



I. The Anticipation of Christ's Return

A. The Promise

1. Jesus promised His return

2. Angels promised His return

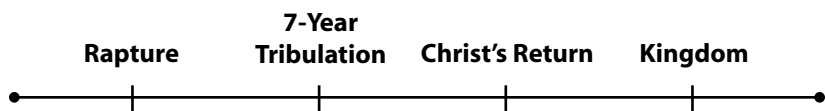
3. The Thessalonians

B. The Distinction of the Two Comings

1. Paul reveals the _____ of the rapture when Jesus comes to take away the believers called _____.

MYSTERY: A previously hidden truth now divinely revealed.

- Paul teaches the mystery of the rapture, which precedes Jesus' coming to earth for the kingdom.
- Jesus' signs all point to His coming to set up His kingdom.
- Careful study of prophecy indicates that a seven-year period of tribulation takes place between the church's being caught away and Christ's return to set up His kingdom.



C. The Immediacy

1. It is _____

This warning is for the Jews for the second coming to earth, but is just as applicable to us looking for the rapture of the Church.

II. The Preparations For Christ's Return

A. Purify

B. Occupy

The idea is to _____ our talents, spiritual gifts and money to further the gospel.

C. Evangelize

1. Christ's final instructions

2. Paul's Motivation, Our Motivation

A. The Basis For Our Motivation

The _____ of the Lord against unbelievers should cause great concern for their salvation.

The condition of the rich man after his death (Luke 16:19-31):

v. 23 – Able to _____ the comfort of the saved

v. 23 – In _____

v. 24 – In _____

v. 24 – In _____ in this fire

v. 25 – In _____

v. 26 – An impassable _____ between us

v. 27-28 – _____ for brothers to be saved

B. The Heart For Our Motivation

1. Christ's love compels us (v. 14-15)

2. Christ gives us a ministry of reconciliation (v. 18-21)

Conclusion:

Whatcha looking forward to?

Christ could come, perhaps today!

What do I need to do to get ready?