

A Vision For The Future

Several passages in the New Testament describe the end of time and the coming judgment. Jesus' coming is described as *"thief in the night"* and at that time the *"heavens will pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat"* (2 Peter 3:10-11). Paul said, *"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed"* (1 Corinthians 15:51-52). This also agrees with his statement in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17: *"The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."*

It is on this last great day that Jesus will judge us according to our works (John 5:28-29; 6:39-40, 44, 54; Romans 2:6; Revelation 20:11-15). As you will note, there is no mention of a "rapture" nor a "tribulation" at the end of time. In fact, according to the point that Jesus made concerning the *"last day,"* there cannot even be a millennial reign by Christ upon the earth. Paul said again in 1 Corinthians 15: *"But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end ..."* (vss. 23-24). Paul discusses the resurrection and says that the *"end"* occurs at that time! All of us need desperately to prepare for that final day. There will be no second chances. When Christ comes again, you will be judged for what you have done. Are you ready to face Him?

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