

## The Secret Rapture

Let us talk about one of the most popular doctrines in the world today; which doctrine we know as the secret rapture. The secret rapture doctrine really is not found in the Bible, it's a concept people believe that somehow Jesus will come back secretly. Well let's see it from the Bible. The Bible and the Bible alone.

### What did Jesus say regarding His second coming?

*Matthew 24:1-3* "And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said unto them, *See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.* 3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, *Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"*

The disciples were proud of the temple and they wanted to show the Lord its building. He informed them that it would be totally destroyed. They wanted to know then, when this would happen and when the end of the world would take place. The disciples thought that the destruction of Jerusalem was the end of the world.

Matt. 24-25 is like a little book of Revelation; it lets us know what to look for prior to the end



of the world and the second coming of Christ. Matt. 24 is like signs on the highway, directing us which way to go, and letting us know we are coming close to our destination.

*Matthew 24:4-5* "And Jesus answered and said unto them, *Take heed that no man deceive you."*

Before Jesus explained anything about the signs of His return, He told them not to let any man deceive you. What does that mean? There will be many deceptions especially regarding

the second coming of Christ.

Where do you think this deception will come from? From the atheist? From the evolutionists? From other religions like the new age or other strange religions?

5 "For many shall come in my name, saying, *I am Christ; and shall deceive many.*" Many will come in my name, means they will come as Christians, coming in the name of Christ, representing a church. It will come from those who claim that they are Christians. These things will happen before the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming. So if we see deceptions coming before Christ coming, don't be alarmed because Jesus told us of these things already. It says also that many will be deceived. It means that the majority of the people will be deceived. Are you sure that you are not part of that many? It is very possible that we can be part

of the many.

That is not the only time that Jesus mentions that there will be deceptions in the Bible, there are many other places. But let's look at verse 11.

**Matthew 24:11** *“And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.”* Many will be deceived by false prophets. Jesus says the third time, do not be deceived. Let's look at verse 24.

**Matthew 24:24** *“For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.”* Here false Christ's and false prophets will show great signs and wonders. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> time that Jesus is telling us in a roundabout way not to be deceived. So in the Bible God mentions clearly, deceptions will come in the last days. This time signs and wonders will be used. There will be counterfeits and imitations of the work of Jesus. In what way did Jesus manifest great signs and wonders? The New Testament tells us that Jesus did healings and cast out demons. So in the last days men, as these false Christ's and false prophets will perform miracles. Now just because people perform miracles does not mean we can determine whether they preach the truth or not. We must base that truth upon the Bible not upon their signs and wonders.

When someone tells you something four times, do you think it is important? You'd better not forget it because it is very important.

**What is the deception that will come in the last day?**

**Matthew 24:25** *“Behold, I have told you before.”* Jesus is about to tell you something and does not want you to forget it. Take heed unto God's word.

What does Jesus say the deception will be?

**Matthew 24:26** *“Wherefore if they shall say*

*unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not.”*

The Bible is saying there will be a deception regarding the coming of Christ. People will tell you He is here or over there; come and see Him. Let's look closer. Behold He is in the desert. Who lives in the desert? Not many people. So it is talking about a place that is not very populated. Saying He is in a private place. If someone tells you He is in a private place, and Jesus told you not to go, it means He will come in a totally opposite way. He will come publicly. In the secret chambers means He came secretly, believe it not. Don't go! If you do, you **will** be deceived! The Bible says BELIEVE IT NOT. Don't let it even enter in your mind. Jesus will come publicly and openly. Verse 27 tells us how He will come. **27** *“For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”* Lightening is public and open, not secret, you see it even if your eyes are closed. The lightening comes out of the east and shines to the west. It does not say north to south but east to west. Why does it describe it that way? We have a place called the north and south poles. If the lightening were to strike from north to south, then it would only strike from top to bottom on



one side of the earth. But the Bible says coming from the east to the west. Now do we have a place called the east? There is no west pole or east pole. There is no point that is called the east or west. So if the lightening goes from the east to the west it will have to go around the world for everyone to see all around the world. Everyone will see the coming of Christ. This is exactly what the Bible says. **Revelation 1:7** *“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen”.* The Bible makes it

very clear that the righteous and the wicked will be able to see Christ coming in the clouds of glory. His coming is visible, will be visible. Do you know how many holy angels of God will come with Christ? **Matthew 25:31** *“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:”* So from the Bible how many angels are in heaven? **Revelation 5:11** *“And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;”*

10,000 X 10,000 + 1,000 X 1,000 = 100 Billion angels. This is not taking this number literally. Because there are thousands of thousands of angels. What kind of room would you need to put 100 billion angels? For a man 2' X 2'. But how about for an angel? Usually they come in a very big size. So let's say 4' X 4' with their wings folded. So 4' X 4' x 100 billion angels. It turns out to be 3 times larger than planet earth. Now let's say they decide to spread out their wings. They then would need 6-7 times larger a space than planet earth.

