10/30/22

Sunday pm

Last Days Series: “What Should We Expect?”

Sermon: “Tribulation Overview, p2: 144,00 and 2 Witnesses”

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. The tribulation will be a 7 year period (the last week of the 70 weeks of Daniel’s prophecy) of God’s wrath poured out on the Earth that will result in death, destruction and the turning of many to Christ. The antichrist will ascend to world power at the beginning, make a covenant with Israel and break it 3 ½ years into it. The tribulation will culminate in the Return of Christ to bind Satan and establish His millennial kingdom on Earth.

After the desolation of the temple and the breaking of the covenant with Israel, the antichrist turns against Israel and many flee to the wilderness and are protected (12:1-6; 13:17; Matt 24:15-21)

Antichrist, unable to catch Israel, turns his fury on her offspring – other followers of the Lamb (12:17)

144,000

Jews. 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes (7:1-8)

A remnant who come to faith in the Messiah, they follow the Lamb wholeheartedly and are redeemed and pure (14:1-5)

Sealed by God before the seventh seal judgement (7:3-4). Operating under the power and protection of the Holy Spirit.

They are witnesses to the nations in the Great Tribulation (7:9-17)

2 witnesses

They will prophesy for 1260 days – 42 months, or 3 ½ years (11:3)

Olive trees and lampstands (11:4): likely symbolizing spiritual revival. The proclaiming of judgement and the gospel by them and the 144,000 will turn many to the Lord.

The 2 witnesses will have supernatural protection and power (11:5-6)

At the end of their ministry, protection will be removed and the antichrist will be allowed to kill them

They’ll lie dead in the street for 3 ½ days, people will celebrate their death

They will then be resurrected and taken up to heaven before the seventh trumpet judgement