



Are You
READY?
for the Lord's Return

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Christ's First Coming



Are you ready for his return?



Christ's Two Comings

420



FIRST COMING

Laid in a manger

Came as a lamb

Lowly and poor

Died *for* His enemies

Tempted by Satan

Lived in a world of unrighteousness

Died for sins and rose again



SECOND COMING

Lands on a mountain

Comes as the Lord

Lavish and powerful

Death *to* His enemies

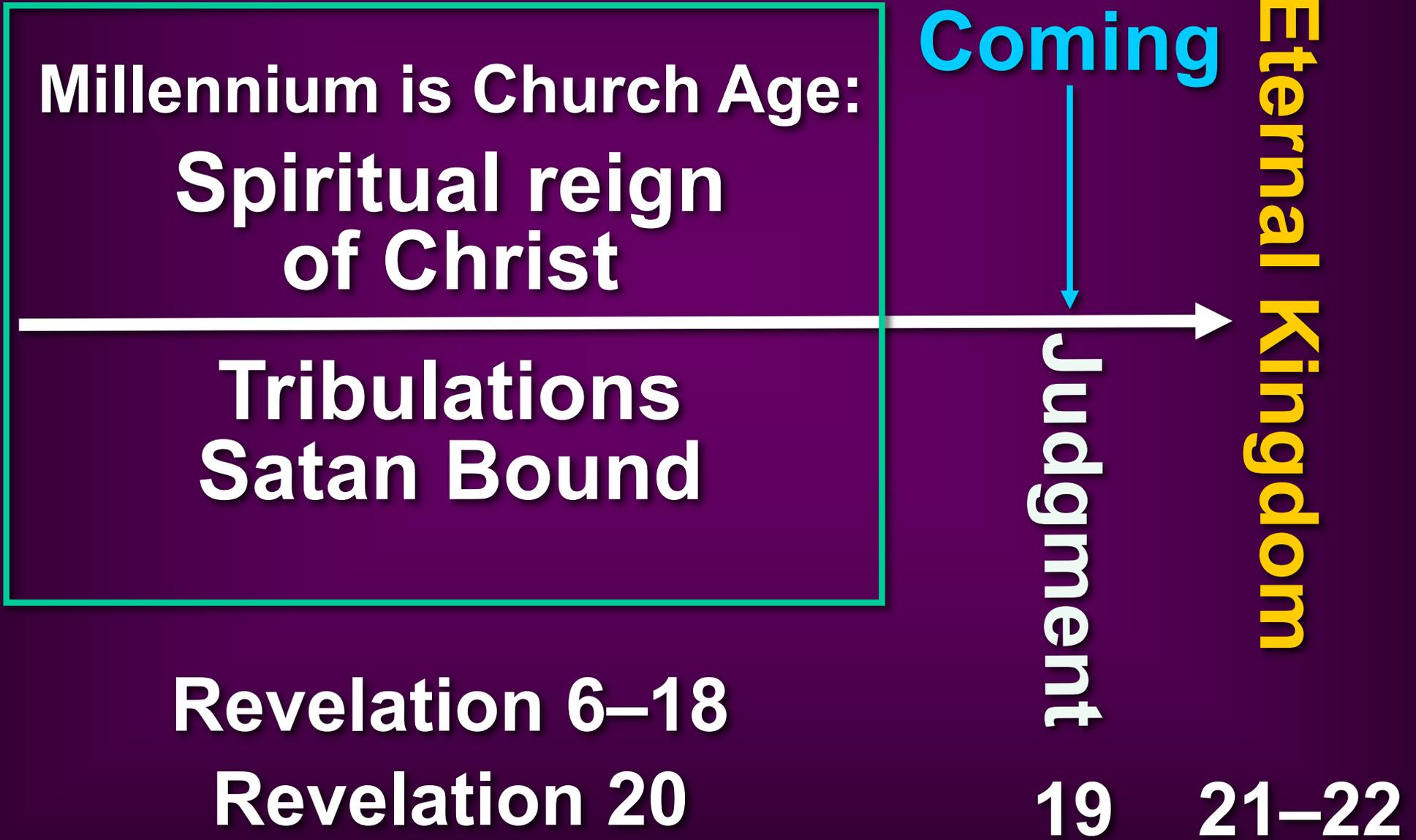
Traps Satan in bottomless pit

Leads the world in righteousness

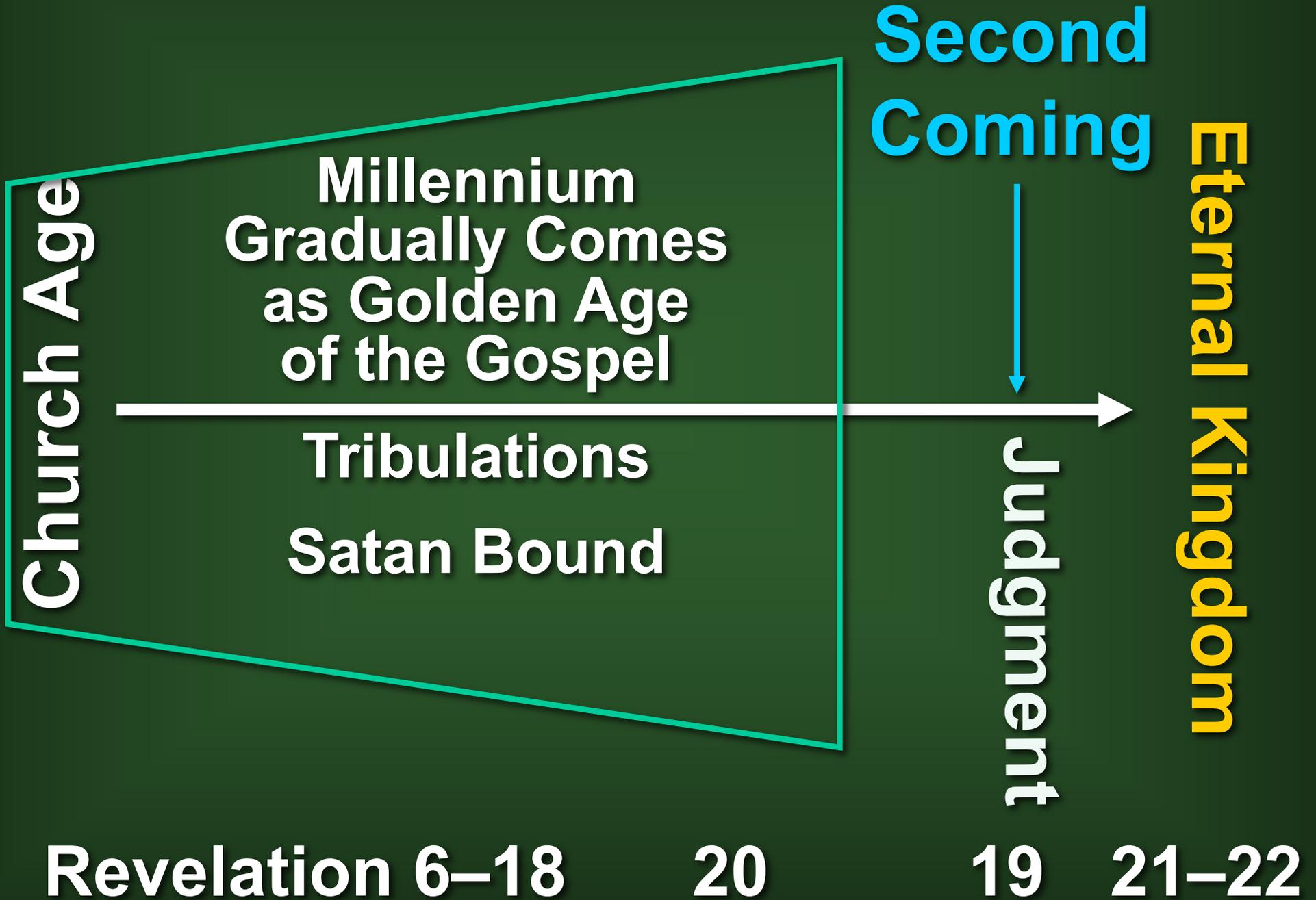
Directs and reigns

(CHURCH AGE)

Amillennialism



Postmillennialism



Premillennialism

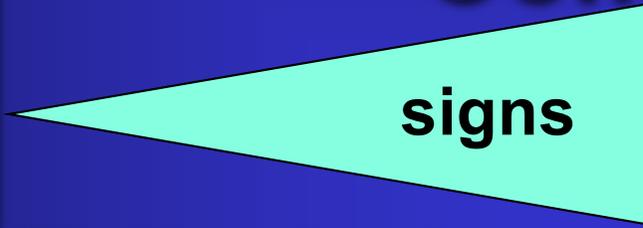
433

Church Age (no signs)

