

# Signs of the Times – Part Four:

## The Rapture and the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel

### Review

- Part One – The Days of Noah.
- Part Two – The Signs to watch for in Matthew 24 and referenced in Revelation 6.
- Part Three - The Antichrist – His person, character, deceiving work, is evil and his mark.

### The Rapture

- The actual Greek work is *harpazo*.
- Translated by Jerome in the Latin Vulgate (bible translation) *rapiemur* – root *rapio* – English **rapture**.
- It literally means to be snatched away forcibly, to be caught up, or to be seized.
- There are seven “raptures” recorded in scripture:
  - Enoch – Genesis 5:2; Hebrews 11:5 – he was taken before the flood.
  - Elijah – 2 Kings 2:1, 11 – he was taken up to heaven alive – witnessed by Elisah.
  - Jesus – Mark 16:19s; Acts 1:9-11; Rev. 12:5 – Jesus was taken up to heaven. (Harpazo).
  - Phillip – Acts 8:39 – snatched away to Samaria (Harpazo).
  - Paul – 2 Cor. 12:2-4 – Paul was taken to heaven. (Harpazo).
  - Body of Christ – 1 Thes 4:17 (Harpazo).
  - John – Rev. 4:1 – John heard a voice saying, “come up here.” Into heaven.

### How Did Jesus Depart? How Will He Return for His People?

Acts 1:9-11

*And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”*

Luke 24: 50-52

*And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,*

- Jesus departed peacefully.
- Jesus was blessing them.
- Jesus departed into a cloud into heaven.
- Jesus was come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven.

John 14: 1-3

***“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God;<sup>[a]</sup> believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.***

- Jesus will come for us.
- Jesus has a place prepared for us.
- I will come again and take you to myself.
- We will be with Him.

## **The Process**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- All the dead in Christ will be raised.
- All those alive and believers in Jesus will be caught up with the dead in the air.
- The Lord will descend from heaven for us with a shout, the voice of an archangel and a trumpet.
- In the clouds (like Acts 1: 9) we will meet Jesus.
- We will forever be with the Lord.
- Comfort one another with these words.

## **The Purpose**

1 Corinthians 15:50-55 – physical transformation into translated bodies.

- In a twinkling of an eye, we will all be changed.
- From corruptible to incorruptible.
- From mortal to immortality.
- Death is swallowed up.
- Death loses its sting.
- Death loses its victory.

1 John 3:2-3 – to become like Him.

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears<sup>[a]</sup> we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

1 Thessalonians 5:9

For God has **not destined us for wrath**, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

2 Corinthians 5:1-5 – new bodies for eternity.

For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. <sup>2</sup> For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup> if indeed by putting it on<sup>[a]</sup> we may not be found naked. <sup>4</sup> For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

1 Thessalonians 1: 9-10 – deliver us from the wrath to come.

and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who *delivers us from the wrath to come*.

### Doctrine of the Imminency and the Rapture

- Imminency – could happen at anytime.
- Hebrews 9:28 – eagerly await the savior.
- Titus 2:11-13 – waiting for the blessed hope, our savior Jesus Christ.
- Philippians 3:20 – our citizenship is in heaven, we await our savior, Jesus Christ.
- 1 Thessalonians 1:10
- 2 Peter 3:7, 11-14
- No preconditions to his return.
- Jesus repeatedly warned us to be watchful, expectant, ready, prepared and longing.

### Two Separate Events: Rapture vs. The Second Coming.

<u>Rapture</u>	<u>Second Coming</u>
Translation of believers (new bodies)	No translation at all
Translated go to heaven	Translated return to earth from heaven.
Earth not Judged	Earth Judged; righteousness established.
Imminent, any moment	Follows definite predicted signs.
Not in the Old Testament	Predicted often in the OT.
Believers only	Affects all on the earth.
Before the day of wrath	Concluding the day of wrath (end of Rev.)
No reference to Satan	Satan is bound 1000 years.
Christ comes for His own	Christ comes with His own.
Christ comes in the air	Christ comes to earth.
Christ claims His bride	Christ comes with His bride.
Only His own see Him	Every eye shall see Him.
Tribulation begins	Millennial Kingdom begins.

## Old Testament Reference for Rapture

Isaiah 26: 19-21

Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake, and sing for joy! For your dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead. Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; hide yourselves for a little while until the fury has passed by. For behold, the LORD is coming out from his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity, and the earth will disclose the blood shed on it and will no more cover its slain.

## 70<sup>th</sup> Week in Daniel Chapter 9

- Daniel's Prayer 1-19 – corporate intercession, based on Jeremiah 25: 11-12.
- Gabriel's Visit 20-23 – Daniel called beloved – also the Apostle John.
- The Sevent Weeks 24-27 – Prophetic insight into the last days.

Daniel 9:24 -27

<sup>24</sup>“Seventy weeks<sup>[c]</sup> are decreed about your people and your holy city,

1. to finish the transgression,
2. to put an end to sin, and
3. to atone for iniquity,
4. to bring in everlasting righteousness,
5. to seal both vision and prophet, and
6. to anoint a most holy place.

<sup>25</sup> Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again<sup>[c]</sup> with squares and moat, but in a troubled time.

- Cyrus – 557 BC – Ezra 1:2-4
- Darius – Ezra 6:1-5; 8, 12
- Artaxerxes 458 BC – Ezra 7:11-26
- Artaxerxes Longimanus May 14, 445 BC
- $69 \times 7 \times 360 = 173,880$ : April 6, 32 AD – Palm Sunday
- John 6:15 and John 7:30 – My time has not yet come.
- Zechariah 9:9
- Luke 19:30 – get the donkey and bring it to me.
- Luke 19:37 – Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem.
- Luke 19:38 – blessed is the king that comes in the name of the Lord. (Ps 118).

- Luke 19:42-44
  - You should have recognized this day (Daniel told you).
  - Now, that which makes for peace (me) is hidden from your eyes (partial blindness) See Romans 11:25 – Israel blinded until the fulness of the Gentiles come in.
  - Destruction of Jerusalem spelled out – 70 AD.

<sup>26</sup> And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.

- See Above

Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed.

- The Interval
- The end does not immediately follow the revealing of the Messiah,
- The end does not immediately follow His death.
- There is an interval that ends with the rapture.
- With the church taken away, the antichrist has unfettered power.
- His new world order begins to be initiated.
- It is also believed that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Temple will be constructed at this time and Jewish worship restored in the manner prescribed in the Law of Moses.

<sup>27</sup> And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week,<sup>[g]</sup> and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

- The Antichrist will make a covenant with Israel and allow them to worship as they choose.
- Then he will break the covenant after 3 ½ years.
- He will put his image in the Holy of Holies and demand the Jews worship him.
- This begins the tribulation (last 3 ½ years).
- The climax of human history will follow with.
  - Jesus coming to intervene on behalf of the Jews in Jerusalem.
  - Zechariah 12 -14 being fulfilled – battle of Armageddon.
  - The Second coming of Christ.
  - The Millenium Kingdom.
  - Satan Bound for 1000 years.
  - Satan Released – final rebellion – Satan thrown into the Lake of Fire.
  - Final Great White Throne of Judgement (sheep and goats).
  - New Heaven and New Earth