



MISSION CITY

BIBLE CHURCH

DATE: Sunday, February 6, 2022

TITLE: The Rapture of the Church

SERIES: The Book of Revelation: Worthy is the Lamb

PASSAGE: Revelation 4:1-2; Various Passages

INTRODUCTION:

BIG IDEA: Jesus will come again to rapture his church.

Four questions to answer about the rapture of the church:

1) What is the rapture?

DEFINITION: The rapture is the _____ of Christ in the clouds to _____ believers who are still alive to _____ from God's final wrath on an unbelieving world.

- 1 Thessalonians 4:17: "caught up"
- Old Testament examples

2) How will the rapture happen?

- 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18
- 1 Corinthians 15:51-54

3) When will the rapture happen?

- Matthew 24:36
- Matthew 24:42, 44
- Matthew 25:13
- 1 Thessalonians 5:2, 9

4) Why does the rapture matter?

- A. Even though we don't know _____ it will happen . . . (Matthew 25:13)
- B. . . . we should eagerly _____ for it . . . (Philippians 3:20)
- C. . . . and it must shape the way we _____ right now (Titus 2:11-13)



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PASSAGE: Rev 4:1-2 and other passages

1. What is the setting of John's vision (4:1)? Read Rev 3:12, 6:13, 12:7 and 21:1. What are the different ways John uses the word 'heaven'? Which usage best fits in 4:1?
2. The "things to come" can cause anxiety in many people. What anxieties do you feel about the things that are still to occur? What attributes of God ease that anxiety? How can you keep God's character in front of you to calm your fears?
3. According to 1 Thessalonians 4:17, how would you describe the rapture to someone who has never heard about it?
4. Read Matthew 24:36, 42, 44, Matthew 25:13, 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18, 5:2, 5:9, and 1 Corinthians 15:51-54. According to these verses, how will the rapture happen? When will the rapture happen? And can anyone predict with certainty the date?
5. Based on your reading in the above question, what conclusion can you draw about Bible teachers who claim to know the date and time of the rapture and/or Christ's return?
6. Why does the theology of the rapture matter? (i.e., What would we lose if we rejected this teaching? What do we gain embracing it?)
7. Read Titus 2:11-13. While we "wait for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our Great God and Saviour Jesus Christ" (v13), how should we live and conduct ourselves?