11/6/22

Sunday pm

Last Days Series: “What Should We Expect?”

Sermon: “Tribulation, p3: Antichrist”

2 Thessalonians 2; Revelation 12 – 13

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.

144,000 of Israel will be sealed by God and be witnesses during the Tribulation. There will also be 2 witnesses that have supernatural protection and power during their ministry. At the end of their ministry, the Lord will remove their protection and the Antichrist will kill them. People of the Earth will rejoice. Three days later they will be resurrected and ascend to Heaven.

The Antichrist

* Names
	+ Man of lawlessness (2 Thess 2:3)
	+ Son of destruction (2 Thess 2:3)
	+ The prince who is to come (Daniel 9:26)
	+ The little horn (Daniel 7:8)
	+ The beast (Rev 13:2-10, 18)
	+ Antichrist (1 John 2:18)
* One or many?
	+ 1 John 2:18 – there have been many who oppose God and His Christ
	+ 2 Thess 2:7 “For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work”
		- Hitler, etc.
	+ Culminating in this final one
* Driving force
	+ Satanic
		- 2 Thessalonians 2:9
		- Rev 13:2b
			* Dragon = Satan
			* Mortal wound healed – Rev 13:3, 12. Counterfeit resurrection
* Mission
	+ Opposition to God, which includes hatred for Israel and the redeemed
		- Opposing God, setting himself up as god to be worshipped – 2 Thessalonians 2:4
		- Worship of the dragon and the beast – Rev 13:4
		- Anger toward God, hatred for Israel and the redeemed – Rev 12:13-17
		- To deceive – 2 Thess 2:9-10
* The second beast (Rev 13:11-15)
	+ False prophet
		- “Miracles” – Rev 13:13-15
		- Beast and false prophet seen together in 19:20
* The mark of the beast
	+ Rev 13:16-17
		- An intentional mark of identification with. Will not be an accident, but an intentional identification with/allegiance to. They had already rejected God