

A Faith-Walk

Noah walked with God: and God said of Noah that he was righteous and blameless in his generation; and, ultimately, God spared Noah and his family from the destruction of the world and all that was in it because of Noah's reputed righteousness.

Genesis 6:5-9

- (5) And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.
- (6) And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.
- (7) And the LORD said, ***I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast***, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.
- (8) **But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.**
- (9) These *are* the generations of Noah: **Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.**
- ...
- (11) The ***earth also was corrupt before God***, and the earth was filled with violence.
- (12) And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.
- (13) And **God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.**

2Peter 2:4-5

- (4) **For if God** spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;
- (5) And **spared not the old world, but saved Noah** the eighth *person*, **a preacher of righteousness**, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

Hebrews 11:7

- (7) **By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.**

Enoch also walked with God:

Genesis 5:21-24

- (21) And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begot Methuselah:
- (22) **And Enoch walked with God after he begot Methuselah three hundred years**, and begot sons and daughters:
- (23) And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years:
- (24) **And Enoch walked with God**: and he *was* not; for God took him.

This fact of Enoch walking with God is very substantial, as God stated it twice in those few verses – so, it must have been very important, indeed!

Let's see the results of Enoch's walking with God, according to the Scriptures, then:

Genesis 5:24

(24) **And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.**

Hebrews tells us the rest of the story of Enoch being "taken":

Hebrews 11:5

(5) By faith **Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him:** for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

And herein is the REASON that he was translated ("translated" is a way of saying "taken into Heaven without having to die"):

Hebrews 11:5-6

- (5) **By faith Enoch was translated** that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: **for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.**
- (6) But **without faith it is impossible to please him:** for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

So then, Enoch had pleased God BY HIS FAITH IN GOD; but by this, also:

We know Enoch walked with God, as we have already seen; let us now take note of this jewel of words from the writer of Hebrews:

Hebrews 11:5-6

- (5) **By faith Enoch was translated** that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: **for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.**
- (6) But **without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**

ENOCH DILIGENTLY SOUGHT GOD!!! THAT WAS HOW HE "WALKED WITH GOD!"

Jude also tells us WHAT ENOCH DID in his walk with God, and in diligently seeking his God:

Jude 1:14-15

- (14) And **Enoch** also, the seventh from Adam, **prophesied** of these, saying, **Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,**
- (15) **To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds** which they have ungodly committed, and **of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.**

So, we can gather several things by these two verses:

(a) Enoch PROPHESED to the people around him about the Lord's imminent return... in judgment;

(b) Enoch BELIEVED GOD, Who had told him of that;

(c) Enoch believed that there would be MILLIONS saved that would return WITH God – which, again, had to have been something the Lord told him about

(whether that had been face to face conversation, wherein God had made Enoch aware of that, or rather, that his awareness of God's coming with His saints in judgment came by His still small voice speaking of it into Enoch's innermost being, we cannot ascertain);

(d) Enoch made a distinction of those whom God would judge: "UNGODLY sinners;" thereby, we can also know that, in Enoch's walk with God, ENOCH WAS A GODLY MAN!! THUS, HE DID NOT LIVE A LIFE OF SINFULNESS BEFORE GOD – WITH WHOM HE HAD WALKED!!!

So then, Enoch's FAITH was followed by ACTION: LIVING A HOLY, PURE LIFESTYLE BEFORE GOD, AND BELIEVING IN GOD'S WORDS – BOTH BEING REMARKABLE ABOUT HIS "WALK OF FAITH!!!"

Thus, Enoch BELIEVED that God would REWARD HIM, SO AS TO BE ONE OF THE ONES WHO WOULD BE "TAKEN" WITH HIS SAINTS (the ones that would yet return with God) BECAUSE ENOCH DILIGENTLY SOUGHT GOD:

(a) Enoch WALKED WITH God;

(b) Enoch BELIEVED God's WORDS;

(c) Enoch DILIGENTLY SOUGHT God (TO KNOW GOD AND TO KNOW GOD'S WAYS);

and:

(d) Enoch LIVED A GODLY LIFESTYLE IN ALL OF HIS SEEKING GOD!

Finally:

(e) Enoch PREACHED TO OTHERS:
BY HIS EXAMPLE;

AND

BY PROPHESYING TO THEM (ABOUT WALKING WITH GOD AND SEEKING HIM)

AS WELL AS BY TELLING THEM ABOUT THEIR NEED TO BE LIVING A HOLY (that is, "PURE" and "SANCTIFIED") LIFESTYLE...

...FOR HE HAD PROPHESED TO THEM THAT GOD WOULD JUDGE THOSE WHO WOULD NOT DO SO!!!

In other words, ENOCH WAS ALSO A PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, EVEN AS WAS NOAH – WHO, LIKEWISE, HAD WALKED WITH GOD!!!

So, the end result of Noah's FAITH-WALK with God was THE SPARING OF HIS FAMILY FROM THE FLOOD THAT DESTROYED MAN AND CREATURES WITH THE EARTH, FOR THEM TO THEN LIVE ON THE NEWLY-FORMED EARTH!

