Time Of The End (4) **SUDDENLY** The Rapture of the Church

2 Timothy 2:15 - Correctly Divide the Word Unlearn to Re-learn by the Holy Spirit Various Differences in Terms and Meaning:

- 1. Old Covenant and New Covenant
- 2. Rapture and Second Coming
- **3.** The Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven for Israel and the Gospel of Grace for the Church
- 4. Day of Christ and Day of the LORD
- 5. Kingdom of Heaven and Kingdom of God

REVIEW - Overview of Gentiles, Israel and the Church

1 Corinthians 10:32 Give no offense, either to the <u>Jews</u> or to the <u>Greeks</u> or to the <u>church of God</u>.

- To better understand the prophetic scriptures, we need to know that God deals broadly with 3 groups of people.
- All Scripture is for our understanding and instruction through revelation by the Holy Spirit. [2 Timothy 3:16-17]
- But not every scripture/covenant is written specifically for the Church.
- Some for Israel, some to Gentiles and some to the Church.
- Applying a scripture to the Church when meant for Israel or vice-versa leads to confusion and misunderstanding of the prophetic word.

REVIEW - Overview of Gentiles, Israel and the Church

- Adam to Abraham Mankind [e.g. Enoch and Noah] (later called Gentiles).
- Genesis 12 God called Abraham to build a nation separated from the rest.
- Nation of Israel from Abraham, Isaac, Jacob-Israel onwards.
- 2 groups of people up to time of Jesus first coming <u>Israelites</u> (called <u>Hebrews</u> in Exodus and later, called <u>Jews</u> in NT) and <u>Gentiles</u>.
- After Jesus ascended, He put His Blood on the altar in heaven [Hebrews 9:11-12, 14], a third group called the <u>Church</u> was created.
- As the Son of Man, Jesus became the first man in this new group [Romans 8:29].
- Everyone (Jew or Gentile) who believes and receives the Lord Jesus today, in this window of grace, is a part of the Church [Galatians 3:26-28].

REVIEW - Overview of Gentiles, Israel and the Church



Suddenly - The Rapture of the Church!

- I. The Righteous always delivered from the Wrath of God
- II. New Raptured, Immortal, Incorruptible, Glorified Bodies
- **III.** The Church in Heaven
- **IV.** Take heed, watch, pray, looking for the Blessed Hope!

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1 Thessalonians 1:10 and <u>to wait for His Son from heaven</u>, whom He raised from the dead, <u>even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath (of God)</u> to come.

The Rapture delivers us from the Wrath of God to come. It is a fulfilment of the Promises of God for the Church!

- I. The Righteous always delivered from the Wrath of God The difference between:
 - 1. trouble in general because of:
 - the fallen-ness of Man (John 16:33);
 - persecution-martyrdom of believers (2 Timothy 3:12; 1 Peter 2-4).
 - 2. the wrath of God both in the OT and especially specifically in the 7 Years Tribulation Period.

God's wrath begins with Seal Judgments and ends with Bowl Judgments **Revelation 15:1** Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the <u>seven last plagues</u>, for <u>in them the wrath of God</u> <u>is complete</u>.

Isaiah 13:6-9, 11, 13 (Day of the LORD = wrath of God) 6 Wail, for the day of the Lord is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty. 7 Therefore all hands will be **limp**, every man's heart will **melt**, 8 and they will be afraid. Pangs and sorrows will take hold of them; they will be in **pain** as a woman in childbirth; they will be amazed at one another; their faces will be like flames. 9 Behold, the day of the Lord comes, cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and He will destroy its sinners from it.

Isaiah 13:6-9, 11, 13 (Day of the LORD = wrath of God)
11 "I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked
for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud,
and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.
13 Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth
will move out of her place, in the wrath of the Lord
of hosts and in the day of His fierce anger.

The Principle in scriptures that:

God delivers the righteous from His Wrath

The Lord always <u>rescues the righteous before</u> <u>His judgment i.e. the righteous saints are always</u> <u>saved</u>, <u>preserved</u>, <u>rescued from God's judgment</u>.

 The Lord <u>raptured Enoch</u> (Genesis 5) [type of Church in pre-Tribulation Rapture] and later <u>rescued Noah and his family</u> (Genesis 6-8) in the Ark <u>through the Flood</u> [type of remnant Jews & believing Gentiles in the last 3.5 years of the Tribulation]

2. Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 18-19 The Lord revealed to Abram what He was going to do

> The Lord will always spare the righteous. In the end, there's only one righteous i.e. LOT

The Righteous always delivered from the Wrath of God
 Israel at the Red Sea

Exodus 14 The Red Sea was parted for Israel The Red Sea thereafter was God's judgment on Pharaoh and the armies of Egypt

1 Thessalonians 5:9 For God did <u>not appoint us</u> to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.



Romans 5:9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall <u>be saved from wrath</u> through Him.

2 Peter 2:9 ... the Lord knows how to <u>deliver the godly out of temptations</u> [tribulations] and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the <u>day of</u> judgment.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who <u>delivers us from the wrath to come</u>.

The Righteous Hidden

Zephaniah 2:3 Seek the Lord, all you meek of the earth, who have upheld His justice. Seek righteousness, seek humility. It may be that **YOU will be hidden in** the day of the Lord's anger.



Revelation 3:10 10 Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will <u>keep you from the hour of</u> trial which shall <u>come upon the whole world</u>, to test those who dwell on the earth.

