

# The Rapture of the Church, Part 1

## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

**Jesus repeatedly promised His disciples that He was coming back FOR them and back again WITH them.**

**The Bible teaches that the Second Coming occurs in two stages:**

Stage One: The rapture of the Church when Jesus comes *for* believers.

Stage Two: The return of Christ to earth *with* believers.

**Be informed about the rapture (vs. 13)**

**The saints will come with Jesus from heaven at the rapture (vs. 14)**

**God has an order and sequence at the rapture (vs. 15)**

**Get ready for the rapid-fire events at rapture (vs. 16-17)**

1. Jesus will come personally (vs. 16a)
2. Three signals will alert us (vs. 16b)
3. The dead in Christ will rise first (vs. 16c)
4. Believers alive at that time will be caught up (vs. 17)
5. The rapture encourages and comforts us (vs. 18)