

The Rapture

The sound of the Archangel

- I.** Review of those that sleep.
 1. Jesus leaves the Father's Throne.
 2. He brings the souls and spirits of New Testament saints with Him (1 Thes. 4:14).
 3. This is selective: "those that sleep through Jesus."
 4. The first trump of God announces the resurrection of the bodies that sleep (1 Thes. 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:52).
 5. This is the first type of resurrection— "out from among dead ones" (1 Cor. 15:20; Rom. 6:5-9; Rev. 20. 4-6).

- II.** An archangel's sound will tell Satan to let the resurrected bodies come through his domain (1 Thes. 4:16).
 1. Although God has the ultimate rule, He has chosen to allow Satan authority over the world system (Lu. 4:6; Jn. 14:30; Eph. 2:2).
 2. Satan authority is restricted to the earth's atmosphere.
 3. Lucifer was created as the greatest on the creative scale (Ez. 28:14-15).
 4. God has chosen Michael the Archangel as an instrument to thwart Satan (Dan. 12:1; Rev. 12:7; Jude 9). This is dramatic irony.

- III.** Satan apparently would try to prevent the saints going up to meet the Lord in the air if he were allowed. The sound from the archangel prevents Satan's interference.