

Sermon Note Supplement

1. "Shall" testimony concerning Christ's return to earth.

There is abundant evidence in the Word of God that Christ will come to earth. Indeed, the veracity of the Scriptures, in part, hangs upon this fact. Read the following texts as proof: Acts 1:11; Zech. 14:4, 9; Matt. 24:30-31; 25:31-32; Rev. 1:7.

2. Some major differences between the rapture (Christ coming to meet the church in the air) and the revelation (Christ coming to the earth in power and glory).

a. Rapture: a mystery. Not a subject of the O.T.

Revelation: major subject of the O.T. (Zech. 14:3, 4).

b. Rapture: relates to church and those "in Christ". (1 Thess. 4:13-18).

Revelation: relates to Israel and Gentiles (Rom. 11:25, 26; Matt. 25:31-46).

c. Rapture: entirely imminent (Rom. 13:11-12; 1 Cor. 1:7; 15:51-53; Phil. 3:20, 21; 1 Thess. 4:16, 17).

Revelation: preceded by predicted events (Matt. 24:29-31).

d. Rapture: everywhere presented as a promise of comfort and deliverance from wrath (1 Thess. 4:18; 5:9-11; Rev. 3:10).

Revelation: pictured as time of ultimate execution of God's wrath upon an unbelieving world (Zech. 12:1-10; 14:1-9; Matt. 25:31-46; Rev. 19:11-16).

3. There is a modern movement afoot to discredit the truth of the difference between the Rapture and the Revelation. The actual keys to understanding this matter are often neglected. Basically, it is this:

the difference between the church, Israel, and Gentiles (1 Cor. 10:32). When this distinction is consistently made, the truth is obvious.