


Slide 1


THE RAPTURE
What and When? – Part 20



Andrew Marshall Woods, Th.M., J.D., Ph.D.
Sr. Pastor, Sugar Land Bible Church

Slide 2

What is the Rapture?




1. An important doctrine
2. Distinct from the Second Advent
3. Catching away of all living believers (1 Thess 4:17)
4. Reunion (1 Thess 4:14-16)
5. Resurrection (1 Cor 15:50-54)
6. Exemption from death (1 Cor 15:51, 54-56)
7. Instantaneous (1 Cor 15:52)
8. Mystery (1 Cor 15:51)
9. Imminent (1 Cor 15:51; 1 Thess 4:15)
10. Traditional doctrine now being recovered

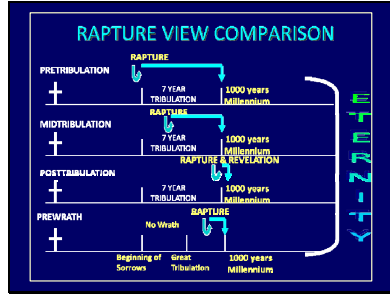
Slide 3

When Will the Rapture Take Place Relative to the Tribulation Period?

- Pre-tribulation rapture theory
- Mid-tribulation rapture theory
- Post-tribulation rapture theory
- Pre-wrath rapture theory
- Partial rapture theory



Slide 4



Slide 5

When is the Rapture?
7 Arguments Favoring the Pre-Tribulation View

1. Tribulation's purpose concerns Israel (Jer 30:7; Dan 9:24)
2. No biblical reference to the church on earth during the Tribulation period (Rev 4-22)
3. Church is promised an exemption from divine wrath (1 Thess 1:10; 5:9; Rom 5:9; Rev 3:10; 6:17)
4. Rapture is imminent (1 Cor 15:51; 1 Thess 4:15)
5. Rapture is a comfort (1 Thess 4:18)
6. Antichrist cannot come to power until the restrainer is removed (2 Thess 2:6-7)
7. Symbolic parallels (2 Peter 2:5-9)

Slide 6

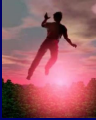
Strengthening the Pre-Tribulation Case


1. John 14:1-4
2. Revelation 3:10
3. First Thessalonians 4-5
4. **Second Thessalonians 2:3a**
5. Matthew 24-25



Slide 7

Apostasy or Rapture?
(2 Thessalonians 2:3A)




 Dr. Andy Woods
Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

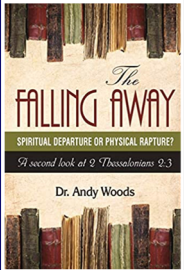
Slide 8

2 Thessalonians 2:3

"Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy [*apostasía*] comes first [*prōton*], and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction."



Slide 9




The
FALLING AWAY
SPIRITUAL DEPARTURE OR PHYSICAL RAPTURE?
A second look at 2 Thessalonians 2:3
Dr. Andy Woods

Slide 10

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure


- I. There have always been doctrinal departures
- II. 2 Thess. was an early letter
- III. The definite article before *apostasía*
- IV. Noun *apostasía* can refer to physical departure
- V. Verb *aphistēmi* can refer to physical departure



Slide 11

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure


- I. There have always been doctrinal departures
- II. 2 Thess. was an early letter
- III. The definite article before *apostasía*
- IV. Noun *apostasía* can refer to physical departure
- V. Verb *aphistēmi* can refer to physical departure



Slide 12

Order of Paul's Letters


1. Galatians (A.D. 49)
2. 1–2 Thessalonians (A.D. 51)
3. 1–2 Corinthians (A.D. 56)
4. Romans (A.D. 57)
5. Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon, Philippians (A.D. 60–62)
6. 1 Timothy, Titus (A.D. 62–66)
7. 2 Timothy (A.D. 67)



Slide 13

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure

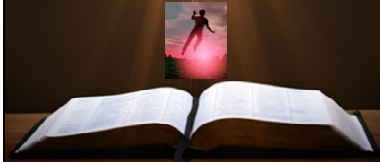
- I. There have always been doctrinal departures
- II. 2 Thess. was an early letter
- III. The definite article before *apostasía*
- IV. Noun *apostasía* can refer to physical departure
- V. Verb *aphistēmi* can refer to physical departure



Slide 14

2 Thessalonians 2:3


"Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy [apostasía] comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction."



