

TOPIC: END TIMES 4 – The Bottom Line

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SUMMARY OF MESSAGE

The Pastoral Purpose of running the messages on End Times for all of us are:

1. To know the reality of the Lord's coming back for them.
2. Inspired to study more on your own.
3. Understand time-line and global events in light of Scriptures.
4. Redeem the time – get our lives in order.
5. Urgency to share gospel
6. Grow to be a wise people vs deception/foolishness
7. Be holy

World Wars (WW)

WW1 – 1914 to 1918

Germany and Hungary ++ vs Great Britain, US, Russia ++

Following WW1, the League of Nations was born.

WW2 – 1939 to 1945

Germany, Japan ++ vs Great Britain, Russia ++

Following WW2, the United Nations was born.

What has been will be and what has happened will happen. The world is looking for the nations to come together under one leadership.

WW3 – Battle of Gog and Magag of Ezekiel 38 & 39.

WW4 – likely key nations: Greece, Turkey, Syria, Egypt

Revelation 6:3-4

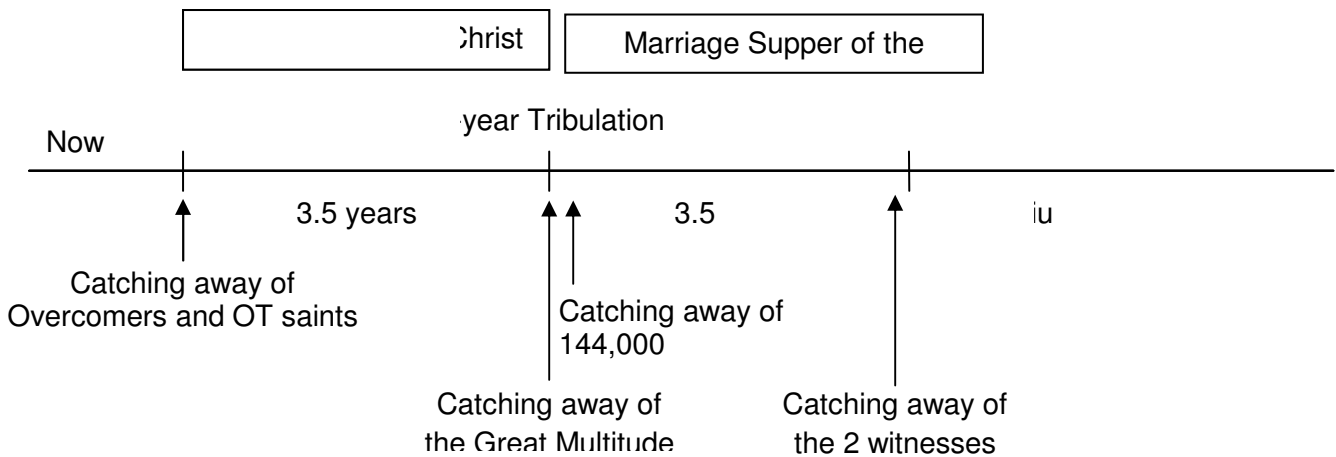
'When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see."
Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another, and there was given to him a great sword.'

WW5 – at Mid-Tribulation where the Anti-Christ commits the abomination of desolation.

WW6 – Daniel 11:44 – likely scenario of Russia (North) and Chine (East) attacking the Anti-Christ (likely enlarged Syria). Moving the armies to the field of Megiddo. (Armageddon)

WW7 – Battle of God and Magog of Revelation 20.

There are 4 more Raptures to come:

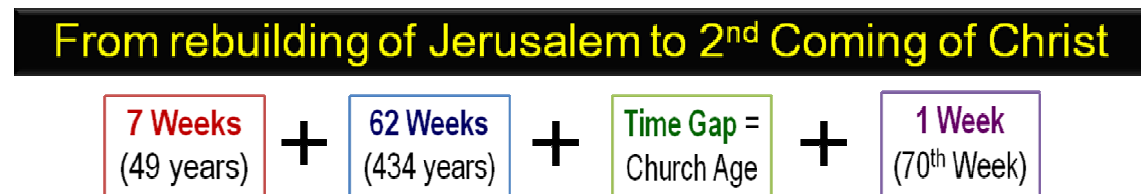


Rapture can take place at anytime now. The moment the Anti-Christ ratifies and confirms the Peace Treaty, the 7-year tribulation kicks in. In heaven, there will be the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor 5:10,11) happening at the first half of the tribulation period and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb taking place at the latter half. The battle of Armageddon will take place towards end of tribulation. Then the Lord appears in His Second Coming, followed by the judgment of the nations and the binding of Satan for 1000 years. After the 1000 years, Satan will be loosed but in one hour, all will be over. The Great White Throne judgment follows thereafter.

