

Mike Hogue
October 18, 2026

Our Returning King

Looking Up for Our Hope

Revelation 4:1 and Various Scriptures



¹⁹Therefore write the things which
you have seen, and the things which
are, **and the things which will take
place after these things.**

Revelation 1:19 (NASB 2020)

¹After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like *the sound* of a trumpet speaking with me, said, “Come up here, and **I will show you what must take place after these things.**”

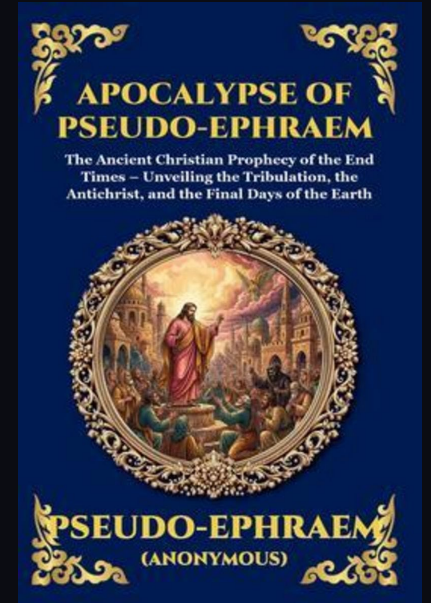
Revelation 4:1 (NASB 2020)

¹After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like *the sound of a trumpet* speaking with me, said, “**Come up here**, and I will show you what must take place after these things.”

Revelation 4:1 (NASB 2020)

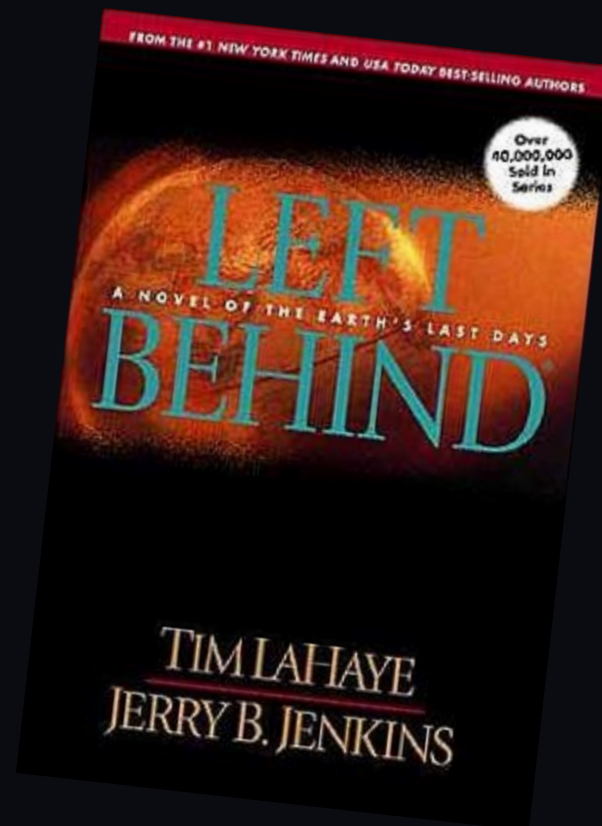
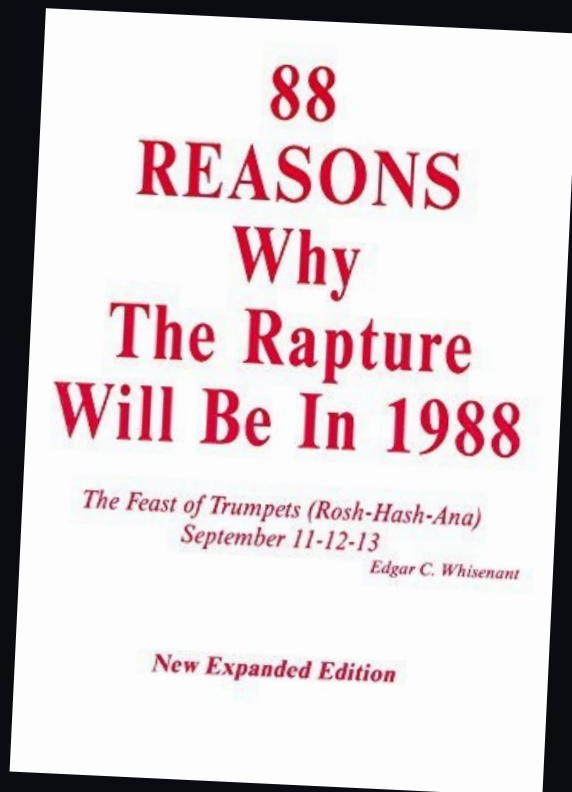
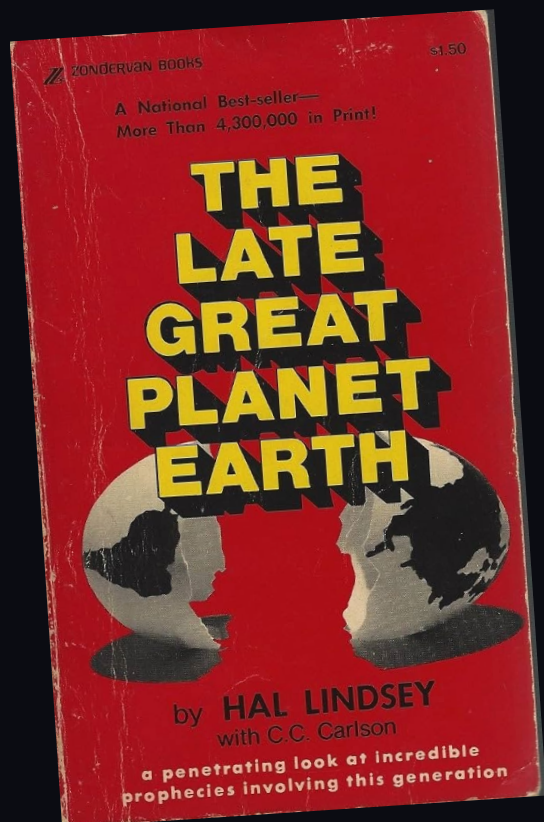
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Because all the saints and elect of God are gathered together before the tribulation, which is to come, and are taken to the Lord, in order that they may not see at any time the confusion which overwhelms the world because of our sins.”