Slide 15

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure

- I. There have always been doctrinal departures
- II. 2 Thess. was an early letter
- III. The definite article before *apostasía*
- IV. Noun *apostasía* can refer to physical departure
- V. Verb *aphistēmi* can refer to physical departure



Slide 16

Entries for *Apostasia* in Liddell & Scott

- Rebellion against God
- Apostasy
- Departure
- Disappearance
- Distance



Henry Liddell & Henry Scott, *A Greek English Lexicon* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1940), 218.

Slide 17

Entries for *Apostasia* in Lampe's *A Patristic Greek Lexicon*

- Revolt
- Defection
- Apostasy from paganism, Judaism, Christianity, orthodoxy
- Divorce
- Departure
- Standing aloof




G. W. H. Lampe, *A Patristic Greek Lexicon* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1961), 208.

Slide 18

Definition of "Apostasy"


- *apos* = away from
- *histēmi* = to stand
- Apostasy = to stand away from
- Apostasy = a departure
- A departure from what?
 - ◆ From previously known truth
 - ◆ Physically from something



Slide 19

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure

- I. There have always been doctrinal departures
- II. 2 Thess. was an early letter
- III. The definite article before *apostasia*
- IV. Noun *apostasia* can refer to physical departure
- V. Verb *aphistēmi* can refer to physical departure



Slide 20

New Testament Meanings of *Aphistēmi*


- 15 New Testament uses
- Spiritual departure – Luke 8:13; 1 Tim. 4:1; Heb. 3:12
- Physical departure – Luke 2:37; 4:13; 13:27; Acts 5:37-38; 12:10; 13:13; 15:38; 19:9; 22:29; 2 Cor. 12:8; 2 Tim. 2:19



Slide 21

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure


- VI. Extended context favors physical departure
- VII. Immediate context favors physical departure
- VIII. 2 Thess. 2:2 is a review course
- IX. Early Bible translations favor physical departure
- X. Physical departure is held by credible scholars



Slide 22

Unique Characteristics of 1 Thessalonians


- Every chapter ends with a reference to the Second Advent
- Small amount of time in between planting of the church and the first letter to the church



Slide 23

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure

- VI. Extended context favors physical departure
- VII. Immediate context favors physical departure
- VIII. 2 Thess. 2:2 is a review course
- IX. Early Bible translations favor physical departure
- X. Physical departure is held by credible scholars



Slide 24

2 Thessalonians 2:1

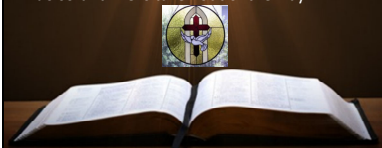
“Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him.”



Slide 25

2 Thessalonians 2:6-7


⁶And you know what restrains [katechō; neuter] him now, so that in his time he will be revealed.
⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains [katechō; masculine] will do so until he is taken out of the way.



Slide 26

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure

- VI. Extended context favors physical departure
- VII. Immediate context favors physical departure
- VIII. 2 Thess. 2:2 is a review course
- IX. Early Bible translations favor physical departure
- X. Physical departure is held by credible scholars



Slide 27

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

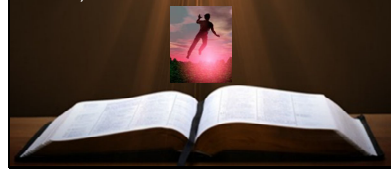
¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.
¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up [harpazō] together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.
¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words."



Slide 28

2 Thessalonians 2:3


"Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless **the apostasy [apostasia]** comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction."



Slide 29

Paul's Various Rapture Terms


<i>parousia</i>	2 Thess. 2:1
<i>episyngogē</i>	2 Thess. 2:1
<i>apokalypsis</i>	1 Cor. 1:7
<i>epiphaneia</i>	Titus 2:13
<i>rhyomai</i>	1 Thess. 1:10
<i>harpazō</i>	1 Thess. 4:17
<i>apostasia</i>	2 Thess. 2:3a



Slide 30

Exemption from Death
(1 Cor 15:54-56)


- Enoch (Gen 5:24)
- Elijah (2 Kings 2)
- Christ (Acts 1:11; Rev 12:5)
- Philip (Acts 8:39)
- Paul (2 Cor 12:2, 4)
- John (Rev 4:1-2)
- **Two witnesses (Rev 11:12)**



Slide 31

2 Thessalonians 2:5


“Do you not **remember** that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?”