The 4 more raptures are as above shown:

- Catching away of the Overcomers and OT saints prior to the 7-year tribulation.
- Catching away of the Great Multitude in the middle of the 7 years.
- Catching away of the 144,000 Jews.
- Catching away of the 2 witnesses half a day before the end of the tribulation period.

70 Weeks:



The church age is a period of 2000 years. From the rebuilding of Jerusalem (not the temple), there are 4 decrees being issued.

Nehemiah 2 concerns the rebuilding of the city of Jerusalem while Ezra 1, 6 & 7 concern the rebuilding of the temple. Strictly speaking, the decree in question would be that given at the time of Nehemiah. The three other decrees involved Eras and Zerubbabel who being priests, were concerned with the rebuilding of the temple.

For the 70 years of captivity, the Jews were in continual rebellion, witchcraft and idolatry. As a consequence of their idolatrous ways, the 70 years were multiplied into 490 years. 69 weeks have already been fulfilled and we are left with one week (7 years) to go.

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER RE END-TIMES

1. Resurrection of the Dead and Judgments are Elementary Teachings

Heb 6:1-2

1Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, 2of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

Basic Christian education requires us to know that there is a judgment, resurrection of the dead, i.e. there is the first and second resurrection.

2. The Gospel is Hope for all

For those listening to this message on audio CDs or from BBTC website:

- A. If you are left behind during first 3½ years, humble yourself and cry out to the Lord Jesus for mercy to save you, repent of your sinful ways and acknowledge Him as your God. You will be raptured during the middle of the 7 years.
- B. If you are left behind during last 3½ years, humble yourself and cry out to the Lord Jesus for mercy to go through the tribulation. You may just survive and continue to live in the Millennial Kingdom.

When you die during the 1000 years, you will be resurrected only after the 1000 years are over.

3. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2 - Don't be Troubled

1Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

4. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 - Be Encouraged

16For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18Therefore comfort (encourage) one another with these words.

5. The Bottom Line - Be Holy

Hebrews 12:14

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.

1 Peter 1:16

because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy".

What does it mean to be holy?

Definition: Be set apart, be sanctified, be differentiated

End-Time Warnings and Exhortation

1. Guard yourself from false prophets and false teachers.

Matthew 24:4-5

1 Tim 4:1-3

Weigh the prophecy that you hear. Prophecy here is defined in the most general terms. I.e. when people speak forth the Word of God.

Guard against faulty teachings that are pushed to the extreme. I.e. these may be true in and of itself but incomplete. One may be preaching the grace of God without preaching the severity of God. Also, it's true that the Son died for our sins but it is incomplete as the Lamb of God we know today will come both as the Judge and Lion of Judah tomorrow, one who will rule with an iron rod. We need to discern what is from Scripture against what is of man. Here, Senior Pastor will endeavor to declare to us the whole counsel of God so that he might be innocent of our blood.

Acts 20:26-27

26 Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.

2. Guard yourself from falling away from the Lord

1 Timothy 4:1

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith [Apostasy] and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

When we abandon the faith, we lose it. Be careful not to fall into deception. With regards to the issue of eternal salvation, is it 'once saved, always saved'? The reality will bear itself out. We need to hear the warnings given out by scriptures, i.e. Hebrews 6:4-6; 10:26-31; 2 Peter 2:20-22; Jude. Read message "How We Live Matters – Part 1"

End-Times are as in the:

- * Days of Noah - eating, drinking, marrying...
- * Days of Lot - perversion, Lot's wife...
- * Days of Judges - everyone doing whatever is right in his own eyes.
- * Relativism - no absolute truth, multi-faith movement
- * Isaiah 5:20 - calling evil good and good evil.

3. To be holy means I must be faithful and wise.

(i) **Luke 18:8b**

Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

(ii) **Hebrews 11:6**

God doesn't respond to needs but to faith.