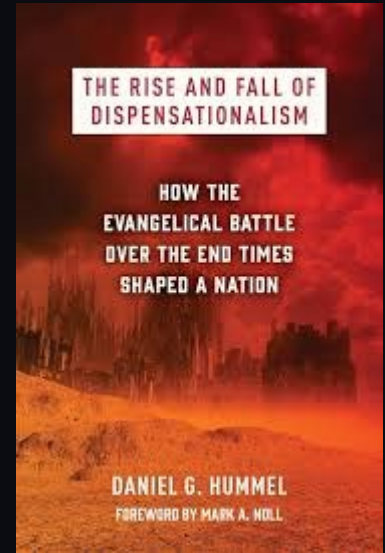


373-627 AD?

Ephraem, Syrian father
306-373



The torrent of pop-dispensational works that followed Lindsey exhibited even fewer references to scholastic thought, further widening the breach in the community. *Late Great Planet Earth's* success instead prompted new, less theologically grounded questions for writers: Why did prophecy commentary need any connection to the scholastics or to formal religious thought of any kind? Why did it need to be limited to the genre of nonfiction? Why did it need to be confined to the medium of print? Lindsey paved the way for dispensational diffusion into all types of media and popular culture in the 1970s, including fiction, film, and music.



¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people, ¹²instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and in a godly manner in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, ¹⁴who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, eager for good deeds.

Titus 2:11–14 (NASB 2020)

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Looking Up for Our Hope

Revelation 4:1 and Various Scriptures



Key Takeaway:

Be encouraged, looking up for your blessed hope, purifying yourself while waiting to see Jesus again!

