

THE GET READY SERIES

A REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS THROUGH THE LENS OF BIBLICAL PROPHECY

Sunday November 25, 2012

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WHAT'S NEXT ON GOD'S CALENDAR

A Challenge to Consider The Biblical Relevance of Current Events
In the Light of Bible Prophecy

As Christians – We're To Know **BOTH** What The Bible Says
AND What's Going On Around Us. That Information is Simple **AND**
Obvious If We Look To The Word of God.

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson were out camping one night and all of a sudden – late in the night Sherlock wakes Dr. Watson up and asks...

“Watson, what do you see?” Well Sherlock, my understanding of **Cosmology** tells me that there's an innumerable amount of stars over our heads. – *“What else Watson” insisted Sherlock.* Well Sherlock, my understanding of **Astrology** tells me Leo is in line with Jupiter. *“But What else” insists Sherlock.* Well Sherlock, my understanding of **Meteorology** tells me its cold out here because the night air is clear - *“What else Watson” demands Sherlock.* Well Sherlock, my understanding of **Horology** tells me that's its approximaly 3 am in the morning. *“No Watson – Someone has Stolen our Tent”*

2Pet. 1:19a

And so we have **the prophetic word confirmed**, which you do well to heed
(why) as a light that shines in a dark place,

Our Current Events

*For Over 21 Centuries now the Church has been waiting,
expecting, longing for Christ's Appearing in the Heaven's*

John 14:1-3

“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.

1Th. 4:13-18

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. :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. :18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

So Let’s Talk About...

**WHAT COULD BE NEXT ON GOD’S CALENDAR -
THE RAPTURE AND YOUR FUTURE**

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THE RAPTURE AND YOUR FUTURE

THE BLESSED HOPE OF EVERY BELIEVER!

1.) It is a **specific event**

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IT’S **A SPECIFIC EVENT THAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO**

1a.) The Bible **teaches it**

The Bible teaches that “The Rapture” is an **Imminent** event...

Rom. 13:11

Do this, **knowing** the time, that now it is **high time** to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is **nearer** than when we first believed.

Matt. 24:42

Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.

Mark 13:33

Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.

IT'S **A SPECIFIC EVENT** THAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO

1b.) **Jesus Christ introduced it**

**Before Peter, Paul or Mary Ever Spoke of the Rapture,
- - Jesus Christ Himself Spoke of It...**

Luke 21:34-36

“Be careful, because **your hearts could be weighed** down with dissipation, drunkenness and **the anxieties of this life**, and that day will close in on you unexpectedly like a trap. :35 For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. :36 **Be always on the watch, and pray that you may escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.**”

John 14:3

And if I go (**He did**) and prepare a place for you, (**He is**) I will come again (**He will**) and receive you to Myself; (**o.k.**) that where I am, (**alright now**) there you may be also. (**lets go**)

Rev. 3:10

Because you have kept My command to persevere, **I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world,** to test those who dwell on the earth.

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IT'S **A SPECIFIC EVENT** THAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO

1c.) The Apostles **looked** for it

The Apostle Paul - 1Th. 1:10

Wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead,
even Jesus who **delivers us from the wrath to come.**

how many of you are sick and tired of struggling with your sin?

Titus 2:11-13

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 **looking for** (*the Christian
is to be expecting, with pregnant hope*) the blessed hope and glorious appearing of
our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

The Church, The Christian is to be Looking, Waiting, Longing For..

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WHAT COULD BE NEXT ON GOD'S CALENDAR - THE RAPTURE AND YOUR FUTURE

THE BLESSED HOPE OF EVERY BELIEVER!

2.) It is a **Necessary event**

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IT'S **A NECESSARY EVENT** THAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO

2a.) Because all Scripture must be **fulfilled**

The Rapture of all Christians is a Scriptural Event

Rev. 19:10

...For the testimony (witness) of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

IT'S **A NECESSARY EVENT** THAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO

1John 3:2

Beloved, now we are **children** of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. – *(we will be sinless, pure and holy)*

1Th. 1:10

Wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who **delivers us from the wrath to come**.