Matthew 24:45-47

45“Who then is a **faithful and wise servant**, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? 46**Blessed** is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. 47Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him **ruler** over all his goods (rewards).

A. Keeping faith - contend for your faith.

Jude 1:3

Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

To contend means to fight, to keep our faith lest it becomes diluted and we end up doubting the word and making compromises.

B. Growing faith

As we contend, we will grow.

Gal 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Romans 12:3

For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

We have a measure of faith and this is the premise for further growth. Why do we need faith? This is because we live in a fallen world and we have struggles in life:

- ✓ Difficulties and struggles in life
- ✓ Attracted by the pull of the world
- ✓ Going for the temporal – instant gratification
- ✓ Not willing to pay the price
- ✓ Remaining spiritually immature.

Ephesians 4:13

Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Application:

- i. Daily intake of the Word

Romans 10:17 – So then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

ii. Daily develop spirit of faith.

2 Corinthians 4:13

And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak.

What we believe, we confess. We need to daily believe and speak forth.

What are some scriptures we could apply?

1 Corinthians 12:3

Prov 4:7

Psalms 27:1

2 Cor 9:10

Matthew 6:33

1 John 4:4

4. To be holy means I must be filled with the Holy Spirit of Wisdom

Ephesians 5:15-18

15Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, **16**making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. **17**Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. **18**Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, **be filled with the Spirit.**

Matthew 25:1-13 The Parable of the wise and Foolish Virgins

Wise and Foolish Virgins

- A. Maturing believers are those who struggle continuously in this life but will make progress.
- B. Immature believers will also struggle continuously but remain immature, foolish and worse off.
- C. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10)
- D. Disobedience and rebellion are the beginning of foolishness (Romans 1)
- E. Godliness is to factor God in all our thoughts, feelings, plans, ideas, responses and decisions in our living.
- F. Ungodliness is mere disregard for God, His Word, the fellowship and counsel of His people.

Some believers wake up on the wrong side of bed and do not come to church. There is a price to pay to come to church.

Overcomer-Believers:

- A. Apply and Do the Word vs Head knowledge only
- B. Experience the Reality of God
- C. Spiritually Alert
- D. Grateful
- E. **True** worshippers
- F. Wise
- G. Deal with Baggages in life
- H. Not easily shaken

5. To be holy means I must be fruitful for God.

John 15:5

I am the vine and you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, bears much fruit for without Me you can do nothing.

Matthew 7:15-23 – know a tree by its fruit.

Unless we are abiding, we cannot produce fruits. Think of our home – if we are just going home to sleep, to get laundry washed, to get allowance, we are not abiding. Praying a 10 second prayer for help is not abiding; going to church once a month is not abiding. Abiding is about having a personal relationship with God.

1 Corinthians 3:14-15

14If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.

15If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

Our work is what we do in life. We will suffer loss if we don't pay attention to how we live our lives.

1 Peter 4:7-11

7The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.

8Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. 9Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. 10Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 11If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides ...

Colossians 1:9-11

9... be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might...

We need to clarify our purpose and purpose to do good works. We need to set SMART goals for our children, work, marriage, finances, to plan and schedule. We need to work on them. It is not about head knowledge but about doing it.

CONCLUSION

Daniel 12:10

Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

The wicked also refers to the Christians. The servant who buries the talent is deemed wicked.

There are 2 main books about end times- Daniel and Revelation. When the angel appeared to Daniel, it was to someone who was greatly beloved of God. For John, he was the disciple whom Jesus loved. The books are written by people valued of God. We are told not to throw pearls to swine. Hence, these books are to be regarded with value.

Psalm 25:14

The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him. And He will show them His covenant.

What is this about? It is about holiness.

1 John 3:2-3

... but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

What is permissible for non-believers is not permissible for us.

What is permissible in 2009 may not be permissible in 2010.

Let him who is holy be holy still for without holiness, no one will see the Lord.

We cannot just be looking at time and fail to see the eternity to come. We need a deposit of the Spirit and to have the fear of God.

Questions for discussion

1. Share what is the thrust and call of the End-Time message to you personally.
2. What are some warnings you need to heed?
3. What does it mean to be holy? Share 3 applications.
4. What do you think is needed for us to be overcomers?
5. How rapture-ready are you? Where would you place yourself on a scale of 10?

No condemnation, no comparison, no competition but only encouragement ...