Rapture

Second Coming

=
Second Advent



Tribulation

Millennium



7 years

Judgment

1000 years

Satan Bound
Saints Reign

Judgment

Eternal Kingdom

Revelation 6–18

19

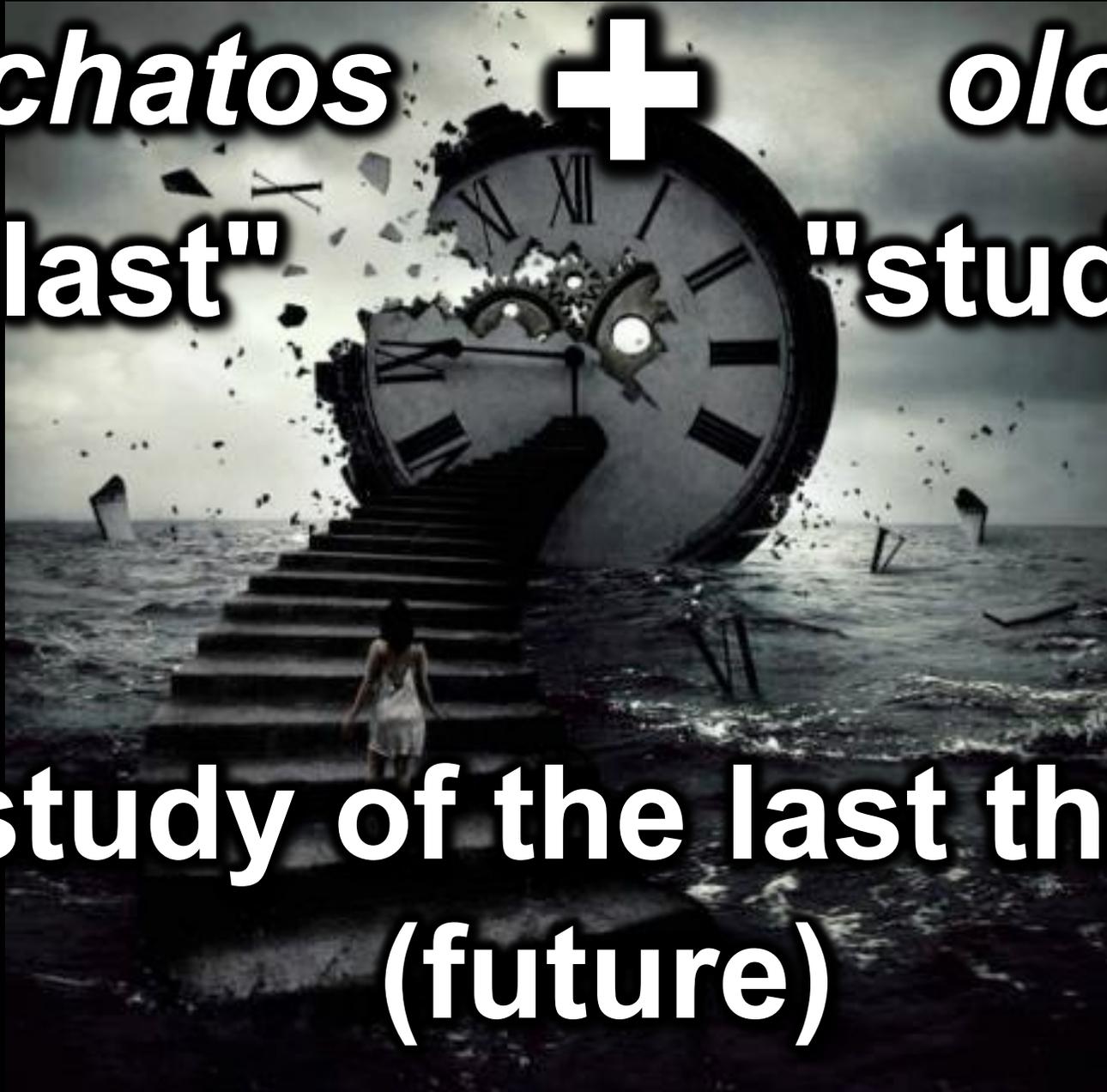
20

21–22

Eschatology

eschatos + *ology*
"last" "study of"

= study of the last things
(future)



Two Stages of His Return



Two Stages of His Return

Literal
Christ
Future
"Coming"

