

Church Age R & R Resurrection and Rapture

Introduction

The pending rapture of the Church, 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18, is understandably perceived as a single event¹. This writer does not dissent from that perception. However, this study addresses the possibility of a pre-rapture resurrection of living Church Age saints followed by the rapture itself some weeks later. ***“the book of the LORD”*** Isaiah 34:16 the 1611 Holy Bible may have revealed the pre-rapture resurrection of living Church Age saints followed by the rapture itself some weeks later in type by the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and events at that time followed by the Lord’s ascension some weeks later.

This study sets forth the components of the type ***“...in the words...which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual”*** 1 Corinthians 2:13 and seeks to urge application of James 1:22 ***“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves”*** with this note of caution together with earnest expectation:

Keeping in mind for spiritual application the Lord’s exhortations:

“Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh” Matthew 24:44

“Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not” Luke 12:40
maintain as Paul declares a steadfast attitude of anticipation ***“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ”*** Titus 2:13.

These sources² are listed for further reference and explanatory comment with respect to this study.

The interrelated components of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and events at that time followed by the Lord’s ascension some weeks later as a type of the pre-rapture resurrection of living Church Age saints followed by the rapture itself some weeks later now follow, set out with the relevant scriptures and accompanying notes.

Passover, Easter and Pentecost

See for the Biblical definition of the Passover Leviticus 23:5-6 ***“In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD’s Passover. And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.”*** The first day of that feast is ***“the feast of the Passover”*** Exodus 34:25 which explains Luke 22:1 ***“Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover.”***

Deuteronomy 16:6, 8-10 establish that ***“the feast of weeks”*** known as Pentecost occurs seven weeks after the Passover

“But at the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place his name in, there thou shalt sacrifice the passover at even, at the going down of the sun, at the season that thou camest forth out of Egypt...Six days thou shalt eat unleavened bread: and on the seventh day shall be a solemn assembly to the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work therein. Seven weeks shalt thou number unto thee: begin to number the seven weeks from such time as thou beginnest to put the sickle to the corn. And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks unto the LORD thy God...” Deuteronomy 16:6, 8-10.

Note therefore this study:

Passover Pentecost Whitsun 2024

Together with Song of Solomon 2:10-13³ study *“of the times and the seasons”* 1 Thessalonians 5:1 gives the earliest date for the Rapture. This site⁴ states Shavuot, the “Feast of Weeks,” is celebrated seven weeks after [Passover](#) (Pesach). Since the counting of this period ([sefirat ha-omer](#)) begins on the second evening of Passover, Shavuot takes place exactly 50 days after the (first) [seder](#). Hence, following the Greek word for “fifty,” Shavuot is also referred to sometimes as *Pentecost*. Noting that⁵:

[Passover Seder](#)

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Begins | 15 Nisan |
| Ends | 21 Nisan (22 Nisan in traditional Diaspora communities) |
| 2024 date | Sunset, 22 April – nightfall, 30 April (8 days) |

Therefore⁶ [The date of]...the **Feast of Weeks** or **Pentecost** ([Koinē Greek](#): Πεντηκοστή) in English...is directly linked to that of [Passover](#); the Torah mandates the seven-week Counting of the Omer, beginning on the second day of Passover, to be immediately followed by Shavuot.

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2024 date | Sunset, 11 June – nightfall, 13 June |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|

This site⁷ explains that Passover 2024 begins at sundown on Monday, April 22 and ends the evening of Tuesday, April 30. The first Passover seder is on the evening of Monday, April 22, and the second Passover seder takes place on the evening of Tuesday, April 23.

Seven weeks from the evening of Tuesday, April 23 bring the date to Sunset, 11 June. Certain related key dates on the traditional church calendar are set out as follows:

Noting Mark 16:9 *“Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene...”* this site⁸ states **Easter**...or **Resurrection Sunday**, is a [Christian festival](#) and [holiday](#) commemorating the [resurrection of Jesus](#) from the dead, described in the [New Testament](#) as having occurred on the third day after his [burial](#) following [his crucifixion](#) by the [Romans](#) at [Calvary](#) c. 30 AD.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Easter Sunday 2024 date | March 31 (Western) May 5 (Eastern) |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|

Noting Acts 2:1, 4, 11 *“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come...they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance...the wonderful works of God”* this site⁹ states **Whitsun** (also **Whitsunday** or **Whit Sunday**) is the name used in Britain and Northern Ireland, and throughout the world among [Catholic](#), [Anglicans](#) and [Methodists](#), for the Christian festival of [Pentecost](#). It is the seventh Sunday after [Easter](#)*, which commemorates the descent of the [Holy Spirit](#) upon Christ’s disciples ([Acts 2](#)). *An estimate follows.

