

# 1 Thessalonians 09 - (4:15-18)

## Meeting the Lord in the Air

### 1. The Two Comings of the Lord

- a. Jesus' meeting in the air vs. coming to Earth for the kingdom
- b. There are separate 'comings' just as there are separate advents
  - i. The delay was unknown to the prophets – 1 Pet 1:11 Isa 61:2
  - ii. The mysteries of the kingdom: Matt 13:10-11
  - iii. They were mysteries unknown not given to Paul – Mat 13:17
  - iv. The teaching is about the coming wrath - Matt 13:19
  - v. The kingdom would be delayed – John 14:28, Acts 1:6-7
  - vi. Like a man who went to a far country - Matthew 21:33; 25:14

### 2. Mystery vs. Prophecy

- a. The meeting in the air is part of the mystery – 1 Cor 15:51
  - i. Jew/Gentile one body – Col 3:11
  - ii. The heavenly battle - Eph 3:9-10 & 6:12
  - iii. Residence in heaven - Eph 1:3 & 10, 2:6, Phil 2:10; 3:20
- b. The kingdom come has been prophesied – Luke 1:68-75
  - i. He shall come in judgment - Psalm 96:13, 98:13
  - ii. Reign over Israel - Jer 23:5
  - iii. The increase of his government – Isa 9:6-7
  - iv. Earth bound → Matt 19:28; Luke 22:28-30

### 3. Different Purposes

- a. The meeting in the air is for to reward believers – 2 Tim 4:8, Rom 8:18
  - i. Jew and Gentile body of believers - 1 Thess 4:14,16
  - ii. Redemption of our body – 1 Cor 15:51 / Romans 8:23
  - iii. "shall we ever be with the Lord" – 1 Thess 4:17 -this is permanent
- b. The kingdom coming is to fight unbelievers
  - i. He shall stand on Mount of Olives - Zech 14:3-9; Acts 1:11-12
  - ii. He comes for the tares – Mat 3:11,12; 13:40-43; Amos 9:8-9
  - iii. "he doth judge and make war" - Rev 19:11-13
- c. The kingdom come to gather the elect of Israel –Rom 11:26-28
  - i. Israel will return - Psalm 14:7; 106:47; Eze 37:11-12 & 21-25
  - ii. Assembling of the remnant – Isa 11:9-12

### Differences Between the Prophetic and the Mystery coming

Prophecy		Mystery
Matthew 24:13	Endure to the end'	1 Thessalonians 1:10
Matthew 24:14	Preach to every creature	Colossians 1:23
Matthew 24:15	Temple Worship	Galatians 4:9-11
Matthew 24:19	Child-Bearing	1 Timothy 5:14
Matthew 24:21	Great Tribulation	Eph 6:15; Romans 2:4
Matthew 24:27	Public or Private	Acts 22:9; 1 Cor 15:52
Psalm 97:1-6; Joel 2	Comforting words?	1 Thess 4:18
Mat 24:30-31	Who gathers	1 Thess 4:17
Rev 20:2-5	The first resurrection	1 Thess 4:16