

**THE TIME  
IS NOW**



## The Rapture

### The Bible Validates Itself Through Prophetic Utterance

1. **26.8%** of the Bible was prophetic in nature when it was written.
2. Jesus fulfilled **356** prophecies written about Him hundreds of years before He arrived on earth.
3. For Jesus to fulfill 8 prophecies written about Him, the odds are: **1 IN 10 TO THE 28<sup>TH</sup> POWER, THAT'S 1 WITH 28 ZEROS BEHIND IT!**
4. For Jesus to fulfill 48 prophecies written about Him, the odds are: **1 IN 10 TO THE 157<sup>TH</sup> POWER, THAT'S 1 WITH 157 ZEROS BEHIND IT!**
5. Mathematicians, statisticians and scientists say **1 IN 10 TO THE 50<sup>TH</sup> POWER IS IMPOSSIBLE!**

### The Rapture

**1 Thessalonians 4:13 (ESV)** *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.*

**1 Corinthians 15:51 (ESV)** *Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.*

### The Jewish Wedding: A Picture Of The Rapture

*The Four Steps of a Jewish Wedding Ceremony*

1. The **SELECTION** process — the **GROOM** goes to the bride and **PAYS THE DOWRY**.
  - a. They share **BREAD AND WINE** and make a **BINDING COVENANT** together.
2. The **GROOM** goes home and **PREPARES A PLACE** for he and his bride **TO LIVE**.
  - a. During the waiting period **THE BRIDE** is **SET APART, SANCTIFIED** exclusively for her bridegroom.
3. The groom **RETURNS FOR HIS BRIDE** at a time **DETERMINED BY** the father.
  - a. The bride does not **KNOW WHEN HER GROOM** will return. The groom must wait for **HIS FATHER'S OKAY**.
4. They **RETURN TO THE FATHER'S** house together to **LIVE THE REST OF THEIR LIVES** together.
  - a. The marriage is **CONSUMMATED** and together with friends and family they **CELEBRATE THE WEDDING FEAST** for up to **7 DAYS**.

### How Do These Four Steps Apply To Us?

1. Jesus came **TO THE EARTH** to select **US AS HIS CHURCH** and paid the dowry **WITH HIS BLOOD**. *John 3:16*
2. Jesus has **GONE HOME** to **PREPARE A PLACE FOR US** to live. *John 14:1-3*
3. Jesus will **COME AND GET HIS BRIDE** and **TAKE US HOME** to live with Him forever. *1 Thessalonians 4:17*
4. We will celebrate the **WEDDING SUPPER** of the Lamb. *Revelation 19:6-9*

### Why Should We Care About The Rapture?

1. Jesus said no man **KNOWS THE DAY NOR THE HOUR** when the Son of Man will come... we need to be **READY AND WATCHING!**

**Are you watching for Him to return?  
Will you be ready when He comes?**