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| Whitsun Estimate 2024 date | 19 May [from March 31] 23 June [from May 5] |
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Conclusion with Caveat

Song of Solomon 2:10-13 and study *“of the times and the seasons”* 1 Thessalonians 5:1 give the earliest date for the Rapture as Pentecost-Whitsun Estimate 2024 yet *“yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night”* 1 Thessalonians 5:2. *“Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh...Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not”* Matthew 24:44, Luke 12:40.

That caveat notwithstanding, note the following scriptural reassurances for the Church Age saint according to John 14:18 *“I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”*

Resurrection and Post-Resurrection Accounts

These scriptures testify to *“the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus”* Acts 4:33, the resurrection of some Old Testament saints and the relevant timings of those resurrections to establish the type of the pre-rapture resurrection of living Church Age saints.

“And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many” Matthew 27:52-53.

“In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it...And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said” Matthew 28:1-2, 5-6.

Matthew 27:52-53, 28:1-2, 5-6 establish that the Lord Jesus Christ had risen from the dead by the first day of the week and that many Old Testament saints rose bodily from the dead after the Lord’s resurrection. The Lord afterwards took them to **“the third heaven”** 2 Corinthians 12:2 at His first ascension as Paul states **“...When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive...”** Ephesians 4:8.

“himself alive...forty days”

These scriptures confirm the historical facts of the Lord’s resurrection, second ascension and His forty-day sojourn on earth between those two events, during which sojourn with His followers, as Paul was later to do more extensively, **“to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening”** Acts 28:23.

“unto the apostles whom he had chosen...he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God...And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight” Acts 1:2-3, 9.

With Acts 1:2-3, 9 having established that the Lord Jesus Christ remained on earth for forty days between His resurrection and second ascension, the question arises how may those events typify the pre-rapture resurrection of living Church Age saints followed by the rapture of Church Age saints itself?

Church Age Rapture and Scripture Types

Song of Solomon 2:10-13 strongly indicates that the Church Age rapture *very possibly* takes place at Pentecost. According to the traditional church calendar, see remarks under ***Passover, Easter and Pentecost*** and the accompanying study ***Passover Pentecost Whitsun 2024***.

“For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone...The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away” Song of Solomon 2:11, 13.

Note these scriptures with respect to the rapture of Church Age saints and scripture types.

“Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him” John 12:28-29.

“Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” 1 Corinthians 15:51-52.

“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him...For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord”

1 Thessalonians 4:14-17.

God's voice of thunder and that of an angel, John 12:28-29, may be likened to the first trump, picturing the rapture of the Church Age saints **"at the last trump"** 1 Corinthians 15:52 **"with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God"** 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

Pre-Rapture Resurrection of Living Church Age Saints

Concerning the resurrection of some deceased Old Testament saints and the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, see remarks under ***Resurrection and Post-Resurrection Accounts***, typifying the pre-rapture resurrection of Church Age saints alive according to ***"the life of the flesh"*** Leviticus 17:11, Proverbs 14:30, Church Age saints deceased in that respect being ***"absent from the body, and...present with the Lord"*** 2 Corinthians 5:8, note these scriptures.

"Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him...And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you" Romans 6:8-9, 8:10-11.

"But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming" 1 Corinthians 15:23.

"So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption...And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly" 1 Corinthians 15:42, 49.

"Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures" James 1:18.

"Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world" 1 John 4:17.

Romans 6:8-9, 8:10-11, 1 Corinthians 15:23, 42, 49, James 1:18, 1 John 4:17 establish that the Church Age saint alive according to ***"the life of the flesh"*** Leviticus 17:11, Proverbs 14:30 is nevertheless a raised dead person typified by the Lord Jesus Christ Who was raised from the dead and that the Church Age saint alive according to ***"the life of the flesh"*** Leviticus 17:11, Proverbs 14:30 as a raised dead person is meant to typify the Lord Jesus Christ now.

The questions therefore arise can and will the Church Age saint alive according to ***"the life of the flesh"*** Leviticus 17:11, Proverbs 14:30 as a raised dead person actually have pre-rapture the incorruptible bodily form that the Lord Jesus Christ manifested post-resurrection and as the risen Old Testament saints manifested after the Lord's resurrection? See again remarks under ***Resurrection and Post-Resurrection Accounts***.

Pre-Glorified and Glorified Incorruptible Forms

"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord" John 20:19-20.

"And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last" Revelation 1:17.