Slide 32

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure

- VI. Extended context favors physical departure
- VII. Immediate context favors physical departure
- VIII. 2 Thess. 2:2 is a review course
- IX. Early Bible translations favor physical departure
- X. Physical departure is held by credible scholars

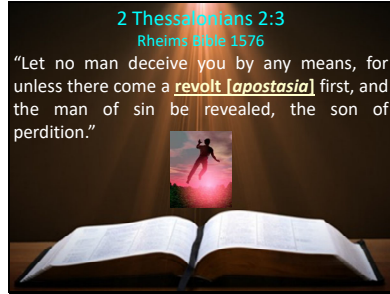


Slide 33

"Departing First" or "Falling Away"		
Year	Bible	Translation
1384	Wycliffe Bible	Departynge First
1526	Tyndale Bible	Departynge First
1535	Coverdale Bible	Departynge First
1539	Crammer Bible	Departing First
1576	Breeches Bible	Departing First
1583	Beeza Bible	Departing First
1608	Geneva Bible	Departing First
1576	Rheims Bible	The Protestant "Revolt"
1611	King James V.	Falling Away

House, When the Trumpet Sounds, p. 270.

Slide 34



Slide 35




Slide 36



Slide 40

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure

- VI. Extended context favors physical departure
- VII. Immediate context favors physical departure
- VIII. 2 Thess. 2:2 is a review course
- IX. Early Bible translations favor physical departure
- X. Physical departure is held by credible scholars



Slide 41

Physical Departure Adherents

Kenneth Wuest		Paul Lee Tan
E. Schuyler English		Arnold Fruchtenbaum*
J. Dwight Pentecost		Tim LaHaye
H. Wayne House		Thomas Ice
Stanley Ellison		Don Stewart
J.S. Mabie		Robert Thieme
Allen McRae		Gordon Olson*
Gordon Lewis		J. Vernon McGee*
Henry Morris*		Jimmy DeYoung*
John. R. Rice		J.D. Farag
David Olander		David Hocking

Slide 42

C. Gordon Olson

C. Gordon Olson, *The Resurrection New Testament* (Lynchburg, VA: Global Gospel Publishers, 2017), 261, n. 8.

“Let no one deceive you in anyway, for that day will not come unless the departure comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.’...The Greek *Apostasy* means a departure, as does its verb *aphistēmi*. It can refer to a physical departure, a spiritual departure, or a rebellion. The rapture of Christians would be a physical departure, which is supported by his announced subject in 2:1, ‘our gathering together unto him’ (cf. 1 Th. 4:13-18). Otherwise Paul never returned to his declared topic in a lapse of thought, which raises questions. Only two other versions so render it: GNV & WNB.”

Slide 43

Henry M. Morris
The Defender's Study Bible: King James Version (Iowa Falls, IA: World Bible Publishers, 1995), 1337-38.

"2:3 **falling away**. The 'falling away' (Greek *apostasia*) has commonly been translated as the apostasy (the definite article in the Greek indicates Paul had already told them about it), and then assumed to apply to the final, great religious apostasy at the end of the age. The context, however, as well as the etymology of the word itself, makes this interpretation unlikely. In this precise form, it is used nowhere else in the New Testament, so its meaning must be defined by its context here. It is derived from two Greek words, *apo* (meaning 'away from') and *stasis* (meaning 'standing'). It could properly be rendered 'standing away' instead of 'falling away.'"

Slide 44

Henry M. Morris
The Defender's Study Bible: King James Version (Iowa Falls, IA: World Bible Publishers, 1995), 1337-38.

"In Paul's previous letter, he made no reference to a coming departure from the faith, but he had discussed, at length, a coming departure from the earth by all believers when Christ returns to meet them in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). This standing away from, in context, seems to refer to all the raptured believers standing away from the earth, as they stand before their returning Lord when they meet Him in the heavens. Here, Paul is reminding them that the 'sudden destruction' that would come upon unbelievers when the day of the Lord begins could not happen until the rapture - the standing away from the earth before Christ (Romans 14:10) - had taken place."

Slide 45

Henry M. Morris
The Defender's Study Bible: King James Version (Iowa Falls, IA: World Bible Publishers, 1995), 1337-38.

"The entire context, before and after, fits this understanding of the text better than the idea of the apostasy from the faith. Over the 1950 years since Paul wrote these lines, there have been numerous great apostasies from the faith, and none of these introduced the day of the Lord, although the persecuted believers in each case might easily have so interpreted them."

Slide 49

Jimmy De Young
 Prophetic Perspective – Daily Devotional

... Jerusalem. False teachers and deception presently are a part of our society today, which indicates that Antichrist is nearing his appearance on earth. Remember, before the appearance of Antichrist and the temple is built, the Rapture happens. Actually the Rapture could happen at any moment. Be ready!"

