tradition.

We did not begin with movies.

We did not begin with prophetic charts.

We began with Scripture.

Now we must move into something that changes how the entire Bible is read.



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Because if we misunderstand **the language of the Spirit**, we may misunderstand the very message itself.

The Spirit of God often speaks differently than the natural mind expects.

Man tends to think in terms of:

- geography
- physical location
- outward appearances
- natural events

But the Spirit continually speaks concerning:

- condition
- state of being
- maturity
- life
- death
- capacity
- union

This pattern appears everywhere in Scripture.

---

## **DEAD PEOPLE WALKING**

Paul writes something astonishing:

| *“And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.”*



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nk about that.

Paul was writing to people who were physically alive.

They were breathing.

Their hearts were beating.

They walked.

They worked.

They talked.

Yet Paul says:

**| You were dead.**

How can living people be called dead?

Because the Spirit was not speaking primarily about physical condition.

The Spirit was speaking of spiritual condition.

Immediately the language changes.

Dead does not always mean buried.

Alive does not always mean breathing.



## JESUS SPOKE THE SAME WAY



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edly spoke this language:

“Let the dead bury their dead.” — Matthew 8:22

How can dead people bury dead people?

Again, Christ was revealing another dimension.

He was speaking concerning state and condition.

He was unveiling spiritual realities hidden beneath natural words.

Jesus also said:

“The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.” — John 5:25

Notice:

Not:

“The hour shall someday come.”

But:

**“The hour is coming and now is.”**

Something present was already happening.

Life was already entering death.

Awakening was already occurring.



# ASLEEP DOES NOT ALWAYS MEAN UNCONSCIOUS

Scripture repeatedly uses another word:

## sleep

Paul writes:

*“Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.”*  
— Ephesians 5:14

Again we ask:

How can someone who is physically awake be called asleep?

Because sleep often speaks of condition.

Blindness.

Ignorance.

Immaturity.

Unawareness.

Lack of perception.

The Spirit continually speaks concerning inward realities.



EN



## CHILDREN, SERVANTS, AND SONS

Another repeated language pattern appears:

- children
- servants
- sons

Paul writes:

“The heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant...” — Galatians 4:1

Notice what Scripture is revealing.

The issue is not age.

The issue is maturity.

The issue is capacity.

The issue is readiness.

The Spirit continually speaks concerning development and growth.

---

## THE LANGUAGE OF GOD CHANGES EVERYTHING

Now the mountain begins rising.

Because if:



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...n mean spiritual condition  
...n mean spiritual condition

- life can mean spiritual condition
- sonship can describe maturity

Then another question immediately appears:

**Could other subjects also contain spiritual realities hidden beneath natural language?**

Could resurrection?

Could ascension?

Could catching up?

Could heaven and earth?

The mountain now begins turning toward something larger.

Because before we examine **where people are going**, we must first understand **how God speaks**.

The next stone now waits:

**Can resurrection begin before the grave?**

## CHAPTER 3

# DEAD YET LIVING — RESURRECTION BEFORE THE GRAVE



EN

*...rily, I say unto you, He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed*

| *from death unto life.” — John 5:24*

## **THE MOUNTAIN NOW MOVES TO RESURRECTION**

We have now laid several stones.

We began with Scripture rather than tradition.

We saw that the Spirit repeatedly speaks concerning:

- life
- death
- sleep
- awakening
- maturity
- condition

Now another question rises:

### **Does resurrection only happen after physical death?**

For many believers, resurrection has become something placed entirely in the future.

The common thought is:

*“Someday the dead will rise.”*

*“Someday graves will open.”*

*“Someday resurrection will occur.”*



But Jesus and the apostles repeatedly reveal another dimension.

Because Scripture begins speaking of resurrection before the grave.

---



## PASSED FROM DEATH UNTO LIFE

Jesus said:

*"He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me... is passed from death unto life."*

Notice the language carefully.

Not:

*"Will someday pass."*

Jesus says:

**Has passed.**

Something has already happened.

A transition has already occurred.

Death has been crossed.

Life has entered.

This is not reality.



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The resurrection power of Christ was already moving among men.

---

## **THE HOUR IS COMING — AND NOW IS**

Jesus continues:

*“The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.” — John 5:25*

Again, Jesus joins two realities together:

Future:

*“The hour is coming”*

Present:

*“And now is”*

The life of God was already entering death.