Differing but Crucial Time Intervals

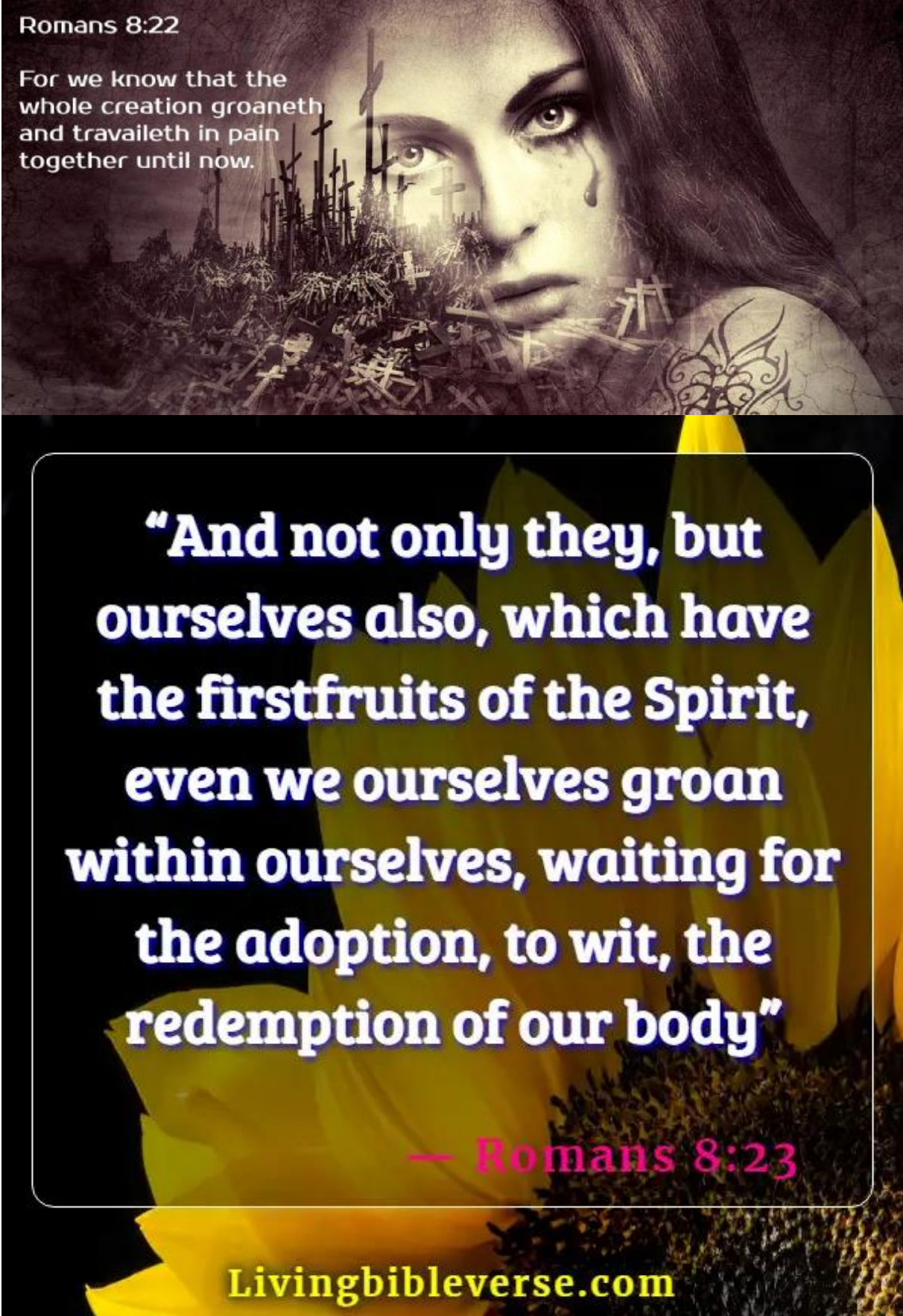
"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you" John 16:7.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come...they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance...the wonderful works of God" Acts 2:1, 4, 11.

*Conclusion*¹⁰

Romans 8:22

For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.



“And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body”

— Romans 8:23

Livingbibleverse.com

References

All web references were current at the time of writing. Web reference and author are given as appropriate the first time a particular work is cited. Only the work itself is cited in subsequent references. See shop.timefortruth.co.uk/ruckman.html for Dr Ruckman's books.

¹ store.kjv1611.org/ *The Two Raptures* by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, pp 1-12

² store.kjv1611.org/

Ruckman Reference Bible pp 309, 911-912, 1257-1258, 1294, 1339-1380, 1409, 1423, 1528-1529, 1557, 1574

The Book of Matthew by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, pp 218-219, 560, 703-704, 713-719

The Book of Luke by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, pp 429-431, 658-659, 745-748

The Book of John by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, pp 380-381

The Book of Romans by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, pp 287-288

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The Books of the General Epistles Volume 2 by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, p 156

The Book of Revelation by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, p 28

³ store.kjv1611.org/

Ruckman Reference Bible pp 911-912

The Book of Song of Solomon by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, pp 105-107

⁴ www.myjewishlearning.com/article/shavuot-101/ *Shavuot 101*

⁵ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passover *Passover*

⁶ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shavuot *Shavuot*

⁷ www.myjewishlearning.com/article/passover-2024/ *Passover 2024*

⁸ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Easter *Easter*

⁹ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitsun *Whitsun*

¹⁰ inspiringtips.com/kjv-bible-verses-pain-suffering/

livingbibleverse.com/bible-verses-about-adoption-into-the-family-of-god/