

In A Moment At the Last Trumpet - Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Define Our Terms

What are we talking about?

Answer: The Second Coming of Christ -

How do we know that?

Answer: 1 Corinthians 15:22-23

22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. **23** But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. **24** Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.

Review - Coming παρουσία - dative case = receives the actions of the verb - you have to go back to "has come the resurrection" or in Christ shall all be made alive

Christ was raised first - He is the first fruits -

Then we have an appointment - "when?" at the Second Coming - "parousia" is a singular noun - one Coming - one more thing - there is no confusion on the singularity of His Coming - it is not in your English Translations - but in the Greek there is a "ho" like our "the" and it is conjugated to match - it is singular - The Coming - singular.

So that is the time frame we are working with here - the Second Coming will be our Blessed Hope = being changed in a single moment. No cocoon stage - no progressive rapture - a single rapture at the Second Coming.

The Dead and the Living Changed - Mystery Revealed!!

Possibly some of the Corinthians were confused - if the resurrection happens and we are still alive - and resurrection means being raised from the dead - we will miss it because we are not dead?

No - we shall not all sleep - we shall not all die - we shall all be changed.

What a glorious thought. To never have to go through the awful struggle of death but to be changed at the single Second Coming.

God will do two things - at the Second Coming - raise the dead and raise/rapture the living.

Other Verses About the Second Coming

Phil. 3: **20** But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, **21** who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Matthew 24: **29** "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. **30** Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. **31** And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Another Passage About an End Times Trumpet

1 Thessalonians 4

15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. **16** For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. **18** Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This adds some more information -

1. that there is a "cry of command" and "with the voice of the archangel."
2. (the trumpet of God is described in Matthew 24 as a "loud trumpet call" and angels are involved in the gathering as the voice of the archangel evidently commands the legions of God into the rapture work.

Logical Deductions:

1. the trumpet called the "last trumpet" in 1 Corinthians is the same as the loud trumpet call in 1 Thessalonians.
2. These two events are identical - the dead are raised and those left are raptured and changed at the same time.
3. This Last Trumpet signifies the salvation - the rapture of the people of God - the church of Jesus Christ this it's purpose or it's nature.

But....

What about the 7th Trumpet in Revelation?

The seventh trumpet of Revelation is the culmination of judgment...wrath, clearly poured out. the last trumpet is the last trumpet for believers and the 7th trumpet speaks of pure outpouring of righteous judgment. They are two different trumpets.

Romans 5:9 (NIV) Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! (emphasis added)

1 Thess 1:10 (NIV) and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead--Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. (emphasis added)

1 Thess 5:9 (NIV) For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. (emphasis added)

Rev 3:10 (NIV) Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth. (emphasis added)

Luke 21:36 (NIV) Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.

Illustration: the siren that calls volunteers to fight fire as a kid.

Loud....it called people away from what they were doing and to rally to save people and property.

Everyone heard it. Indoors and outdoors it was that loud.

O T Trumpets

God has been using trumpets since...Exodus 19:7ff trumpets of the Third Day??????

Leviticus 23:23 Feast of trumpets

Feast of Trumpets

23 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

24 "Speak to the people of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall observe a day of solemn rest, a memorial proclaimed with blast of trumpets, a holy convocation.

25 You shall not do any ordinary work, and you shall present a food offering to the LORD."

Leviticus 23:23-25

This feast led to another in ten days of the same month...the Day of Atonement

Connection to freedom from death and sin - X

Jesus said in John 8 that the Pharisees, the vast majority would die in their sins.

They were willfully unbelieving. They saw miracles too...especially the raising of the dead Lazarus.

Our rising from the dead will be. Our participating in the the defeat of death and sin for ourselves forever!!!!

Jesus resurrects us or Jesus snatches us away and as we rise death is conquered and sin is conquered forever!!!!

Connection to Be Fully Ascended in God's Presence

We will then be fitted, on that third day to not only come to the mountain but to ascend to the top...and be with the Savior for ever!!!!

Lastly - The Sting

Why does the author of this letter say that the sting of death is sin?

Ask this question...why do you sin?

Because at the moment you believe that the pleasure or outcome of the sin is good for you. It will feel good or give

you something that will feel good if even for a moment, so you give in.
And there is pleasure in sin for a season. The 1960's were no accident - "if it feels good do it." So people did it and they do it today because they reckon it is good at the moment.

The critical spirit person, thinks it is his or her job to correct all the incorrect people. It makes themselves feel superior although they are breaking the law of love and the clear teaching of Scripture to be tender and kind with God's flock, but it feels right to correct so they choose to obey their desire and say things that hurt and demean someone.

