

第五課：教會被提 - 主隨時再臨 Rapture of the Church - imminent return of Christ

課前預備 Lesson Preparation

經文：帖撒羅尼迦前書 4:13 – 5:11

Passage: 1 Th 4:13 – 5:11

參考經文：哥林多前書 15:50 – 58

Reference: 1 Cor 15:50 – 58

怎樣預備 How to study

1. 研讀上述經文，嘗試了解保羅在這些經文中討論復活及被提的重點。不要放過任何你認為有趣或不解的細節。寫下所有你發現的問題。
Study the above passage. Try to figure out the main points made by Paul concerning resurrection and rapture in these Scriptures. Don't let go any details you find interesting or confusing. Write down all the questions you have.
2. 閱讀並思想「一頁聖經研究」，看看它有否解答你寫下的問題。閱讀後，你可能有更多的問題，也把它們寫下來。
Read the One Page Bible Summary and ponder on it. See if it answers your questions written. Write down any additional questions you have after your reading.
3. 找出在下面「思考問題」的答案。
Answer the Questions to Ponder at the end.
4. 若你發現這段經文不易理解，或是下面的問題不容易回答，不要沮喪。你可以把你的問題帶到課堂時詢問，你也可以在課堂之前，以電郵詢問你的問題。
If you find that the passage/ questions are not easy, don't feel frustrated. You can ask your questions/ what you do not understanding during the lesson. You can also ask your questions via email before the lesson if you wish.

思考問題 Questions to Ponder

1. 根據帖前 4:13-18 推斷，帖撒羅尼迦的信徒為何事憂心？
Inferring from 1Th 4:13-18, what upset the believers at Thessalonica?

他們因有些信徒在基督再來前已經死去而憂愁。他們擔心這些信徒不能參與主的再來。
They were upset by the fact that some of them died before the return of Christ. They worried that these believers could not participate in Christ's return.
2. 根據保羅在帖前 4:15-17 及林前 15:51-52 的教導，在我們永遠與主耶穌同在之前，會發生什麼事？請按時序列出。
According to Paul's teaching in 1Th 4:15 – 17 and 1Cor 15:51-52, what will happen before we are forever with the Lord Jesus? List them in chronological order.

- 1) 主會從天而降（會有呼叫的聲音、天使長的聲音，和 [末次] 號筒響起，見帖前 4:16，林前 15:51）；
- 2) 在主裡死了的基督徒會復活，得著不朽壞的身體（林前 15:52，帖前 4:16）；
- 3) 在主裡活著的基督徒會有身體的轉變 – 變為不朽壞的身體（林前 15:52）；
- 4) 活著的信徒會與之前已死、但現已復活的信徒一同被提到空中，與主相遇（帖前 4:17）；
- 5) 所有在主裡的信徒會與主一起，直到永遠（帖前 4:17）。

- 1) The Lord will descend from heaven (with a shout, with voice of the archangel, and with the [last] trumpet of God sounded, 1Th 4:16, 1Cor 15:51);
- 2) The dead believers in Christ will resurrect with an imperishable body (1Cor 15:52, 1Th 4:16).
- 3) The living believers in Christ will have bodily change – changed into an imperishable body also (1Cor 15:52).
- 4) The living believers will be caught up together with the resurrected dead believers in the clouds to meet the Lord (1Th 4:17).
- 5) All believers in Christ will then be with the Lord forever (1Th 4:17).

3. 按你在前四課所學的，帖前 5:3 中所說的事該在什麼時候發生？

According to what you have learned in the previous lessons, when should the events in 1Th 5:3 happen?

帖前 5:3 所指的是挪亞的日子（或是人子的日子）[「平安穩妥」]，亦包括大災難 [「災禍忽然臨到他們」]。所以它應是指末世時最後七年。

1Th 5:3 refers to the Days of Noah (or the Days of the Son of Man) [“peace and safety”] and also the Great Tribulation [“destruction come upon them suddenly”]. Therefore it should refer to the last seven years in the end times.

4. 研讀帖前 5:1-10。在主的日子來到的前後，非信徒會有什麼遭遇？信徒又如何？
Study 1Th 5:1-10. What will happen to the unbelievers around the coming of the Day of the Lord? How about believers?

