



Pastors	Issue # 51	Arripe diem
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PASTOR'S CORNER:

Rapture

"Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord." **1st Thessalonians 4:17**

The word **Rapture** simple means, the sudden removal of the church from earth to be with the Lord. Paul talks literally of the church being carried away in figurative words to the Thessalonians believers, giving us just a glimpse of what that day will be like for those living when Christ returns for His church.

There is considerable discussion today among believers and unbelievers concerning this topic. When will it happen? Who will go? Is this the second coming of Christ that Scripture speaks of? Paul takes great effort to educate the Thessalonians concerning these matters.

The basic idea of the Rapture is drawn from the Latin term for "**caught up**" **Rapture**. It means that the church of Jesus Christ, those who have trusted in Christ as their personal Saviour, will literally be transported from earth to heaven in an instant.

Paul believed that Jesus' return was imminent, and this should bring great comfort to each of us. The Rapture is not something we should fear, but a source of comfort and encouragement. Paul said, "Comfort one another with these words," in, 1st Thessalonians 4:18.

The return of Christ is absolute; the dead in Christ will rise first and those that remain will be caught up together to meet Him in the air, comfort one another with these words. Are you ready for this event?

A Thought from Mr. Rogers

"It's really easy to fall into the trap of believing that what we do is more important than what we are. Of course, it's the opposite that's true: What we are ultimately determines what we do!"



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Weekly Humor

Once upon a time, a perfect man and a perfect woman met. After a perfect courtship, they had a perfect wedding. Their life was, of course "perfect."

One snowy, stormy Christmas Eve, this perfect couple was driving their perfect car (a SUV) along a winding road, when they noticed someone at the side of the road in distress. Being the perfect couple they stopped to help.

There stood Santa Claus with a huge bundle of toys. Not wanting to disappoint any children on the eve of Christmas, the perfect couple loaded Santa and his toys into their vehicle. Soon they were driving along delivering the toys.

Unfortunately, the driving conditions deteriorated and the perfect couple and Santa Claus had an accident. Only one of them survived the accident.

Who was the survivor?

The perfect woman survived. She's the only one who really existed in the first place. Everyone knows there is no Santa Claus and there is no such thing as a perfect man.

So, if there is no perfect man and no Santa Claus, the perfect woman must have been driving. This explains why there was an accident.