And then, the result of Enoch's FAITH-WALK with God was that GOD "TOOK HIM" – and "WAS TRANSLATED" – meaning, Enoch had been TAKEN INTO THE 3rd HEAVEN, UP INTO "PARADISE" (i.e., the "EDEN" of HAPPINESS) OF GOD (see the following verses):

2Corinthians 12:2-4

- (2) **I knew a man in Christ** above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) **such a one caught up to the third heaven.**
- (3) And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)
- (4) **How that he was caught up into paradise,** and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

THIS IS WHAT THIS TERM, "TRANSLATED," IS ALL ABOUT!!!

IT IS BEING "CAUGHT UP" INTO "THE 3rd HEAVEN," WHICH IS INTO "PARADISE!" THAT IS, INTO "ETERNAL BLISS!!!"

AND IT ALL STARTS WITH WALKING WITH GOD – BY FAITH:

**BELIEVING WHAT GOD SAYS TO US –
AND PREACHING IT, AND PROPHESYING IT, TO OTHERS
– AND, THEREBY, WALKING OUT ONE'S FAITH BY LIVING A HOLY,
CHASTE, PURE, AND RIGHTEOUS LIFESTYLE,
EVEN AS BECOMING A LIVING EXAMPLE OF GOD IN THE MIDST OF
ONE'S CORRUPT GENERATION...**

...THUS, BEING "PERFECT IN [ONE'S] GENERATIONS," AS NOAH WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN)!!!

"CAUGHT AWAY" / "TAKEN" / "TAKEN UP" / "CAUGHT UP"

Genesis 5:24

- (24) And Enoch walked with God: and he *was* not; for **God took him.**

H3947

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law-kakh'

A primitive root; **to take (in the widest variety of applications)**: - accept, bring, buy, **carry away**, drawn, fetch, get, infold, X many, mingle, place, receive (-ing), reserve, **seize**, send for, **take (away, -ing, up)**, use, win.

Acts 1:9-11

- (9) And when he [Jesus] had spoken these things, while they beheld, **he was taken up**; and a cloud received him out of their sight.
- (10) And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven **as he went up**, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;
- (11) Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same **Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.**

TAKEN UP (Acts 1:9):

G1869

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ep-ahee'-ro

From G1909 and G142; **to raise up (literally or figuratively)**: - exalt self, poise (**lift, take**) **up**.

TAKEN UP / GO (INTO) (Acts 1:11):

G353

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an-al-am-ban'-o

From G303 and G2983; **to take up**: - receive up, **take** (in, unto, **up**).

WENT UP (Acts 1:10) / GO (INTO):

G4198

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por-yoo'-om-ahee

Middle voice from a derivative of the same as G3984; **to traverse, that is, travel** (literally or figuratively; **especially to remove** [figuratively *die*], *live*, etc.): - depart, **go** (away, forth, one's way, **up**), (make a, take a) journey, walk.

These same words that have been used therein mean nothing more or less than that Jesus had been “taken up,” was “raised up,” and “went up” – INTO HEAVEN!

And we are PROMISED (by the “two men” that stood by him, in white apparel, WHOM I BELIEVE WERE MOSES AND ELIJAH [see Luke 9:28-31,32]) that Jesus will again COME BACK TO US FROM HEAVEN IN A SIMILAR MANNER: HE WILL BE “TAKEN” DOWN, “BROUGHT” DOWN, AND WILL YET “COME” DOWN FROM HEAVEN!

So then, “What in the world had happened to Jesus and to Enoch?” you might ask!

I will explain that, with Scripture as the answer (JESUS TOLD US):

Luke 16:22

(22) And¹¹⁶¹ it came to pass,¹⁰⁹⁶ that the³⁵⁸⁸ beggar⁴⁴³⁴ died,⁵⁹⁹ and²⁵³² was⁽⁸⁴⁶⁾ carried⁶⁶⁷ by⁵²⁵⁹ the³⁵⁸⁸ angels³² into¹⁵¹⁹ Abraham's¹¹ bosom:^{2859 (1161)} the³⁵⁸⁸ rich man⁴¹⁴⁵ also²⁵³² died,⁵⁹⁹ and²⁵³² was buried;²²⁹⁰

CARRIED:

G667

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ap-of-er'-o

From G575 and G5342; **to bear off** (literally or relatively): - bring, carry (away).

JESUS – AND ENOCH – WERE BORNE BY (that is, “TRANSPORTED” or “TRANSMITTED” [by]) THE ANGELS INTO HEAVEN, ITSELF!

How can we confirm that this is what actually occurred?

Again, Scripture shows us that answer, in the words of prophecy spoken by Jesus, Himself:

Matthew 13:40-41

(40) As⁵⁶¹⁸ therefore³⁷⁶⁷ the³⁵⁸⁸ tares²²¹⁵ are gathered⁴⁸¹⁶ and²⁵³² burned²⁶¹⁸ in the fire;⁴⁴⁴² so³⁷⁷⁹ shall it be²⁰⁷¹ in¹⁷²² the³⁵⁸⁸ end⁴⁹³⁰ of this⁵¹²⁷ world.¹⁶⁵

(41) The³⁵⁸⁸ Son⁵²⁰⁷ of man⁴⁴⁴ shall send forth⁶⁴⁹ his⁸⁴⁶ angels,³² and²⁵³² they shall gather⁴⁸¹⁶ out of¹⁵³⁷ his⁸⁴⁸ kingdom⁹³² all things³⁹⁵⁶ that offend,⁴⁶²⁵ and²⁵³² them which do⁴¹⁶⁰ iniquity;⁴⁵⁸

G4816

noff_ai

sool-leg'-o

From G4862 and G3004 in its original sense; **to collect**: - gather (together, up).