Looking Up for Our Hope

1. The church has a distinct _____
2. The church is _____ from God's wrath
3. Christ's return is _____
4. Christ's return for the church is before the _____
5. Christ's return is pictured by an _____

Looking Up for Our Hope

1. The church has a distinct identity
2. The church is _____ from God's wrath
3. Christ's return is _____
4. Christ's return for the church is before the _____
5. Christ's return is pictured by an _____

1. The church has a distinct *identity*

A. It's not _____

B. It was newly _____

C. It is _____ in the tribulation

1. The church has a distinct *identity*

A. It's not *Israel*

B. It was newly _____

C. It is _____ in the tribulation

¹¹In Him we also have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things in accordance with the plan of His will, ¹²to the end that **we who were the first to hope in the Christ** would be to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:11–12 (NASB 2020)

¹⁵And as I began to speak, **the Holy Spirit fell** upon them just as *He did* upon us **at the beginning**.

Acts 11:15 (NASB 2020)

¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the **dead in Christ** will rise first.

¹⁷Then we who are alive, who remain, 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.

1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 (NASB 2020)

Deuteronomy 30:1-6

¹“So it will be when all of these things have come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have placed before you, and you call *them* to mind in all the nations where the Lord your God has scattered you,

²and you return to the Lord your God and obey Him with all your heart and soul in accordance with everything that I am commanding you today, you and your sons,

³then the Lord your God will restore you from captivity, and have compassion on you, and will gather you again from all the peoples where the Lord your God has scattered you.

⁴If any of your scattered *countrymen* are at the **ends of the earth**, from there the Lord your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you back.

⁵The Lord your God **will bring you into the land** which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it; and He will be good to you and make you more numerous than your fathers.

⁶“Moreover, the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the hearts of your descendants, to love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul, so that you may live.

Deuteronomy 30:1–6 (NASB 2020)

¹²On that day the LORD will thresh from the flowing stream of the *Euphrates* River to the brook of Egypt, and **you will be gathered up one by one, you sons of Israel.** ¹³It will come about also on that day that a great trumpet will be blown, and those who were perishing in the land of Assyria and who were scattered in the land of Egypt **will come and worship the LORD on the holy mountain in Jerusalem.**

Isaiah 27:12–13 (NASB 2020)

⁶“You there! Flee from the land of the north,” declares the LORD, “because I have spread you out like the four winds of the heavens,” declares the LORD.

Zechariah 2:6 (NASB 2020)

¹⁰Shout for joy and rejoice, **daughter of Zion**; for behold I am coming and I will dwell in your midst,” declares the LORD. ¹¹“And many nations will join themselves to the LORD on that day and will become My people. Then I will dwell in your midst, and you will know that the LORD of armies has sent Me to you. ¹²And **the LORD will possess Judah as His portion in the holy land, and will again choose Jerusalem.** Zechariah 2:10–12 (NASB 2020)

⁸“But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, Descendant of Abraham My friend, ⁹You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth And called from its remotest parts, And said to you, ‘**You are My servant, I have chosen you and have not rejected you.**

Isaiah 41:8–9 (NASB 2020)

²⁸Regarding the gospel, they are enemies for your advantage, but regarding election, they are loved because of the patriarchs, ²⁹since God's gracious gifts and calling are irrevocable.

Romans 11:28–29 (HCSB)

Matthew 24:29-31

²⁹“But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

³⁰And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the son of man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.

³¹And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet blast, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

Matthew 24:29–31 (NASB 2020)

⁴If any of your scattered *countrymen* are at the **ends of the earth**, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you back.

Deuteronomy 30:4 (NASB 2020)

⁶“You there! Flee from the land of the north,” declares the LORD, “because I have spread you out like the four winds of the heavens,” declares the LORD.

Zechariah 2:6 (NASB 2020)

²⁷And then He will send forth the angels, and will gather together **His elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of heaven.**

Mark 13:27 (NASB 2020)

