

Video: “Rapture Ready” – on sermon spice

- I. We are encouraged by the truth of God (v. 13)
  - A. The death of followers of Christ is not the end

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he dies.” (John 11:25)

- B. In Christ we have the hope of eternal life
- II. We are encouraged by the work of God (v. 14)
  - A. Jesus died for our sins
  - B. Jesus rose again from the dead
  - C. Jesus will return to take us home

“And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.” (John 14:3)

- III. We are encouraged by Christ’s return to earth (v. 15-16)
  - A. Jesus will come for us
    - 1. King Jesus will call us with his authority
    - 2. The archangel will shout the good news
    - 3. The trump of God will sound will announce our departure

\*Sound of shofar

- B. The dead in Christ will be rise to be with Jesus first

“So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.” (I Corinthians 15:42-44)

- IV. We are encouraged by the rapture of the church (v. 17)
  - A. We will be taken into the sky in an instant

“Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed – in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.” (I Corinthians 15:51-52)

- B. We will be given new glorified bodies

“But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.” (Philippians 3:20-21)

C. We will meet the resurrected believers in the air

D. We will meet Jesus in the air

“When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.” (Colossians 3:4)

V. We are encouraged by the expectation of Christ’s return (v. 18)

“We wait for the blessed hope – the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.” (Colossians 1:5)

A. We are encouraged by knowing we will see Jesus

“But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.” (1 John 3:2)

B. We are encouraged by knowing we will be reunited with loved ones

C. We are encouraged by knowing we will enter heaven

D. We are encouraged by knowing we will live forever