The angels shall collect all of the people that do iniquity, according to Matthew 13:41, which Jesus has stated regarding what will occur IN THE END OF THE WORLD.

Again, there are Jesus' words of prophecy also in these following Scriptures, both using a different word that is translated "gather" in English:

Matthew 24:31

(31) And²⁵³² **he shall send⁶⁴⁹ his⁸⁴⁶ angels³²** with³³²⁶ a great³¹⁷³ sound⁵⁴⁵⁶ of a trumpet,⁴⁵³⁶ and²⁵³² **they shall gather together¹⁹⁹⁶ his⁸⁴⁸ elect¹⁵⁸⁸** from¹⁵³⁷ the³⁵⁸⁸ four⁵⁰⁶⁴ winds,⁴¹⁷ **from⁵⁷⁵ one end²⁰⁶ of heaven³⁷⁷² to²¹⁹³ the other²⁰⁶.**

and:

Mark 13:27

(27) And²⁵³² then⁵¹¹⁹ **shall he send⁶⁴⁹ his⁸⁴⁸ angels³²**, and²⁵³² **shall gather together¹⁹⁹⁶ his⁸⁴⁸ elect¹⁵⁸⁸** from¹⁵³⁷ the³⁵⁸⁸ four⁵⁰⁶⁴ winds,⁴¹⁷ **from⁵⁷⁵ the uttermost part²⁰⁶ of the earth¹⁰⁹³ to²¹⁹³ the uttermost part²⁰⁶ of heaven³⁷⁷².**

Both verses use this same word, Strong's Dictionary/Concordance #G1996, which has been interpreted "gather together" in English:

G1996

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ep-ee-soon-ag'-o

From G1909 and G4863; **to collect upon the same place: - gather (together).**

So then, it is plain that the holy angels will be sent by the Lord **to "COLLECT UPON" (THEMSELVES) ALL OF "THE ELECT" OF GOD – IMPLYING "US," "THE SAINTS"– TO BRING US UNTO THE LORD, HIMSELF, WHEN HE RETURNS IN POWER AND GLORY** (see Matthew 24:30 and Mark 13:26)!

Where do we see this activity of the angels elsewhere in Scripture?

Answer:

Genesis 28:12

(12) And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

OK, that was just a dream, right?!

Look here, though:

John 1:51

(51) And he [Jesus] saith unto him [Nathanael], **Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.**

Those words "ascending" and "descending" are literal, in the Hebrew words of the Old Testament.

In the Greek words of the New Testament, Jesus said that the angels will “go up” and “descend” – according to Strong’s. (Again, that is literal!)

Where else do we see an allusion to that in Scripture?

Answer:

Judges 13:19-21

- (19) So Manoah⁴⁴⁹⁵ took³⁹⁴⁷ (853) a kid^{1423, 5795} with⁸⁵⁴ a meat offering,⁴⁵⁰³ and offered⁵⁹²⁷ it upon⁵⁹²¹ a rock⁶⁶⁹⁷ unto the LORD:³⁰⁶⁸ and **the angel did⁶²¹³ wondrously;**⁶³⁸¹ and Manoah⁴⁴⁹⁵ and his wife⁸⁰² looked on.⁷²⁰⁰
- (20) For it came to pass,¹⁹⁶¹ **when the flame³⁸⁵¹ went up⁵⁹²⁷ toward heaven⁸⁰⁶⁴ from off^{4480, 5921} the altar,**⁴¹⁹⁶ that **the angel⁴³⁹⁷ of the LORD³⁰⁶⁸ ascended⁵⁹²⁷ in the flame³⁸⁵¹** of the altar.⁴¹⁹⁶ And Manoah⁴⁴⁹⁵ and his wife⁸⁰² looked on⁷²⁰⁰ it, and fell⁵³⁰⁷ on⁵⁹²¹ their faces⁶⁴⁴⁰ to the ground.⁷⁷⁶
- (21) But **the angel⁴³⁹⁷ of the LORD³⁰⁶⁸ did no³⁸⁰⁸ more³²⁵⁴ appear⁷²⁰⁰ to⁴¹³ Manoah⁴⁴⁹⁵ and to⁴¹³ his wife.**⁸⁰² **Then²²⁷ Manoah⁴⁴⁹⁵ knew³⁰⁴⁵ that³⁵⁸⁸ he¹⁹³¹ was an angel⁴³⁹⁷ of the LORD.**³⁰⁶⁸

The word “ascended” used herein, again, is literal – the same word as when Jacob had his dream!

The angel “ASCENDED” IN THE FLAME OF FIRE!

In the account of Jesus being “taken up” into Heaven, as is stated in Acts 1:9 & 1:11, there is also this word that is interpreted “received (Him)” in Acts 1:9:

G5274

bojifg \hi

hoop-ol-am-ban'-o

From G5259 and G2983; **to take from below, that is, carry upward**; figuratively to take up, that is, continue a discourse or topic; mentally to assume (presume): - answer, receive, suppose.