The resurrection was already beginning.

The Kingdom was already appearing.

---

## **PAUL SAW RESURRECTION OPERATING NOW**

Paul writes:

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*“And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.” — Ephesians 2:1*

Then:

*“And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” — Ephesians 2:6*

Read that slowly.

Paul does not say:

*“You will someday be raised.”*

He says:

**Raised us up together.**

Again the Spirit speaks of present reality.

Something had already begun operating.

Life was already invading death.

Heaven was already invading earth.



## **RESURRECTION IS THE LIFE OF CHRIST ENTERING MAN**

Martha said to Jesus:

*“I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”*



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Jesus answered:

“I am the resurrection, and the life...” — John 11:24–25

Notice what Jesus did.

Martha placed resurrection in a future event.

Jesus placed resurrection in Himself.

Resurrection was not merely a date.

Resurrection was not merely a timetable.

Resurrection was standing before her.

Because resurrection is fundamentally:

**the life of Christ entering death and overcoming it.**



## THE MOUNTAIN NOW RISES HIGHER

If resurrection can begin before the grave...

If life can invade death now...

If men can be raised spiritually while still walking the earth...

Then another question immediately appears:

**What does it mean to be caught up?**



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ore we assume movement in location—

we must understand movement in life.

The next stone now waits:

| **What is actually ascending?**

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## THE MOUNTAIN NOW MOVES TO RESURRECTION

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We saw that the Spirit repeatedly speaks concerning:

- life
- death
- sleep
- awakening
- maturity



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on

Now another question rises:

## Does resurrection only happen after physical death?

For many believers, resurrection has become something placed entirely in the future.

The common thought is:

*"Someday the dead will rise."*

*"Someday graves will open."*

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But Jesus and the apostles repeatedly reveal another dimension.

Because Scripture begins speaking of resurrection before the grave.



## PASSED FROM DEATH UNTO LIFE

Jesus said:

*"He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me... is passed from death unto life."*

Notice the language carefully.

Not:

*"... someday pass."*



EN

Jesus says:

| **Has passed.**

Something has already happened.

A transition has already occurred.

Death has been crossed.

Life has entered.

This is present reality.

The resurrection power of Christ was already moving among men.

---

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Jesus continues:

| *“The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.” — John 5:25*

Again, Jesus joins two realities together:

Future:

| *“The hour is coming”*



“And now is”

The life of God was already entering death.

The resurrection was already beginning.

The Kingdom was already appearing.

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And the Spirit speaks of present reality.



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Resurrection is fundamentally:

**the life of Christ entering death and overcoming it.**

---

## **THE MOUNTAIN NOW RISES HIGHER**

If resurrection can begin before the grave...

If life can invade death now...

If men can be raised spiritually while still walking the earth...

Then another question immediately appears:

**What does it mean to be caught up?**

Because before we assume movement in location—

we must understand movement in life.

The next stone now waits:

**| What is actually ascending?**

## **CHAPTER 4**

# **CAUGHT UP — WHAT IS ACTUALLY ASCENDING?**

**|** *“Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the air...” — 1 Thessalonians 4:17*



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## NOW WE ARRIVE AT THE CENTRAL QUESTION

We have now climbed several stones upon the mountain.

We have seen:

- Scripture rather than tradition
- The language of spiritual states
- Resurrection operating before the grave

Now we come to the verse most people immediately think about when discussing the rapture:

| *“Caught up.”*

This phrase has become one of the most discussed ideas in modern Christianity.

Yet before assumptions are made, another question waits quietly beneath the surface:

### **What is actually ascending?**

Because if we misunderstand this question, we may misunderstand everything that follows.

---

## SCRIPTURE REPEATEDLY USES ASCENSION LANGUAGE



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ascending appears throughout Scripture.

Enoch:

“Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.”

Elijah:

“And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.”

Paul:

“I knew a man in Christ... caught up to the third heaven.”

John:

“Come up hither...”

The manchild:

“Her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne.” — Revelation 12:5

Notice something carefully:

The Spirit repeatedly uses upward language:

- come up
- caught up
- ascended
- raised up

The question becomes:



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What does this language reveal?



# BEFORE MOVEMENT IN LOCATION, THERE IS MOVEMENT IN LIFE

Many people immediately think only of physical movement.

But Scripture often reveals inward movement long before outward manifestation.

