12/4/22

Sunday pm

Last Days Series: “What Should We Expect?”

Sermon: “The Last Rebellion and Great White Throne”

Revelation 20:7-15

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.

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 tribulation will culminate in the Return of Christ to destroy all of those who are not His, throw the antichrist and the false prophet into the Lake of Fire, and bind Satan and establish His millennial kingdom on Earth.

* The release of Satan
  + Not escape, but release
  + Just like Christ laid His life down, it wasn’t taken from Him – the sovereign control of God
    - Why the release? I don’t know. But ultimately for God’s glory…we cannot fully fathom His wisdom
* The Rebellion
  + Who is involved?
    - Everyone who went into the millennial kingdom was saved – the righteous. They will consist of:
      * Raptured saints in resurrected, glorified bodies
      * Martyred tribulation saints resurrected, glorified bodies
      * And those who remain in their natural bodies spared through the tribulation
        + Revelation 12:13-17 – Israel who was sealed and protected from Antichrist
        + Isaiah 11:11-12 – the faithful remnant will be gathered into the millennial kingdom
      * In that 1,000 years, many will be born to those in natural bodies. Not all of those will be Christ’s. They will have the Adamic line…the sin nature. They can come to faith in Christ, but many will not.
        + Environment isn’t the determining factor. Good, godly parents don’t guarantee godly kids
        + These are those that will be deceived by Satan, the great deceiver

What may the deception be? Consider deceptions of old…

Number like the sand of the sea

They come against the camp of the saints and the beloved city (Jerusalem – Jeremiah 3:17)

* Rebellion crushed
  + Fire came down from heaven and consumed them. Again, not much of a battle
  + Satan cast into the lake of fire, where he will never escape from and where eternal torment happens (The Beast and False Prophet are still there)
* Resurrection of the lost
* Great White Throne judgement
  + The lost are judged here. Very different than the judgement seat of Christ. They will be found to have fallen short of the glory of God and the wrath of God will be poured out on them. Also implies that there will be degrees of punishment in hell, as there are degrees of reward for the saints, according to deeds.
* Death and hades (the place of the dead) are also cast into the lake of fire, along with all the lost – those whose names are not found in the Book of Life