So, Jesus was “taken up,” and He was also “CARRIED UPWARD” after being “TAKEN FROM BELOW!”

The ANGELS “CARRIED HIM UPWARD” AS THEY “ASCENDED” INTO HEAVEN!!!

And THIS leads us to where WE come into this equation:

“THE RAPTURE” – BEING “CAUGHT UP” / “CAUGHT AWAY”

First, for all of the people that want to protest that the word “RAPTURE” is not mentioned in the Bible, YOU ARE SO RIGHT!!!

The word “Rapture” is derived from the Latin word “rapio,” which literally means to “SEIZE” or “SNATCH” (its root word is “rapis”).

See that in this Definition from WordHippo.com:

<https://www.wordhippo.com/what-is/the-meaning-of/latin-word-9e1583f0f75558d32e5abba81ad5a30bdcdf2205.html>

BEING “SEIZED” OR “SNATCHED (UP)” WAS LITERALLY STATED BY JESUS REGARDING WHAT WILL YET OCCUR WHEN THE ANGELS “GATHER TOGETHER” ALL OF GOD’S ELECT AT HIS 2nd COMING!!!

The term “The Rapture” is merely a word that DEFINES WHAT WILL TAKE PLACE, AND, SIMULTANEOUSLY, GIVES IT A NAME THAT MAKES SENSE...BUT IT IS NOT A BIBLICAL TERM!!!

HOWEVER:

The term “The Rapture,” as is defined to mean “to (be) seize(d),” or, better stated, is “The Seizure, or Seizing (of God’s Elect),” is LIKEWISE SEEN IN THE GREEK WORDS USED FOR “CAUGHT AWAY” and “CAUGHT UP,” which are found in the New Testament!

Look here:

Acts 8:39-40

(39) And¹¹⁶¹ when³⁷⁵³ they were come up³⁰⁵ out of¹⁵³⁷ the³⁵⁸⁸ water,⁵²⁰⁴ **the Spirit⁴¹⁵¹ of the Lord²⁹⁶² caught away⁷²⁶ Philip,⁵³⁷⁶ that²⁵³² **the³⁵⁸⁸ eunuch²¹³⁵ (3756) saw¹⁴⁹² him⁸⁴⁶ no more:³⁷⁶⁵ and⁽¹⁰⁶³⁾ he went⁴¹⁹⁸ on his⁸⁴⁸ way³⁵⁹⁸ rejoicing.⁵⁴⁶³
(40) But¹¹⁶¹ Philip⁵³⁷⁶ was found²¹⁴⁷ at¹⁵¹⁹ Azotus:¹⁰⁸ and²⁵³² passing through¹³³⁰ he preached²⁰⁹⁷ in all³⁹⁵⁶ the³⁵⁸⁸ cities,⁴¹⁷² till²¹⁹³ he⁸⁴⁶ came²⁰⁶⁴ to¹⁵¹⁹ Caesarea.²⁵⁴²****

Now, this verse shows us that GOD’S OWN SPIRIT had done the “catching away” – and Philip, who was “caught away,” had been “TRANSRELOCATED” to another locale, called Azotus, after having been removed from the place where he had just baptized the Ethiopian eunuch!

This term, “caught away” is the Greek word “harpazo” – which means “TO SEIZE!”

G726

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har-pad'-zo

From a derivative of G138; **to seize** (in various applications): - **catch (away, up)**, pluck, pull, **take (by force)**.

You will note that the definition is “to seize,” but the words used in the King James Version for THAT SAME WORD, “harpazo,” ARE:

“CAUGHT AWAY,”

“CAUGHT UP,”

and:

“TAKE” (by force) – which is a definition for the word “SEIZE,” incidentally!

So then, “HARPAZO” IS THE GREEK EQUIVALENT OF THE LATIN WORD “RAPIS,” WHICH IS THE ROOT WORD FOR THE WORD “RAPTURE”...

...WHICH WORD “RAPIS” MEANS “TO SEIZE!”

IS THE TERM “THE RAPTURE” APPROPRIATE, THEN, FOR THE DEFINING OF WHAT WILL TAKE PLACE WHEN CHRIST RETURNS TO MEET US IN THE AIR?

Let’s answer that question by employing biblical terminology to that issue, so as to say “Yes” or “No” to that query, in the following:

First of all, let us examine the words “Caught Away,” and “Caught Up,” more fully within the Scriptures:

2Corinthians 12:2-4

- (2) I knew¹⁴⁹² a man⁴⁴⁴ in¹⁷²² Christ⁵⁵⁴⁷ above⁴²⁵³ fourteen¹¹⁸⁰ years²⁰⁹⁴ ago, (whether¹⁵³⁵ in¹⁷²² the body,⁴⁹⁸³ I cannot tell;^{1492, 3756} or whether¹⁵³⁵ out¹⁶²² of the³⁵⁸⁸ body,⁴⁹⁸³ I cannot tell:^{1492, 3756} God²³¹⁶ knoweth;)¹⁴⁹² **such a one⁵¹⁰⁸ caught up⁷²⁶ to²¹⁹³ the third⁵¹⁵⁴ heaven.**³⁷⁷²
- (3) And²⁵³² I knew¹⁴⁹² such⁵¹⁰⁸ a man,⁴⁴⁴ (whether¹⁵³⁵ in¹⁷²² the body,⁴⁹⁸³ or¹⁵³⁵ out¹⁶²² of the³⁵⁸⁸ body,⁴⁹⁸³ I cannot tell:^{1492, 3756} God²³¹⁶ knoweth;)¹⁴⁹²
- (4) How that³⁷⁵⁴ **he was caught up⁷²⁶ into¹⁵¹⁹ paradise,**³⁸⁵⁷ and²⁵³² heard¹⁹¹ unspeakable⁷³¹ words,⁴⁴⁸⁷ which³⁷³⁹ it is not lawful^{1832, 3756} for a man⁴⁴⁴ to utter.²⁹⁸⁰