Jesus said:

*“No man hath ascended up to heaven, but He that came down from heaven...” —*  
John 3:13

Paul says:

*“And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” —* Ephesians 2:6

Notice again:

Paul writes to living believers walking on earth.

Yet he says:

**raised up**

**seated in heavenly places**

Something had already happened.

The Spirit was speaking of position, condition, and union.



# ASCENSION SPEAKS OF INCREASED CAPACITY

Throughout Scripture upward movement often reveals growth and maturity.

Children become sons.

Servants become heirs.

Blindness becomes sight.

Earthly understanding becomes heavenly understanding.

Paul writes:

“Set your affection on things above...” — Colossians 3:2

Again notice:

Paul was not telling believers to physically leave the planet.

He was speaking of elevation of understanding and life.

The Spirit continually speaks concerning movement:

From:

- darkness to light
- death to life
- immaturity to sonship
- earthly thinking to heavenly understanding



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# THE MANCHILD PATTERN

John writes:

| *“And she brought forth a man child... and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne.”*

Notice the progression:

Birth



Growth



Caught up



Throne

The movement is not random.

The movement reveals maturity and authority.

The throne repeatedly speaks of rulership.

The throne speaks of participation.



speaks of union.



# THE MOUNTAIN NOW RISES HIGHER

If resurrection can begin before the grave...

If upward language repeatedly speaks of maturity and life...

If being raised can occur while walking on earth...

Then another question immediately appears:

## What is God preparing people for?

Because Scripture repeatedly moves toward:

Inheritance.

Authority.

Sonship.

The next stone now waits:

**From children unto sons — maturity and capacity.**

## CHAPTER 5

# FROM CHILDREN TO SONS — RAPTURE, MATURITY, AND CAPACITY



EN

*any as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” — Romans*



# THE RAPTURE QUESTION NOW MOVES TOWARD MATURITY

We have now climbed higher upon the mountain.

We began with Scripture instead of tradition.

We discovered that the Spirit continually speaks concerning:

- life and death
- sleep and awakening
- resurrection and life
- being raised up
- being caught up

Now another question rises:

## What is God preparing His people for?

Because if the concept of **rapture** involves catching up, gathering, appearing, and transformation, then we must understand another repeated language of Scripture:

**maturity.**

The Spirit repeatedly moves from beginnings toward fullness.

---



## SCRIPTURE REPEATEDLY SHOWS PROGRESSION



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e of God continually reveals growth.

Scripture does not merely speak of birth.

Scripture speaks of development.

Scripture speaks of increase.

Scripture speaks of maturity.

The pattern appears again and again:

Children



Servants



Sons



Inheritance

Paul writes:

*“Now I say, that the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all.” — Galatians 4:1*

Read that carefully.



EN

esses the inheritance by promise—

but capacity determines experience.

---

## **RAPTURE LANGUAGE AND SONSHIP LANGUAGE BEGIN CONNECTING**

Many discussions concerning the **rapture** focus only upon departure.

But Scripture repeatedly joins transformation with maturity.

Paul writes:

*“For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.” — Romans 8:19*

Notice:

Creation is not said to be waiting merely for information.

Creation is not said to be waiting merely for religious activity.

Creation is waiting for:

### **manifestation**

And manifestation implies maturity.

Manifestation implies fullness.

Manifestation implies life becoming visible.

# JESUS GREW IN STATURE

Scripture says concerning Jesus:

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.” —  
Luke 2:52

Even the Son walked through progression.

Growth was visible.

Increase was visible.

Development was visible.

This same pattern appears throughout God’s dealings with His people.

Seed



Blade



Ear



Full corn in the ear



peatedly moves toward fullness.

# THE RAPTURE QUESTION MAY ALSO BE A MATURITY QUESTION

Now the mountain rises further.

Because if Scripture repeatedly reveals:

- growth
- sonship
- inheritance
- maturity
- manifestation

Then another question emerges:

**Could catching up language also involve growth into greater capacity and participation?**

Because Scripture repeatedly moves from:

Beginning



Growth



Maturity



EN

Inheritance

The mountain is still rising.

The next stone now waits:

| **Heaven Coming to Earth — God's Purpose Through the Ages**

## CHAPTER 6

# HEAVEN COMING TO EARTH — GOD'S PURPOSE THROUGH THE AGES

| *"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."* — Matthew 6:10



## THE RAPTURE QUESTION NOW MEETS GOD'S PURPOSE

We have now climbed several levels of the mountain.