1. The church has a distinct *identity*

A. It's not *Israel*

B. It was newly _____

C. It is _____ in the tribulation

1. The church has a distinct *identity*

A. It's not *Israel*

B. It was newly *illuminated*

C. It is _____ in the tribulation

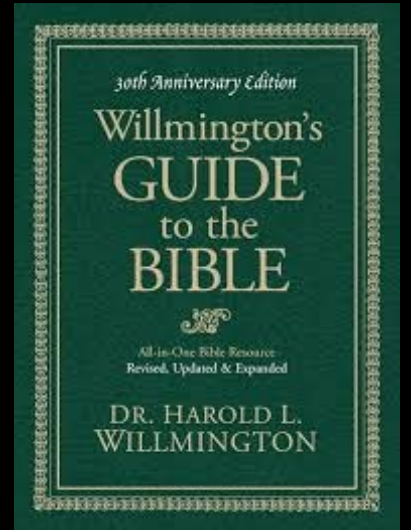
⁴By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into **the mystery** of Christ, ⁵which in other generations was not made known to mankind, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; ⁶*to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel*, ⁷of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power.

Ephesians 3:4–7 (NASB 2020)

⁵¹Behold, I am telling you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, ⁵²in 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 will be changed. ⁵³For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

1 Corinthians 15:51–53 (NASB 2020)

A mystery in the Bible is a previously hidden truth, not revealed in the Old Testament, but declared, and at times explained, in the New Testament.



1. The church has a distinct *identity*

A. It's not *Israel*

B. It was newly *illuminated*

C. It is _____ in the tribulation

1. The church has a distinct *identity*

A. It's not *Israel*

B. It was newly *illuminated*

C. It is *invisible* in the tribulation

⚙️ Precise ▾ lemma:ἐκκλησία

Open Factbook to ἐκκλησία

New American Standard Bible (2020) 20 results in 19 verses

Passages | Aligned | Grid | Analysis | Fuzzy

Rev 1:4	John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before His throne,
Rev 1:11	saying, "Write on a scroll what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."
Rev 1:20	As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.
Rev 2:1	"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:
Rev 2:7	The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who overcomes, I will grant to eat from the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.'
Rev 2:8	"And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: The first and the last, who was dead, and has come to life, says this:
Rev 2:11	The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.'
Rev 2:12	"And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:
Rev 2:17	The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows except the one who receives it.'
Rev 2:18	"And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and feet like burnished bronze, says this:
Rev 2:23	And I will kill her children with plague, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.
Rev 2:29	The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'
Rev 3:1	"To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, and yet you are dead.
Rev 3:6	The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'
Rev 3:7	"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:
Rev 3:13	The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'
Rev 3:14	"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Origin of the creation of God, says this:
Rev 3:22	The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.' "
Rev 22:16	"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you of these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

→ “The Tribulation”

Also, posttribulationists face a difficulty in explaining the absence of the word “church” in all biblical passages related to the Tribulation. Even in Revelation 4–21, the lengthiest description of the Tribulation in all of Scripture, the word “church” never appears. Posttribulationists must assume that the word “saints” in Revelation 4–21 means the church, although a different Greek word is used.



⁴Around the throne *were* twenty-four
thrones; and upon the thrones *I saw*
twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in
white garments, and golden crowns
on their heads.

Revelation 4:4 (NASB 2020)

¹²Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the **crown of life** which *the Lord* has promised to those who love Him.

James 1:12 (NASB 2020)

¹⁰‘Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and **I will give you the crown of life.**

Revelation 2:10 (NASB 2020)

⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;
⁸in the future there is reserved for me the **crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

2 Timothy 4:7–8 (NASB 2020)

⁵The one who overcomes will be clothed the same way, **in white garments**; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

Revelation 3:5 (NASB 2020)

Looking Up for Our Hope

1. The church has a distinct identity
2. The church is _____ from God's wrath
3. Christ's return is _____
4. Christ's return for the church is before the _____
5. Christ's return is pictured by an _____

Looking Up for Our Hope

1. The church has a distinct identity
2. The church is immune from God's wrath
3. Christ's return is _____
4. Christ's return for the church is before the _____
5. Christ's return is pictured by an _____

⁹For they themselves report about us as to the kind of reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *that is, Jesus who rescues us from the wrath to come.*

1 Thessalonians 1:9–10 (NASB 2020)

³While **they** are saying, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction will come upon **them** like labor pains upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you, brothers *and sisters*, are not in darkness, so that the day would overtake you like a thief; ⁵for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

1 Thessalonians 5:3–5 (NASB 2020)

⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him.

