**Behold I Come Quickly**

Question: "What is the difference between the Rapture and the Second Coming?"

Answer: The rapture and the second coming of Christ are often confused. Sometimes it is difficult to determine whether a scripture verse is referring to the rapture or the second coming. However, in studying end-times Bible prophecy, it is very important to differentiate between the two.

The rapture is when Jesus Christ returns to remove the church (all believers in Christ) from the earth. The rapture is described in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:50-54. Believers who have died will have their bodies resurrected and, along with believers who are still living, will meet the Lord in the air. This will all occur in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye. The second coming is when Jesus returns to defeat the Antichrist, destroy evil, and establish His millennial kingdom. The second coming is described in Revelation 19:11-16.

Revelation 22:7 - Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

The Bible is more than a history book as some would have us to believe, it is the inspired written word of God. 2 Timothy 3:16 - All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: The scripture tells us to study this book.

Matthew 24:4 Take heed that no man deceive you.
5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.
11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Even though no man knoweth the hour that Jesus will return, the important point is that He is coming back. Our present day condition would make one think it could happen at any time. Some of our so called leaders tell us that “Global Warming” is happening but I believe it is “Godly Warning”. Wars, well we (USA) are involved in two current military actions. Earthquakes, how many have occurred with devastating effects on life and nations. Famine is killing thousands with no end in sight except Jesus coming back. Iniquity and evil has taken God out of our schools, and trying to take Him out of our vocabulary. The heathenistic discussion of hate speech if one preaches the Word of God.

CAUTION: Let no man deceive you. False Christ (messiahs) and false prophets (ministers) are everywhere. So many call themselves representatives of the Lord only to fleece the flock and make a living off the sheep. Many preach political correctness to itching ears instead of Biblical holiness. (John 10:15 - As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.) “The shepherd must being willing to lay down his life for the sheep.” (1 John 3:16 - Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.)

God spoke to Elijah when he was running scared.
1 Kings 19:11 Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake: 12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice. (When you get by all the noise that the world offers then you can find God in the quietness of that still small voice. Have you heard Him lately?)

The litmus test is simple:
John 10:14 - I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.
John 10:27 - My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: