

R 12

we which are alive and remain are caught up together with them. That would indicate not that they are up there and we are caught up to join them but that they and we are caught up at the same time, that there is a catching up from this earth into the clouds of the living believers and the resurrected believers together with them. (Student) Well, this passage doesn't state, does it? (Student) You feel then that the obvious interpretation is that as soon as they are raised from the grave they then are caught up to heaven. (Student) Not ten years later. (Student) Well, not to meet them. It's to meet the Lord. (Student) Yes. We--that is, / ^{there} seems to be no question--I think we can give a 10 to this--that when the dead in Christ who have been resurrected are lifted up from this earth to the clouds the living in Christ are lifted, those who have not died, are lifted up from this earth at the same time, that this is a simultaneous occurrence, but whether this simultaneous occurrence occurs immediately after the dead come out of the graves or whether for ten years they sit by the graves and wait for this next is something which the passage doesn't state. (Student) I would say the obvious interpretation then, the immediate interpretation is the two occur as one event. You might give that a seven or an eight, or could you give it a 10?

R 13

That's very good, and in 1 Corinthians 15:23 then we have this same word " ", first Christ and then they which are Christ's at His coming so this word " ", then covers a period of nineteen hundred and nineteen years plus or nineteen sixteen years plus, nineteen nineteen, I believe, plus; that is to say there is a long interval, nearly two thousand years and perhaps more which is covered by " " in 1 Corinthians 15:23. Now I don't think that anybody would suggest there were two thousand years in the here between 16 and 17, but might there not be ten years? Yes. V. 15 doesn't say anything about the