Rapture

Revelation



Premillennialism

Second Coming = Second Advent

Church Age

Tribulation

Millennium

Eternal Kingdom

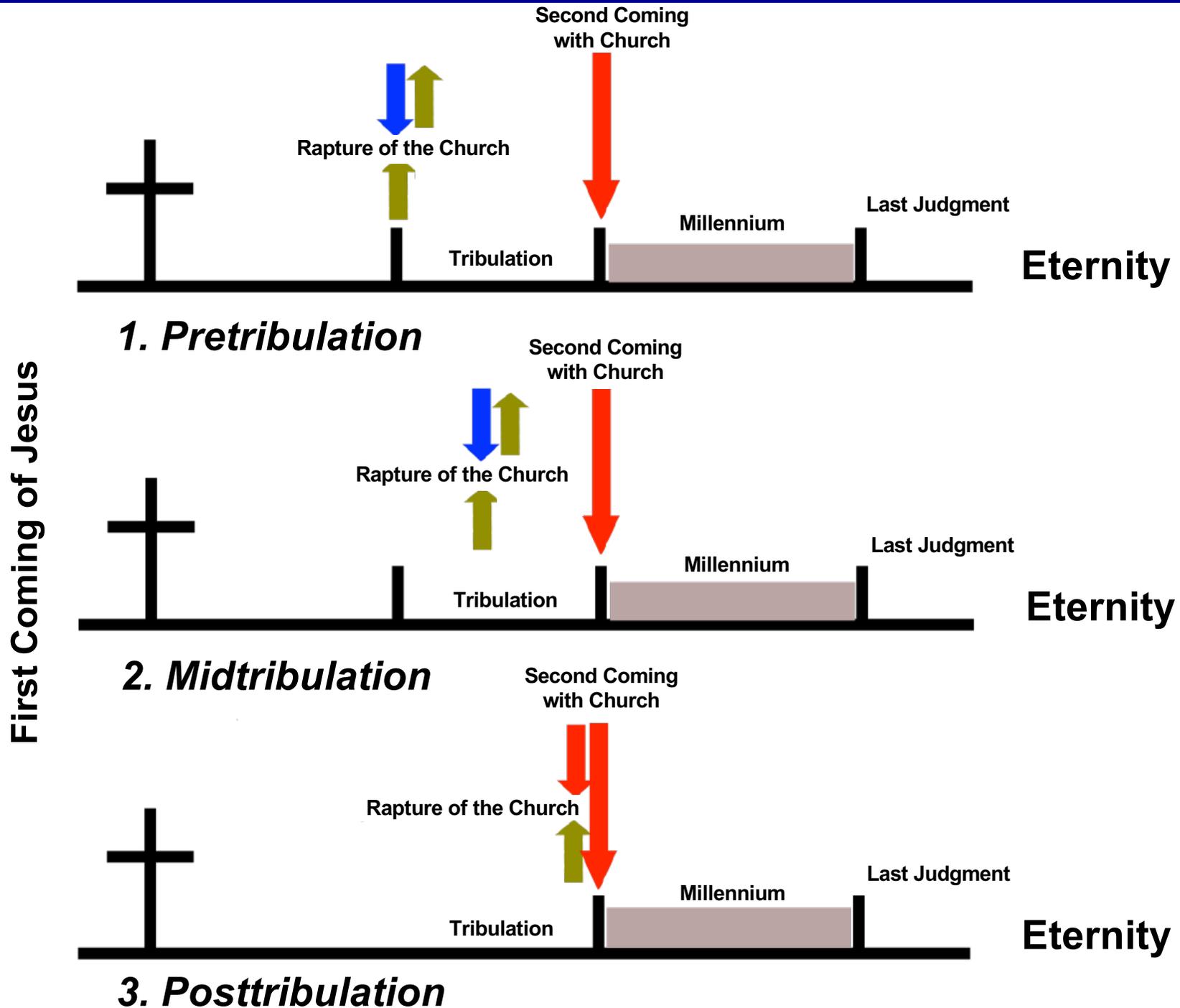
7 years

1000 years

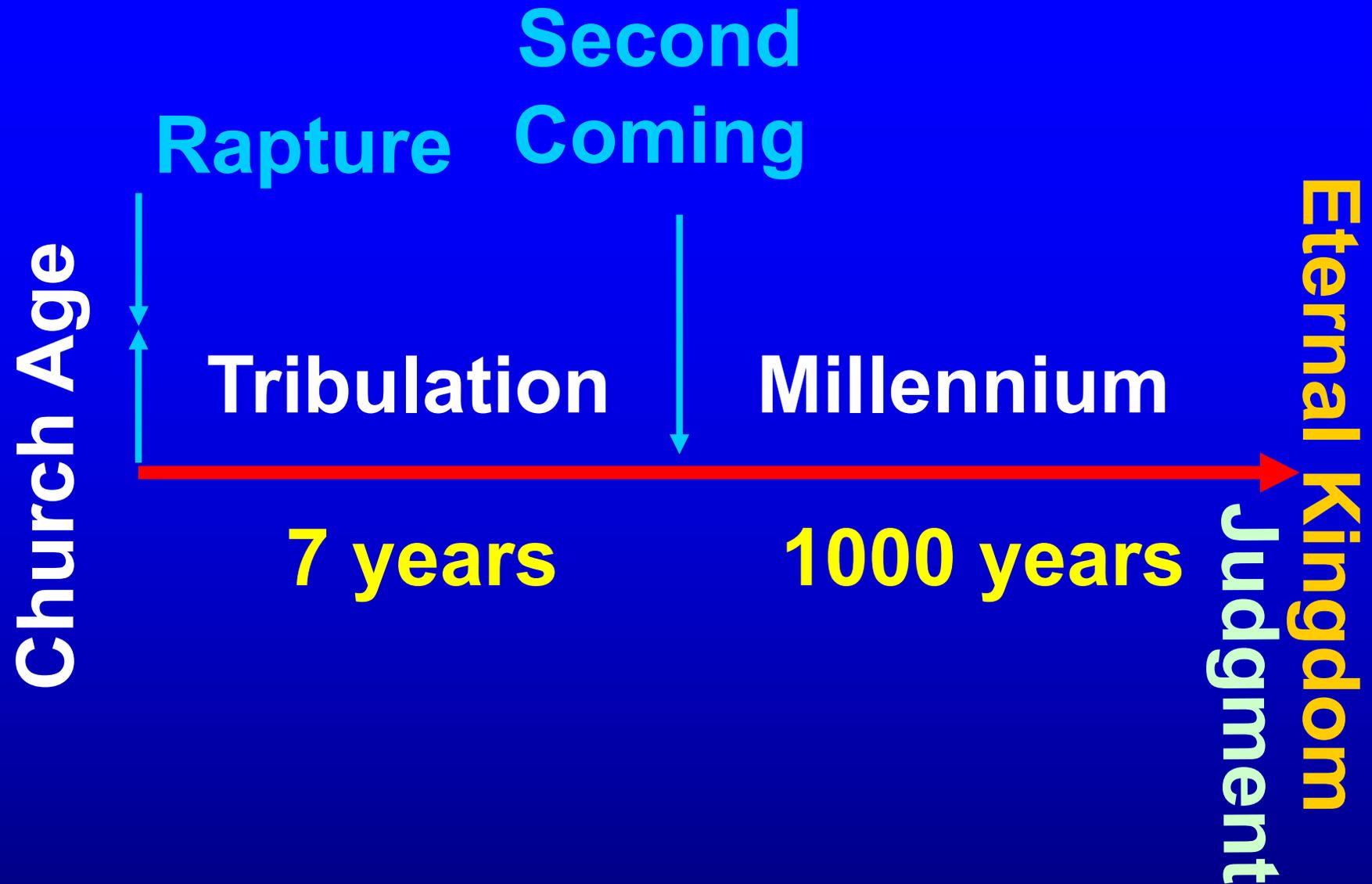
Judgment

ALL 5 RAPTURE
VIEWS ARE
PREMILLENNIAL

The Main Tribulation Views



"Pre-Trib" Rapture



**Second
Coming**

Stages of the Second Coming 210

The Rapture	The Revelation
1 <u>Pretribulational</u> (Rev. 3:10)	<u>Posttribulational</u> (Rev. 19:11-21)
2 Christ will <u>come in the air</u> (1 Thess. 4:16)	Christ will <u>come to the earth</u> , His feet touching the Mt. of Olives (Zech 14:4)
3 A coming <u>for</u> the saints (John 14:1-2; 1 Thess. 4:15-17)	A coming <u>with</u> the saints (Matt. 25:31; 1 Thess. 3:13; Rev. 19:14)
4 <u>Saints</u> (dead and alive) will be <u>caught up</u> ("raptured") from the earth to meet the Lord in the air and taken to heaven (1 Thess. 4:16-17)	<u>Saints</u> already on earth will <u>remain on the earth</u> (no Rapture) to be ushered into the Millennium (Acts 15:16; Rev. 5:10; cf. Matt. 4:10; chap. 24)
5 Produces <u>comfort and hope</u> (1 Thess. 4:18)	Produces <u>fear and judgment</u> (Matt. 24:27-31; Luke 21:20-28; Rev. 4:15-17)

Stages of the Second Coming 210

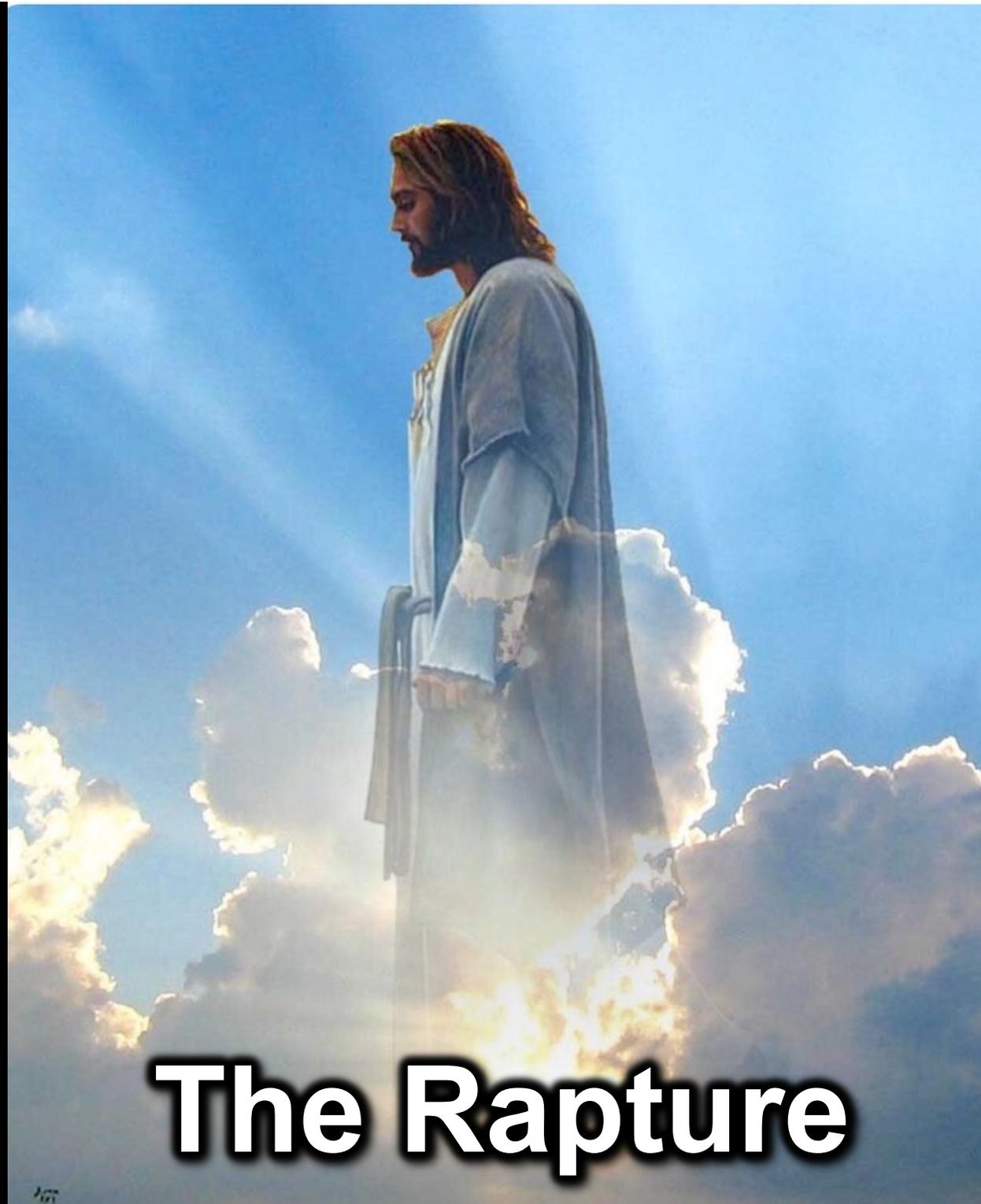
The Rapture	The Revelation
6 <u>Mystery</u> truth revealed only in the New Testament age (1 Cor. 15:51)	<u>Central</u> in OT prophecy but clarified in the NT (Jer. 30:7; Zech 14:1-3; Matt. 24:30; Col. 3:4)
7 Bodies of church saints <u>glorified</u> (1 Cor. 15:51-58; Phil. 3:20-21) and brought to heaven for seven years (1 Thess. 4:17)	Bodies of tribulation saints left in <u>mortal</u> state to continue to live on the earth in the millennium (Matt. 25:31-34)
8 <u>Imminent</u> , no signs needed (1 Thess. 4:16)	<u>Not imminent</u> but preceded by spectacular signs in the heavens and on the earth (Matt. 24:29-31; Luke 21:25-28; Acts 2:19-21; Rev. 1:7; chs. 6-19)
9 Primary purpose is <u>deliverance</u> of the saints from this world (1 Thess. 1:10)	Primary purpose is <u>judgment</u> of unbelieving (Matt. 25:31-46)

Stages of the Second Coming 210

The Rapture	The Revelation
10 <u>Invisible</u> and private as only believers see Christ and since God sends a powerful delusion through the Antichrist (2 Thess. 2:11)	<u>Visible</u> and public since "every eye shall see Him" (Rev. 1:7)
11 Fulfills a promise to the <u>Church</u> where Jew-Gentile distinctions do not exist (1 Thess. 4:15; cf. John 14:1-3; Eph. 2:11-16)	Fulfills promises to <u>Israel</u> of covenants made in the Old Testament (Gen. 12:1-3; Ps. 89; Isa. 11:11-14; cf. Rom. 11:26-27)
12 Evil begins to <u>increase</u> (2 Thess. 2:1-12)	Evil is <u>suppressed</u> (2 Thess. 1:7; Ps. 37:9-10)
13 <u>Church</u> removed (1 Thess. 4:13-18)	<u>Satan</u> removed (Rev. 20:1-3)

Stages of the Second Coming 210

The Rapture	The Revelation
14 Christ shown as <u>Head</u> of the Church and all things (Eph. 1:10, 22; 4:15; Col. 1:18; 2:10)	Christ vindicated as <u>Messiah</u> to Israel (Zech. 14:3-4; cf. Acts 1:6 with v. 11)
15 Judgment seat of Christ for <u>believers</u> (2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Cor. 3:13)	Judgment of <u>Israel and Gentiles</u> (Ezek. 20:34-38; Matt. 25; Zech. 14:4; cf. p. 160)
16 The <u>Lord</u> is at hand (Phil. 4:5)	The <u>kingdom</u> is at hand (Matt. 24:14)
17 Nature subsequently <u>ruined</u> (Rev. 6–16)	Nature subsequently <u>restored</u> (Rom. 8:19-22; Isa. 11:6-9; 35:9; 65:25)