Greek: the Church taken out of, not through the Tribulation.

Isaiah 26:20-21

20 Come, my people, <u>enter your chambers</u>, and <u>shut your doors</u> <u>behind you</u>; <u>hide yourself</u>, as it were, <u>for a little moment</u>, <u>until</u> <u>the indignation is past</u>. 21 For behold, <u>the Lord</u> comes out of His place to <u>punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity</u>;

Taken to Chambers + shut the doors behind them because of the indignation/wrath of God to punish the inhabitants of the earth.

Righteous =

- born again
- received Jesus as Saviour and Lord (Romans 10:9-10)
- sealed with the Holy Spirit
- justified
- have the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus ...



John 3:36 <u>He who believes in the Son</u> <u>has everlasting life</u>; and <u>he who does not believe</u> <u>the Son shall not see life</u>, <u>but the Wrath of</u> <u>God abides on him</u>."

John 14:1-3

1 Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.
2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

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II. New Raptured, Immortal, Incorruptible, Glorified Bodies

1 Corinthians 15:50-55 50 Now this I say, brethren, that <u>flesh and blood</u> cannot inherit the <u>kingdom of</u> <u>God</u>; nor does <u>corruption</u> inherit <u>incorruption</u>. 51 Behold, I tell you a <u>mystery</u>: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all <u>be changed</u>— 52 <u>in a moment</u>, in the <u>twinkling of an eye</u>, at the <u>last trumpet</u>. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be <u>raised incorruptible</u>, and we shall <u>be changed</u>.

II. New Raptured, Immortal, Incorruptible, Glorified Bodies

1 Corinthians 15:50-55

53 For this corruptible must put on <u>incorruption</u>, and this mortal must put on <u>immortality</u>. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "<u>Death is swallowed up in victory</u>."
55 "<u>O Death</u>, <u>where is your sting</u>? O Hades, where is your victory?"

II. New Raptured, Immortal, Incorruptible, Glorified Bodies
Flesh and Blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 15:50).

• We all must be changed and receive new <u>raptured</u> immortal, incorruptible, glorified bodies.

II. New Raptured, Immortal, Incorruptible, Glorified Bodies Our bodies will be changed from:

- mortal to immortal;
- corrupt to incorruptible;
- flesh and <u>blood</u> (life force from blood) to flesh and <u>bones</u> (Ephesians 5:30 For we are members of his <u>body</u>, of his <u>flesh</u>, and of his <u>bones</u>; Ephesians 5:32 This is a great <u>mystery</u>: but I speak concerning Christ and the church (KJV))
 - (life force from the Spirit of God 1 Corinthians 15:45)

II. New Raptured, Immortal, Incorruptible, Glorified Bodies



Do not touch Me - John 20:17 Jesus said to her, "<u>Do not cling to Me</u>, <u>for I have not yet</u> <u>ascended to My Father</u>; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'"

Touch Me - John 20:27

Then He said to Thomas, "<u>Reach your finger here</u>, and look at My hands; and <u>reach your hand here</u>, <u>and put it into My side</u>. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."



I. New Raptured, Immortal, Incorruptible, Glorified Bodies

Philippians 3:20-21
20 For our citizenship is <u>in heaven</u>, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will <u>transform our lowly body</u> that it may be <u>conformed to His glorious body</u>, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

Glorified body after Jesus ascended to Father (Hebrews 9:11-12, 14) @Rapture = Glorified Bodies II. New Raptured, Immortal, Incorruptible, Glorified Bodies

- Physical corrupt mortal bodies = flesh & blood
- Resurrected bodies = flesh & blood (Lazarus)
- Glorified bodies = flesh & bone

Ephesians 4:8-10; Matthew 27:52-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

Suddenly - The Rapture of the Church! The Righteous always delivered from the Wrath of God New Resurrection Immortal Incorruptible, Clorified Bodie III. The Church in Heaven

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III. The Church In Heaven1. Judgment Seat of Christ

2 Corinthians 5:10-11

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 11 Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.

III. The Church In Heaven 2. Marriage Supper of the Lamb **Revelation 19:7-9** 7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. 9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'...



III. The Church In Heaven

3. The Church Returning with Christ @ The Second Coming

Revelation 19:11-16

11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**.



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1 Thessalonians 4:18, 14-17

18 Therefore **comfort one another** with these words.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For 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. 17 Then 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.

IV. Take heed, watch, pray, looking for the Blessed Hope!

Titus 2:11-13 11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 <u>looking for the blessed hope and glorious</u> <u>appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ</u> ...

IV. Take heed, watch, pray, looking for the Blessed Hope!

Philippians 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also <u>eagerly</u> wait for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 and <u>to wait for His Son from heaven</u>, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

2 Timothy 4:8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to <u>all who have loved His appearing</u> (not all do).

Suddenly - The Rapture of the Church

1 Corinthians **15:51-52** 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed - 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Suddenly - The Rapture of the Church

RE

READY?

Video Rapture

BOTTOM-LINE

Romans 11:22 Therefore consider the **GOODNESS** and **Severity** of God: <u>on those who fell</u>, <u>severity</u>; <u>but toward you</u>, <u>goodness</u>, <u>if you continue in His goodness</u>. <u>Otherwise you</u> <u>also will be cut off</u>.

Lebanon-walk-God-moment-Calvary