When The Last Trump Sounds....

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► Intro:

- 1 Th. 4:16 trumpet will sound to announce the Lord's final coming, accompanied with shout of archangel
 - trumpet, literal use: blown to call Israel to assemble
 - trumpet, symbolic use: calls the people of God to assemble, as God gathers them to Himself
 Matt. 24:31 Jesus' prophesy, destruction of Jerusalem, trumpet sounded to gather elected

No one knows when the last trumpet will sound – end of time, when Christ will return – today??????? - 1 Th. 5:1-2 day of Lord will come like a thief in the night

- illus.: thief, surprise - Fox, San Diego, Channel 6, 3/20/08

- "Police searched Thursday (3/20/08, aem) for three teenage boys who surprised a sleeping North Park teen in his home, attacked him and robbed him of his video game systems at knifepoint...."

- Jesus return as thief in the night – people not expect end of world when Jesus comes

- illus.: thief, surprise – Kansas City Star, 3/19/08

- "A Merriam man told police today that three intruders surprised him and his 4-year-old son this morning when they entered a home and stole TVs and video game systems. The crime allegedly happened about 3:30 a.m. in the 9200 block of West 71st Street, police said. The victim told police that he and the boy were alone in the home when he heard loud noise. When he left his bedroom to investigate, he was met by two men coming up the stairs. One intruder, who carried a rifle, ordered the victim and his son back into the bedroom, the man reported. Meanwhile, a third person stole the electronic items."

- illus.: Matt. 24:36-39 Jesus, destruction of Jerusalem, Jesus come like thief, illus. flood, Noah, sinful people not understand till flood came

- unbelievers will not understand till Jesus comes, surprised as by a thief, but then it's too late to repent

- believers understand now, believe, Jesus come, end of world, judgment, heaven and hell

> When the last trumpet sounds, some people will be glad, but most will be sad!

- Matt. 7:13-14, 21-23 few find life, most destroyed, some not saved who think righteous, people who offer lip service lost (not obey), sent away, practice lawlessness

▶ - 2 Tim. 4:8 righteous will love Christ's appearance

- If Jesus came back today, last trumpet, world ended, would you "love" His appearance? – exemplify - majority will not / the saved will

- > When the last trumpet sounds, **the earth will be destroyed!**
 - Heb. 13:14 on earth we do not have a continuing city, but we seek the city which is to come
 - Heb. 11:10, 16 journeying to heavenly city, God is architect
 - Rev. 20-21 so incredible it's hard to imagine
- 2 Pet. 3:10 earth will be destroyed not continue (Heb. 13:14)
- **pic:** earth
 - Heb. 12:26b-27 earthly kingdoms shaken and destroyed
- ► R- Heb. 12:28-29 our attitude should be: gratitude, reverence, awe
- ► 2 Pet. 3:11-13 our conduct should be: holy, godly
- > When the last trumpet sounds, **angels will punish the unbelievers who are living upon the earth!**
 - 2 Th. 1:6-8 people, not obey gospel, punished by angels who come in flaming fire
- 2 Th. 1:9 will be pay penalty, eternal separation from God
 illus.: song #348, Almost Persuaded vs. 3, doom comes at last, sad that bitter wail

When the last trumpet sounds, the saints will be transformed! – immortality
 2 Cor 5:1-2, 4b, 7-8 immortality – eternal house in heaven, mortal swallowed up by life, be at home with Lord

- Phil. 3:20-21 transform lowly body citizenship in heaven, conformity with the body of Christ's glory, exertion of Christ's power
- ► Lk. 20:36 we'll be like the angels

► When the last trumpet sounds, **the saints will meet Jesus in the sky!** – be with Him forever

- 1 Th. 4:14-18 last trump, people who died in Christ come back with Jesus, saints on earth to meet Jesus in the air

- 2 Th. 1:10 when Jesus comes, He'll "be marveled at among all who have believed"
 - 2 Tim 4:8 saints will love His appearance, receive crown of life
 - grand reunion in the sky, be with Jesus and all the saints forever
 - ??? see earth (solar system, galaxy, universe) destroyed ???

► Summary / Inv.

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- last trumpet:
 - no one knows when it will sound be ready today????
 - some people will be glad and some will be sad obey today, be happy for eternity
 - earth destroyed
 - unbelievers upon earth punished
 - saints rise to meet Jesus in the air grand reunion with Him and all the saints
- encourage: obey God and live faithfully, so you'll be in the number who live with Jesus for eternity
- song #473: When He Comes In Glory By And By review