

The Resurrection and The Rapture are Witnessed Events

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The ParTy Lens



Ecclesiastes 1:9 - "What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun."

Isaiah 28:10 - "Precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little, there a little."

10 Parallels

Events that are similar, comparable, or alike

() Patterns

Events that are examples, prototypes, or models

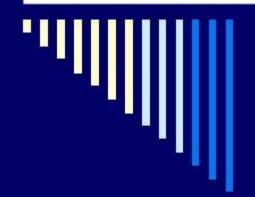
Pictures Events that are epitomes, images, or representations



Events that are styles, forms, or genres

Biblical parallels, patterns, pictures, and types tell us who Yeshua is, what his ministry is, and what the future holds. The Rapture parallels, patterns, pictures and types tell us in great detail about this event. These parallels, patterns, pictures and types become very important when we try to determine if scripture and prophecy have anything to say to us today, especially since scripture informs us that patterns are cyclical.

I am about to rattle some cages, upset some carts, and ruffle some feathers, so fasten your seatbelts.



No doubt you have heard it said that "the rapture is an instantaneous event that happens at the same time as the resurrection of the dead" and that "there are no signs that precede the rapture – the rapture is a sign-less event."

But I say the Biblical scriptures present an entirely different scenario.

Those who say there are no signs are greatly mistaken.

Yeshua gave us numerous signs to look for: many coming in his name, famines, pestilences, wars and rumors of wars, signs in the heavens, and great earthquakes in various places, just to name a few signs.

At the very least, the dead in Yeshua must rise first.

The Resurrection and Rapture Words

The Resurrection Words

It's All Greek To Me . . .

It's All Greek To Me . . .



1 Corinthians 15:52 — "The shofar will sound, and the dead will be raised to live forever, and we too will be changed."

1Thessalonians 4:16 - "Those who died united with Yeshua will be the first to rise."

Scripture uses several Greek words for raise, rise, arise, or resurrect. Many verses in Corinthians, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John frequently use egeiro [G1453]. Paul uses a synonym, anistemi [G450] in Thessalonians.

These words are defined as:

- G1453 ἐγείρω egeiro to waken; (literally) to rouse from sleep, from death; to raise up, produce, cause to appear, to bring before the public.
- G450 ἀνίστημι anistemi to raise up from the dead; to cause to appear, to stand forth and enter into conversation or dispute with anyone.
- G386 ἀνάστασις anastasis a standing up again; (literally) a resurrection from death.

Note that both egeiro and anistemi indicate that the resurrected person then appears in public – they do not instantly disappear!

G1453 egeiro: to arouse from the sleep of death, to recall the dead to life, to cause to appear, and bring before the public – not to instantly disappear.

Egeiro is the word Paul uses in 1 Corinthians Chapter 15 to describe Yeshua's being **raised** from the dead (v 4), who by the way, was seen not only by Peter, but also by more than five hundred brothers at one time.

Egeiro is also the word Paul uses to describe all who are **raised** and given their immortal, incorruptible bodies! They too will be witnessed by many – the patterns show they do not just instantly disappear.

Egeiro is translated raised 45 times, rise 23 times, risen 22 times, arise 13 times, arose 13 times, and raise 8 times. Matthew 9:25 recounts the resurrection of a ruler's daughter. Acts 10:39-41 tells us that Yahweh "raised Yeshua up on the third day and let him be seen." Luke 7:15 tells us "the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother."

G450 anistemi: to raise up from the dead and cause to appear to enter into conversation or dispute with anyone This word comes from G2476 histemi: to rise up in the presence or midst of others – not to instantly disappear.

Anistemi is the form used in 1 Thessalonians 4:16 to describe the dead in Yeshua who **rise** first. They too will be witnessed by many – they do not just instantly disappear.

Anistemi is translated arose 24 times, rise 23 times, rose 18 times arise, raise, or raised 28 times. It is used of Yeshua's resurrection twice, in Luke 24:46, John 20:9, and Acts 17:3 explaining and proving that he had to suffer and rise again from the dead.

G386 anastasis: (literally) a resurrection from death.

Again, this word indicates a resurrection and return to community, not an instant disappearance.

