

"Will the Church Go Through the Great Tribulation"

Matthew 24:36-42

The 2nd Coming of Jesus is in 2 parts:

1st Thessalonians 4 Rapture and the Revelation Revelation

Rapture	Revelation
1. Jesus comes in the _____. 1 st Thessalonians 4:16-17	1. Jesus comes to the _____. Zechariah 14:4 Acts 1
2. Jesus comes _____ His people. 1 st Thessalonians 4:16-17	2. Jesus comes _____ His people. 1 st Thess. 3:13 Jude 14 Rev. 19
3. Jesus comes like a _____ in the night. 1 st Thessalonians 5:1-2	3. Jesus coming will be _____ to the whole world. Revelation 1:7
4. Signals the beginning of the _____. Revelation 4:1 - Rev. 18	4. Signals the beginning of the _____. Revelation 20:1-6
5. Involves _____ only. John 14:1-3 1st Cor. 15:51-55 1 st Thess. 4:13-18	5. Involves _____ and the Gentile nations. Matt. 24 Revelation 6 - 18

What will the rapture mean to you and I as believers ?

If Jesus were to come today it would mean 3 things:

1. NO _____. Matthew 24:

There is a generation that will never see

they will be caught up immediately into the presence of the Lord.

1st Thessalonians 4:16-17 *For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

Are we that generation I _____ could we be _____ possibly.

Key thought: 2 examples of the rapture in the O.T.

2. A _____. 1st Corinthians 15: 51-52 **Behold, I shew you a mystery;**

We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

3. The rapture for believers will be a _____ operation. 1st Thessalonians 1:10
And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

Delivered means to rescue. What's Jesus going to deliver us from ?

The wrath to come is a reference to the Great Tribulation. Hallelujah Jesus will evacuate us (the Church) before the Great Tribulation.

We'll say more about this later in this message:

Notice 4 truths about the Great Tribulation:

I. _____ described. Matthew 24:_____

According to God's Word the Great Tribulation will begin after the rapture of the church, when the anti-christ & Israel sign a covenant with each other for 7 years and it ends at the 2nd coming of Christ at the Battle of Armageddon.

Daniel 9:24-27 Revelation 19

There are _____ names & expressions for the Great Tribulation in the Old Testament

There are _____ names & expressions for the Great Tribulation in the New Testament

II. _____ of the Great Tribulation.

2-Fold

1. A time to _____ the nation of Israel (Jewish people) to receive Jesus Christ as their Messiah.

The Great Tribulation will:

_____ Israel _____ Israel _____ Israel Zechariah 13:8-9

2. A time to _____ the Gentile nation & unbelieving world. Isaiah 13:10-13

III. The _____ involved in the Great Tribulation.

4 Groups:

1. _____ 2. _____ nations 3. _____ saints 4. _____

Notice who's missing? The church, the Bride of Christ. Turn to Revelation 2&3 _____ times in the 1st 3 chapters the church is mentioned but after the rapture in Revelation 4 it's not mentioned again until Revelation 19 the Bride of Christ is in Heaven with Jesus.

As God's people we're not waiting for the Great Tribulation (Revelation 4-18) we're waiting for the Great Celebration when we meet Jesus in the air.

IV. The _____.

Notice these promises from God's Word that the church will **NOT** go through the Great Tribulation..

1. Matthew 24:40-42 If you're still here it's time to fear !

2. 1st Thessalonians 1:_____ As God's people, we're not waiting for God's _____ we're waiting for the _____.

3. 1st Thessalonians 5:_____ Revelation 6:16-17

God has not appointed us to _____ (wrath) but to _____.

Romans 8:1 "There is therefore **NO** condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus"

4. Revelation 3:_____ Hour of trial a reference to the Great Tribulation.

Notice Jesus doesn't say I will keep you _____ but _____ the Hour of Trial.

What lies ahead for us as God's people is not the Great Tribulation

but a _____ !