This term “CAUGHT UP,” used in 2Corinthians 12:2 & 12:4, is THE SAME WORD, “HARPAZO,” THAT WAS USED FOR THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD “CATCHING PHILIP AWAY” TO AZOTUS – “TRANSRELOCATING” HIM FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER!!!

It is believed that Paul was speaking of his own experience, but not wanting to bring glory to himself in telling of this experience he’d had. WHOMEVER WENT TO “THE THIRD HEAVEN” (“PARADISE”) HAD BEEN “SEIZED,” THEN “BROUGHT” THERETO!!!

(LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THIS ACCOUNT DOESN’T STATE HOW THAT OCCURRED – WHETHER BY THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD, OR BY THE ANGELS!)

Let's examine where this term is used otherwise:

In "The Book of Revelation," written by the Apostle John, John gave us a summarization of what had occurred with Israel, including the birth of Jesus, and His ultimately ruling all of the nations on Earth; then, he gave us a glimpse of what had occurred when Jesus was "taken up" – as was stated by Luke, in Acts 1:9 and 1:11:

Revelation 12:5

(5) And²⁵³² she [the woman, who is identified as being "ISRAEL," that is, "the nation and people, Israel," in Revelation 12:1-2,4] brought forth⁵⁰⁸⁸ a man⁷³⁰ child,⁵²⁰⁷ who³⁷³⁹ was³¹⁹⁵ to rule⁴¹⁶⁵ all³⁹⁵⁶ nations¹⁴⁸⁴ with¹⁷²² a rod⁴⁴⁶⁴ of iron:⁴⁶⁰³ and²⁵³² her⁸⁴⁸ [ISRAEL'S] child⁵⁰⁴³ was caught up⁷²⁶ unto⁴³¹⁴ God,²³¹⁶ and²⁵³² to his⁸⁴⁸ throne.²³⁶²

We know this was speaking of Jesus because of what Jesus, Himself, stated to John in prophecy, as is written in Revelation 3:21, as follows:

Revelation 3:21

(21) To him that overcometh **will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I** also overcame, and **am set down with my Father in his throne.**

Who is His Father?

According to John, as is written in John 5:18, this was Jesus' Father:

John 5:17-18

(17) But **Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.**
(18) **Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.**

So then, it is clear that John was referring to God the Father when he had stated that Israel's "MAN CHILD" – JESUS – had been "CAUGHT UP unto God, and to His throne!"

This word "CAUGHT UP" to His Father's throne is the same word "HARPAZO!" Jesus was "SEIZED," OR "SNATCHED," THEN BROUGHT THERE!!!

JESUS HAD BEEN "RAPTURED" – JUST AS ENOCH HAD BEEN!!!

(Incidentally, the Two Witnesses will have a similar experience:

Revelation 11:3,7,11-12

(3) And I will give *power* unto **my two witnesses**, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

...

(7) And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

- ...
- (11) And after three days and a half **the Spirit of life from God entered into them**, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.
- (12) And **they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither**. And **they ascended up to heaven in a cloud**; and their enemies beheld them.

The words “Come up hither,” in the original Greek translation, mean “to go up,” literally. There is no definition of how that shall be accomplished, therein.

Also, the words “they ascended up to heaven” are from the same Greek word. Again, no specifics on how that will occur.

BUT THEN, THERE ARE THE WORDS OF REVELATION 12:5, that state that THE MAN CHILD WILL BE “CAUGHT UP” TO GOD’S THRONE.

IT IS THIS TERMINOLOGY THAT SEEMS TO RELATE TO US THAT THE TWO WITNESSES WILL LIKEWISE BE CAUGHT UP – “SEIZED (UP),” OR “SNATCHED (UP)” – INTO THE CLOUDS!

Let’s see if Scripture can interpret that as being the case?)