1Th. 2:19

For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Is it* not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

1Th. 3:12-13

And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we *do* to you, :13 so that He may **establish your hearts** blameless in holiness before our God and Father **at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints**.

1Th. 4:16-17

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 (**raptured**) caught up together **with them** in the clouds to **meet the Lord in the air**.
And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

1Th. 5:9-11

:9 **For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ**. :10 For He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. :11 **Therefore** encourage one another and build each other up,

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IT'S **A NECESSARY EVENT** THAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO

2b.) **Because a generation of Christians escape death**

The Bible Makes This **Promise**,
That “**some believers will never see death**”
we know that **Enoch** escaped death.

Heb. 11:5

By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that *he pleased God*.

How was his faith **Pleasing** to the Lord ?

Jude 14

Now Enoch, prophesied saying, “**Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints**, - Maranatha !!! – The Lord Cometh !

1Cor. 15:50-53

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. :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. :53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

We know that **Elijah** escaped death.

2Kings 2:11

Then it happened, as Elijah and Elisha continued on and talked, that **suddenly** a chariot of fire *appeared* with horses of fire, and **separated** the two of them; and *Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven*.

**There is another group of people
who will escape death as well.**

1Th. 4:15,17

: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** :17 **Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together...**

DON'T LET ANYONE RIP YOU OFF

2Pet. 3:3-4

knowing this first: that **scoffers** will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, :4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming?"

Jude 1:17-18

But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: **18** how they told you **that there would be mockers in the last time - -**
don't let anyone steal the hope of the rapture out of your heart !

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IT'S **A NECESSARY EVENT** THAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO

2c.) Because **dead Christians must to be resurrected**

Remember the 3R's - - The Christian's Future is Either
Rapture, Rupture or Resurrection, Either Way - - It's Gooooood

2Cor. 4:14

knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present *us* with you.

1Thessalonians 4:13-14,16,18

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have **fallen asleep**, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. :14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who **sleep in Jesus**. :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.** :18 **Therefore comfort one another with these words.**

THE RAPTURE AND YOUR FUTURE

THE BLESSED HOPE OF EVERY BELIEVER!

3.) It is an Experience that you will never forget

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IT'S AN EXPERIENTIAL EVENT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO

3a.) Because it triggers the end of days

Scholars Disagree as to exactly what happens after the rapture to those who have been left behind. One thing is terrifying in the extreme...

Those Gamblers Will Have Lost and Lost Big.

2Th. 2:7-12

For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. :8 And then The Lawless One will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. :9 The coming of The Lawless One is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, :10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who are perishing, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. :11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe The Lie, :12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

There Seems To Be "An Expiration Date" on the "Opportunity".

For People Here and Now Who Reject Jesus' Salvation. Clearly There is a "Point-Of-No-Return" - With One Final Refusal.

2Cor. 6:1-2

We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. :2 For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

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IT'S **AN EXPERIENTIAL EVENT** YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO

3b.) Because it **comes** suddenly and without warning

**The Rapture Will Come Upon the Believer –
Without Warning / Suddenly / Instantly
And the non-believer will only see
the after effects of being left behind...**

John 14:2b-3

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...

1Cor. 15:51-52

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 **resurrected** incorruptible,
and **we** shall be **changed**.

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IT'S **AN EXPERIENTIAL EVENT** YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO

3c.) Because it **cannot** be avoided by anyone

Ready or Not - - Jesus Christ is Coming To Town !

Matt. 24:44 - - Jesus Said...

Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming
at an hour you do not expect.

Looking At World Events. Talking About World Events.
Preparing For World Events...
Doesn't make you ready for these events.
Looking, Talking, Preparing For His Coming Does.

Let's Not Be Like Dr. Watson – And Miss The Event.

The Rapture *is* Going to Happen.
And The Rapture is Going to Happen and It Could Happen At Anytime.

A CHALLENGE TO BE SAVED FROM **THE COMING WRATH.**
A CHALLENGE TO **DENOUNCE YOUR SIN.**
A CHALLENGE TO BE EMPOWERED BY **THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

“THE MOMENT OF DECISION IS NOW”

>>>> **The Cross, The Christ, The Call** <<<<<
Come Forward for Prayer

End of Study

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