When Jesus comes back the second time, all these angels will come back with Him. Do you think you will need to tell your neighbor that they're here? No, every eye will see His coming.

The Bible tells us what the angels will look like. **Matthew 28:3** *“His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:”* His face looks like lightening and his clothes white as snow. The angels are so bright that two angels knocked out the soldiers who were watching the tomb of Jesus. So can you imagine all of them coming with Jesus at His second coming? If they all looked like a lightening? and when they fly, they look like lightening? That will be powerful, bright and very visible. No one will miss His coming; and that's very clear from the Bible.

His coming will also be audible. Almost all lightening comes with a great sound. Will there be sound when Jesus comes? **Matthew 24:30** *“And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”* **Matthew 24:31** *“And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”* There will be a great sound of a trumpet. Of all instruments, trumpets make the greatest sound. All people will hear the trumpet. God Himself will come with a trumpet sound. **1 Thessalonians 4:16** *“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:”* The coming of Christ is related to three sounds. Shout, voice, and trumpet. The Bible makes it so clear that there will be great sound when Jesus comes, and the sound is so great that all will hear.

When God spoke His law on the Mount Sinai His voice sounded like thunder.

**Psalms 29:4** *“The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.”*

**Psalms 29:5** *“The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.”* How powerful is God's voice? When God spoke His voice would break the cedars of Lebanon. Do you know how big and strong those trees were? When God blows the trumpet you will not have to tell your neighbor.

When Jesus comes back why does He come back with such a great sound? **1 Thessalonians 4:16** *“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the*

*dead in Christ shall rise first:*” Because His voice is so loud that it will wake up the dead. There will be a resurrection when Jesus comes back the second time. ***Psalms 50:3*** “*Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.*” The Bible makes it perfectly clear that His coming will be visible, audible, and with a great noise.

But what about the text that says His coming is like a thief in the night? Let’s understand something here about a thief. In order for a thief to be successful in his stealing; he has to come suddenly and secretly. But Jesus will come back suddenly but not secretly. ***2 Peter 3:10*** “*But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*” Jesus will come as a thief in the night, but it goes on to say that the heavens will pass with a great noise. He will come suddenly but not silently or secretly, but with great sound and noise. He wants the whole world to know that He is here.

Where are we going to meet Jesus? In the desert or secret chamber? ***1 Thessalonians 4:17*** “*Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*” So if you see a man that claims to be Christ, and he is walking on the earth, you’d better believe that it is not Christ, because Christ will not touch the earth when He comes the second time. We will meet Him in the air, and be with Him there. Satan cannot counterfeit that coming. He can only imitate Christ walking on the earth.

So if this is clear, why do we have that doctrine of the secret rapture? This doctrine is not that old, only about 200 years old. This doctrine was established to teach the people that anti-christ

will come in the future, and that he did not really come in the past. In other words, the papal power is not considered the anti-christ because the anti-christ did not come in the past; he will come in the future. This doctrine states that people will just disappear when Jesus comes back secretly and snatches people away. What teachings do people use to prove this doctrine?

***2 Thessalonians 2:3*** “*Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;*” They believe that the falling away is the secret rapture, and the man of sin is the anti-christ. Then they believe they will have seven years of tribulation and in the midst of seven years, the anti-christ will be revealed. So they teach the anti-christ will be revealed in the future. But when the Bible says falling away, that does not mean secret rapture. The word falling away in the original language is aposticia. It means apostasy. Apostasy means falling down not up. This phrase right here is not talking about secret rapture being snatched away, it is talking about apostasy which took place in the past, in the dark ages when the anti-christ was revealed during the dark ages for 1260 years.

Why do people like to believe this doctrine? Because you escape tribulation. We don’t want to go through tribulation. But the Bible says in ***Acts 14:22*** “*Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.*” The disciples were being confirmed in the faith and they knew they would go through much tribulation. We too will go through much tribulation to enter into the kingdom of God.

God will demonstrate in the last days His people can pass through the tribulation because they love and trust God. Like Job, Satan told God he only serves you because you bless him.

So God told Satan to do whatever he wanted to Job, but not to take his life. And Job went through great sorrows. And God will once again demonstrate to Satan the same thing in His true and faithful people. The Bible does not teach that He will let His people escape tribulation.

