

The “Taken” of Matthew 24:40 is NOT Talking about the Rapture of the Saints!



And knew not until the flood came, and **TOOK** them all away; -
-Matthew 24:39

I received a question from a visitor on my other website:

I don't believe in a pretrib rapture. But, what about the verse that tells us that one would be taken and the other left?

Hallelujah! I am rejoicing because this question has helped me get a better understanding of that Scripture based on its context with another Scripture in the same chapter!!

Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be **TAKEN**, and the other left. – Matthew 24:40

Just look at the verse immediately before it!

And knew not until the flood came, and **TOOK** them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. –Matthew 24:39

The popular interpretation of “taken” in Matthew 24:40 is based on speculation, not what the Word actually says. It is not talking about the Rapture, but about a person being killed by the Romans who destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple. The “took” of verse 39 is clearly referring to those who were destroyed in the **great flood**. And it's interesting the word “flood” is also used metaphorically in Daniel's prophecy of the same event.

And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall

destroy the city and the sanctuary (Jerusalem and the Temple), and the end thereof shall be with a FLOOD, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. – Daniel 9:26

Isn't it amazing that the Lord used the word **flood** to describe the destruction of the wicked in 70 A.D.? The wicked were also destroyed by a flood in Noah's time. Everyone who was not on the Ark, which is also symbolic of Christ, perished in the flood.

God's Word explains itself! I mean, how clearer can it get than that? The only reason it took me decades to understand these verses correctly is because I was misled by popular eschatological teaching on the subject which said those verses are talking about the Rapture.

The "left" is talking about those who were not killed by the Romans, those who survived the Great Persecution. Who was left after the Great Flood? Only Noah, his wife, his three sons, and his son's wives, eight people.

...so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

I believe this is referring to

Matthew 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of **those days** (70 A.D.) shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

30 And then shall appear **the sign of the Son of man in heaven**: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall **see the Son of man** coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

This is not talking about the end of time. Jesus appeared in the sky during the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD, and those who had Him crucified 40 years before that saw Him! How do I know that? Because Jesus told the High Priest **he would see Jesus again coming in power!**

Mark 14:61 But he held his peace, and answered nothing. Again **the high priest** asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?

62 And Jesus said, I am: and **ye shall see** the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

This interpretation of "taken" and "left" is confirmed by John Gill, (November 23, 1697 – October 14, 1771) an English Baptist pastor, biblical scholar, and Bible commentator.

John Gill's Commentary about Matthew 24:40

Then shall two be in the field

About their proper business, of husbandry, ploughing, or sowing, or any other rural employment: **the one shall be taken;**

not by the preaching of the Gospel, into the kingdom of God, or Gospel dispensation; though such a distinction God makes, by the ministry of the word, accompanied by his Spirit and power; nor by angels, to meet Christ in the air, and to be introduced into his kingdom and glory; but *by the eagles, the Roman army, and either killed or carried captive by them:* and the other **left;**

not in a state of nature and unregeneracy, as many are, to whom the Gospel is preached; nor with devils at the last day, to be thrust down by them into the infernal regions; but by the Romans, being by some remarkable providence, or another, delivered out of their hands; which was the case of some few, and these of the meaner sort; and therefore persons of a rural life and occupation are instanced in.