Doctrinal Studies THE CHURCH GOES TO HEAVEN

- 1. The word rapture is taken from a Latin verb, meaning "to be seized" or "to be caught up". Our Lord promised this event just before His crucifixion (<u>John 14:1-3</u>).
- 2. This word refers to the end of the Church age. Believers dead and alive will be taken to meet the Lord Jesus Christ "in the air" I Thess.4:17.
- 3. We are presently in the dispensation of the Church and we do not know when this age will end.
- 4. The day of the Rapture will be the first day of the seven-year period known as the Tribulation.
- 5. The Second Advent will occur on the last day of the Tribulation and will usher in the thousand-year reign of Christ.
- 6. The Rapture completes the Redemption of the body because the believer receives a resurrection body at that time. Phil.3:20, 21; I John 3:1,2.
- 7. This Biblical content was "hidden" from Old Testament saints (Called Mystery). The Rapture was pertinent to Church Age only. Believers living before the beginning of the Church Age did not have this information (Note "silence" by the prophets).
- 8. The rapture will not be a long, drawn out process of evacuation. We will be with our Lord instantly, and changed. The Resurrection body does not include the decay and corruption of sin and death.
- 9. The Rapture is a rendezvous for the believers living and dead. <u>I Cor. 15:20-23</u>.
- 10. The Rapture takes the sting out of death. <u>I Cor. 15:54-56</u>. (<u>More Info on Rapture</u>)