10/23/22

Sunday pm

Last Days Series: “What Should We Expect?”

Sermon: “Tribulation Overview”

Layout of series:

When Death Comes (8/28/22)

Signs As We Near the End (9/4/22)

The Rapture, p1 (9/18/22)

The Rapture, p2 (9/25/22)

The Post-Rapture Church (10/16/22)

Tribulation Overview (10/23/22)

Tribulation, p2: 144,000 and 2 Witnesses (10/30/22)

Tribulation, p3: Antichrist (11/6/22)

The Return of Christ (11/20/22)

The Millennial Kingdom (11/27/22)

Last Battle/Resurrection of the Lost/Great White Throne Judgement (12/4/22)

New Heaven and New Earth (12/11/22)

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Recap:

By a plain, chronological reading of the book of Revelation, as well as from other scriptures, we see that the rapture, or “snatching up”, is the next event on the prophetic timetable. The church will be removed, individually transformed in a moment into glorified, eternal bodies, and snatched up to be with the Lord. The bodies of those dead in Christ will be resurrected and transformed into glorified, eternal bodies, and reunited with their spirits, who have been with the Lord since death. We will all meet Him together in the air and be with Him where He is. Following the rapture, each believer will stand before the Judgement Seat of Christ, where rewards will be given for works done in the body.

Following the rapture of the church, there will be a time of tribulation on the Earth, to a degree that the Earth has never seen before.

Nature of the Tribulation

* God’s judgement. Not Satan’s judgement and God is just passive.
  + Rev 6:16-17, 11:18, 16:19, etc.

Timing and overview of the tribulation

* Post-rapture
* Daniel’s 70 week prophecy (Daniel 9:24-27)
  + Regarding Israel (9:24)
  + 70 weeks of years
    - Starts with the word to restore and build Jerusalem (Neh 2:1-8, 444BC) and ends with Messiah’s kingdom.
    - First 7 weeks (49 years) perhaps closing out Nehemiah’s career, Malachi’s ministry and close of OT
    - 62 more weeks (434 more years) bring us to the first advent of Messiah when He was “cut off” (v26)
    - 70 weeks is interrupted by the Church age, with one more week (7 years remaining).
    - After the church is raptured, the final week (7 years) begins with a covenant the antichrist (prince who is to come, man of lawlessness) makes with Israel
      * Antichrist
      * Man of lawlessness (2 Thessalonians 2:1-12); Prince who is to come; Desolator (Daniel 9:26-27)
      * Will be a hero, bringing a sense of peace. But will then desolate the temple, setting himself up as god to be worshipped.
* 7 Seals, 7 trumpets, 7 bowls
  + Seal 1-5 – first half of the tribulation
    - 1 – The antichrist brings a sense of peace, rising to power without bloodshed, signing a covenant with Israel
    - 2 – Peace is taken from the Earth, people slay one another
    - 3 – Costs of necessities goes through the roof, making it almost impossible to survive. Luxuries seem unaffected.
    - 4 – A quarter of the Earth’s inhabitants are killed by sword, famine, pestilence and beasts
    - 5 – The cry for justice of the saints who have been slain…the petitioning of God for His justice.
  + Seal 6-7 – the second half: the Great Tribulation
    - 7th seal includes the 7 trumpets
    - 7th trumpet includes the 7 bowls

Wraps up with Christ returning