We have seen:

- Scripture before tradition
- spiritual states and conditions
- resurrection before the grave
- catching up language
- maturity and sonship

Now another question begins rising before us:

**Where has God been moving all along?**



because before we ask:

“Where are believers going?”

perhaps we should ask:

“Where has God been going?”

The answer to that question changes everything.

Because Scripture reveals a God who unfolds purpose progressively through ages.

---

## GOD WORKS THROUGH AGES

Paul writes:

*“Having made known unto us the mystery of His will... that in the dispensation of the fulness of times He might gather together in one all things in Christ...”* — Ephesians

1:9–10

Notice carefully:

Scripture repeatedly reveals:

- purpose
- progression
- unfolding
- fulfillment

God does not appear to move randomly.

God unfolds His purpose step by step.



Seed



Blade



Ear



Full ear

Child



Servant



Son

Law



Grace



Fullness



EN

The Spirit repeatedly reveals movement toward completion.

## THE PRAYER OF JESUS REVEALS DIRECTION

Jesus taught His disciples to pray:

| *"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."*

Read that carefully.

Jesus did not say:

| *"Remove the earth."*

Jesus did not say:

| *"Abandon creation."*

Jesus pointed toward something coming.

The movement is:

Heaven



Earth

God's will moving into visible manifestation.

God's order moving into expression.



EN

oving into creation.

# THE TABERNACLE OF GOD IS WITH MEN

John writes:

| *“Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men...”* — Revelation 21:3

Again notice the direction.

Not:

Man ascending to dwell away from creation forever.

But:

| **God dwelling with man**

The movement continues:

Spirit



Soul

Heaven



Earth





Visible

The purpose repeatedly appears to be manifestation.

---

## THE RAPTURE QUESTION NOW BECOMES LARGER

If God's repeated purpose moves toward:

- gathering
- fullness
- union
- manifestation

Then the **rapture** question begins changing.

The question is no longer merely:

| *"Who leaves?"*

The question becomes:

| **What is God bringing forth through the ages?**

Because if God is moving toward fulfillment—

the mountain now rises toward something even greater.



EN

...not only individual purpose.

Not only dispensational purpose.

But **corporate purpose**.

The next stone now waits:

| **Heaven Coming to Earth — The Corporate Christ**

## CHAPTER 7

# HEAVEN COMING TO EARTH — THE CORPORATE CHRIST

| *“For as the body is one, and hath many members... so also is Christ.” — 1 Corinthians 12:12*



## THE MOUNTAIN NOW MOVES FROM THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE CORPORATE

We have now climbed higher.

We have seen:

- Scripture before tradition
- spiritual states and conditions
- resurrection before the grave
- catching up language
- maturity and sonship
- God’s purpose unfolding through the ages



EN

Now another question rises:

## Does God work only through individuals?

Because much of modern Christianity focuses almost entirely upon personal salvation.

“My faith.”

“My relationship.”

“My destination.”

“My future.”

But as we move through Scripture, something larger begins appearing.

God repeatedly moves from:

Individual



Family



Nation



Body



Corporate expression

---



## CHRIST IS REVEALED AS A BODY

Paul writes:

*"For as the body is one, and hath many members..."*

Then Paul says something astonishing:

*"So also is Christ."*

Notice carefully.

Paul does not merely say:

*"So also is the church."*

He says:

**So also is Christ.**

Christ is revealed as:

Head



Body



EN

on becomes larger than one individual expression.

The Spirit reveals one life flowing through many members.

---

## THE RAPTURE QUESTION NOW BECOMES A CORPORATE QUESTION

Much discussion concerning the **rapture** centers around isolated individuals leaving the earth.

But Scripture repeatedly reveals:

- one body
- one Spirit
- one new man
- one temple
- one household

Paul writes:

*“Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man...” — Ephesians 4:13*

Notice:

Not:

*perfect men*

But:

*perfect man*



EN

The Spirit reveals a corporate reality.

---

## **LIVING STONES ARE BEING FITLY JOINED**

Peter writes:

| *“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house...”* — 1 Peter 2:5

Paul writes:

| *“Fitly joined together...”* — Ephesians 4:16

Notice the repeated pattern:

Stone



House

Member



Body

Branch



EN

The Spirit continually reveals many becoming one.

