9/25/22

Sunday pm

Last Days Series: “What Should We Expect?”

Sermon: “The Rapture, p2”

Revelation

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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Last time:

Second coming: Jesus’ returning to the Earth

* + - Includes His rule and reign on the Earth; He comes as a conquering King in judgement (Rev 19)

The Rapture: Jesus’ calling up of the Church to be with Him before His return

* + - The fulfillment of Jesus’ promise in **John 14:1-3**
    - We who are alive and remain changed in the twinkling of an eye and snatched up
    - The dead in Christ raised
    - The rapture is a sign-less event (the next event on the timetable)

What do we learn from the scriptures regarding the timing of the rapture in relation to the tribulation, second coming of the Lord, etc.? Why do we think the snatching up of the church happens before the tribulation

* Timing of the rapture in end time events (before the tribulation)
  1. The “snatching up” in 1 Thess 4 is different from Christ’s return in Rev 19 at the end of tribulation
     + “Take you to be with me” in John 14 is different than His coming here.
  2. Revelation read chronologically
     + 3:10 (Persevering Church kept from the hour of trial)
     + 4:1-4 (Immediately after the addressing of the church, “After this” – after the church age) (1:19)
     + No mention of the Church on Earth during the tribulation (chapters 6-18). Saints, yes (those converted during the tribulation)
       - In 19:14, the Church, OT saints, tribulation saints return with the Lord ”…armies of Heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure…”
         * \*See 19:8 for that description of the bride
  3. There is no judgement in the rapture event “Encourage one another with these words.” (1 Thess 4). The tribulation is God’s judgement poured out on wickedness. Our judgement was on the cross.
  4. The increase of wickedness in the tribulation and the acceptance of the man of lawlessness makes sense if those indwelt with the Spirit are removed.

Later:

Judgement seat of Christ, Marriage Supper of the Lamb