

Second Coming, Resurrection, Rapture, End Of The World, Judgment Day - All Happen Together

I Thess 4:15-17 “For this we say unto you ... 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.”

- everybody will be aware of the second coming – the JW’s secret coming in 1914 is false
- first the dead Christians will rise, and then the Christians still alive will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air
- the dead Christians and dead wicked will be raised at the same time – John 5:28-29 “Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”
- this resurrection will occur on the “last day” (of the world) – John 6:40 – “And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.” John 11:24 – “Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”
- the resurrection will occur at Jesus’ second coming at the end of the world – I Cor 15:22-24 – “... even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end ...”
- the word “rapture” is a Latin word meaning “caught up” - which we find in verse 17
- we also see this rapture “caught up” concept in Matt 24:40-41 “Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.”

II Pet 3:3-4,10 “... there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? ... But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”

- so the end of the world occurs at Jesus’ second coming
- leaves no room for “Premillennialism” or for anybody being “left behind” after the rapture

John 12:48 “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.”

- so on the “last day” (of the world) we will be judged – the Judgment Day
- by God’s word according to our works Rev 20:11-12 “And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”