

The Coming of the Lord (Part 1)
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- I. Introduction (1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)

- II. Principles of interpretation
 - A. Let Scripture interpret Scripture

 - B. Read out of the text, not into it

 - C. Trust the clarity of Scripture

 - D. On secondary issues, hold your position with humility

- III. Events making up the end times
 - A. The second coming of Christ

 - B. The rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:13–17)

 - C. The tribulation (cf. Jeremiah 30:7; Ezekiel 5:9; Daniel 12:1; Revelation 7:14; Matthew 24:22; Revelation 19:11–21; 20:1–3)

- IV. Relationship of the rapture to the tribulation
 - A. Pre-tribulation rapture

 - B. Mid-tribulation rapture

 - C. Post-tribulation rapture

- V. Conclusion (Revelation 22:12-14; 2 Peter 3:9–10)