1 Thessalonians 5:9–10 (NASB 2020)

⁸But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, **we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.**

Romans 5:8–9 (NASB 2020)

¹⁶and they said to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the sight of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; ¹⁷for the great day of Their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”

Revelation 6:16–17 (NASB 2020)

Rev 6:1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals...

Rev 6:3 When He broke the second seal...

Rev 6:5 When He broke the third seal...

Rev 6:7 When *the Lamb* broke the fourth seal...

Rev 6:9 When *the Lamb* broke the fifth seal...

Rev 6:12 And I looked when He broke the sixth seal...

Rev 8:1 When *the Lamb* broke the seventh seal...

¹Then I saw another sign in heaven,
great and marvelous, seven angels
who had seven plagues, *which are*
the last, because in them the wrath of
God is finished.

Revelation 15:1 (NASB 2020)

²⁰For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also **we eagerly wait** for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; ²¹who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

Philippians 3:20–21 (NASB95)

Looking Up for Our Hope

1. The church has a distinct identity
2. The church is immune from God's wrath
3. Christ's return is _____
4. Christ's return for the church is before the _____
5. Christ's return is pictured by an _____

Looking Up for Our Hope

1. The church has a distinct identity
2. The church is immune from God's wrath
3. Christ's return is imminent
4. Christ's return for the church is before the _____
5. Christ's return is pictured by an _____

3. Christ's return is *imminent*

A. It will be a _____

B. It will be _____

C. It motivates _____

3. Christ's return is *imminent*

A. It will be a *surprise*

B. It will be _____

C. It motivates _____

²For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord is coming **just like a thief in the night.** ³While they are saying, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction will come upon them like labor pains upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

1 Thessalonians 5:2–3 (NASB 2020)

⁴²“Therefore **be on the alert**, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.

⁴³But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into.

Matthew 24:42–43 (NASB 2020)

²⁸Now, little children, **remain in Him,**
so that when He appears, we may
have confidence and not draw back
from Him in shame at His coming.

1 John 2:28 (NASB 2020)

3. Christ's return is *imminent*

A. It will be a *surprise*

B. It will be _____

C. It motivates _____

3. Christ's return is *imminent*

A. It will be a *surprise*

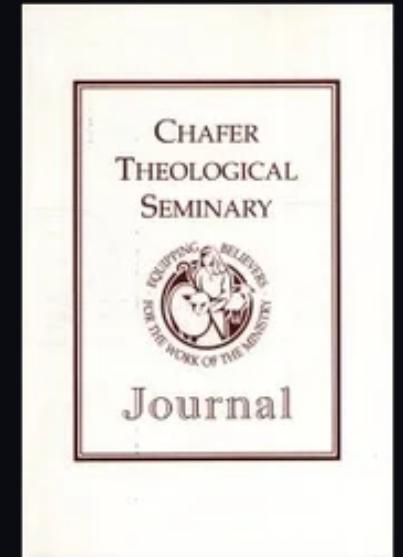
B. It will be *sudden*

C. It motivates _____

⁵¹Behold, I am telling you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, ⁵²in 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 will be changed.

1 Corinthians 15:51–52 (NASB 2020)

The translation will take place instantly—“in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye.” The Greek word for “moment” denotes something that cannot be cut or an indivisible period of time. The change will occur so quickly that it could be said it happened in the smallest existing unit of time. A double emphasis is given with the use of the Greek noun translated “twinkling,” meaning a wink, flutter, or jerk of an eyelid. Beet remarked that the phrase “in the twinkling of an eye” “dwells upon, and intensifies, the idea of suddenness.”



“The Triumph of the Resurrection: An Examination of 1 Cor 15:51-58”
Ron Bigalke Jr.