Acts 26:23 tells us that "Yeshua would die, and that he, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to both the Jewish People and to the Gentiles, the Goyim."

Again, no instant disappearance here, either – he did witness to over 500 after he was raised (1 Corinthians 15:6).

H6965 quwm

An equivalent Hebrew word also defines a resurrection as a rising to be placed back in community, not an instant disappearance. That word is: quwm: to rise, to arise, come on the scene.

Isaiah 26:19 puts it this way: "Your dead will come back to life; your corpses will rise up. Wake up and shout joyfully, you who live in the ground! For you will grow like plants drenched with the morning dew, and the earth will cast out the dead."

Growing like well watered plants doesn't even remotely lend itself to instant disappearance teachings!

The Rapture Words

It's All Greek To Me . . .





- Acts 27:15 "The ship was caught up and unable to face the wind so we gave way to it and were driven along."
- 1 Thessalonians 4:17 "We who are left still alive will be caught up with them in the clouds to meet Yeshua in the air; and thus we will always be with him."
- 2 Corinthians 12:2 "I know a man in Mashiach who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, Yahweh knows."

The word translated *caught up* in Greek is: *harpazō* (ἀρπάζω)

Classical Meaning: to seize, carry off by force, to snatch out or away.

If we compare the Newer Covenant word harpazo with the Older Covenant Hebrew word laqach [H3947 לְּקְתַוֹּ] we find that laqach also means: to take, seize, send for, fetch, carry away.

The harpazo, the snatching away, the catching up, the seizing, or whichever verb one uses, will not be something that human beings accomplish.

When Yeshua shouts, he will be expecting us to comply and be taken up, not asking if we would mind coming up once we've gotten showered and dressed in our finest linens!

Here are some examples of harpazo [G726] which are in boldface:

Violent men "take the kingdom of heaven by force" (Matthew 11:12). This process has been ongoing for roughly 6000 years! Not even close to a split second or nanosecond of instant occurrence!

Robbers come to **steal** and plunder the goodies they have found (Matthew 12:29). This usually takes a bit of time. When the SWAT team shows up at the door to seize the criminal and carry them off by force, rarely does the SWAT team instantly remove someone – how many times have we seen on TV the hours long standoffs. Rarely do criminal activities and the arrest of those same criminal happen in a split second or nanosecond.

The evil one "snatches away the words of Yahweh if that person fails to understand their meaning" (Matthew 13:19). This process usually happens over a period of time – we call this a falling away or an apostasy. Rarely ever does this happen in a split second, nanosecond, or instant!

Here are some examples of laqach [H3947] which are in boldface:

Elijah was taken away and took his mantle (2 Kings 2:3, 2:5, 2:9).

Enoch was taken by Yahweh (Genesis 5:24)

Neither disappeared in a split second or nanosecond.





Genesis 22:2-4 – "Yahweh said to Abraham, Will you please take your son . . ."

Revelation 3:20 – "Here, I'm standing at the door, knocking. If someone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him."

There another definition of harpazo that may better fit the compassionate Yeshua who asks the willing to gather?

Indeed there is and that definition is:

To eagerly gather together those who are loved

And it is this definition that best fits the Rapture pattern. Yeshua comes to gather us together in love, not to brutally force us to head up to the clouds. Yahweh and Yeshua both honor their commitment to giving each individual free choice – to obey or not.

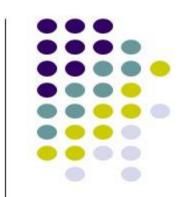
Will you freely go when called to come up, or refuse?

There are many scriptures which speak about people willingly gathering together.

- Luke 24:33 "They got up at once, returned to Yerushalayim and found the Eleven gathered together with their friends."
- John 20:19 "When the talmidim were gathered together behind locked doors out of fear of the Judeans, Yeshua came, stood in the middle and said, "Shalom aleikhem!"
- Acts 2:1 "The festival of Shavu ot arrived, and the believers all gathered together in one place."
- Ephesians 1:10 "His goal was to carry out his plan, when the right time came, that all things in Heaven and on Earth would be gathered together in Yeshua as the head."
- 2 Thessalonians 2:1 "Now we request you, brothers and sisters, with regard to the coming of our Lord Yeshua Ha'Mashiach and our gathering together to him."
- **Hebrews 10:25** "You should not stay away from the gathering meetings, as some are doing, but you should gather together and encourage each other, even more so as you see the day of Yahweh's wrath approaching."