Slide 50

Answering Objections to the Physical Departure View

1. Subtraction from the Last Days will be characterized by continual apostasy?
2. Rapture is passive and apostasy is active?
3. Incongruence with verse 1?
4. Paul is re-assuring the Thessalonians that they had not already missed the rapture; therefore, it would be incomprehensible to read, "the rapture cannot have happened unless the rapture happens first"

Slide 51


Answering Objections to the Physical Departure View

1. Subtraction from the Last Days will be characterized by continual apostasy?
2. Rapture is passive and apostasy is active?
3. Incongruence with verse 1?
4. Paul is re-assuring the Thessalonians that they had not already missed the rapture; therefore, it would be incomprehensible to read, "the rapture cannot have happened unless the rapture happens first"

Slide 52

Order of Paul's Letters

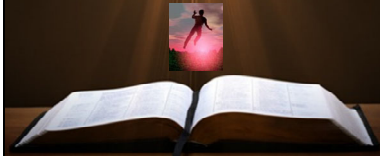
1. Galatians (A.D. 49)
2. 1–2 Thessalonians (A.D. 51)
3. 1–2 Corinthians (A.D. 56)
4. Romans (A.D. 57)
5. Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon, Philippians (A.D. 60–62)
6. 1 Timothy, Titus (A.D. 62–66)
7. 2 Timothy (A.D. 67)



Slide 53

1 Timothy 4:1


"But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away [aphistēmi] from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons."




Slide 54

2 Thessalonians 2:3

"Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy [apostasia] comes first [prōton], and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction."



Slide 55

Answering Objections to the Physical Departure View 

1. Subtraction from the Last Days will be characterized by continual apostasy?
2. **Rapture is passive and apostasy is active?**
3. Incongruence with verse 1?
4. Paul is re-assuring the Thessalonians that they had not already missed the rapture; therefore, it would be incomprehensible to read, "the rapture cannot have happened unless the rapture happens first"

Slide 56

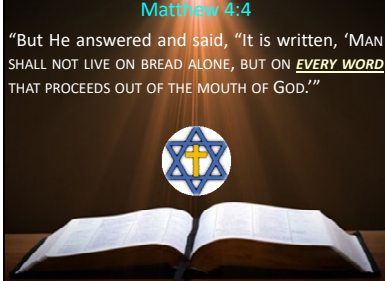
D. Edmond Hiebert
The Thessalonian Epistles, Chicago: Moody Press, 1971, Page 306

"Nowhere else does the Scripture speak of the rapture as 'the departure.' A departure denotes an act on the part of the individual or company departing. But the rapture is not an act of departure on the part of the saints. In the rapture the church is passive, not active. At the rapture, the church is 'caught up' or 'snatched away,' an event wherein the Lord acts to transport believers from earth into His presence (1 Thess. 4:16-17). Everything that takes place with the believers at the rapture is initiated by the Lord and done by Him."

Slide 57

Matthew 4:4

"But He answered and said, "It is written, "MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON **EVERY WORD** THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD."




Slide 58

Matthew 5:18

"For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished."



Slide 59

Answering Objections to the Physical Departure View 

1. Subtraction from the Last Days will be characterized by continual apostasy?
2. Rapture is passive and apostasy is active?
3. Incongruence with verse 1?
4. Paul is re-assuring the Thessalonians that they had not already missed the rapture; therefore, it would be incomprehensible to read, "the rapture cannot have happened unless the rapture happens first"

Slide 60

2 Thessalonians 2:1


"Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming [parousia] of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering [episynagōgē] together to Him."



Slide 61

2 Thessalonians 2:3

"Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy [apostasia] comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction."



Slide 62

D. Edmond Hiebert
The Thessalonian Epistles, Chicago: Moody Press, 1971, Page 306


"Paul has just referred to the rapture as 'our gathering together unto him' (v. 1); why then should he now use this unlikely term to mean the same thing?"

Slide 63

Paul's Various Rapture Terms	
parousia	2 Thess. 2:1
episynagōgē	2 Thess. 2:1
apokalypsis	1 Cor. 1:7
epiphaneia	Titus 2:13
rhyomai	1 Thess. 1:10
harpazō	1 Thess. 4:17
apostasia	2 Thess. 2:3a

Slide 64

Answering Objections to the Physical Departure View




1. Subtraction from the Last Days will be characterized by continual apostasy?
2. Rapture is passive and apostasy is active?
3. Incongruence with verse 1?
4. Paul is re-assuring the Thessalonians that they had not already missed the rapture; therefore, it would be incomprehensible to read, "the rapture cannot have happened unless the rapture happens first"

Slide 65

2 Thessalonians 2:2

“that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.”