3. Christ's return is *imminent*

A. It will be a *surprise*

B. It will be *sudden*

C. It motivates _____

3. Christ's return is *imminent*

A. It will be a *surprise*

B. It will be *sudden*

C. It motivates *sanctification*

¹See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and *such* we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ²Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. ³And **everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.**

1 John 3:1–3 (NASB95)

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, ¹²instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, ¹⁴who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

Titus 2:11–14 (NASB95)

Looking Up for Our Hope

1. The church has a distinct identity
2. The church is immune from God's wrath
3. Christ's return is imminent
4. Christ's return for the church is before the _____
5. Christ's return is pictured by an _____

Looking Up for Our Hope

1. The church has a distinct identity
2. The church is immune from God's wrath
3. Christ's return is imminent
4. Christ's return for the church is before the impostor
5. Christ's return is pictured by an _____

³Let no one in any way deceive you,
for *it will not come* unless the
apostasy comes first, and **the man of**
lawlessness is revealed, the son of
destruction,

2 Thessalonians 2:3 (NASB95)

³⁶“Then the king will do as he pleases, and he will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will speak monstrous things against the God of gods; and he will prosper until the indignation is finished, for that which is decreed will be done.

Daniel 11:36 (NASB95)

¹Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as *with* a voice of thunder, “Come!” ²I looked, and behold, a white horse, and the one who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

Revelation 6:1–2 (NASB 2020)

³/ *saw* one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed *and followed* after **the beast**; ⁴they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to **the beast**; and **they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?”** ⁵There **was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies**, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him. ⁶And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, *that is*, those who dwell in heaven.

Revelation 13:3–6 (NASB95)

2 Thessalonians 2:1-10

¹Now we ask you, brothers *and sisters*, regarding the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,

²that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit, or a message, or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

³No one is to deceive you in any way!
For *it will not come* unless the
apostasy comes first, and the man of
lawlessness is revealed, the son of
destruction,

⁴who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

⁵Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?

⁶And you know what restrains *him* now, so that he will be revealed in his time.

⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is removed.

⁸Then that lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will eliminate with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

⁹*that is,* the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and false signs and wonders,

¹⁰and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not accept the love of the truth so as to be saved.

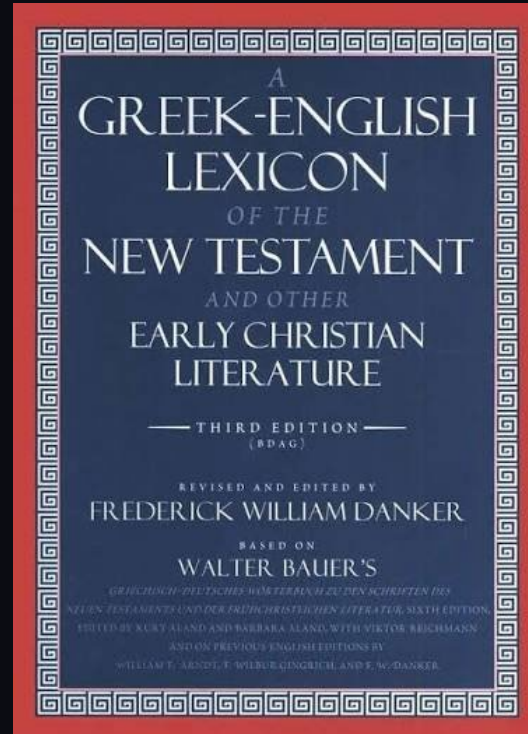
2 Thessalonians 2:1–10 (NASB 2020)

³No one is to deceive you in any way!
For *it will not come* unless the
apostasy comes first, and the man of
lawlessness is revealed, the son of
destruction,

2 Thessalonians 2:3 (NASB 2020)

ἀποστασία, ας, ή (s. ἀφίστημι; a form quotable since Diod S outside the Bible [Nägeli 31] for the older ἀπόστασις [Phryn. 528 Lob.])

