

# “Where’s Aunt Pearl?”

By Tony Melton

There is a popular doctrine among many denominations known as the “Rapture.” It teaches that when Jesus comes again, if aunt Pearl was a good Christian, then He will snatch her away—as well as all other Christians. The unsaved who knew aunt Pearl will be wondering . . . “Where’s aunt Pearl?”

Basically, the doctrine of the rapture involves the idea that Jesus will silently and invisibly come to snatch His people from the earth. The righteous dead will supposedly be caught up in the air to be with the Lord for seven years. The ungodly people left on the earth will wonder what happened to their loved ones and friends. Rapture advocates maintain that there will be different stages in Christ’s coming and separate days of judgment.

Notice the following Bible verses the “rapture” theory contradicts:

1. The coming of Jesus will not be silent, but rather with a trumpet blast and the shout of the archangel (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).
2. The coming of Jesus will not be a secret event, because *every* eye will see Him (Revelation 1:7).
3. When Jesus comes *all* will be resurrected and judged—both the wicked and righteous (John 5:28, 29).
4. Christ will judge both the living and the dead at His appearing (2 Timothy 4:1).
5. All nations will be gathered before the judgment throne of Christ at the same time (Matthew 25:31-46).
6. The righteous and wicked will be raised at the same hour (John 5:28, 29).
7. The whole world will be judged on the same day (Acts 17:30, 31).
8. When Jesus comes again, it will be the end of the world (1 Corinthians 15:23, 24).
9. At Jesus’ coming, heaven and earth will “pass away, be melted, burned and dissolved” (2 Peter 3:8-12).

So, what is our conclusion? When Jesus comes after “aunt Pearl,” he is coming to judge the world—both the righteous and unrighteous. It is all going to happen at the same time. Are you prepared for His coming?