

## Revelation Series

Message by Dr. Mike Holloway

Outline/Power point Pastor Gangwer

### The Disappearance of the Church – Part I

**Intro:** The central theme of this lesson is found in chapter four, verse one, “after this” and Jesus shows John things that God \_\_\_\_\_ Paul to reveal (I Corinthians 12:1 – 10). On the other hand, John sees a vision of heaven and things there, and things yet to come and is free to share what he is made privileged to see and know. There are two reason for this;

1. God now wants things to be \_\_\_\_\_ to His people as the Bible is being completed with this book of Revelations being the capstone of it all.
2. There is no \_\_\_\_\_ for John as there was for Paul. John is on the Isle of Patmos and no need for him to be humbled as he is exiled and is under no constraints as Paul was.

Notice three words in Chapter 4, verse 1 – “...come up hither...” As John was called to “come up hither,” in a very similar fashion the command will be given to the \_\_\_\_\_ (the Rapture), but unlike John, we will not return until 7 years later – Wawho! (Second Advent)

This message/lesson has to do with what \_\_\_\_\_ will be like surrounding the days leading up to the Rapture and days prior to the Tribulation. In our previous studies we have come through seven literal churches in a particular church age, and how they represent seven church ages or seven types of churches in any given church age. Also, we find these churches represent the various types of Christians in any given church within any given church age.

There are two-phase to the second coming of Christ;

1. The first Advent of Christ took place just over 2,000 years ago in His conception & birth.
2. As to the second coming of Christ the first phase will be the \_\_\_\_\_ – I Thessalonians 4:13 – 18. (The Redeemed of the Lord will meet Christ in the air – this is His Bride.)
3. The Rapture will set off the Tribulation \_\_\_\_\_ and last seven years. Ended by the physical return or Second Advent of Christ on the mount of Olivet – (Zechariah chapter 14)
4. A judgment of nations will take place and the Millennial reign will follow.

“After this” is pointing to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity at the time of the Rapture. Prophetically it can take place at any moment (eminent) as there is nothing that we know of to prevent it from taking place other than God’s perfect timing. Spurgeon had a difficult time preaching on the Second Coming of Christ because at that time Israel did not exist as a nation and were dispersed throughout the world. (1948 – rebirth)

Matthew 24:37 – 38 deals with the Second Coming and in this chapter, some of these verses deal with the Rapture and some deal with the Second advent. While we can’t know the exact time or moment, (Matthew 24:26), We are told we can at least discern the season!

So here are several characteristics we will be looking at the conditions prior to the Rapture occurring.

First Characteristic of conditions;

**I. The Rapture will take place during a period of \_\_\_\_\_ – Matt. 24:37 – 38.**

- A. In Matt. 24:37 – 38, we have a general description of man's \_\_\_\_\_ when the rapture occurs.
1. Life will be going on as usual – no \_\_\_\_\_ about the Rapture or Second Coming.
  2. Eating, drinking and marrying – life went on even though Noah \_\_\_\_\_ otherwise.
  3. This is not to say there wasn't a great deal of debauchery – Gen. 6:1 – 7.
  4. It would seem these giants (Nephilim) the \_\_\_\_\_ of angels leaving their first estate, heavily influenced and propagated extreme degrees of evil. (Genesis 6:2 – 4 & Jude verses 6 – 8)
    - a. "First -estate" – beginning, \_\_\_\_\_; that by which anything begins to be.
    - b. "Habitation" – dwelling place; \_\_\_\_\_ a dwelling place for the spirit.
  5. The question remains, 'how did man get so debauched and what is the implication?'
    - a. These "sons of God" who rebelled against God, left their first estate, mixed, (co-habited) took them women and passed their genetics on to their offspring, with their evil bent.
    - b. These fallen angels gave themselves over to debauchery and passed on many of their characteristics and it became necessary for God to destroy man and beast.
    - c. This was Satan's \_\_\_\_\_ to ruin the promise of Gen. 3:15 by corrupting the human race.
  6. Gen. 6:8 is about Noah having \_\_\_\_\_ himself and family from this corruption and God preserving a means by which He would fulfill the promise of Gen. 3:15.
- B. In spite of all the unimaginable wickedness, and everyone ignoring Gen. 6:3 as is borne-out again in I Peter 3:18 – 21, life went on for them as it will for this generation; \_\_\_\_\_ to the wickedness around them and the coming judgment of God.
- C. As to the Rapture which \_\_\_\_\_ the Tribulation, conditions, and as much as we warn the world, friends, family and whomever, life goes on, sinners are going to do what sinners do; \_\_\_\_\_ to the truth and live life as they see fit, eating, drinking, marrying and giving in marriage.
1. Luke 18:1 – 14 reveals some characteristics of our day and the last days.
    - a. There will be men of \_\_\_\_\_ – note question found in verse 8.
    - b. The answer is yes and no.
  2. The Pharisee represents those who suppose themselves too be righteous but are not.
  3. The Publican represents those who do come to faith and know their need of God's redemption.
- D. So what is the larger significance likening the last days as we are presently living them in comparison to the days of Noah?

This point will take more time than we have, so we will pick up here at our next meeting, next week is Easter Sunday, 9:30 early service for mask & social distancing; 11:00 AM regular service and no after noon Sunday School classes.