

LAST DAY EVENTS # 3

The Catching Away

Crossroads Foursquare Gospel Church

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18

August 9, 2020 Michael Norton

Introduction: The story of the Raven and the Bald Eagle.

One of the strongest arguments for a pre-tribulation rapture is the fact that throughout the New Testament believers are exhorted to look for and wait for the coming of Jesus (Matt. 24:42-43; 25:13; Mark 13:35; 1 Thess. 5:6; Titus 2:13; 1 John 3:3; Hebrews 9:28)

THE PROMISE OF A MANSION, John 14:1-3

1. A Mansion is promised but no reigning and ruling on the earth, v.3. see John 12:26
2. Jesus made it clear He wants to be with us

THE PROMISE OF A NEW BODY

1. Philippians 3:20-21 "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself."
2. Ephesians 5:25-27 "...Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish."
 - a. No spot or wrinkle in the flesh or clothes.
3. God has an order 1 Corinthians 15:23-28
 - a. Given a spiritual body 1 Corinthians 15:42-44
 - b. We shall all be changed 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

THE PROMISE OF BEING CAUGHT UP WITH HIM 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18

1. Jesus will descend from heaven v.16.
2. We will be caught up with Him v.17
3. Caught up in the clouds, in the air, v.17
4. To always be with the LORD v.17
5. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 "falling away" Strong's #646, apostacy, divorce, related to #368 "depart" as in 2 Corinthians 12:8. In Greek there is a definite article referring to an event known by the recipients which some say is the church leaving.

Last Words: Mark 14:62 "...you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power and coming with the clouds of heaven." Acts 1:11 [angels speaking] "... men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

Smile when you see a cloud it is a reminder of His coming.

Are you ready for Him?