

Premillennialism – When will Jesus Come? - 06/30/19

TEXT –**Mat 24:42-44** *Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. 43 But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. 44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.*

INTRO – The Bible describes certain future events that are on God’s calendar. No man knows the days or time of His return but His return is certain.

I. The Rapture

5 facts you need to know about the rapture

A. Christ will return. I Thess. 4:16

- The time is not known.

Mat 25:13 *Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.*

- It will be sudden.

Mat 24:27 *For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.*

- It can happen at any time.

Acts 1:11 . . . *Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.*

- There are no prophecies that must be fulfilled so that the rapture can take place...it’s the next thing on God’s calendar

B. There will be a resurrection of believers. (4:14 – 16)

- “in Christ” – NT saints

- “asleep” because they will live forever

- Paul, Stephen, Peter, Matthew, loved ones that were saved

- Doesn’t matter if buried, cremated, or lost at sea

- Will be given a new body

C. There will be a catching away of living believers. (4:17)

- “Rapture” means “catching away”

- Not only saints that have passed on, but also those alive and saved

1 Corinthians 15:51, 52 *“Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”*

D. Those that are left behind will suffer the judgment. 5:1 – 3
Matthew 24:6 – 8 *“And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.*

E. The teaching of the rapture is meant to be a source of comfort and encouragement. 4:13, 18

- Paul was writing to reassure the church that those who died as a Christian would not be forgotten when Christ returns

- It reassures us that we will see our saved loved ones again

- It should encourage us that one day we will not have to endure sickness, death, taxes, problems, temptation, and heartache any more

- It should make us happy that we will receive new bodies that can last forever and enjoy the presence of God Himself

- It is not a source of comfort and encouragement if you are not ready

II. The Tribulation

A. Rapture of the church

1 Th 4:13-18 *But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.*

B. Seven years: 3 ½ Tribulation the second 3 ½ Great tribulation
War; famine; disease; death; crime; earthquakes; asteroids and meteors, hail; 1/3 of trees, all grass, 1/3 of sea life; waters poisoned; sun, moon, and stars darkened; fire; demons; Jesus returns and destroys all who oppose Him
Revelation 9:6 *“And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them*

C. Daniel’s 70th week

69th of the 70 weeks of judgment have been completed. The final week was interrupted by the crucifixion of the Messiah and the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem.

D. All nations will gather against Israel to try to destroy her.

- **A great bear from the north – Russia (Gog and Magog)**
- **An army 200 million strong from the East – China**
- **Iran, Turkey and other Islamic states.**

E. Jesus will return and save the nation from destruction.

Rev 19:11-16 *And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. 13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.*

III. The Millennial Kingdom

A. Peace on earth Mic 4:3 *And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*

B. We shall rule and reign with Him

Rev 20:6 *Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.*

CONCL – The watch word is “Be Ye Ready”

- 1. Must be saved**
- 2. Living for Him**
- 3. Doing His work**