Gathering together for festivals, gathering together to give thanks and praise, gathering together for reading of the good news, gathering together to be in Yeshua's presence all sound like joyous occasions to me – not something one is forced to attend.





Harpazo is not the only word used in scripture to indicate a rapture.

The words used in the Newer Covenant describing a seizing, snatching, or carrying away are:

- G726 ἀρπάζω harpazo to seize, carry off by force, to snatch out or away
 - to claim for one's self eagerly
- G305 ἀναβαίνω anabaino literally to walk up, to ascend, to go up, to rise, be borne up
- G4872 συναναβαίνω sunanabaino to ascend at the same time
 - to come up together with someone to a higher place
- G359 ἀνάλυσις analusis a departure as a ship from its moorings
- G867 ἄφιξις aphixis properly an arrival, by implication a departure
- G1841 ἔξοδος exodos to exit, depart (from life), to become deceased

The words used in the Newer Covenant describing a disappearing, becoming invisible, or vanishing:

- G853 ἀφανίζω aphanizo to snatch out of sight, to put out of view, to make unseen,
 - to cause to vanish away
- G854 ἀφανισμός aphanismos to disappear, to vanish
- G855 ἄφαντος aphantos to be taken out of sight, to become invisible, to vanish

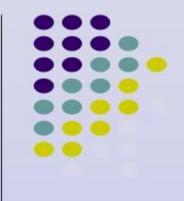
Not one of the words described above can be found in Chapter 15 of 1st Corinthians, nor anywhere else in the entire book!

Not one of these words are used in connection with a resurrection

Witnessed Resurrections

The Dead Rise First

The many resurrections from the dead



The son of the Shunammite woman, known as a widow from Zarephath in Sidon

1 Kings 17: 22 -"The child's soul came back into him, and he revived."

Luke 4:26 - "Elijah was sent only to a widow of Zarephath, a city of Sidon."

The full account is found in: 1 Kings 17:21-22, 2 Kings 4:31-35

The dead man placed into the tomb of Elisha

2 Kings 13:21 – "When the body touched Elisha's bones, the dead man came to life and stood on his feet." The full narrative can be found in: 2 Kings 13:20-21

The prophet Jonah

Jonah 2:6 - "Yahweh brought me up alive from the pit."

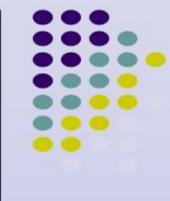
The full account is found in: Jonah 2:1-10

The daughter who is only "asleep", also known as the daughter of Jairus

Luke 8:54-55 - "But he took her by the hand, called out, 'Little girl, get up!' and her spirit returned."

The full account is found in: Matthew 9:23-25; Mark 5:22, 5:35-42; & Luke 8:41, 8:52-55

The many resurrections from the dead



The only son of a widow from the town of Nain

Luke 7:14-15 – "Yeshua said, 'Young man, I say to you: get up!' The dead man sat up and began to speak." The full account is found in: Luke 7:11-15

Lazarus

John 11:43-44 — "Having said this, he shouted, 'Lazarus, come out!' The man who had been dead came out." The full account is found in: John 11:11-44

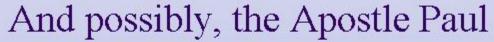
Dorcas/Tabitha

Acts 9:40 – "Peter said, 'Tavita! Get up!' She opened her eyes; and on seeing Peter, sat up." The full account is found in: Acts 9:37-42

Eutychus

Acts 20:10 – "Paul said, 'Do not be distressed, for he is still alive'!"
The full narrative can be found in: Acts 20:9-10

The many resurrections from the dead



Acts 14:19 – "They presumed Paul to be dead; but he got up and went back into the city." The full narrative can be found in: Acts 14:19-20

Not one of these nine resurrected people mentioned above just instantly disappeared when they came back to life.