非信徒會如常生活，不察覺大災難將至（帖前 5:3, 7）。他們會覺得平安穩妥（很可能因為敵基督與以色列簽訂了和約）。然後忽然間帖前 5:3 所說的災難會臨到他們，進入大災難時典（帖前 5:9 所說的受刑）。相反地，信徒知道主隨時會回來，不會被災難臨到。他們不會在神的烈怒以下（帖前 5:4-5, 9）。

The unbelievers will live as normal, unaware of the coming of the Tribulation. (1Th 5:3, 7) They will feel peace and safe (probably because the Antichrist has made the covenant with Israel). Then suddenly they will be overtaken by the destruction in 1Th 5:3, entering the Great Tribulation (under God’s wrath - 1Th 5:9). On the contrary, believers know that the Lord will come and will not be overtaken by the day. They will be spared from the wrath of the Lord (1Th 5:4-5, 9).

5. 以你在第 4 題中的答案為基礎，請推斷帖前 4:13-18 所說的事應該在什麼時候發生。

Based on your answers in Question 4, deduce when the events in 1Th 4:13-18 will happen.

在 4:13-18 中所論及的被提，應該是在末世最後七年前發生。那時辰是無人能知，會像夜間的賊一樣來到（帖前 5:2）。

The rapture, that is the event in 4:13-18, should happen right before the last seven years in the end times. The timing is unpredictable and will come just like a thief in the night (1Th. 5:2).

6. 保羅認為帖撒羅尼迦信徒應如何為這些事作預備？

According to Paul, how should the Thessalonian believers get prepared for these things?

保羅這樣教導帖撒羅尼迦信徒：

- 1) 他們不應像不信主的人一樣憂愁（4:13）；反而要知道已死的信徒會復活，與他們一同被提到雲中與主相遇（4:19）。
- 2) 他們要警醒謹守，不要對主再來一事毫不察覺、毫無準備（5:6）。他們應常把信、望和愛當作屬靈的盔甲穿上（5:8）。

Paul instructed the Thessalonians that

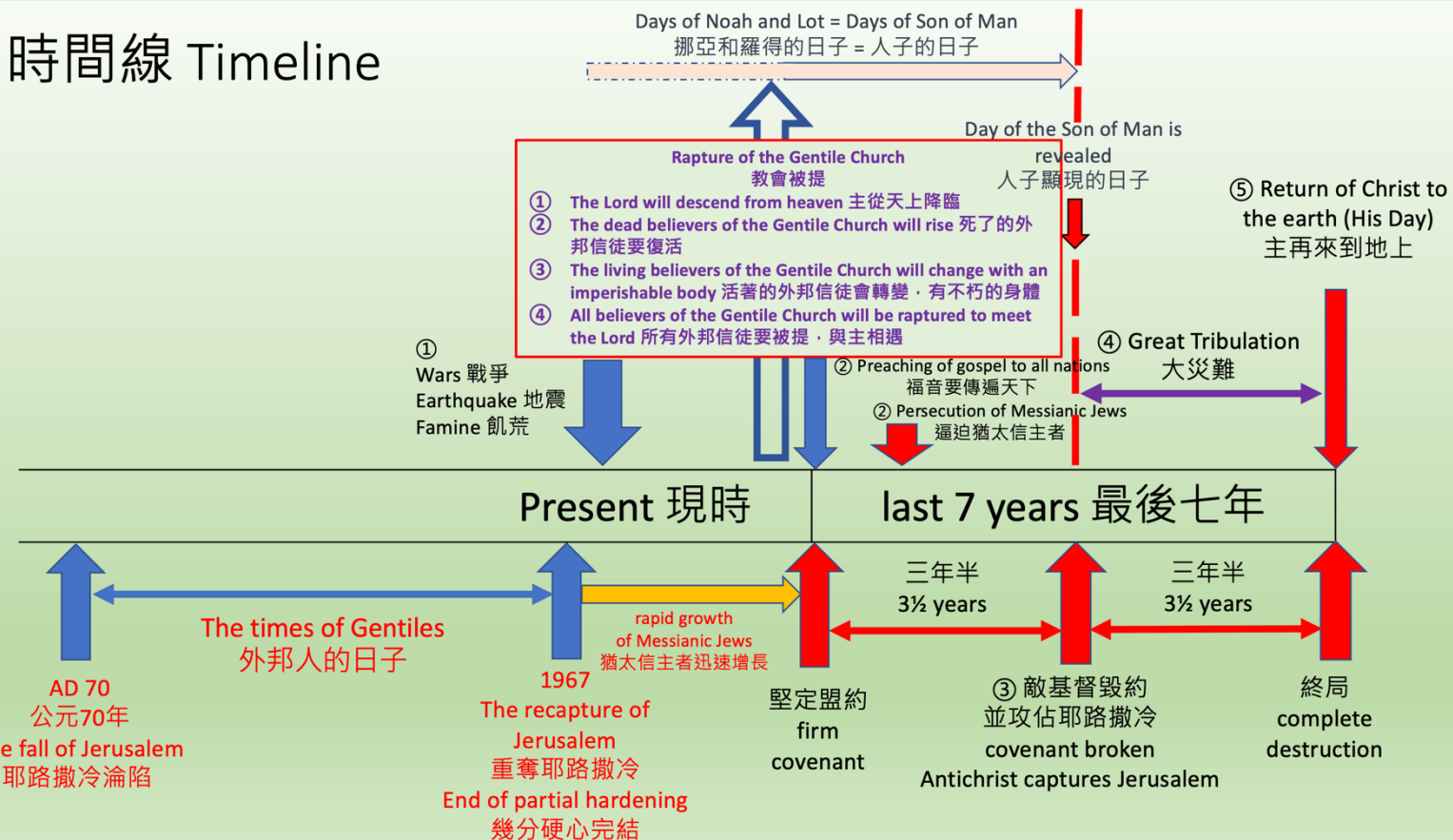
- 1) they should not grieve as unbelievers (4:13); rather they should be comforted by the truth that the dead believers will be resurrected and be caught with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (4:19).
- 2) they should be alert and sober instead of being unaware and unprepared of His return (5:6). They should always put on faith, hope and love as their spiritual armour. (5:8)

7. 請把今次查考經文的內容加進以下的時間線上。

Incorporate what you have discovered in this Bible Study in the timeline below.

See the words in purple in the red rectangle below.

時間線 Timeline



8. 今次查考的預言，對你今天的生活有什麼影響? 寫下兩個你在今次查經想到的應用。

How would the prophecy you study in this lesson affect your life? Write two applications of your Bible Study.

以下是一些關於應用的建議：

- 我應常常默想主再來的真理，好使自己不會被現今世界所迷惑，或被世界分散了對永恆的注意力。
- 若我要保持警醒，研讀預言是非常重要的。我應堅持繼續努力查考預言。
- 主基督再來及永遠與祂同在的盼望，是能安慰人的。當我面對逆境時，我要持守這盼望，好讓我得著安慰。
- 主快回來了，那些尚未注意/知道這真理的人很危險。我該令其他人醒覺到這事實。我應向未信主的親人、朋友傳福音，也要告訴主內弟兄姊妹我在末世預言課程所學到的、關於主再來的真理。
- 我會得著不朽的身體，並會很快與主永遠同在。既是如此，努力追求這世界的事便很愚蠢，我應在信、望、愛中為永恆而努力。
- 任何其他應用

Some applications suggested:

- I should constantly meditate on the truth about His return so that I may not be deceived or distracted by the present world.
- Studying prophecies is very important for me to stay alert. I should insist on studying the prophecies and be diligent in it.
- The hope in Christ's return and in being with Him forever comforts. When I face adversities, I should put on this hope for comfort.
- His return is imminent, and those who are unaware of this truth are at stake. I should make others be aware of His return. I should evangelise my unbelieving relatives/ friends and tell my brothers and sisters in the Lord on the truth of His return, using what I have learned in the Prophecy Course.
- I will have an imperishable body and will live with the Lord eternally very soon. Striving for things in this world is foolish and I should live in faith, love and hope for eternity instead.
- Any other applications