



Jeremy White, Lead Pastor
Valley Church

September 20, 2020
Week 6 – The Voice of Paul (Part 1)

Introduction:

John 3:17-18

Romans 16:25-26

Romans 5:9

The Voice of Paul in 1 Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

“caught up” = (Greek) *harpazo* / (Latin) *rapere, rapturo*

“Rapture” means “to be caught up or snatched away by force”

Two Dominant Rapture Views:

1. The _____-Tribulation View = the Rapture will happen at the end of the Tribulation period, simultaneous to the Second Coming

1 Thessalonians 1:10; 5:9-10
Revelation 3:10

2. The _____-Tribulation View = the Rapture will happen before the Tribulation period and believers will be with Jesus in Heaven during the seven years

Four Key Takeaways from the Voice of Paul:

1. We will never _____ the wrath of God (Rom. 5:9, 1 Thess. 1:10; 5:9)
2. We are to live in constant _____ of Christ's soon return (1 Thess. 1:9; 4:16-17, 2 Pet. 3:12)
3. We are _____ to persevere as we wait for Christ's return (Heb. 12:7; 1 John 4:18)
4. We must _____ each other with these words about Christ's return (1 Thess. 4:18; 5:11)

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Personal Life:

1. In the weekend message we looked at the subject of the Rapture. If there is one theme that was most clear or impactful to you, what was it and why do you think it stood out?

Ponderings:

2. Among Christians there are numerous disagreements about the details of Christ's return. With that in mind, what are some of the major truths about the Second Coming that *all* followers of Jesus can agree on? Discuss...
3. Paul repeatedly told the Thessalonians to "encourage each other" with the assurance of their deliverance from the coming judgment of God. How does this theme tie into the Gospel of grace as it has been taught to us at Valley? Why is this promise so practical and impacting for us in our day-to-day lives?
4. Throughout this series, it has been noted that we do not know the day or hour of Christ's return, but that we can discern "signs and seasons." When you consider all that is going on in our world today, are there indicators (signs) that you personally think align with your understanding of Biblical prophecy? Discuss...
5. Of the four "key takeaways" on the message outline, which is most significant to you personally and why?

Promptings:

6. If we truly lived our lives under by the conviction that the time of Christ's coming is near, how might our values and priorities be affected? Would your routines, investments and passions look different? Discuss...