

## *Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for December 28-29, 1996**

**"The Coming of Christ for His Church"**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

The Thessalonians all shared equally in the confident expectation that while living, Jesus was going to come and catch them up to Himself. But this did not happen, certain Thessalonians died and those who were left behind were troubled. Paul, in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 is giving them very important information in order to comfort them.

THE participants (1 Thessalonians 4:14-15)

All those who are in Christ whether living or dead will participate in the rapture.

THE plan (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)

The Lord's shout (1 Thessalonians 4:16)

The voice of archangel (1 Thessalonians 4:16)

The trumpet of God (1 Thessalonians 4:16)

The trumpet of God in 1 Thessalonians 4 is referred to as the last trumpet in 1 Corinthians 15:52.

The term "last" may signify that which concludes a program, but it is not necessarily the last trumpet that ever will be sounded.

The last trumpet for the church is blown at the time of the rapture.

The last trumpet for the nation of Israel will be blown at the end of the tribulation just prior to the Messianic kingdom (Matthew 24:29-31)

There are two separate responses to the three sounds

First the Christians who have died are resurrected (1 Thessalonians 4:16)

Then, the Christians who are alive are translated (1 Thessalonians 4:17)

THE Pillars

The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus are the pillars for the rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:14)