The Rapture

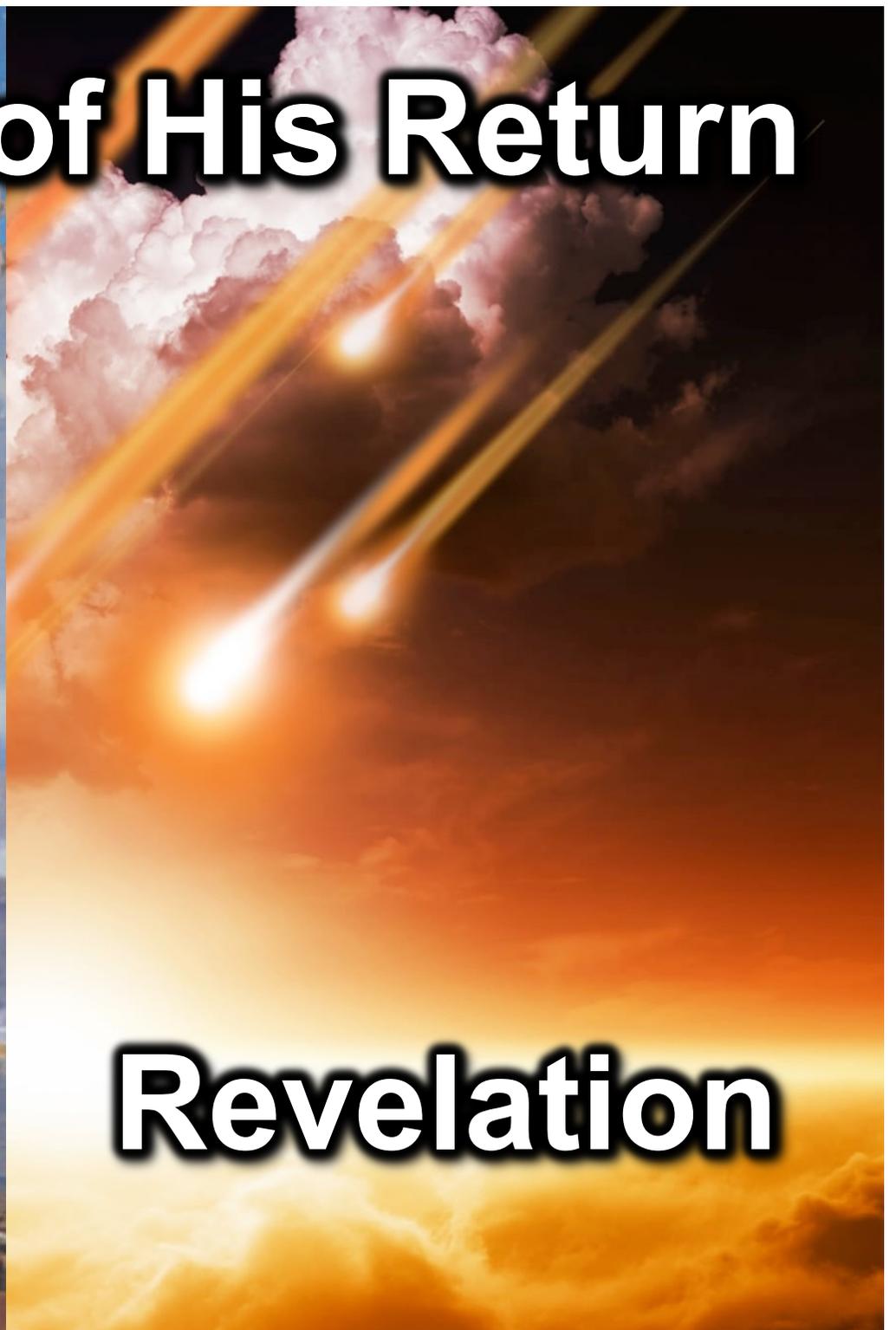
Why should we look forward to the Rapture with **expectancy**?



Two Stages of His Return



Rapture



Revelation

Why should we look forward to the Rapture with **expectancy**?

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

3 Reasons

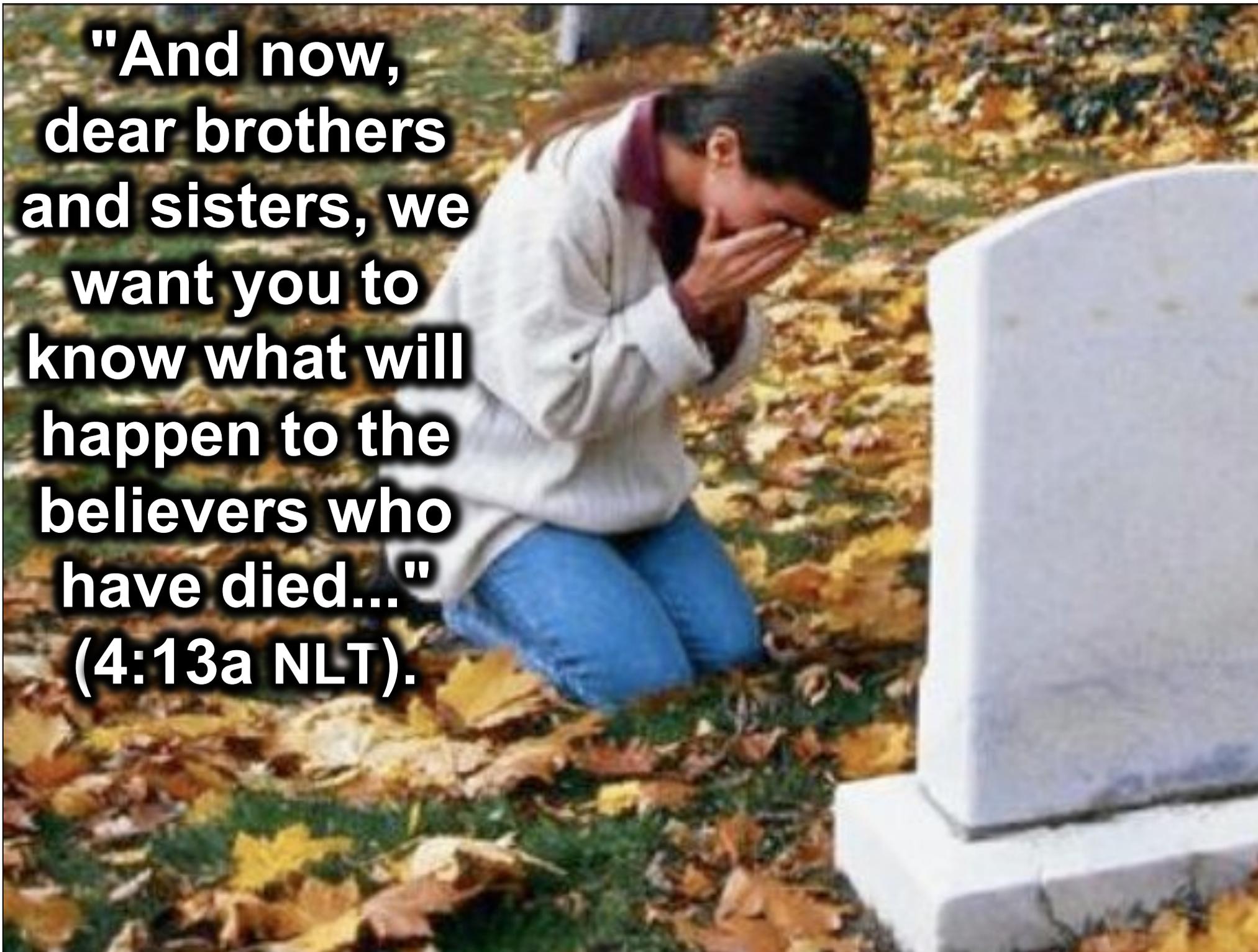
**I. The Rapture helps
us grieve with**

hope

(1 Thess 4:13-14).



**"And now,
dear brothers
and sisters, we
want you to
know what will
happen to the
believers who
have died..."
(4:13a NLT).**





Know about the future destiny of believers who die (4:13a).