---

## **THE RAPTURE QUESTION MAY ALSO INVOLVE CORPORATE MATURITY**

Now another question appears.

If God repeatedly reveals:

- one body
- one new man
- one house
- one temple
- one mature man

Then perhaps the question becomes larger than:

| *"Who leaves?"*

The question may become:

| **What corporate reality is God bringing forth?**

Because creation itself waits:

| *"For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God." — Romans 8:19*

Notice:



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individual manifestation.

But a corporate unveiling.

---

## **THE MOUNTAIN NOW RISES HIGHER**

We have seen:

Dispensational purpose.

Now we see:

Corporate purpose.

But the mountain still rises.

Because before heaven fills the earth corporately—

the life of heaven begins operating inwardly.

The next stone now waits:

| **Heaven Coming to Earth — Spirit and Soul Become One**

## **CHAPTER 8**

# **HEAVEN COMING TO EARTH — SPIRIT AND SOUL BECOME ONE**

| *“But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.” — 1 Corinthians 6:17*





# THE MOUNTAIN NOW MOVES INTO THE INNER MAN

We have now climbed through several levels of the mountain.

We have seen:

- Scripture before tradition
- spiritual states and conditions
- resurrection before the grave
- catching up language
- maturity and sonship
- God's purpose through the ages
- the Corporate Christ

Now the mountain turns inward.

Because before heaven is manifested outwardly, Scripture repeatedly reveals that heaven begins operating within.

Now we arrive at another question:

## **What happens when a man is joined unto the Lord?**

Because many people think only of destination.

But Scripture continually reveals:

**union.**

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# HE THAT IS JOINED UNTO THE LORD IS ONE SPIRIT

Paul writes:

| *"But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit."*

Read that slowly.

Not two spirits.

Not separated spirits.

Not distant spirits.

Not spirits awaiting future union.

Paul says:

| **One spirit.**

Something has already happened.

The life of Christ has entered the spirit of man.

The Kingdom has entered.

Heaven has entered.

The seed has been planted.





# THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN

Jesus said:

| *"The kingdom of God cometh not with observation..."*

Then:

| *"The kingdom of God is within you." — Luke 17:20–21*

Notice what Jesus did.

He moved attention away from outward observation.

Not:

*"Look there."*

Not:

*"Look here."*

But:

| **Within you**

The Kingdom was not merely presented as external geography.

The Kingdom was presented as inward reality.

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# THE THRONE OF THE SPIRIT BEGINS MOVING INTO THE SOUL

The spirit of man becomes alive by the Spirit of God.

But although the spirit is born again, Scripture repeatedly shows another work beginning.

The mind must be renewed.

The soul must be transformed.

Paul writes:

“*Be transformed by the renewing of your mind...*” — Romans 12:2

Then James writes:

“*Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.*” — James 1:21

Notice carefully:

The spirit is joined.

But now another work unfolds.

Life begins moving outward.

Heaven begins touching earth.





# SPIRIT AND SOUL BEGIN MOVING TOWARD UNION

Scripture repeatedly reveals:

Spirit



Soul



Manifestation

The Spirit plants life.

The Word renews the mind.

Truth transforms understanding.

Christ increases.

The inner man grows.

The life hidden within begins becoming visible without.

Heaven begins coming into earth.





# THE RAPTURE QUESTION NOW BECOMES EVEN LARGER

If:

- the Kingdom enters within
- heaven begins operating within
- spirit and soul move toward union
- Christ forms within man

Then another question rises:

**Is God's purpose merely removal, or manifestation?**

Because if heaven is coming into earth individually—

then the mountain continues rising toward inheritance itself.

The next stone now waits:

**The Meek Shall Inherit the Earth**

## CHAPTER 9

# THE MEEK SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH — RAPTURE, INHERITANCE, AND GOD'S PURPOSE

*"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." — Matthew 5:5*



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# THE RAPTURE QUESTION NOW MEETS INHERITANCE

We have now climbed high upon the mountain.

