

Key Scripture:

God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy to the church, and He blesses all who listen to its message and obey what it says, for <u>the time is near</u>.

Shout of the Lord!

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 NKJV

16 For <u>the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout</u>, with the voice of an archangel, and <u>with the trumpet of God</u>. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain *shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air*. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.
 18 Therefore <u>comfort one another with these words.</u>

Rapture Realities...

✓ No one will know the day or the hour.

Matthew 25:13 ERV

So *always be ready. You don't know the day or the time* when the Son of Man will come.

✓ It will be <u>unexpected</u>, but not immediate. (2 Peter 3:8-9)

1 Thessalonians 5:1-2 NLT

Now concerning how and when all this will happen, dear brothers and sisters, we don't really need to write you. 2 For you know quite well that the day of the Lord's return will come unexpectedly, *like a thief in the night*.

✓ We will be <u>changed</u> in the twinkling of an eye.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 NKJV

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed —
52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, <u>at the last trumpet</u>. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

\checkmark Only the <u>saved</u> will escape the wrath.

1 Thessalonians 5:9 NKJV

For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ

Noah <u>escaped</u> the flood (Matthew 24:37-41 parties, banquets & weddings) Lot <u>escaped</u> the fire & brimstone (Luke 17:28-30 business as usual)

Notes: _____

Two Minute Warning

The Great Escape

Luke 21:34-36 NLT

34 Watch out! Don't let your hearts be dulled by carousing and drunkenness, and by the worries of this life. Don't let that day catch you unaware, 35 like a trap. For that day will come upon everyone living on the earth. 36 Keep alert at all times. And *pray that you might be strong enough to <u>escape</u> these coming horrors and stand before the Son of Man.*

Make the great escape ...

1. Focus upward.

Revelation 4:1-2 NLT

Then as I looked, I saw a door standing open in heaven,

and the same voice I had heard before spoke to me like a trumpet blast. The voice said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after this."

Luke 21:28 NLT

So when all these things begin to happen, stand and look up, for your salvation is near!

2. Faithful – with what you've been given.

Matthew 24:46 TLB Blessings on you if I return and find you *faithfully doing your work.*

3. Filled & Fired Up!

Matthew 25:6-10 NKJV

6 "And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' 7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the wise, <u>'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'</u> 9 But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

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