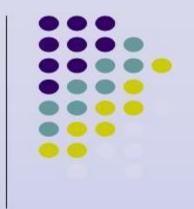
Just the opposite. ALL were seen alive by many after their resurrection.

But, But, But: None of Them Got Glorified Bodies

The above statement is absolutely true:

Not one of these nine resurrected people mentioned above received a glorified, incorruptible, immortal body.

Most, we assume, later died and were buried, as is the case of Paul.



The many resurrections from the dead



The Holy Ones:

Matthew 27:50-53

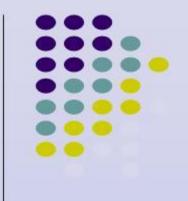
"The graves were opened, and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life; and after Yeshua rose, they came out of the graves and went into the holy city, where many people saw them."

Yeshua

Matthew 28:8; Mark 16:9; John 20:17

"When Yeshua rose early on Sunday, he appeared first to Miriam of Magdala" and commanded her not to cling to him as he had "not yet ascended to his Father", saying he would meet them in Galilee.

The many resurrections from the dead



The Two Witnesses of Revelation:

Revelation 11:11-12

"But after the three-and-a-half days a breath of life from God entered them, they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. Then the two heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, 'Come up here!' And they went up into heaven in a cloud, while their enemies watched them."

The two witnesses are resurrected after 3 ½ days and then stand on their feet. Shortly thereafter, they are called to come up, and finally are raptured.



Wait: None of These People Disappeared Either!

Neither the Holy Ones, nor Yeshua, nor the Two Witnesses instantly disappeared after their resurrection.

Just the opposite.

ALL were seen alive by many after their resurrection.

Coinkydink, I think not

Scripture gives us twelve examples of those who have died (or been presumed dead) who were resurrected. Interesting number, 12!

Mitnessed Raptures

Those Who Are Bodily Raptured

Who Waitched

Did anyone witness the person being raptured according to the scriptures?

Hint

Fifty saw. Many saw. The King's men saw

Eliyahu (Elijah)

2 Kings 2:7-12

"Fifty of the guild prophets went and stood watching Eliyahu and Elisha from a distance. . . . Elisha saw Eliyahu depart and cried out, "My father! My father!

Elijah's ascension was witnessed by both Elisha and the prophets.

Elijah did not just disappear – his rapture was watched.

Yeshua Ha'Mashiach (Jesus the Christ)

Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9-11a

"As he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven."

Yeshua was carried up into heaven while the disciples were looking on, and a cloud received him out of their sight.

This ascension was so fascinating to those watching that two "men" had to interrupt them and basically tell them to get on with their lives until Yeshua returned!

And not to mention that the disciples were in the right spot at the right time to witness Yeshua being taken up, eh?"

Yeshua's rapture was witnessed by many.

Enoch

Enoch 81:5-6; Jasher 3:27-29; Jasher 3:34

"The seven holy ones will take you from their midst." Enoch's ascension was witnessed by his children as he was taken from their midst.

Jasher also tells us that some of the King's men remained with Enoch when he went to the place where he was to be raptured. Only death, they said, would separate them.

Enoch's rapture was also witnessed by many people.

Other Patterns

Exodus and Weddings

The Exodus Pattern

Exodus 33:1 – "Yahweh said to Moses, 'Leave, you and the people you brought up from the land of Egypt; and move on from here toward the promised land' [i.e. Israel – a parallel, picture, pattern, or type of our Heavenly destination]."

The Hebrew slaves had been in Egypt for over 400 years. Upon leaving Egypt the Egyptians witness their departure (*Exodus 12*):

- •The Hebrew slaves are redeemed, if you will, "resurrected".
- •Their departure was witnessed; Pharaoh's army chased them.
- •They arrived at Mount Sinai in the third month.
- •It took another forty years to reach the promised land.
- •The 40 year journey was also witnessed.

This pattern conforms to the witnessed rapture paradigm and teaches that there is no basis for teaching an instant disappearance paradigm.

Paul's Midrash on the Patterns

The Hebrew slaves *resurrection* from their Egyptian "graves" did not result in an instantaneous disappearance – it took time for them to walk away in full view of the Egyptians. It took more time to arrive at Mount Sinai.