Slide 66


2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

- Problem (2:1-2)
- Prerequisites for the Day of the Lord (2:3-12)
 - ◆ The apostasy (2:3a)
 - ◆ Advent of the lawless one (2:3b-4)
 - ◆ Removal of the restrainer (2:5-7)
 - ◆ Destruction of the lawless one (2:8-9)
 - ◆ Destruction of lawless one's followers (2:10-12)



Slide 67

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

- **Problem (2:1-2)**
- Prerequisites for the Day of the Lord (2:3-12)
 - ◆ **The apostasy (2:3a)**
 - ◆ Advent of the lawless one (2:3b-4) 
 - ◆ **Removal of the restrainer (2:5-7)**
 - ◆ Destruction of the lawless one (2:8-9)
 - ◆ Destruction of lawless one's followers (2:10-12)


Slide 68

Conclusion

Slide 69

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure


- I. There have always been doctrinal departures
- II. 2 Thess. was an early letter
- III. The definite article before *apostasia*
- IV. Noun *apostasia* can refer to physical departure
- V. Verb *aphistēmi* can refer to physical departure



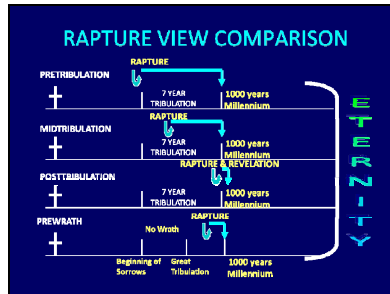
Slide 70

10 Reasons Favoring Physical Departure

- VI. Extended context favors physical departure
- VII. Immediate context favors physical departure
- VIII. 2 Thess. 2:2 is a review course
- IX. Early Bible translations favor physical departure
- X. Physical departure is held by credible scholars




Slide 71



Slide 72

Titus 2:13

“Looking for **the blessed hope** and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.”



Strengthening the Pre-Tribulation Case

1. John 14:1-4
2. Revelation 3:10
3. First Thessalonians 4-5
4. Second Thessalonians 2:3a
5. Matthew 24-25



1

Acts 20:28-31-Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

Acts 19:10-This took place for two years, so that **all who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord**, both Jews and Greeks.

2 Tim. 1:15-You are aware of the fact that **all who are in Asia turned away from me**, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.

3

Dan. 9:27-and he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.

Rev. 6:1-2-Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." 2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

Rev. 2:4-5-4 But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. 5 Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent.

1 Cor. 15:52-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 will be changed.

4

Acts 21:21-and they have been told about you, that you are teaching all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to **forsake** Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs.

Matt. 5:31- It was said, 'Whoever sends his wife away, let him give her a **certificate of divorce**'

5

Luke 8:13-Those on the rocky *soil are* those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no *firm* root; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation **fall away**.

1 Tim. 4:1-But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will **fall away** from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

Heb. 3:12-Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that **falls away** from the living God.

Luke 2:37-and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never **left** the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers.

Luke 4:13-When the devil had finished every temptation, he **left** Him until an opportune time.

Luke 13:27-and He will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you are from; **DEPART** FROM ME, ALL YOU EVILDOERS.'

Acts 5:38-³⁷ After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census and **drew** away *some* people after him; he too perished, and all those who followed him were scattered. ³⁸ So in the present case, I say to you, **stay away** from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown.

Acts 12:10-When they had passed the first and second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, which opened for them by itself; and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel **departed** from him.

Acts 13:13-Now Paul and his companions put out to sea from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia; but John **left** them and returned to Jerusalem.

Acts 15:38-But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had **deserted** them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work

Acts 19:9-But when some were becoming hardened and disobedient, speaking evil of the Way before the people, he **withdrew** from them and took away the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.

Acts 22:29-Therefore those who were about to examine him immediately **let go** of him; and the commander also was afraid when he found out that he was a Roman, and because he had put him in chains.

2 Cor. 12:8-Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might **leave** me.

2 Tim. 2:19-Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to **abstain** from wickedness.”

2 Tim. 3:5-And from such people turn away!

6

1 Thess. 1:10-and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *that is* Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

1 Thess. 2:19-20-¹⁹ For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Is it not even you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming? ²⁰ For you are our glory and joy.

1 Thess. 3:13-so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

1 Thess. 4:13-18-¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. ¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain 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 shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the

dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Thess. 5:23-Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gen. 6:3-Then the LORD said, “**My Spirit shall not strive with man forever**, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”

John 16:7-11--⁷ But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And He, when He comes, will convict the **world** concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; ¹¹ and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

8

Rev. 11:12-And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here.” Then they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies watched them.

Conclusion

Titus 2:13-looking for **the blessed hope** and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus