

## Are You Ready?

By Scott Moller

When I was only a boy, about eight years of age, I heard my first sermon about the Rapture. The pastor kept asking the question that night, “Are you ready?” That night I heard what Jesus had promised in John 14:3: “*And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come back and take you to be with Me** that you may be where I am*” (NIV). I learned that Jesus was coming back for Believers to take them to be with Him, but I was not ready for His return because I had not put my faith in Him as my Savior. That very night I asked Jesus Christ to my personal Savior, and I have been looking for the Rapture ever since.

One of the clear Biblical warnings about the Rapture is that it is imminent. It can happen at any time without warning. Therefore one must be prepared and ready for the Rapture before it occurs. Jesus states in Luke 12:40, “**You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him.**” There will be no time for preparation during or after the Rapture. It will be too late and you will have missed it. Paul also warns us when he says, “*Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come **like a thief in the night***” (1 Thess. 5:1-2). He adds, “*Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the **twinkling of an eye**, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed*” (1 Cor. 15:51-52).

The Lord’s return will be like a thief coming in the night. It will happen in a flash and as quickly as an eye twinkles.

John reminds us to remain faithful as we wait for His coming in 1 John 2:28: “*And now, dear children, **continue in Him**, so that when He appears we may be confident and unashamed before Him at His coming.* In addition, John states that the hope of His appearing will cause us to purify ourselves 1 John 3:2-3: “*Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when He appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as He is pure.***”

Peter warned us that in the last days people would mock the coming of Jesus: “*First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, ‘Where is this coming He promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation’*” (2 Peter 3:2-4). It is understandable that the world would scoff at the Rapture of the church but sadly today many who claim to be followers of Christ also scoff or seem bored at the notion. Let us not weary in looking for the return of our Lord. Put your faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior so that you will be ready. Then continue in Him and purify yourself so that you will be unashamed before Him at His coming.