Of the Bride, Paul tells us that the Dead in Yeshua are *resurrected* first. Perhaps they too have a time of witnessing after their resurrection before they reach their destination – the clouds to meet together with the changed living and with Yeshua.

Rabbi Paul effectively takes the same approach to the Exodus narrative as Rabbi Peter takes to the Joel 2:28-29 prophecy. They both teach using a typical rabbinical technique called a Midrash:

- Peter applies Joel 2 to the Giving of the Spirit at Shavuot. (Acts 2:17-21)
- •Paul applies the pattern of the exodus of the Hebrews slaves out of the graves of Egypt, their trip to Mt. Sinai, and the subsequent ascent of Moses to meet with Yahweh on the mountain to the future rapture of the Bride of Yeshua (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18).
- •The scriptures in Matthew 27 lend further support for this pattern.

The Wedding Pattern

In a Jewish Wedding, when the Father tells his son to go get his bride, the son does not step outside his newly built home, blow the shofar, shout "Bride, come here" and then the Bride just disappears from her house and, poof, instant teleportation to the bridegroom's house.

Her "rapture" is accomplished by the bridegroom and his friends carrying her from her house to his.

This pattern also conforms to the witnessed rapture paradigm and teaches that there is no basis for teaching an instant disappearance paradigm.



Conclusions

The Resurrection is a Witnessed Event

The son of the widow from Zarephath
The son of the Shunammite woman
The dead man in the tomb of Elisha
The prophet Jonah
The daughter of Jairus
The Holy Ones

The son of a widow from Nain

Lazarus

The Apostle Paul

Dorcas/Tabitha

Yeshua

The Two Witnesses of Revelation

Scripture gives us twelve examples of those who have died (or been presumed dead) who were resurrected, but did not instantly disappear or get raptured. The Bible only asks for two witnesses to establish a fact!

Not one of these people instantly disappeared. Just the opposite.

All were seen alive and well after their resurrection.

The Rapture is a Witnessed Event

2 Kings 2:7-12

Elijah's ascension was witnessed by both Elisha and the prophets.

Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9-11a

Yeshua's rapture was witnessed by the disciples.

Revelation 11:11

The two witnesses will be raptured as their enemies watch.

Enoch 81:5-6; Jasher 3:34

Enoch's rapture was also witnessed by many people.

Two or More Witnesses are Required

Scripture gives us twelve examples of resurrections that were witnessed, and three examples of those whose raptures were witnessed. The Bible only asks for two witnesses to establish a fact!

Not one of these people instantly disappeared.

The instant disappearance paradigm is not supported by the patterns revealed in the scriptures that show a progression of well witnessed events over time.

The belief that "the resurrection is the rapture" also fails to adhere to the Biblical requirement that two or more witnesses are necessary to establish a fact.

Why is it so important that the Resurrection and the Rapture be Witnessed?

The Witnessed Resurrection and Rapture Gives The Glory To Yahweh/Yeshua

Deuteronomy 4:24 – "Yahweh your Elohim is a consuming fire, a jealous Elohim." **Isaiah 42:8** – "I am Yahweh; that is my name; my glory I give to no other." **Isaiah 48:11** – "For my own sake, I do it . . . My glory I will not give to another."

Yahweh does not give nor share his glory with anyone, especially not with Satan.

That is why the Resurrection and Rapture of the Bride of Yeshua will be witnessed by all.

The fully witnessed resurrection and rapture of the Bride of Yeshua will be hard, if not downright impossible to deny – all will know it was done by Yeshua and will bring great glory to Yahweh.

FINAL CONCLUSIONS

The instant disappearance paradigm, which has been espoused for way too long:

- does not conform to the Greek or Hebrew Word Definitions
- does not conform to the Witnessed Resurrection Pattern
- does not conform to the Witnessed Bodily Rapture Pattern
- does not conform to the Exodus Pattern
- does not conform to the Thessalonians Midrash Pattern
- and does not conform to the Jewish Wedding Pattern

All of the above are witnessed events

– not instant disappearance events

Thank you for attending this teaching on

The Resurrection and The Rapture are Witnessed Events