Adultery feels good for the moment. A person is lonely in their marriage and they find temporary companionship...
Until the sin kills their marriage that was already hanging by a thread.
Until the kids look up and ask why? Until their fling is unfaithful...

And then sin hurts. It stings

Then you realize the pain you caused your spouse.

The. You realize how bad your words hurt when someone is critical of you....and the sting of a bad conscience, the shame that you didn't have self control, that your words hurt another brings hurt to you. It comes back to you and it hurts...unless your conscience has already been seared.

It brings pain.

Sin brings pain all the way until it is completed in death and it hurts, it stings in death.

The more sin that engulfs a life the quicker that death claims its prize and the more painful it is.

The very thing that was estimated to bring pleasure brings the horrid and excruciating pain that results in and leads to death.

...the Greek word for sting is "kenteo" it means to prick or goad. It included the meaning of the sting or a bite of a bee or wasp or jellyfish or snake.

It is also used of an iron goad to prod cattle...

My son was stationed at a tough assignment for four long years, Hawaii. One day playing with his son on the beach they went into the surf and a large jellyfish - technically it was not a jellyfish but a Portuguese Man-O-War. Long tentacles deliver a potentially deadly sting that lasts for hours, our son was told to get in a hot shower. Four hours later the sting subsided. This venom can get into the lymph system and if you are allergic it can kill.

They make their tongue sharp as a serpent's, and under their lips is the venom of asps. Selah

Psalms 140:3 Quoted by Paul in Romans 3...Paul had been an asp towards Christians.

1 But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest
2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

Acts 9:1-2

Later Paul was accused of not being an apostle...he was slandered by the Jews...he felt the same sting that he had been guilty of.

His cry became "who can deliver me from this body of death!???????"

Jesus said to Saul, why do you kick against the goads. (Kenteo)..the sting or the pain is meant to drive us to the great physician because only He has the remedy for sin. Only He can wash away the poison of sin. Paul succumbed on the road to Damascus.

God chose Paul, the stinger, who breathed murder and threats and redeemed that tongue so he could say...woe is me if I don't preach the gospel. What a change, a change on the inside.

We have the completion of the day of atonement - the Passover Lamb has died once for all.

All the trumpet blasts will on that day...for the elect...the people of God will be finished and out side will match the inside!!!!

We will say with all the saints - sting gone because Jesus swallowed it up in His victory on the cross.

Application:

Our hope to avoid the sting will come on that day when the last trumpet for the believer will call us, will rally us all to the sky. Live in light of that hope.

1 John 3:1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

1 John 3:1-3

This hope helps with the current sting by helping us avoid, at least for our part allowing sin in thereby keeping us from stinging others and having that sting come back on us in the form of guilt and shame.

If you are feeling the sting of sin...one way or another...

1. Acknowledge Jesus is the helper and the healer.

If you are a stinger....and we all are...stop sinning with God's power. Say...."thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord." (In answer to the question who will deliver me from the body of death)

Jesus is the victor...He defeated sin and death at the cross, thank Him ahead of time and walk in faith that His Word is true...

2. Preach the Gospel - fill your mouth with good things...the gospel is good things....good news!!!

Preach the Word in season and out of season. Say woe is me if I don't preach it. It's worth for me and woe for others! If you don't Satan will slither his way in and bring dissensions, arguments, offenses, lies, mistrust, slander and division. This is exactly what Paul has been warning against to the church at Corinth.

We can try being a person bent on external rules...behavior modification- law givers.

Gods law was only a tutor to show us our need to bring us to CHRIST, Galatians says.

Yet we think our rules can do any good? Hogwash. They just make people want to break them.

Only when there is a heart change do we desire to live according to God's law which is summed up by Jesus as love God and love your neighbor.

Our test says, "the power of sin is the law."

Romans 7:5-6 For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death.

6 But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

Romans 7:5-6

that's why this verse...

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57

That's why this verse:

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58

Only CHRIST can free us to work by the Spirit of God into the Work of God....

Death is vain, empty, it leaves an empty shell.

We are called to in the Spirit! It won't be in vain.

As a worker together with Christ even if it seems in vain, it is not in vain!

Cast your bread upon the waters for you will find it after many days Eccles. 11

Be **steadfast** - firm in the faith Peter said, not shifting from the hope Colossians says

Be **immoveable** - feet planted underneath you on the rock under you...the enemy is on shifting sand, resist and he will flee.

Always **abounding** - partake of grace not just so you have enough but so you have too much for yourself. Not when you feel like it, but "pan hote" every "when" in the Greek. When I wake, when its early, when its late, when its seemingly mundane, every when.

not whenever

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