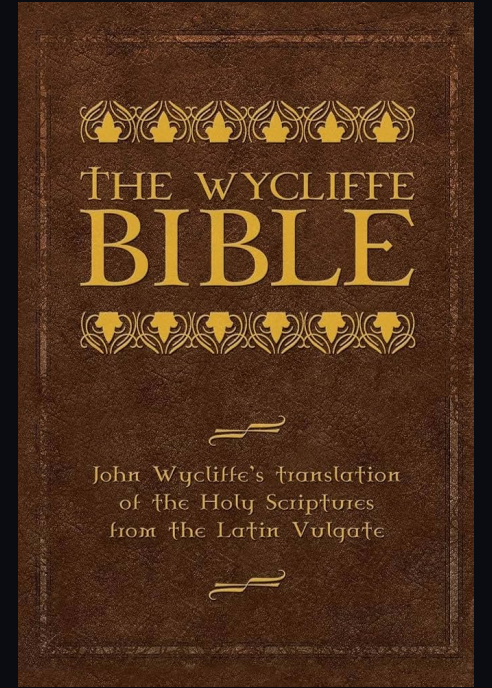
defiance of established system or authority, rebellion, abandonment, breach of faith (Josh 22:22; 2 Ch 29:19; 1 Macc 2:15; Just., D. 110, 2; Tat. 8:1) ἀπὸ τίνος (Plu., Galb. 1053 [1, 9] Z. v.l. ἀπὸ Νέρωνος ἀ.; Jos., Vi. 43) ἀποστασίαν διδάσκεις ἀπὸ Μωϋσέως *you teach (Judeans) to abandon Moses* Ac 21:21.



³⁷and *then* as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She **did** not **leave** the temple *grounds*, serving night and day with fasts and prayers.

Luke 2:37 (NASB 2020)

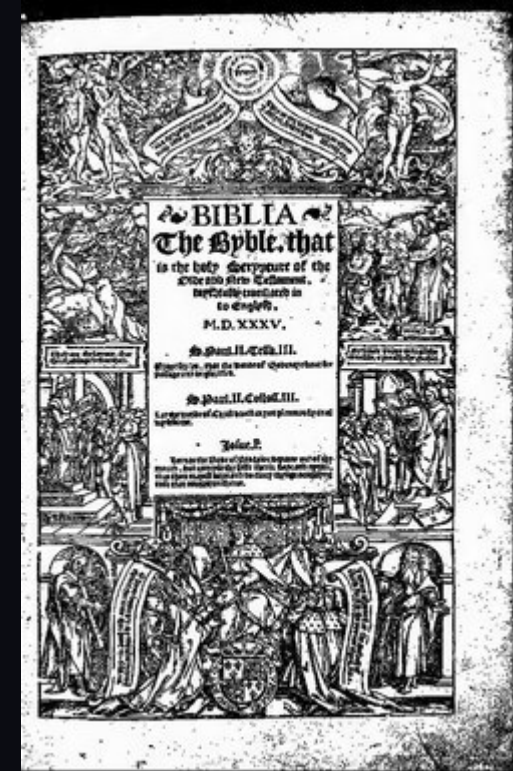
³No man disseyue ȝou in ony manere. For but **dissencioun**^h come first, and the man of synne be schewid, the sonne of perdition, 2 Thessalonians 2:3 (Wycliffe)



Wycliffe Bible, 1382-95

^h **ether departing away** k marg. discessioun k text. discessioun, **or departyng**, or **departisoun** k marg.

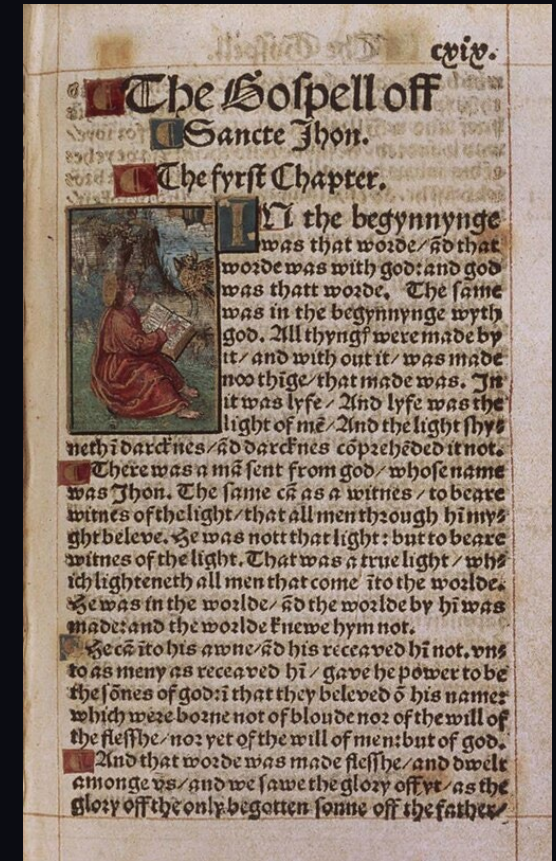
Let no man disceaue you by eny
meanes. For the LORDE
commeth not, **excepte the**
departynges come first, and that
that Man of synne be opened,
euen the sonne of perdition,
2 Thessalonians 2:3
(Coverdale Bible, 1535)



