

## End Times Prophecy

### **This Week:**

**Lesson:** Epistles

**Next Week:** Revelation

### **The Rapture of the Church**

Considerations:

The Church is exempt from the wrath of God. By saving faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of sins and His righteousness is applied to us. The prophesied judgments on Israel and the nations do not fall on the redeemed – so where is the Church?

The Church is not part of the first 69 sevens of Daniel, and the 70<sup>th</sup> seven is judgment against the Israel and the nations. The Church Age begins and ends between the two periods – how?

<b>John 14:1-2</b>	The great promise
<b>I Corinthians 15:50-53</b>	Dead resurrected and glorified, Living glorified without death
<b>I Thessalonians 4:13-18</b>	The rapture passage
<b>II Thessalonians 2:1, 2-12</b>	The gathering of Christians, The man of lawlessness

### **Discussion:**

- **Note** that the rapture is not included in Old Testament prophecy because the church is not revealed in the Old Testament!
- **Consider** John 14:2 in regards to rapture versus coming in judgment
- **Note** the distinction between Christ coming in the air, and Christ's return in judgment to Mount Zion.
- **Discuss** I Thessalonians 4:16-17, how can this be interpreted in terms of the action taking place, in regards to when it will occur?
- **Discuss** the rapture in regards to II Thessalonians 2:2-12, what does this say about the timing?
- **Understand** that the vast majority of the Book of Revelation does not apply to Christians!

### **Questions to the Class:**

Is there any way to reconcile the coming of Christ in the Air, with the return of Christ in judgment, as the same event?

How does Old Testament passages about Judgment help us understand rapture?

How is the Church separate from the 70 sevens?