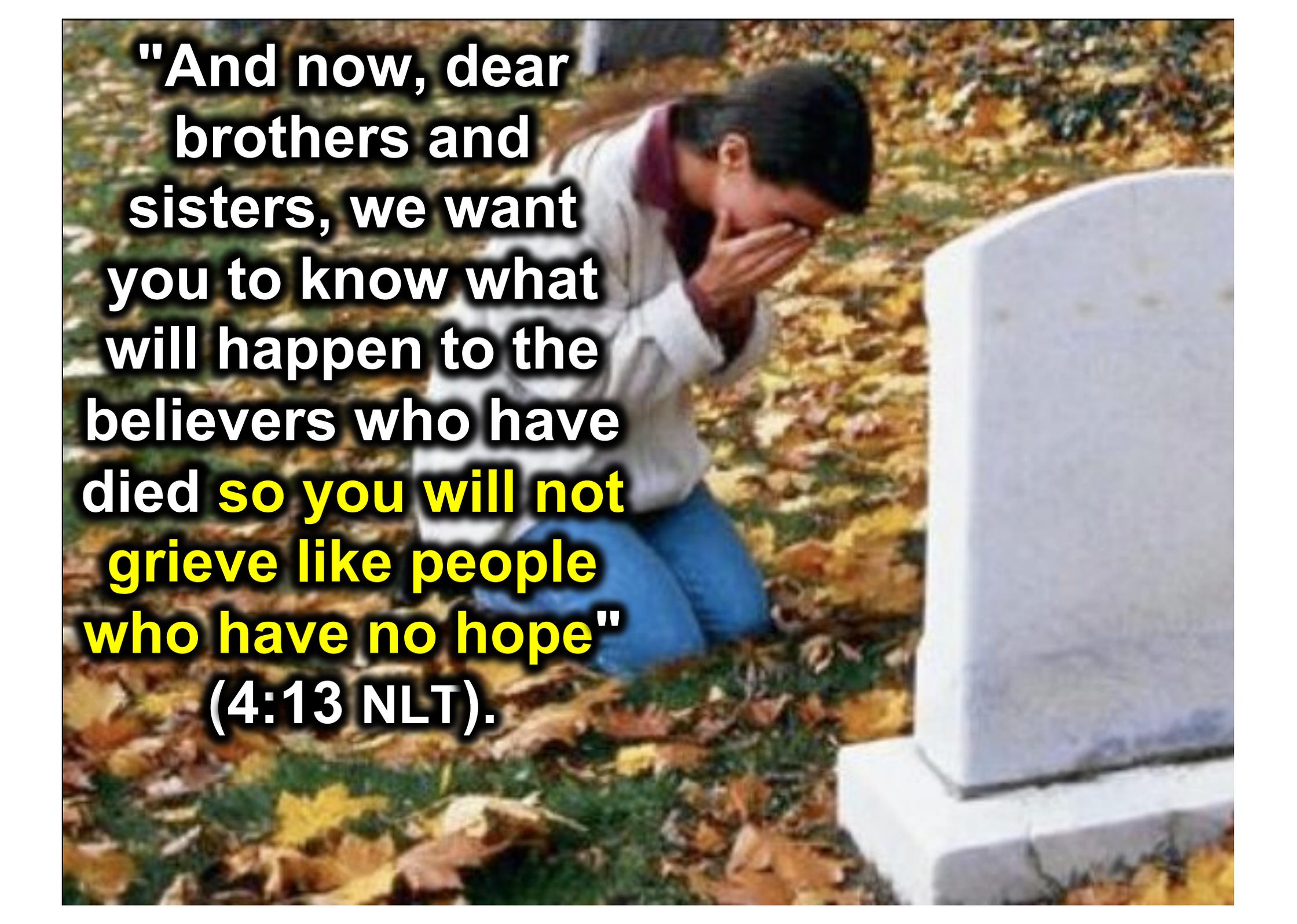
Grief is hard

*"Grief is the price we pay for love."
Queen Elizabeth II*

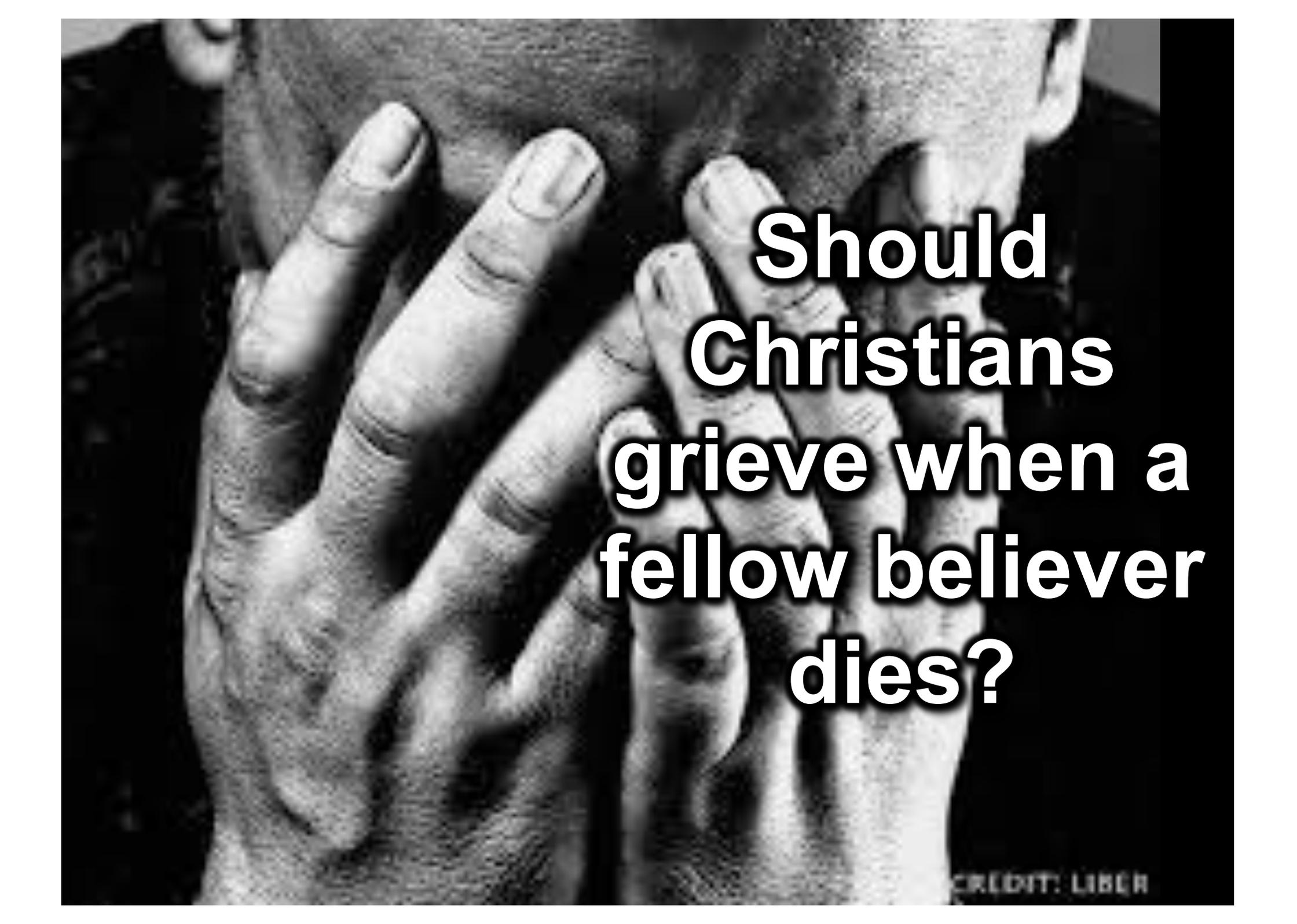




**Being informed about believers
who have died will prevent us
from hopeless grief (4:13b).**

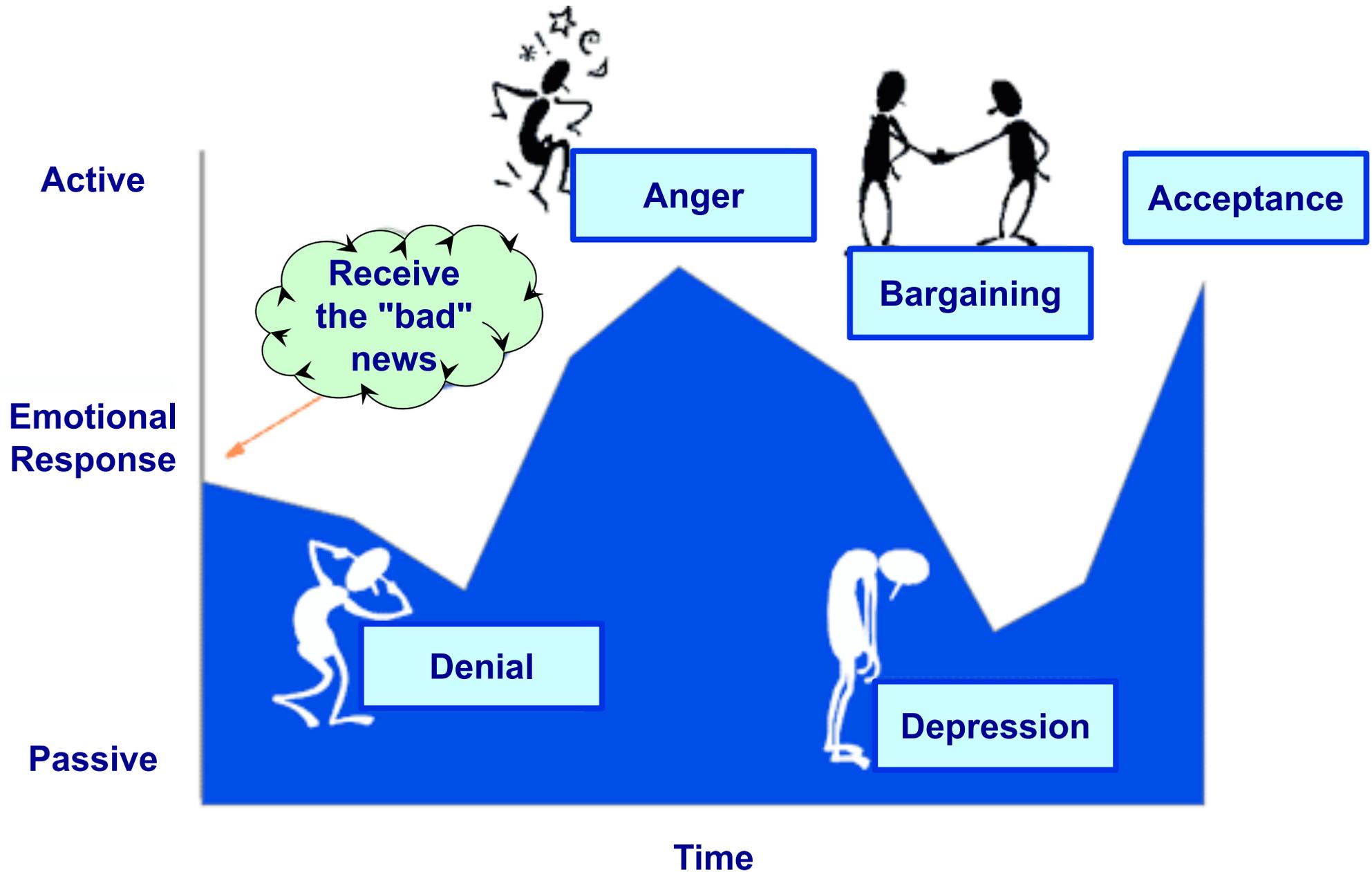
A photograph of a man in a light-colored jacket and blue jeans kneeling on a lawn covered with fallen autumn leaves. He is leaning forward with his hands covering his face, appearing to be in deep grief. To his right is a large, white, rectangular gravestone. The background shows more of the cemetery with scattered leaves and a clear sky.