We have seen:

- Scripture before tradition
- spiritual states and conditions
- resurrection before the grave
- **rapture** language and catching up
- maturity and sonship
- heaven coming to earth through the ages
- the Corporate Christ
- heaven entering the inner man

Now another question rises before us:

## What exactly are the sons inheriting?

Because if discussions concerning the **rapture** center only upon departure, another question remains waiting:

*What inheritance has God repeatedly promised?*

Because Scripture repeatedly returns to one theme:

**inheritance.**



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## God's Purpose Began With Earth

Genesis opens with these words:

“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion...” —  
Genesis 1:26

Notice carefully what appears in the opening pages of Scripture:

- image
- likeness
- dominion
- earth

The story did not begin with man leaving the earth.

The story began with man receiving stewardship within the earth.

The original purpose repeatedly points toward manifestation and expression.

---

## THE RAPTURE QUESTION NOW TOUCHES DOMINION

When many hear the word **rapture**, the assumption becomes:

*“God ultimately removes His people from creation.”*

But Jesus says:

“Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.”

Notice carefully:



| *inherit heaven*

Not:

| *inherit escape*

But:

| **inherit the earth**

Now another question naturally appears:

**If the heirs repeatedly inherit the earth, how does inheritance relate to the concept of rapture?**

---

## **CREATION IS WAITING**

Paul writes:

| *"For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God:"* — Romans 8:19

Then Paul continues:

| *"Because the creature itself also shall be delivered..."* — Romans 8:21

Notice what Paul reveals:

Creation is waiting.



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xpecting.

Creation is looking toward manifestation.

The picture repeatedly becomes larger than individual destiny.

The Spirit reveals:

- sons
- inheritance
- creation
- restoration

---

## **RAPTURE, SONSHIP, AND INHERITANCE BEGIN CONNECTING**

Now the mountain rises even higher.

Because if:

- **rapture** language speaks of catching up
- sonship speaks of maturity
- inheritance speaks of stewardship
- creation waits for manifestation

Then the question changes again.

The question is no longer merely:

| *“How do believers leave?”*

The question becomes:



## What is God bringing forth through mature sons?

Because throughout Scripture, inheritance repeatedly follows maturity.

Child



Son



Heir



Inheritance

## THE MOUNTAIN NOW STANDS AT ITS SUMMIT

We now approach the highest place.

Because if:

- God began with dominion
- God repeatedly reveals inheritance
- creation waits for manifestation
- the **rapture** question repeatedly encounters purpose



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...the essential question remains:

## | Where does the entire full counsel of God ultimately lead?

Now we move to the summit itself:

## | The Full Counsel of God — The Earth Filled With His Glory

# CHAPTER 10

# THE FULL COUNSEL OF GOD — THE EARTH FILLED WITH HIS GLORY

| *“For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.” — Habakkuk 2:14*

## WE HAVE NOW REACHED THE SUMMIT OF THE MOUNTAIN


We have climbed from the first question of **rapture** all the way to the full counsel of God.

We began by asking:

| *“What is the rapture?”*

Then stone by stone the mountain rose before us:

- Scripture instead of tradition
- spiritual states and conditions
- resurrection before the grave

 **EN** and catching up  
 maturity and sonship

- heaven coming to earth
- corporate purpose
- spirit and soul becoming one
- inheritance and dominion

Now we stand at the summit.

Because another question now rises:

### **What has God been pursuing from the very beginning?**

Because if the entire story moves toward one destination, then every part of the journey must harmonize with the end.



## **THE DREAM OF GOD BEGAN IN GENESIS**

The opening pages of Scripture reveal God's heart:

*"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion..."* —  
Genesis 1:26

Notice carefully:

The story begins with:

- image
- likeness
- dominion
- earth



EN

begin with abandonment.

God did not begin with escape.

God began with manifestation.

God began with expression.

God began with sons bearing His image.

---

## THE RAPTURE QUESTION NOW MEETS THE PLAN OF THE AGES

Paul writes:

*“Having made known unto us the mystery of His will... that in the dispensation of the fulness of times He might gather together in one all things in Christ.” — Ephesians 1:9–10*

Notice the repeated language:

**all things**

Not some things.

Not a few things.

Not fragments.

Paul reveals:



Union

Fullness

Completion

The **rapture** question now encounters something larger:

God appears to be gathering rather than fragmenting.

---

## **THE EARTH SHALL BE FILLED WITH HIS GLORY**

The Lord declares:

| *"All the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord." — Numbers 14:21*

Then Habakkuk says:

| *"For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."*

Isaiah cries:

| *"The whole earth is full of His glory." — Isaiah 6:3*

Notice the repeated witness:

Earth



Earth

Earth

Again and again the Spirit points toward filling.