Look here:

1Thessalonians 4:14-17

- (14) For¹⁰⁶³ if¹⁴⁸⁷ we believe⁴¹⁰⁰ that³⁷⁵⁴ Jesus²⁴²⁴ died⁵⁹⁹ and²⁵³² rose again,⁴⁵⁰ even so³⁷⁷⁹ them also which sleep^{2837, 2532} in¹²²³ Jesus²⁴²⁴ will God²³¹⁶ bring⁷¹ with⁴⁸⁶² him.⁸⁴⁶
- (15) For¹⁰⁶³ this⁵¹²⁴ we say³⁰⁰⁴ unto you⁵²¹³ by¹⁷²² the word³⁰⁵⁶ of the Lord,²⁹⁶² that³⁷⁵⁴ we²²⁴⁹ which are alive²¹⁹⁸ and remain⁴⁰³⁵ unto¹⁵¹⁹ the³⁵⁸⁸ coming³⁹⁵² of the³⁵⁸⁸ Lord²⁹⁶² shall not³³⁶⁴ prevent⁵³⁴⁸ them which are asleep.²⁸³⁷
- (16) For³⁷⁵⁴ the³⁵⁸⁸ Lord²⁹⁶² himself⁸⁴⁶ shall descend²⁵⁹⁷ from⁵⁷⁵ heaven³⁷⁷² with¹⁷²² a shout,²⁷⁵² with¹⁷²² the voice⁵⁴⁵⁶ of the archangel,⁷⁴³ and²⁵³² with¹⁷²² the trump⁴⁵³⁶ of God:²³¹⁶ and²⁵³² the³⁵⁸⁸ dead³⁴⁹⁸ in¹⁷²² Christ⁵⁵⁴⁷ shall rise⁴⁵⁰ first:⁴⁴¹²
- (17) Then¹⁸⁹⁹ we²²⁴⁹ which are alive²¹⁹⁸ and remain⁴⁰³⁵ shall be caught up⁷²⁶ together²⁶⁰ with⁴⁸⁶² them⁸⁴⁶ in¹⁷²² the clouds³⁵⁰⁷ to meet^{1519, 529} the³⁵⁸⁸ Lord²⁹⁶² in¹⁵¹⁹ the air:¹⁰⁹ and²⁵³² so³⁷⁷⁹ shall we ever³⁸⁴² be²⁰⁷¹ with⁴⁸⁶² the Lord.²⁹⁶²

Therefore, we see that those who are dead shall rise first, and those who are alive shall be “CAUGHT UP” to meet them, that were risen, in the air – *where we will ALL meet the Lord!*

These words, “CAUGHT UP” are the very translation of this same word, “HARPAZO” – MEANING “SEIZED” or “SNATCHED” UP!!!

The Lord had been “snatched up” TO THE THRONE OF GOD THE FATHER, when He had “ascended” (John 20:17); or, rather, He had been “taken up” (Acts 1:9,11), by the angels carrying Him (Luke 16:22; Acts 1:9 – the cloud “RECEIVED HIM;” that is, He had been “CARRIED UPWARD”).

I BELIEVE THAT THE TERM “HARPAZO” IS EXPLICITLY INFERRING THAT WE SHALL EXPERIENCE THAT VERY SAME THING WHEN WE ARE “RAPTURED” OUT OF THIS WORLD TO MEET THE LORD IN THE AIR!!!

AND I BELIEVE, LIKEWISE, THAT THE TWO WITNESSES WILL EXPERIENCE THE SAME THING WHEN THEY WILL “ASCEND[-ed] UP TO HEAVEN IN A CLOUD” (Revelation 11:12)!

There is more reason to believe this, as I’ve stated in the aforementioned, regarding Jesus being “carried by the angels” to the throne of His Father:

This is how the King James Version recites it:

Luke 24:50-52

- (50) And¹¹⁶¹ he [JESUS] led¹⁸⁰⁶ them⁸⁴⁶ out¹⁸⁵⁴ as far as²¹⁹³ to¹⁵¹⁹ Bethany,⁹⁶³ and²⁵³² he lifted up¹⁸⁶⁹ his⁸⁴⁸ hands,⁵⁴⁹⁵ and blessed²¹²⁷ them.⁸⁴⁶
- (51) And²⁵³² it came to pass,¹⁰⁹⁶ while he⁸⁴⁶ blessed²¹²⁷ them,⁸⁴⁶ he was parted¹³³⁹ from⁵⁷⁵ them,⁸⁴⁶ and²⁵³² carried up³⁹⁹ into¹⁵¹⁹ heaven.³⁷⁷²
- (52) And²⁵³² they⁸⁴⁶ worshiped⁴³⁵² him,⁸⁴⁶ and returned⁵²⁹⁰ to¹⁵¹⁹ Jerusalem²⁴¹⁹ with³³²⁶ great³¹⁷³ joy:⁵⁴⁷⁹

Now then, these words “carried up” are not literal, but the literal meaning of the Greek word is just “to take up” – BUT THIS HAD BEEN INTERPRETED AS “CARRIED UP” BY THE TRANSLATORS, IN 1611, WHO WERE INSPIRED BY THE MEANING OF “TAKEN UP” AS HAVING TO HAVE BEEN PERFORMED BY SOMEONE OR SOMETHING!

According to Jesus, in Luke 16:22, it was THE ANGELS that did this!!!

AND ACCORDING TO JESUS, IT WILL BE THE ANGELS THAT “GATHER” US WHEN JESUS RETURNS AT HIS 2nd COMING TO THE EARTH!

FURTHERMORE, I STEADFASTLY BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE THE ANGELS THAT COME TO BRING US UP TO MEET THE LORD IN THE AIR, ALONG WITH THOSE WHO ARE RISEN FROM THE DEAD AT “THE RESURRECTION,” WHICH EVENT IS ALSO KNOWN AS “THE RAPTURE” BY MANY OF US!!!