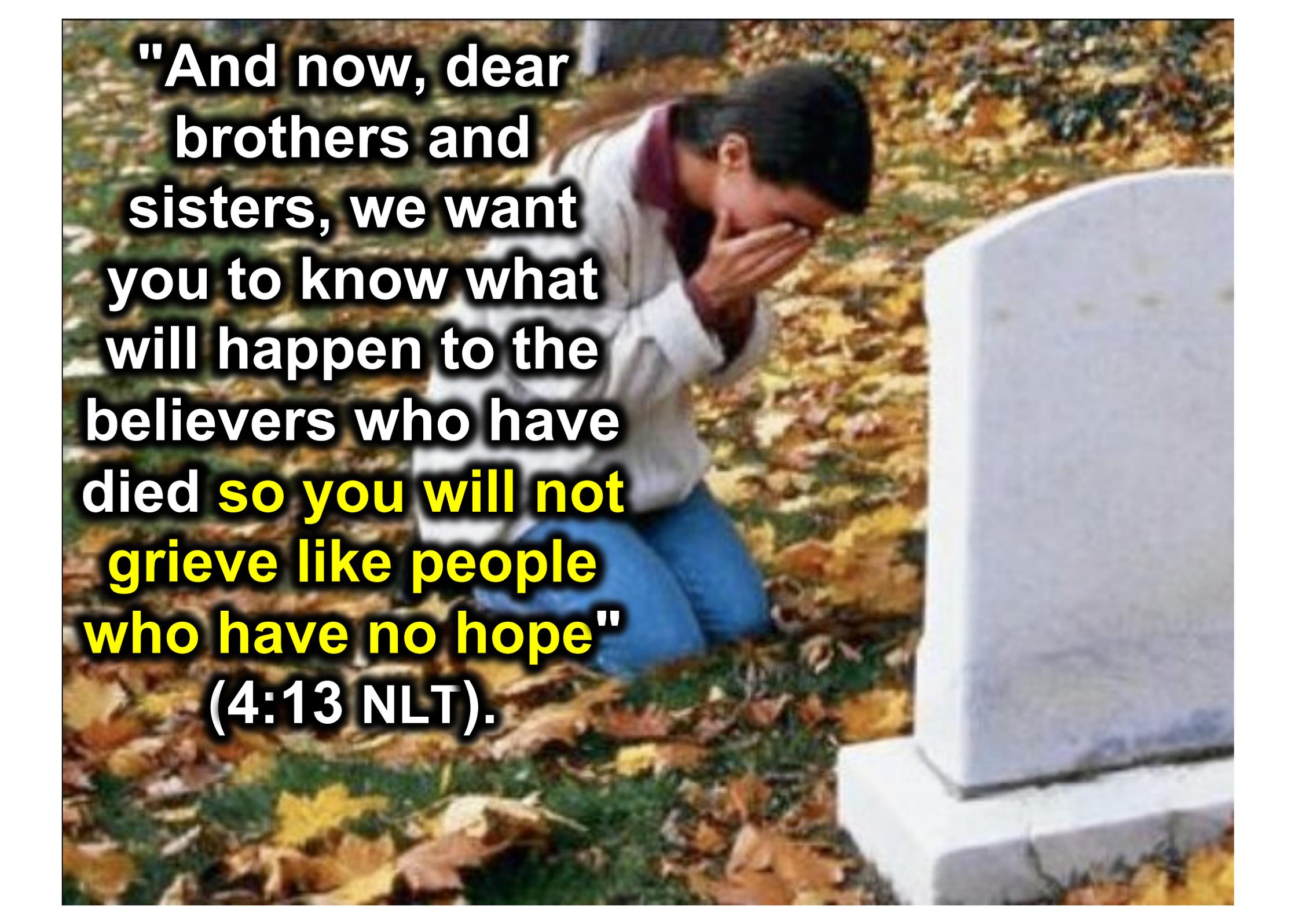
**"And now, dear
brothers and
sisters, we want
you to know what
will happen to the
believers who have
died **so you will not
grieve like people
who have no hope**"
(4:13 NLT).**



**Should
Christians
grieve when a
fellow believer
dies?**

Five Stages of Grief



A photograph of a man in a light-colored jacket and blue jeans kneeling on a lawn covered with fallen autumn leaves. He is leaning forward with his hands covering his face, appearing to be in deep grief. To his right is a large, white, rectangular gravestone. The background shows more of the cemetery with scattered leaves and a clear sky.

**"And now, dear
brothers and
sisters, we want
you to know what
will happen to the
believers who have
died **so you will not
grieve like people
who have no hope**"
(4:13 NLT).**

The Rapture





Christ's resurrection guarantees the believer's resurrection (4:14).

A close-up photograph of a hand in a white, textured robe, pointing towards the text. The hand is positioned on the left side of the frame, with the index finger extended. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light brown color.

"For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died" (4:14 NLT).

The Implications



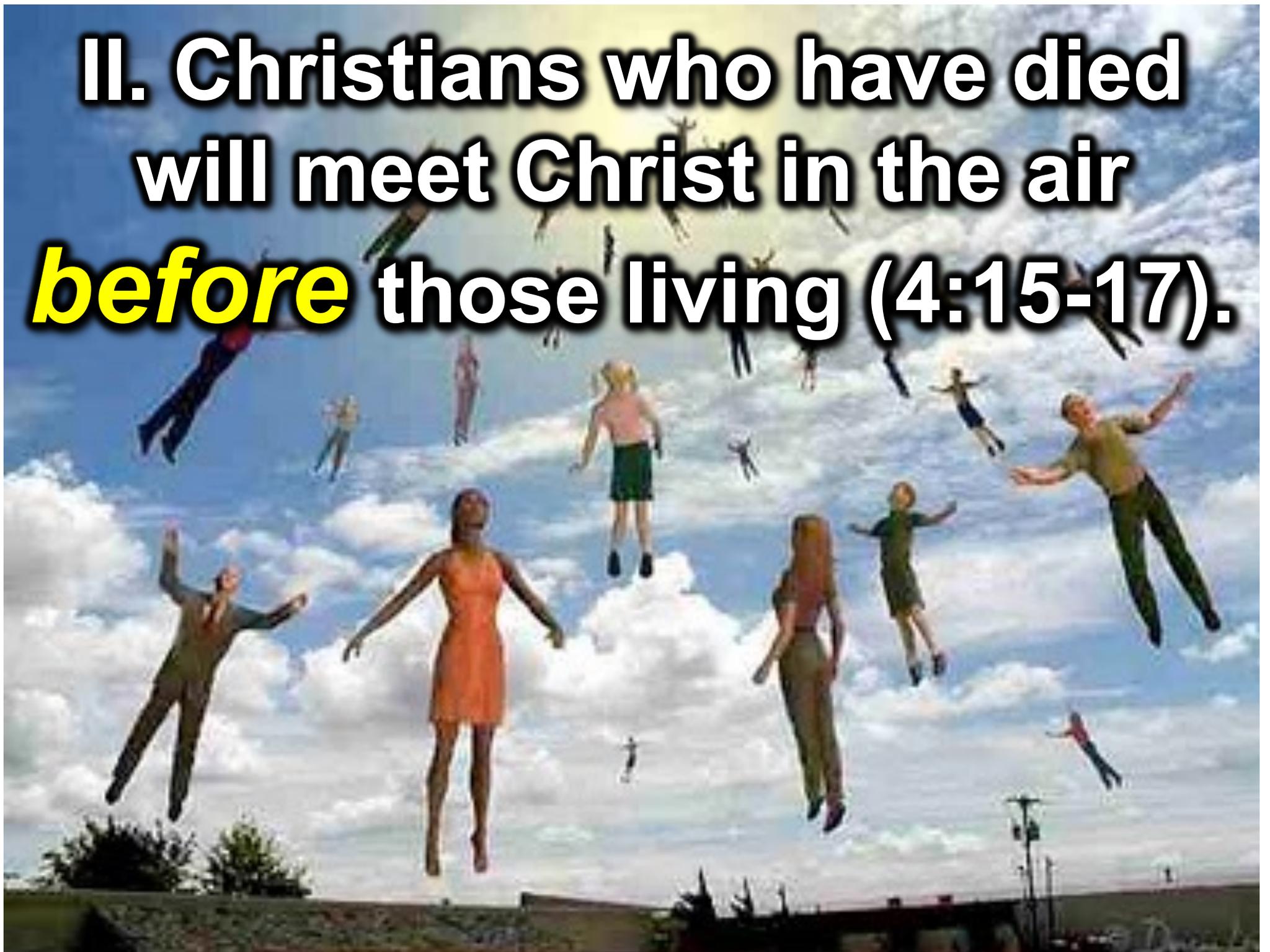
**I. The Rapture helps
us grieve with**

hope

(1 Thess 4:13-14).



