

We could go ahead and live anyway we feel like till just three weeks before, couldn't we? Then about 3 weeks before we would turn over a new leaf; start in and try to be modle Christians so when the rapture came we'd be ready. No, we would not do that, would you now really? God knows the weakness of the heart. God knows our falibility, so He purposefully kept us from knowing when the rapture is going to be. He kept us from knowing even what time of day it's going to be. What time of day is it going to be?

Must have puzzled people 2000 years ago. They must have wondered, What can this passage possibly mean? 2000 years ago. We don't realize today, because conditions change. Just what a puzzle the 17th ch. of Lk. would have been to the people 2000 yrs. ago. Theree Jesus said to the people, telling them about the rapture, starting with v. 34:

Now we know the rapture is going to be at night don't we? It won't be in the daytime, because he says, "In that night" there are going to be two men in one bed, one taken, the other left. Then he continues, two women will be grinding together, the one taken and the other left. Would women be grinding in the night? They might be. So that's not a problem. But let's look at the next: two men will be working in a field, one will be taken, the other left. Now, in the night when two men are in the bed, what are two men going to be working in the field? 2000 years ago they did not have artificial lights. Nowadays we have football and baseball games late in the evening with our big artifical lights, but they did not have them 2000 years ago. 2000 years ago if it was in the night when the two men were sleeping in the bed, do you think there would be two men working out in the field . . .? No, they'd be sleeping in another bed. It just would not make sense, not fit.

At least we know it is at night, don't we. But two men out in the field would actually be daytime, and how would be rapture be at the night and daytime both? That would have been a puzzle to most people 2000 years ago. Not to everybody, because there was a Greek in Egypt 2000 yrs. ago who said he thought the earth was round. He figured the height of the sun above the earth, the distance of it at noon, and he figured another place when it was just exactly above that, and he found how long a time there was between the time the sun passed this place and this place, and he figured from that how far it must be around the earth, and he came within 2% of being correct. So the ancients were'nt quite as stupid as some people think they were. But the mass of the people 2000 years ago did not know the earth was round. They did not have artificial lights as we have and this passage would be a great puzzle to them. Eook at the parallel in Mk. and in Mat. and they only give part of the story, they don't give the whole thing. I just wonder if one of the early copiers of one of those books just could not understand it and perhaps found it very easy to fail to copy one of those verses, because he just could not understand the problem. But God saw to it at least that one of the Gospels would keep the whole thing in that Jesus gave.