Interestingly, Jesus stated that WHILE HE BLESSED HIS DISCIPLES, “HE WAS PARTED FROM THEM!”

This coincides with the account of Elijah being brought up to Heaven in a whirlwind. See here:

2Kings 2:11

- (11) And it came to pass,¹⁹⁶¹ as they¹⁹⁹² still went on,¹⁹⁸⁰ and talked,¹⁶⁹⁶ that, behold,²⁰⁰⁹ there appeared a chariot⁷³⁹³ of fire,⁷⁸⁴ and horses⁵⁴⁸³ of fire,⁷⁸⁴ and parted⁶⁵⁰⁴ them both⁸¹⁴⁷ asunder;⁹⁹⁶ and Elijah⁴⁵² went up⁵⁹²⁷ by a whirlwind⁵⁵⁹¹ into heaven.⁸⁰⁶⁴

In Jesus' case, that "parting" was almost the same expressed verbiage, excepting that Elijah was "separated" from Elisha by the whirlwind, or by the Angel within it (see Exodus 14:18,19,20; 13:21; 14:24; Job 40:6; Genesis 48:15-16; Isaiah 63:7-9,10) – and it came between them both; but, in Jesus' case, the Lord was "REMOVED" from the disciples, apparently by an angel, and then "CARRIED (UPWARD)," or "TAKEN UP," into Heaven!

2Kings 2:11 essentially has the same wording, but Elijah's account was in the Hebrew, and Jesus' account was written in the Greek. They'd primarily expressed the same concept within both definitions. See here:

Luke 24:51

(51) And²⁵³² it came to pass,¹⁰⁹⁶ while he⁸⁴⁶ blessed²¹²⁷ them,⁸⁴⁶ he was parted¹³³⁹ from⁵⁷⁵ them,⁸⁴⁶ and²⁵³² carried up³⁹⁹ into¹⁵¹⁹ heaven.³⁷⁷²

(The Elijah account uses Strong's Hebrew definition #H6504, which means "separated" or "spread" – as in, they were "separated" from each other and were "spread apart" by the angel or by the whirlwind the angel was within;

The Jesus account uses the Strong's Greek definition #G1339, which means to "stand apart" or to "remove" oneself from:

BOTH emphasize the separation of one from the other, but Jesus' account speaks of him being physically relocated from being near them, likely having been by way of an angel.)

One of the uses of the Greek word that means "to take up" (Strong's G667 – shown earlier) is rendered in Revelation 17:3 "[he] carried [me] away" in the spirit.

Revelation 17:1-3

(1) And²⁵³² there came²⁰⁶⁴ one¹⁵²⁰ of¹⁵³⁷ the³⁵⁸⁸ seven²⁰³³ angels³² which had²¹⁹² the³⁵⁸⁸ seven²⁰³³ vials,⁵³⁵⁷ and²⁵³² talked²⁹⁸⁰ with³³²⁶ me,¹⁷⁰⁰ saying³⁰⁰⁴ unto me,³⁴²⁷ Come hither;¹²⁰⁴ I will show¹¹⁶⁶ unto thee⁴⁶⁷¹ the³⁵⁸⁸ judgment²⁹¹⁷ of the³⁵⁸⁸ great³¹⁷³ whore⁴²⁰⁴ that sitteth²⁵²¹ upon¹⁹⁰⁹ many⁴¹⁸³ waters;⁵²⁰⁴

...

(3) So²⁵³² he carried me away^{667, 3165} in¹⁷²² the spirit⁴¹⁵¹ into¹⁵¹⁹ the wilderness;²⁰⁴⁸ and²⁵³² I saw¹⁴⁹² a woman¹¹³⁵ sit²⁵²¹ upon¹⁹⁰⁹ a scarlet colored²⁸⁴⁷ beast,²³⁴² full¹⁰⁷³ of names³⁶⁸⁶ of blasphemy,⁹⁸⁸ having²¹⁹² seven²⁰³³ heads²⁷⁷⁶ and²⁵³² ten¹¹⁷⁶ horns.²⁷⁶⁸

There is a similar text wherein the same verbiage is employed – and the same word is used therein, which has a similar meaning – that is found in Revelation 21:10; see here:

Revelation 21:9-10

(9) And²⁵³² there came²⁰⁶⁴ unto⁴³¹⁴ me³¹⁶⁵ one¹⁵²⁰ of the³⁵⁸⁸ seven²⁰³³ angels³² which had²¹⁹² the³⁵⁸⁸ seven²⁰³³ vials⁵³⁵⁷ full¹⁰⁷³ of the³⁵⁸⁸ seven²⁰³³ last²⁰⁷⁸ plagues,⁴¹²⁷ and²⁵³² talked²⁹⁸⁰ with³³²⁶ me,¹⁷⁰⁰ saying,³⁰⁰⁴ Come hither,¹²⁰⁴ I will show¹¹⁶⁶ thee⁴⁶⁷¹ the³⁵⁸⁸ bride,³⁵⁶⁵ the³⁵⁸⁸ Lamb's⁷²¹ wife.¹¹³⁵

(10) And²⁵³² **he carried me away**^{667, 3165} **in**¹⁷²² **the spirit**⁴¹⁵¹ to¹⁹⁰⁹ a great³¹⁷³ and²⁵³² high⁵³⁰⁸ mountain,³⁷³⁵ and²⁵³² showed¹¹⁶⁶ me³⁴²⁷ that great³¹⁷³ city,⁴¹⁷² the³⁵⁸⁸ holy⁴⁰ Jerusalem,²⁴¹⁹ descending²⁵⁹⁷ out of¹⁵³⁷ heaven³⁷⁷² from⁵⁷⁵ God,²³¹⁶

This term “carried away” is literally “taken up” – and it gives the impression of being picked up and relocated.

