

The following chart powerfully demonstrates that the coming (Parousia) of the Lord in 1 Thessalonians 4-5 is the coming (Parousia) of the Son of Man in Matthew 24-25 (the Olivet discourse), which both Jesus and Paul placed within the lifetime of their own generation. This truth alone completely refutes the unbiblical dispensational doctrine of the “rapture of the church”.

<b>1 THESSALONIANS 4-5</b>	<b>MATTHEW 24-25</b>
Don't want you to be uninformed (4:13)	See that no one misleads you (24:4)
Coming (Parousia) of the Lord (4:15)	Coming (Parousia) of the Lord (24:30)
Those who have fallen asleep (4:14)	The elect (24:31)
To meet the Lord (4:17)	To meet the bridegroom (25:6)
In the clouds (4:17)	On the clouds (24:30)
With the trumpet of God (4:16)	With a great trumpet (24:31)
Voice of archangel (4:16)	Send forth His angels (24:31)
Caught up together (4:17)	All nations gathered together (25:32)
Dead in Christ raised (4:16)	Sheep placed on right hand (25:33)
For you yourselves know (5:2)	I have told you in advance (24:25)
The day of the Lord (5:2)	The day your Lord is coming (24:42)
Times and seasons (5:1)	Day and hour (24:36)
Then destruction will come (5:3)	Then will be great tribulation (24:21)
A thief in the night (5:2)	A thief in the night (24:43)
Like labour pains (5:3)	The beginning of birth pangs (24:8)
They will not escape (5:3)	Flood took them all away (24:39)
Those who sleep, sleep at night (5:7)	Got drowsy and began to sleep (25:5)
Let us be alert (5:6)	Therefore, be on the alert (24:42)
Those who get drunk (5:7)	Eat and drink with drunkards (24:49)
Sons of light, of the day (5:5)	They took oil with their lamps (25:4)
(Sons) of night, of darkness (5:5)	No oil with their lamps (25:3)
Wicked destined for wrath (5:9)	Wicked to eternal punishment (25:46)
Hope of salvation (5:8)	Saved, inherit kingdom (24:13,25:34)
<b>We who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord (4:15,17) (Fulfilled in Paul's generation)</b>	<b>This generation will not pass away until all these things take place (24:34) (Fulfilled in Jesus' generation)</b>

The next chart illustrates that Matthew 16:27-28 served as the prophetic source for *both* the coming of the Son of Man in the Olivet discourse (Matthew 24-25) and the coming of the Lord in 1 Thessalonians 4, which again, both Jesus and Paul placed within the lifetime of their own generation.

<b>MATTHEW 16</b>	<b>MATTHEW 24</b>	<b>1 THESSALONIANS 4</b>
Coming of the Son of Man (16:27-28)	Coming of the Son of Man (24:30)	Coming of the Lord himself (4:15-16)
With the angels (16:27)	With the angels (24:31)	With the voice of the archangel (4:16)
To repay (reward) with the kingdom (16:27-28)	To gather the elect into the kingdom (24:31, Luke 21:31)	To receive resurrection and salvation (4:16-17, 5:9)
<b>Some standing here will not taste death until.... (16:28)</b>	<b>This generation will not pass away until.... (24:34)</b>	<b>We who are alive and remain until.... (4:15,17)</b>

In conclusion:

All 3 passages prophesied the second coming of Christ at the time of the resurrection to execute the “Day of the Lord”, which both Jesus and Paul placed within the lifetime of their own generation. Dispensationalists have no “rapture text” because the bible does not teach a “rapture of the church”.