**II. Christians who have died
will meet Christ in the air
before those living (4:15-17).**



**"We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died"
(1 Thess 4:15 NLT).**





Some future day
4 amazing events
will happen without
a moment's notice
(4:16-17)

Return

"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding **shout**, with the **voice** of the archangel, and with the **trumpet** call of God"
(1 Thess 4:16a NLT).





Christ's Commanding Shout



Voice of an Archangel



The Trumpet Call of God

Resurrection

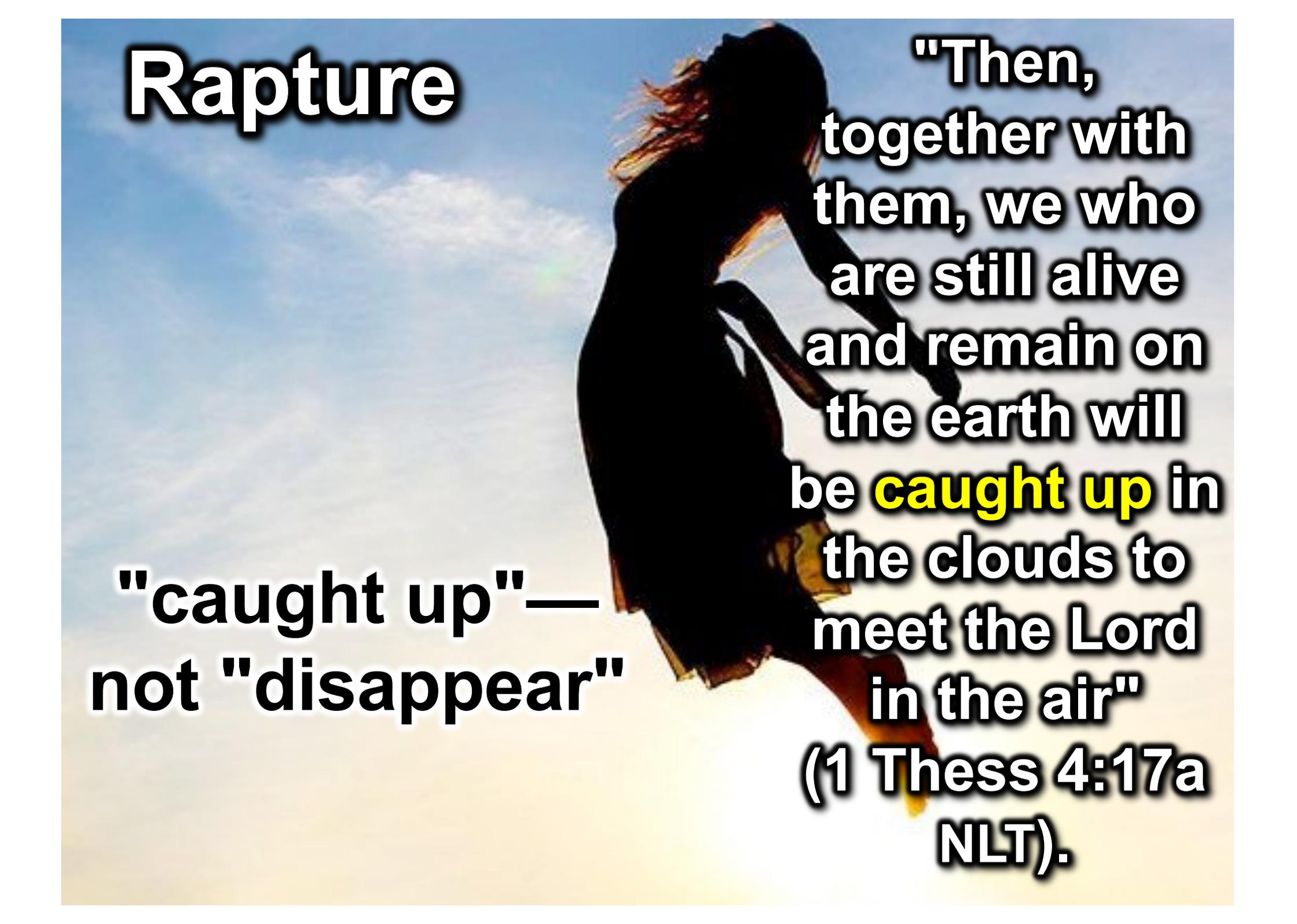


**"First, the
Christians who
have died will rise
from their graves"
(1 Thess 4:16b
NLT).**

**“The dead in
Christ will rise
first”
(1 Thess. 4:16b)**



Rapture

A silhouette of a person in a dark dress running or jumping against a bright, cloudy sky. The person is positioned in the center-right of the frame, moving towards the right. The background is a bright, hazy sky with soft clouds, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is one of movement and hope.

"caught up"—
not "disappear"

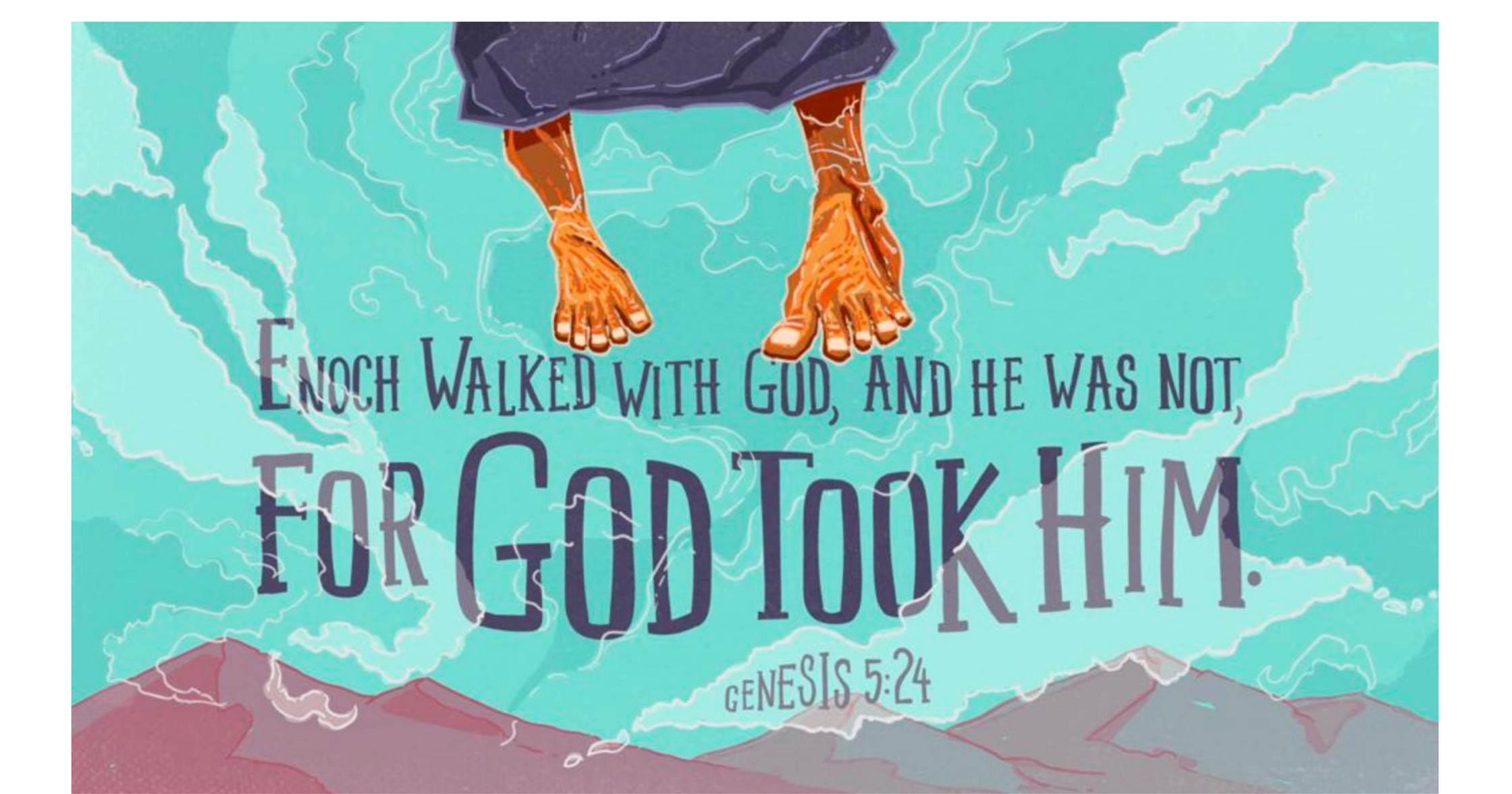
"Then,
together with
them, we who
are still alive
and remain on
the earth will
be **caught up** in
the clouds to
meet the Lord
in the air"
(1 Thess 4:17a
NLT).

From *rapturo*, "to catch up" (Latin)



ripped by the

binary vixen



ENOCH WALKED WITH GOD, AND HE WAS NOT,
FOR GOD TOOK HIM.

