

## THINKING THROUGH THESSALONIANS

rection of the believer when he is "raised with him (Christ)" and "made alive together with him" (Col. 2:12,13; 3:1; Eph. 2:5). Or why couldn't it?

### III. WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN JESUS COMES BACK?

By Wilbur Fields

1. Every eye will see him. Rev. 1:7
  - a. He will come visibly. Matt. 24:27
  - b. He will come with angels (Matt. 16:27), and with clouds, and power, and great glory. (Matt. 24:30)
2. He will come with a shout, and with the voice of the archangel (Michael; Jude 9), and the trumpet of God. I Thess. 4:16; Matt. 24:31; I Cor. 15:52
3. Many will wail when they see Him. Rev. 1:7
4. All who are in the graves will come forth. John 5:28-29
  - a. Both the just and the unjust. Acts 24:15
  - b. The dead are raised incorruptible. I Cor. 15:52
  - c. The dead in Christ are resurrected first, before we that remain are caught up. I Thess. 4:16-17.
5. Our bodies shall be instantly changed to become immortal (I Cor. 15:52-53), powerful (I Cor. 15:43), and spiritual (I Cor. 15:44).
6. The saved shall be caught up into the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. I Thess. 4:17. Angels will gather together the Lord's chosen ones. Matt. 24:31.
7. There will be a separation on earth. The saved will be taken and the wicked left. Matt. 24:40-41; 13:49; Luke 17:34-36.
8. Angels shall gather the wicked, like reapers gather up tares. Matt. 13:40-41.
9. All nations shall be gathered before the judgment throne. Matt. 25:31-32.
10. The judgment will follow. Matt. 25:33-46; Rev. 20:11-13.
  - a. Christ will be the judge. Matt. 25:31-32; Acts 10:42; John 5:22.
  - b. At the judgment those who are saved will face no condemnation, and have no sins to give account for. But they

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will be judged to determine the reward of their works. John 5:24. Romans 8:1; Hebrews 8:12; I Corinthians 3:14; II Cor. 5:10.

11. The wicked shall be cast into the lake of fire. Rev. 20:15; Matt. 25:46; Mark 9:43-48.
12. The present earth and heaven shall be pass away. II Peter 3:10, 12; Rev. 20:11; Hebrews 12:26-27.
13. A new heaven and new earth will be revealed. II Peter 3:13; Rev. 21:1.
14. Christ will deliver the kingdom (the church) to the Father. I Cor. 15:24.
15. The saints will enter into the city, New Jerusalem. Rev. 22:14.
16. The New Jerusalem will come down out of heaven. Rev. 21:2, 10. (Presumably it will come down to the new earth. Note Rev. 21:24-26.)
17. The saints will serve God in the new heaven and earth forever and ever. Rev. 22:3; 21:24-26.

“Therefore, be ye also ready; for in an hour that ye think not the Son of Man cometh.” Matt. 24:44.

## IV. THE COMING OF THE LORD WITH ALL HIS “SAINTS”

By Wilbur Fields

In our notes on I Thess. 3:13 we stated our opinion that the *saints* who will come with Jesus from heaven will be the angels, his “holy ones.”

While this teaching has been held by most Bible interpreters throughout the centuries, it is now regarded almost as modernism by some people.

As a sample of the teaching now popular among some people, we quote here from a widely circulated series of prophecy lessons:

“We need to ever keep in mind that there will be a ‘second coming’ and a ‘third coming’ of Christ, which some writers prefer to speak of as the first and second phase of Christ’s return.” “He will return ‘FOR his saints,’ and he will also return ‘with His saints.’ When He returns FOR His saints, then it is that He comes only in the clouds. But when He returns with his saints, then it is that His feet will once again stand on the Mt. of Olives.”

According to this system of interpretation, the following series of events will occur when Christ comes: