

ARE YOU READY TO BE RAPTURED?

Sunday, August 9th, 2020

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Luke 21:27-28, 36-NKJV

27 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

28 Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

36 Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Rapture: *to be seized and caught up, taken by force, a catching away, transporting of believers to heaven.*

1Thessalonians 1:10-AMP.

And [how you] look forward to and await the coming of His Son from heaven, Whom He raised from the dead—Jesus, Who personally rescues and delivers us out of and from the wrath [bringing punishment] which is coming [upon the impenitent] and draws us to Himself [investing us with all the privileges and rewards of the new life in Christ, the Messiah].

Matthew 24:40-42-NKJV

40 Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left.

41 Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.

42 Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.

Paul is writing in these verses in chapter one here... about the *Second Coming... not the Rapture.*

2Thessalonians 1:6-10-NKJV

6 since *it is* a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you,

7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,

8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

10 when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

1. BEFORE THE SECOND COMING... THE LORD RETURNING TO THE EARTH, TWO THINGS MUST HAPPEN: RAPTURE OF THE BODY OF CHRIST, AND THE ANTICHRIST REVEALED.

Paul is stating here of two events that will take place.

2Thessalonians 2:1-3-NKJV

Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ...

2...we ask you, ...not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

Falling away – Greek – “*apostasia*” – defect, abandon, depart.

CJB - For the Day will not come until after the Apostasy has come and the man who separates himself from Torah has been revealed, the one destined for doom.

Wuest - Do not begin to allow anyone to lead you astray in any way, because that day shall not come except the aforementioned departure comes first and the man of the lawlessness is disclosed,...

He is talking about what he was sharing in his first letter to the Thessalonians: “*aforementioned departure*”

I Thessalonians 4:14-17-Wuest

...as for us who are living and are left behind until the coming of the Lord, we shall by no means precede those who fell asleep, because the Lord himself with a Cry of command, with an archangel's voice, and with a call of a trumpet sounded at God's command, shall descend from heaven, and ***the dead in Christ shall be raised first, then as for us who are living and who are left behind, together with them we shall be snatched away forcibly in clouds for a welcome-meeting*** with the Lord in the lower atmosphere.

2. THE BODY OF CHRIST/MESSIAH IS THE ONE WHO HOLDS BACK THE DARKNESS BY REFLECTING THE LIGHT OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Lets look again in:

2Thessalonians 2:3-6- NKJV

3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the ***falling away*** comes first, and ***the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,***

4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

5 ***Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?***

6 And ***now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time.***

Withholdeth---to hold back, detain, to restrain, hinder (the course or progress of...that which hinders Antichrist from making his appearance.

Revelation13:2-KJV

...and the dragon (satan) gave him (*the beast, antichrist*)his power, and his seat, and great authority.

2 Thessalonians 2:7-NKJV

7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; ***only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.***

The antichrist is operating in the occult and the highest order.

2Thessalonians 2:8-9-NKJV

8 And then the ***lawless one will be revealed***, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with ***the brightness of His coming.***

9 The coming of the ***lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,..***

2Thessalonians 2:10-12-NKJB

10 and with ***all unrighteous deception*** among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, ***that they might be saved.***

11 And for this ***reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,***

12 that they all may be condemned ***who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.***

Revelation 16:13-16-NKJV

13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *coming* out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14 For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, ***to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.***

15 ***"Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame."*** (2 Peter 3:10 also)

16 And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, ***Armageddon.***

We come with HIM to fight that battle...Armageddon!

Zechariah 14:3-4-NKJV

3 Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle.

4 And ***in that day*** His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west,

Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south.

Revelation 19:14-NKJV

And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

3.THOSE WHO HAVE KEPT HIS COMMAND TO PERSEVERE AND HAVE NOT DENIED HIS NAME WILL BE KEPT FROM TRIBULATION.

Revelation 3:7-11-NKJV

7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "HE WHO HAS THE KEY OF DAVID, HE WHO OPENS AND NO ONE SHUTS, AND SHUTS AND NO ONE OPENS":

8 "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

9 Indeed I will make *those* of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.

10 Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

11 Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.

Let's see what the open door is.

Revelation 4:1-CJB

1 After these things, I looked; and there before me was a door standing open in heaven; and the voice like a trumpet which I had heard speaking with me before said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after these things."

1Thessalonians 4:15-17-NKJV

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no

means precede those who are asleep.

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Revelation 4:2-NKJV

2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and *one* sat on the throne.

Revelation 4:6-NKJV

6 In front of the throne was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal.

Ephesians 5:26-27-the scriptures

26 ...as Messiah also did love the assembly and gave Himself for it, in order to set it apart and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word,

27 in order to present it to Himself a splendid assembly, not having spot or wrinkle or any of this sort, but that it might be set-apart and blameless.

Isaiah 17:12-Passion

Ah, the thunder of many people joining together! They roar like the roar of the sea. Woe to the uproar of the many nations! They thunder like the crashing of ocean waves.

Revelation 19:6-9-the scripture bible

6 And I heard as the voice of a great crowd, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunders, saying, "Halleluyah, for Ēl Shaddai reigns!"

7 "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him praise, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife prepared herself."

8 And to her it was given to be dressed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteousnesses of the set-apart ones.

9 And he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who have been ***called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!***'"

Revelation 5:9-10-NKJV

9 And ***they sang a new song***, saying: "***You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,***

10 ***And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.***"

Revelation 5:11-NKJV

Then I looked, and I heard the ***voice of many angels around the throne***, the living creatures, and the elders; ***and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands...***

Revelation 6:1-2-NKJV

1 Now ***I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals***; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see."

2 And I looked, and ***behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.***

Revelation 19:12-NKJV

12...His eyes were like a flame of fire, and ***on His head were many crowns.***

Revelation 7:9-1-NKJV

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,...

10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation ***belongs*** to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

11 ***All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,***

12 saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be* to our God forever and ever. Amen."

13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "***Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?***"

14 And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "***These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.***

15 Therefore ***they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple.*** And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.

Remember: Two things have to happen: The catching away of the Body of Christ, and antichrist being revealed... before the Second Coming/Advent of Christ takes place.

Revelation 20:6-NKJV

6 Blessed and holy is he ***who has part in the first resurrection.*** Over such the second death has no power, but ***they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.***

The rapture before tribulation and tribulation after the rapture... for 7 years.

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