Coverdale Bible, 1535

³Let no mā deceave you by any meanes/for the Lorde cōmeth not/**excepte there come a departyng fyrst**/and that that synfull man be opened/the sone of perdition/which is an adversarie/

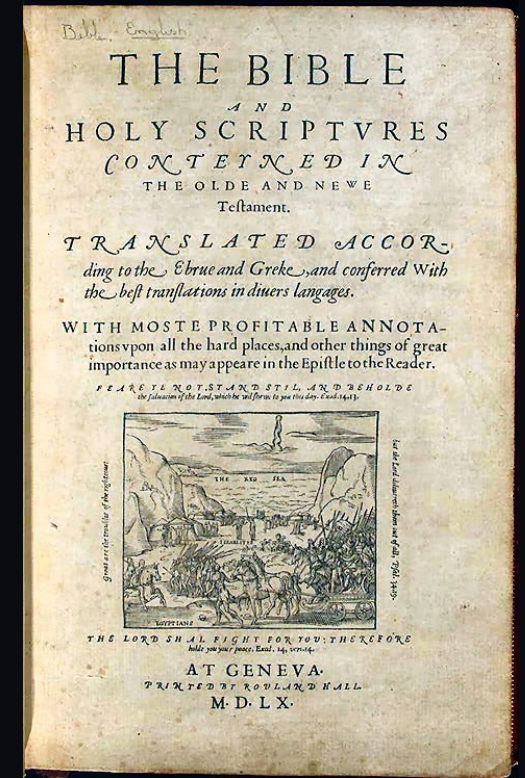
2 Thessalonians 2:3
(Tyndale 1536)



Tyndale Bible, 1536

³Let no man deceive you by any meanes: for *that day shal not come, except there come a departing first*, and that that man of sinne be disclosed, *even y^e sonne of perdition*,

2 Thessalonians 2:3 (GB)



Geneva Bible, 1560

⁵Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?

2 Thessalonians 2:5 (NASB 2020)

⁶And you know **what restrains *him* now**, so that he will be revealed in his time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; **only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is removed**. ⁸Then that lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will eliminate with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

2 Thessalonians 2:6–8 (NASB 2020)

²⁶“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in My
name, **He** will teach you all things,
and bring to your remembrance all
that I said to you.

John 14:26 (NASB95)

¹³“But when **He, the Spirit** of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

John 16:13 (NASB95)

⁶And you know **what restrains *him* now**, so that he will be revealed in his time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; **only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is removed**. ⁸Then that lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will eliminate with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

2 Thessalonians 2:6–8 (NASB 2020)

¹³In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, **you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,** ¹⁴who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:13–14 (NASB95)

Looking Up for Our Hope

1. The church has a distinct identity
2. The church is immune from God's wrath
3. Christ's return is imminent
4. Christ's return for the church is before the impostor
5. Christ's return is pictured by an _____

Looking Up for Our Hope

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⁷“Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for **the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready.**” ⁸It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Revelation 19:7–8 (NASB95)

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, ²⁶so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

Ephesians 5:25–27 (NASB95)

³⁰because we are members of His body.

³¹FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. ³²This mystery is great; **but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.**

Ephesians 5:30–32 (NASB95)



<https://biblicallogos.org/2025/03/24/the-jewish-wedding-and-the-new-testament-covenant/>

¹“Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. ²In My Father’s house are many rooms; if *that* were not so, I would have told you, because I am going *there* to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, *there* you also will be.

John 14:1–3 (NASB 2020)

Looking Up for Our Hope

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Key Takeaway:

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Be encouraged, looking up for your blessed hope, purifying yourself while waiting to see Jesus again!