

The Resurrection and the Rapture

I. The Resurrection

- A. Christians have historically believed in the bodily resurrection of all people at the end of history, with the righteous entering eternal bliss with God (i.e., the new heavens/earth) and the wicked entering eternal punishment apart from God (i.e., hell).
- B. If one maintains that the events predicted in the Olivet Discourse in Matthew 24 occurred up through the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70, does this also mean that the resurrection must have occurred?
1. Full preterists vs. Partial preterists:

	Full Preterists		Partial Preterists	
	AD 70	At the end of history	AD 70	At the end of history
Coming (<i>parousia</i>) of Christ	yes	no	yes	yes
Resurrection	yes	no	no	yes
Day of the Lord	yes	no	yes	yes
Judgment	yes	no	yes	yes

C. The resurrection of the physical body

1. 1 Corinthians 15:50-57

⁵⁰ I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in 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 shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Key words/phrases/concepts concerning the resurrection:

3. Full preterists assert a spiritual resurrection, not a bodily one

II. The Rapture

- A. The rapture: Christian believers who are alive, together with resurrected (formerly deceased) believers, meet Jesus in the air at his return
- B. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
1. ¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, 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.
- C. Key words/phrases/concepts in understanding “the rapture”:
- D. Partial-Preterism and Timing:

AD 70	Still future
A coming (<i>parousia</i>) of Christ	The coming (<i>parousia</i>) of Christ
	The day of the Lord
	The resurrection of the dead
	The rapture of the living
A judgment	The (final) judgment
The end of the Jewish age	The end of history

- E. Next week: the identity of the Antichrist and the Millennium