What about the text one taken and one left?

**Luke 17:34** *“I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. 35 Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 36 Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.”*

First of all it looks like they are in one group. Two men in one bed, and two women in the grinding field. The one that was left do you know where he is left? Still in the bed. But the one that is taken, do you know where he is taken? No, the Bible doesn't say. Two women grinding together, Where was the one taken to? Who knows, the one left is still grinding. Two men in the field, the one left is left in the field. The people that are taken, we really don't know. The disciples asked the same question. **Luke 17:37** *“And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.”*

The disciples are asking about those that are taken. Where is the location that they are taken to? They are taken where the eagles are gathered together. Where is that? **Matthew 24:28** *“For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.”* The carcase is the dead, where the eagles or vultures are gathered together. There taken to be destroyed. When the Bible says taken, it means to be destroyed. When the Bible says left it means saved. The parable is not talking about physically being left behind or taken to heaven. The Bible is saying there will be Christians at the end doing things

together but only at the end you will know who is saved and who is lost. One shall be taken to be destroyed and one saved. Let the Bible explain.

**Matthew 24:38-41** *“For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.”*

The flood took the wicked away. Who was taken? The wicked were taken away with the flood. Who was left behind? Noah and his family were left behind.

Verse 40 must be read in light of verse 39. The wicked are taken in the flood and Noah left behind. If that's true then two in the field, the one taken (destroyed) the other left behind (saved). It does not mean left behind in the earth. It means left or remains in the truth. Let me show you a few Bible texts.

**1 Thessalonians 4:17** *“Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”* When the Bible says remain, what is that talking about? Left, remain in the truth. Those who are alive and remain will be saved.

**Revelation 12:17** *“And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”* The word remnant means left over. Those who remain in the truth.

Those who are taken are taken to be destroyed; those who are left are saved.

**Matthew 24:13** *“But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”* Those who endure until the end, through the tribulation will be saved.

**Matthew 24:38** *“For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,”*

In order for us to understand the condition of the world before Christ comes, we must understand the days of Noah. So let's look at the conditions in Noah's day. Noah spent 120 years building an ark, and preaching to warn the people that God will bring rain and destroy the earth with a flood. People did not believe that because the scientist say there has been no rain since the beginning of time. So they did not believe. They thought Noah was crazy. Noah pressed on, faithful to God. (We need to make a preparation for the things that are coming too).

120 years passed and as the wicked people were eating and drinking they heard a rumbling sound and saw animals going into the ark in order. (what do animal mean?) Even though God gave them this visible sign, which was like the last chance, the last warning, they were not changed in heart. Today people say there will be no destruction of the earth, it will go on. But if there was a flood, there will be a second coming of Christ. God may show you a visible sign, but you will not be able to tell if that is a sign or not, like they could not discern them, because they were being controlled by their appetite and passion, they were eating and drinking, marrying and given in marriage. Sin had a great grip on them. They were enjoying their sin. They were in bondage to their sin, and because of that they were not able to discern the last great warning message of God. And let me tell you that can happen to us as well. We must be sober and awakened and discern the coming of Jesus.

Finally they saw the door close alone. One door, meaning one way to salvation, Jesus Christ. For 120 years that door was open to everyone. But those who rejected the sign of God, watched the door close. They probably wondered what was going to happen. Perhaps they stood around the ark waiting, but nothing happened for 7 days. They probably laughed at Noah.

It probably was a testing time for Noah too. We need to be patient and wait on the Lord. Finally on the 7<sup>th</sup> day a man felt something on his forehead. **Gen 7:4** *“For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.”* Water started coming down, rumbling from heaven, dark clouds, lightning and thunder, water began to shoot up from the ground. The Bible says heaven opened up and water came up from the ground. **Gen 7:11** *“In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.”*

The last days will be the same as in the days of Noah; man will be living his life oblivious to the close hour of Christ return. Those that remain until the end will make a thorough preparation in their life to be enabled to enter into the Kingdom of God.

The rapture was introduced into Christianity as a tool of the devil to PREVENT people from making a preparation in their life to meet Jesus in the clouds of glory. And in this respect the last days will also be as it was in the days of Noah. The vast majority will not be prepared to enter the ark, and will be lost. This does not have to happen to you!

When the wicked felt the rain coming down it was too late. Then they were banging on the door asking to open up. But God closed the door and it was too late. We need to cry out to God now, while probation is lingering, before the door is closed. God gave them 120 years of mercy. What are you going to do? Are you going to hold on to the easy teachings of the Bible? Come to Jesus where you can find your security.