

A STUDY OF, "THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH"

During this study we will attempt to answer three basic questions.

- 1) What is the Rapture of the church?
- 2) How can we know that the Rapture will really happen?
- 3) How do we explain the biblical concept known as the Rapture to others?

SECTION 1)

What is "THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH"?

It is the fulfillment of the promise made by Christ, to return to earth and take his church to heaven.

We can know that this is a true statement because Christ said;
 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."
 (John 14:1-3)

However, when we try to explain this issue with others their first question is, is the word "RAPTURE" really in our English bibles? The answer is NO. Then why do we believe in the rapture if the word "RAPTURE" is not even in our English bibles? Because the original text were all written in either Greek or Latin and when these original texts were translated into English the word rapture was the equivalent to the English word of the original Greek or Latin word.

- 1) In the Greek translations it meant, "we shall be caught away" or "taken away"
- 2) In the Latin translations it meant, "to catch up" or "take away"
- 3) In English and to Christians around the world it means that Christ will reach down from the clouds, and physically take his church off of this earth to heaven and all this will occur in a split second (Time to be determined by God).