A third usage of that Greek word “anaphero,” Strong’s #G399, is herein used by Jesus “bearing” manifold people’s sins, and it means “to take up” their sins – presumably upon Himself.

Hebrews 9:28

(28) So³⁷⁷⁹ Christ⁵⁵⁴⁷ was once⁵³⁰ offered⁴³⁷⁴ **to bear**³⁹⁹ **the sins**²⁶⁶ **of many**;⁴¹⁸³ and unto them that look for⁵⁵³ him⁸⁴⁶ shall he appear³⁷⁰⁰ the⁽¹⁵³⁷⁾ second time¹²⁰⁸ without⁵⁵⁶⁵ sin²⁶⁶ unto¹⁵¹⁹ salvation.⁴⁹⁹¹

The word “harpazo” is also used in Matthew 11:12, wherein Jesus tells us that the violent “take [the Kingdom of Heaven] by force” – it literally means that the “energetic” ones “SEIZE” the Kingdom of Heaven – meaning that they lay hold upon it, they grip it, and they don’t let go of it!

THAT is what will occur in the Rapture! The angels will grasp us and carry us away, and they won’t let go of us to drop us on the way, but we will surely arrive at our destination by their hands: to meet the Lord in the air!

John 6:15 and Acts 23:10 both utilize this word, “harpazo,” to describe a physical altercation in which people were FORCING others to do something other than what was being done; that is what is meant by “take [him] by force” in those verses, and it can be rendered “SEIZE” him – “harpazo” him!

The angels will “SEIZE” or “SNATCH” US in order to relocate us into the Presence of Jesus somewhere in the atmosphere!

There is another most visible illustration of this word, which is used for the Lord Jesus, Himself, which can be found in Luke’s account, in Acts 1:2; see here:

Acts 1:1-2

(1) The³⁵⁸⁸ former⁴⁴¹³ treatise³⁰⁵⁶ have⁽³³⁰³⁾ I made,⁴¹⁶⁰ O⁵⁵⁹⁹ Theophilus,²³²¹ **of**⁴⁰¹² **all**³⁹⁵⁶ **that**³⁷³⁹ **Jesus**²⁴²⁴ **began**⁷⁵⁶ **both**⁵⁰³⁷ **to do**⁴¹⁶⁰ **and**²⁵³² **teach**,¹³²¹
 (2) **Until**⁸⁹¹ **the day**²²⁵⁰ **in which**³⁷³⁹ **he was taken up**,³⁵³ after that he through¹²²³ the Holy⁴⁰ Ghost⁴¹⁵¹ had given commandments¹⁷⁸¹ unto the³⁵⁸⁸ apostles⁶⁵² whom³⁷³⁹ he had chosen:¹⁵⁸⁶

JESUS WAS “HARPAZO-ED” – “SNATCHED UP” or “SEIZED” by the angels that carried Him up into Heaven!

In Conclusion:

The Lord has decreed that “The Rapture” – the “HARPAZO” of God, or “the Great “SNATCHING” or “SEIZING” of the people of God, and their being “CARRIED” UP to Jesus in the air by the angels sent to “GATHER” the Elect – WILL SOON BE ANNOUNCED BY A TRUMPET BLAST AND A GREAT SHOUT OF THE VOICE OF THE ARCHANGEL OF GOD, AS WE ARE CHANGED IN A MOMENT... FROM FLESH AND BLOOD TO IMMORTALITY, FROM CORRUPTION TO EVERLASTING LIFE!!!

1Corinthians 15:42-54

- (42) So also *is* **the resurrection** of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:
- (43) It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:
- (44) It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.
- (45) And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam *was* made a quickening spirit.
- (46) Howbeit that *was* not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.
- (47) The first man *is* of the earth, earthy: the second man *is* the Lord from heaven.
- (48) As *is* the earthy, such *are* they also that are earthy: and as *is* the heavenly, such *are* they also that are heavenly.
- (49) And **as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.**
- (50) Now this I say, brethren, that **flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.**
- (51) ***Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,***
- (52) ***In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.***
- (53) ***For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.***
- (54) So ***when*** this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, ***then shall be brought to pass the saying*** that is written, ***Death is swallowed up in victory.***

John 11:23-26

- (23) Jesus saith unto her, **Thy brother shall rise again.**
- (24) Martha saith unto him, ***I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.***
- (25) ***Jesus said*** unto her, ***I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:***
- (26) And ***whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.*** Believest thou this?

1Thessalonians 4:16-17

- (16) 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:***

(17) *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.

AGAIN, IN THE IMPERATIVE TENSE:

...AND SO WE SHALL >>>EVER<<< >>>BE<<< >>>WITH THE LORD!!!<<<

Blessings2u!!

~Roger Funk, II

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