

1-2 Thessalonians: Living the Future Now

“I’ll Fly Away, Old Glory”

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

The rapture always stirs debate about sequences and events, but Christ’s return is as certain as God Himself. Jesus will come. He will rule. He will be glorified. Knowing this produces two things in the believer: obedience and courage. C.S. Lewis remarked, “It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this.” The second coming of Jesus energizes His followers for endurance.

1. The Rapture’s Comfort

- **Powerful Promise (4:13, 14)**
- **Priority Position (4:15)**
- **Personal Presence (4:16-18)**

2. The Rapture’s Context

- **Divine Secret (5:1)**
- **Deluded Society (5:2, 3)**

3. The Rapture’s Contrast

- **Traits of Darkness (5:4, 7)**
- **Traits of Light (5:5, 6, 8-11)**