Wisdom for the Last Days

Agape Life Church

Part 3

October 3, 2021

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.* ***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. Therefore comfort one another with these words.* 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

Why Looking for His Coming is Important

- It is part of God's revealed plan **for us to know**.
- It **gives us hope** about our future.
- It shows us **Jesus in all His glory**.

We should be **curious and informed** about the coming of Christ!

The Timeline For the Coming of Christ

1. The rapture of the Church. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

The rapture of the church is surely one of the most incredible events prophesied in the Bible.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 outlines the events of the rapture. This will occur at the end of the Church era. **All believers, in all of the earth who have lived and died during the Church age will be raised up leaving only unbelievers.** A study of the 300-plus scriptures about the second coming reveals that it will be divided into two parts. The first will be the rapture, when Christ will receive the church into heaven. Then after seven years, He will return to earth to rule and reign in the millennial kingdom.

2. The judgment seat of Christ and the marriage supper of the Lamb. 2 Corinthians 5:10

We will enjoy a great wedding feast with the Bridegroom of the church and receive our rewards based upon faithfulness.

3. The tribulation. Matthew 24:15-35

This is a seven-year period, which will begin simultaneously with the rapture of the church. This seven-year period is divided into two, the first half is the calm before the storm and the second half being very chaotic as the antichrist is revealed.

CORE POINT: We are seeing a clear and legitimate increase of the signs of Christ's return. We who have understanding of the times and seasons of His return, are to live with wisdom and be ready for living in the last days.

The antichrist will rule in terror and will try to achieve world domination.

4. The war of Armageddon. Revelation 16:16

This is a military attempt to try and finish the world conquest and try to defeat Israel.

5. The second coming of Christ. Matthew 24:29-31

Jesus will return to earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords with His saints to rescue Israel and to begin His reign.

6. The Kingdom Age. Revelation 20:1-6

Known as the millennium, this will be a thousand year reign of Christ.

7. Satan's short release. Revelation 20:7-10

8. The great white throne judgment. Revelation 20:10-15

9. A new heaven and earth. Revelation 21 - 22.

How Are We to Live in These Last Days? 1 John 3:1-3

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 1 Peter 4:7-11

1. Live in and walk **in the light**. 1 Thess. 5:4-5
2. Do not sleep but be **watchful**. 1 Thess. 5: 6-7
3. We are to wear the **armor** of God. 1 Thess. 5:8
4. Comfort and **encourage** one another. 1Thess. 5:9-11
5. Be watchful in **prayer.** 1 Peter 4:7
6. Have **fervent love** for one another. 1 Pet. 4:8
7. Be **hospitable** to one another. 1 Peter 4:9
8. Release your **spiritual gifts.** 1 Peter 4:10
9. Speak with the **authority** of God. 1 Peter 4:11
10. Be **salt and light**. Matt. 5:13-14
11. Seek first His Kingdom. Matt. 6:33

Be looking for His Appearing! 1 John 3:1-3

There should be an excitement as we look for the wonderful appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Now when these things ***begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near****."* Luke 21:28

CORE STATEMENT: I am looking up, for the coming of Christ! I am wise to the things of God in these last days. God will preserve, protect and favor me as I live for Him, watching expectantly for His coming!