

**END TIME SERIES**  
**LESSON #1**

**THE RAPTURE**

1. **Jesus Promised He will Return:**

Joh 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

Joh 14:2 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.

Joh 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again, and receive you unto myself**; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

**Heb 10:37** For yet, a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

**General Douglas MacArthur:**

1. One of America's most notable commanders.
2. Was driven by the Japanese from the Island of the Philippines during the beginning of our involvement of World War 2.
3. In March 12, 1942, Beaten and driven from the Philippines, escaped during the night in a Torpedo Boat. But **VOWED** that he was not defeated and promised to return victorious and bring deliverance and freedom to the Island.
4. Three years after his promise to return, three years of devastating combat. The fighting U.S. forces and Ally Forces, positioned themselves for a great victory.
5. In 1945 MacArthur's forces secured full control of the Philippines and launched an attack with five million men to invade Japan. The victory was theirs and **He Did Return Like He Promised.**

## WORLD SIGNS OF HIS RETURN

Mat 24:3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, **Tell us, when shall these things be?** and **what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?**

Mat 24:4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you.**

Mat 24:5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Mat 24:6 **And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars:** see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

Mat 24:7 **For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.**

**Mat 24:8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.**

Mat 24:9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye **shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.**

## JESUS PROMISED TO RETURN

1. He has been gone for over 1,900 years and His Church which is His bride is still waiting for the promised return, "**I will come again**"
2. **One out of every 25 verses in the New Testament relates to His Second coming.** In the Old Testament there are more than 500 prophecies relating to His Second Coming, compared to only 300 verses concerning his first coming.
3. **Two Parts to the Second Coming:** He must come for His saints, before he comes with His Saints.
  - a. **First Part:** The Church will be caught up, to meet the Lord in the Air. And so shall we ever be with the Lord.
  - b. **Second Part:** The visible Coming of the Lord at the Battle of Armageddon to execute Judgment on the wicked, and destroy the armies that come against Israel.

Jud 1:14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

Jud 1:15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

## **THE CHURCH'S BLESSED HOPE**

Tit 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ;

Heb 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

1Th 4:16 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:

1Th 4:17 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.

1Co 15:51 Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

1Co 15:52 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.

## **WHEN WILL THE RAPTURE TAKE PLACE?**

### **(THE RAPTURE WILL TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE TRIBULATION PERIOD)**

1. After 1 Thess. 4:16, which gives us a picture of the Rapture, Paul continues on in Chapter five of the same book, referring to the “Day of the Lord and the night.” In reading the Bible you have to

remember that in the original text there are no chapter divisions,  
**The Night that follows in the Tribulation Period.**

2. **Chapter Five:** continues to remind the church that we are not of the night but of the day.

**1Th 5:1** But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

1Th 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that the **day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.**

1Th 5:3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; **then sudden destruction cometh upon them,** as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

**1Th 5:4** But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

**1Th 5:5** Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

3. **1 Thess 5:9:** “For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, “
  - a. This wrath is the wrath of the night and salvation is from this wrath, not just being saved from our sins, but also escaping the Judgments of God on this wicked world.

4. **Revelation 6:15-17:** (When Tribulation Breaks)

Rev 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

Rev 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

**Rev 6:17** For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

5. 1 Thess. 1:10: “And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.”

## **THE TRIBULATION IS REPEATEDLY REFERRED TO AS THE DAY OF GOD'S WRATH.**

6. We as Christians are always subject to tribulation of this world (Trials, and Troubles Etc.) But the Great Tribulation is a time of Gods Vengeance and wrath. And for the church to be subject to God's wrath would make God's word untrue.
7. In Luke 21:36, the Scripture warns the church to "watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things (not just a part) that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

## **THE OLD TESTAMENT GIVES US SHADOWS AND TYPES OF PRE-TRIBULATION**

1. **Noah:** (Gen 9; Matt. 24:37-42; Daniel 9:26) Refers to the Tribulation period as a "flood." And the ark with Noah escaped the flood and returned to earth as the flood abated.
2. **Lot:** (Gen. 19) Was taken out of Sodom before the Judgment.
3. **Joseph:** (Gen. 41:45) We see Joseph as a type of Jesus, married a Gentile bride and saved her from the seven years of famine.
4. **Rahab:** (Heb 11:31, Josh 6:23; Rev. 13:7) Was saved from the judgment of the city.
5. **The Church of Philadelphia:** (Rev. 3:10) "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."

### **6. God's Wrath is for His Enemies:**

**Nah 1:2** God *is* jealous, and the LORD revengeth; the LORD revengeth, and *is* furious; the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, **and he reserveth *wrath* for his enemies.**

## **WHO WILL BE RAPTURED AND ESCAPE GOD'S JUDGMENTS?**

### **1. Those that have been born of the water and the Spirit.**

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Joh 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Joh 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

### **2. Those who prepare their heart daily:** “Inward man is renewed, day by day.”

### **3. The Five Wise and the Five Foolish:** (Matt. 25:1-13)

a. Those that are wise are those who stay full of the Holy Ghost.

Tit 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;