

# The Great Divorce

By Jan Markell, February 28, 2023

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/The-Great-Divorce.html>

I recently read a passionate article by Jonathan Brentner on the divorce of Rapture theology from the gospel and from pulpits. I so resonated with the main points he made. The absence of this topic—and related topics—from our churches today, is a great tragedy!

When Rapture discussion ended some thirty years ago in the church and elsewhere, so did discussion of the Millennium, Israel's key end-time role, the trend toward the Tribulation, the building of the third temple in Jerusalem, the prominence of end-time deception, the rush to a cashless society and Central Bank Digital Currency, and so much more! It became almost impossible to understand the times from a biblical and prophetic perspective! *And right at a time when people began asking earnest questions as they observe the turmoil of our times.* I am taking a few talking points from the Brentner article below. I will post a link to the full article at the end of the comments I am quoting.

*Somewhere in the past, a tragic divorce occurred; theologians decided we must separate the return of Jesus for His church from the proclamation of the gospel. The results of this untimely divorce have led to a dearth of understanding among believers regarding Jesus' appearing and the joyful anticipation that comes with such awareness.*

*Confused believers hear that they will surely die rather than meet Jesus in the air, which directly contradicts the New Testament in passages such as 1 Corinthians 15:51 and 1 Thessalonians 4:17. The Apostle Paul believed there would be many saints alive at the time of the Rapture, but many preachers today disagree with him on this matter.*

*The divorce of the Rapture from the gospel has resulted in a near blackout of teaching about our "blessed hope" in churches today. This negatively impacts new believers as well as seasoned saints as it leaves them ill-prepared to live in a fear-ridden society because such teaching provides no prophetic context into which they can place the violence and lawlessness of our day or the push for a New World Order.*

*The new converts in Thessalonica were so fixated on their soon departure from the earth that when some in their midst died, they grieved unnecessarily thinking they would miss out on the Rapture (1 Thess. 4:13-19). In response, Paul emphasized the primary place of the "dead in Christ" during the rapture telling his converts that Jesus would resurrect them first at His appearing (4:16).*

*Another sorrowful result of this divorce is this: It takes the eyes of believers away from their ultimate hope at a time when they need such a focus. Instead, their eyes remain focused on earthly aspirations.*

*Very few pastors talk about what happens at the moment Jesus returns for His church (1 Cor. 15:51-55; Phil. 3:20-21; 1 Thess. 4:16-17). Even those that believe these things never ever mention the believers' hope of immortal bodies for fear that talking about the Rapture might hurt attendance.*

Find Brentner's entire article [here](#).

As I wrote in a [previous article](#), *What Happened to My Church?* someone made a conscious decision ...

*To read this article in its entirety, go to: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/The-Great-Divorce.html>*