Not emptiness.

Not abandonment.

Not removal.

But manifestation.

---

## THE NATIONS BEGIN FLOWING INTO THE KINGDOM

Isaiah says:

| *"All nations shall flow unto it." — Isaiah 2:2*

John writes:

| *"The nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it." — Revelation 21:24*

Then again:

| *"The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." — Revelation 22:2*

Notice the repeated witness:



NATIONS

Healing

Light

Restoration

Movement toward life.

---

## **THE RAPTURE QUESTION NOW STANDS BEFORE RECONCILIATION**

Paul writes:

*“And, having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself...” — Colossians 1:20*

Then:

*“The creation itself also shall be delivered...” — Romans 8:21*

Then finally:

*“The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.” — 1 Corinthians 15:26*

Notice the movement:

Death



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Deliverance



Reconciliation



Life

---

## **GOD ALL IN ALL**

Paul reaches the summit and says:

| *"Then cometh the end..."*

Then finally:

| *"That God may be all in all." — 1 Corinthians 15:28*

John says:

| *"Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men..." — Revelation 21:3*

Then:

| *"Behold, I make all things new." — Revelation 21:5*

The story closes where the dream began.

Image.



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Dominion.

Union.

Fullness.

God dwelling with man.

---

## **THE RAPTURE MOUNTAIN NOW STANDS COMPLETE**

We began with:

| *“Who is leaving?”*

But we finish with:

| **What has God been accomplishing from the beginning?**

Because the full counsel of God repeatedly reveals:

Image



Sonship



EN



Manifestation



Reconciliation



Glory filling the earth



**God all in all**

The mountain now stands complete.

## SCRIPTURE REFERENCES FOR THE BOOK

### Introduction — Babylon's View vs God's Purpose

- Genesis 1:26–28
- Revelation 21:3–5
- Ephesians 1:9–10

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## Chapter 1 — What Is the Rapture? — Beginning with Scripture Instead of Tradition



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Galatians 4:16–17

- 1 Corinthians 15:51–52

- Acts 1:9–11
- 

## Chapter 2 — The Language of God — Spiritual States and Conditions

- Ephesians 2:1–6
  - Matthew 8:22
  - John 5:25
  - Ephesians 5:14
  - Galatians 4:1–7
  - Colossians 3:1–3
- 

## Chapter 3 — Dead Yet Living — Resurrection Before the Grave

- John 5:24–25
  - Ephesians 2:1–6
  - Romans 8:11
  - John 11:24–25
- 

## Chapter 4 — Caught Up — What Is Actually Ascending?

- 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17
- Genesis 5:24
- 2 Kings 2:11



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ns 2:6

- Revelation 12:5
  - Colossians 3:2
- 

## **Chapter 5 — From Children to Sons — Rapture, Maturity, and Capacity**

- Romans 8:14–19
  - Galatians 4:1–7
  - Hebrews 5:12–14
  - Luke 2:52
  - Mark 4:28
- 

## **Chapter 6 — Heaven Coming to Earth — God’s Purpose Through the Ages**

- Matthew 6:10
  - Ephesians 1:9–10
  - Revelation 21:1–5
  - Colossians 1:16–20
- 

## **Chapter 7 — Heaven Coming to Earth — The Corporate Christ**

- 1 Corinthians 12:12–27
- Ephesians 4:11–16
- Ephesians 2:14–22



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8:19

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## Chapter 8 — Heaven Coming to Earth — Spirit and Soul Become One

- 1 Corinthians 6:17
  - Luke 17:20–21
  - Romans 12:1–2
  - James 1:21
  - Hebrews 4:12
- 

## Chapter 9 — The Meek Shall Inherit the Earth — Rapture, Inheritance, and God's Purpose

- Matthew 5:5
  - Genesis 1:26–28
  - Romans 8:19–21
  - Romans 8:14–19
- 

## Chapter 10 — The Full Counsel of God — The Earth Filled With His Glory

- Genesis 1:26–28
- Numbers 14:21
- Habakkuk 2:14
- Isaiah 6:3
- Isaiah 2:2
- Ephesians 1:9–10
- Colossians 1:16–20
- Romans 8:21



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on 21:3–5

revelation 21:24

- Revelation 22:2
  - 1 Corinthians 15:26–28
- 

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