GENESIS 5:24

Enoch



Christ Ascended



THE FIRST HEAVEN
The Atmosphere

THE SECOND HEAVEN
Starry Space

THE THIRD HEAVEN
God's Dwelling Place

THE THREE HEAVENS OF THE BIBLE

**"I was caught up to the third heaven"
(2 Cor 12:2 NLT)**

Rapture Chaos



Rapture Chaos





The Translation

Reunion

**"Then we will be with the Lord forever"
(1 Thess 4:17b NLT).**



We will join him in the clouds





III. Christ's return helps us **encourage** one another (4:18).

Why should we look forward to the Rapture with **expectancy**?





The Rapture
gives hope and
encouragement
that he will
come for **you**.

Main Idea

"I've got time..."



Rev 3:11

**Behold,
I COME
QUICKLY**

© JUDAH ARUN
speakarun@gmail.com



"like a thief in the night"



1 Thessalonians 5:2

How to live?

A dramatic sunset or sunrise over a mountain range. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds, and the sun is a bright, glowing orb in the center. A large, semi-transparent circle is overlaid on the sun, creating a lens flare effect. The overall color palette is dominated by deep reds, oranges, and yellows.

Charles R. Swindoll, *Contagious Christianity*, 47

**Make sure that you have received
the salvation God freely offers you
(Titus 2:11 NLT).**

**"For the grace of
God has been
revealed, bringing
salvation to all
people."**



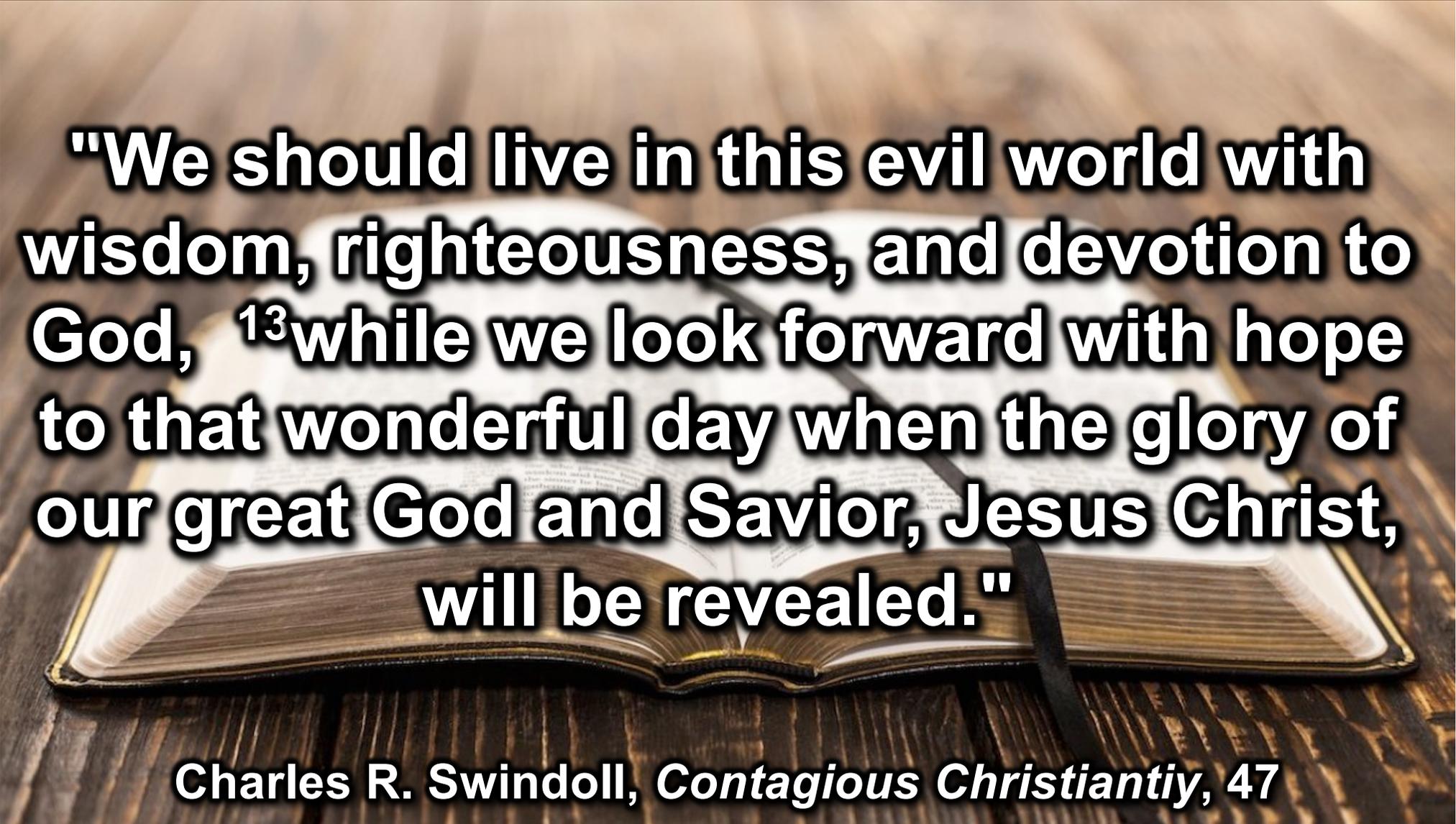
Charles R. Swindoll, *Contagious Christianity*, 47

**Continue to resist a corrupt lifestyle
(Titus 2:12a NLT).**

**"And we are
instructed to turn
from godless
living and sinful
pleasures."**

Charles R. Swindoll, *Contagious Christianity*, 47

**Live in a sensible, godly manner
(Titus 2:12b-13 NLT).**



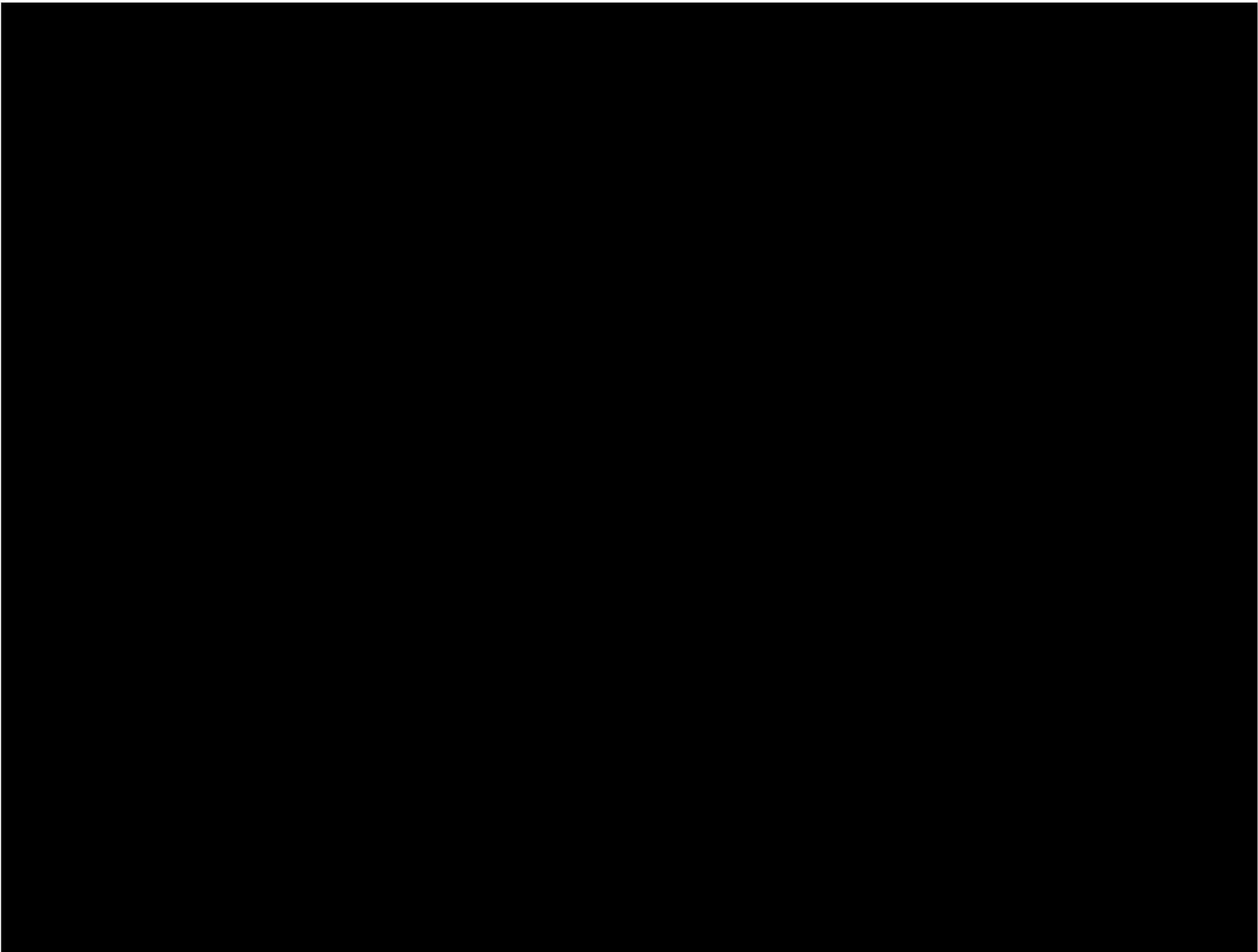
"We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, ¹³while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed."

Charles R. Swindoll, *Contagious Christianity*, 47



The faithful will reign with Christ





Search...



Bible Study Downloads has thousands of PowerPoint® and Word files in 42 languages for free download [here](#).

Future (Eschatology) link at BibleStudyDownloads.org