"That You May Escape All These Things"

How much strength do we need to be raptured?

"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

(Luke 21:36 KJV)

## This verse is part of the Olivet Discourse, which Dispensationalists say is for "the Jews" and "not for the Church."

Let's look at the text.

"But be alert at all times, <u>praying that</u> you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place and to stand before the Son of Man." (Luke 21:36 CSB)

"But keep on the alert at all times, <u>praying</u> that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." (Luke 21:36 NASB)

κατισχύωα (katischyō): to be completely capable of doing or experiencing something—'to be completely able, to be fully able.'

—Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 675.

Pretrib: This verse is exhorting us to pray that we will be worthy or strong enough to be raptured.

Post-trib / Pre-Wrath: This verse is exhorting us to pray that we will be strong enough to make it through the tribulation with our salvation, without denying Christ.

## The passage says that one must be strong enough or worthy enough to escape.

"How are you going to be worthy? The only thing that will make me worthy is my position in Christ. Therefore, I have trusted Him as my Savior, and I have committed my way to Him, so that if I am alive at the time of the Rapture, I'll be going to meet Him in the air by the grace of God." -J. Vernon McGee

"Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed." (1 Corinthians 15:51-52)



34 "Be on guard, so that your hearts will not be weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap; 35 for it will come upon all those who dwell on the face of all the earth. 36 But keep on the alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

(Luke 21:34-36 NASB)

## So what are the "things" we should pray we have strength to escape with our souls?

"...they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you... you will be betrayed even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death, and you will be hated by all because of My name. Yet not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives." (Luke 21:12–19)