

BibleTalk Radio



www.cftpm.info

Christ for the Philippines Mission

End Times Bible Study Part 1

Message by Tony Tirse, Missionary

January 31, 2017

We're going to begin a series on prophecy and end times events, end of the world stuff.

[Ms. Ypille:] Many people are terrified. It's not a light subject if you really think about it, because it's a big question. The end of the world, is there such a thing? What is going to happen? Pastor, too, a lot of people would rather just put it aside.

They say let's preach about puppies and kittens and birds and everything nice.

[Ms. Ypille:] Yes, and Other people, too, it's a defense mechanism. They say let's not deal with that. But the truth in the Bible is that it says no man knoweth the hour.

So, in other words, when it comes to end times events they would rather remain ignorant.

[Ms. Ypille:] Yes. Also a lot of people might get angry about end times. You talk about end times and a lot of them will say, "Why do you have to scare us?" Come to think of it, it's not scary if there is the Lord, and at the end of it is the best of times, the one that we should look forward to.

We who are saved, but the reality of the situation is that those who are not saved who don't know Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, who don't know 100% if they're going

to Heaven, it is going to be the scariest, most horrible time in history. But of course, we're not here to scare anyone, but we are here to preach what the Word of God says.

Now, we cannot pick and choose what the Bible says. We cannot pick and choose what we want to hear. Jesus Christ said some good things, but He also said some pretty bad things. He talked about Heaven, but He also talked about Hell. And not only did He talk about Hell, He also talked about some of the suffering in Hell. He specifically named a fire, some kind of supernatural fire that's not quenched. In other words, it cannot be put out by water, by fire extinguisher, or anything like that. That's a fire that's never extinguished in Hell. He also talked about some kind of supernatural worm that never dies for the person that ends up in Hell. They'll be tormented by a flame, as well as being eaten through by some kind of worm that never dies.

So we have to take what the Bible says literally, not figuratively, because God said what He meant and He meant what He said. The reason though that the Lord placed on my heart to do a series on end times, end of the world stuff, is not because we want to scare anyone but quite the opposite. There is a lot of disinformation and we want to set the record straight by the Word of God.



That's what's on my heart so, dear listener, I hope you're not going to turn this off and I hope you're going to listen, because there is good news. I mean, it's not all about bad news. There is good news, but that good news is for those who will place their 100% trust on Jesus Christ, not only Jesus plus works or Jesus plus any kind of other help or good works or good religion, good saints, good anything. The Bible clearly teaches about Jesus Christ and Him alone for salvation.

So the good news is that you can escape all the Hell that's coming, but if you choose to stay in a religion or trust in yourself rather than what the Bible says about trusting God, the bad news is that you will go through these things and worse.

So here we are. We're going to talk about this, but I know that most people would rather stay ignorant, but we're not going to do that. Please join me, dear listeners, in your Bibles in the New Testament. We're going to start there, in the book of I Thessalonians, Chapter 4. Like we were just discussing a moment ago, most people really do... because of fear, because they think it's hard to understand, whatever the reason, they would rather stay ignorant, but here's what I Thessalonians 4:13 says: *But I would not have you to be ignorant...*

[Ms. Ypille:] He already addresses it right then and there.

God doesn't want us to be ignorant. God did not make us to be ignorant. There are a lot of ignorant people, willfully ignorant, willingly ignorant, people who want to bury their head in the sand, people who want to look the other way...

[Ms. Ypille:] And deny the truth.

And definitely deny the truth, all of those things are denying the truth. But God does not want us to be ignorant. So those who choose to remain ignorant, they're defying the commandment of God. God doesn't want us to be ignorant, definitely.

You know, we Christians are often accused of being dumb, being stupid, whatever the case, being superstitious. They can call us all kinds of names because, for example, we believe that God created the Earth in six literal 24-hour days and then rested on the seventh. We believe that and not that the Earth evolved over millions or billions of years and there was a big bang fifteen billion years ago or whatever. They call us ignorant for that, but really, the ones who are ignorant are the ones who believe those things, because it takes as much faith to believe that, or more, really, than to believe the Word of God. Nobody was there fifteen billion years ago and all the evidence that they find, when you really study it closely, it all falls apart in your hands, but the Word of God has always been true and has proven itself to be true, is proving itself to be true today, and will always prove itself to be true.

One of the key verses that we should remember and one of the things that we can place our faith on and our trust on is what Jesus Himself said in Matthew 24:35. He says, *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away*. In fact, that is the Bible verse that is printed on our church logo on our church seal, Matthew 24:35. That's how much we believe that. *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away*, Jesus Christ speaking.

So, I Thessalonians 4:13, *But I would not have you to be ignorant*. I was thinking about how



to do this series. I was thinking do I want to do like a book study, like the book of Revelation, but there's really no way to do a book study on the book of Revelation without it taking a year. And we know this, Sister Ypille, because you and I did a year-long book of Revelation in Sunday school here with the folks in Duka and it took us a year and that was with condensing a great amount of information because we didn't want to spend five years on it.

I was thinking about how to go about this, and I said, "Lord, what is it that the people need to hear?" And one of the things that came to my heart and mind is that I want to address this from some of the most common disinformation and attack that first. One of the most common disinformations there are regarding the end of the world is this thing called the Rapture. Have you ever heard, dear listener, of something called the Rapture?

The word "rapture" comes from an old word that means to take by force, basically. It's kind of a violent word. The root word is the same word that is rooted for the word "rape," to rape someone or to grab someone by force. So the word "rapture" is related to that in that it is a jerking away or a forced removal, and it's called the Rapture because it's a name that kind of fit a couple of hundred years ago when they were looking for a name for it. The word "rapture" does not appear in the Bible; however, the teaching of it does. We have found many different names for things that appear in the Bible.

One of the worst arguments that people make against the doctrine of the Bible is to say, "Well, that word doesn't appear in the Bible." That doesn't work. For certain doctrines, we

have chosen a word to describe what the Bible is teaching.

So the word "rapture" does not occur in the Bible, but the word "trinity" also does not occur in the Bible, but we know that there's a blessed Trinity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The word "bible" does not appear in the Bible, but we know there is the Word of God. And so, again, the word "rapture" does not appear in the Bible, but the teaching does, and that's what we're going to get into here. I chose that doctrine first because there is a lot of disinformation. Whether there is indeed such a thing as the Rapture, and if there is a Rapture, when is it going to occur?

There are several views. There is pretribulation Rapture, midtribulation Rapture, posttribulation Rapture, partial Rapture, multistage Rapture. There's all kinds of disinformation that comes on the Rapture, and I've studied many of these over the years. For sixteen years I've been studying this and I've really, honestly, sat down and looked at some of the other views, the posttribulation Rapture, the midtribulation Rapture, and I can honestly say, because I've studied them with an open mind, saying, "Well, I've been taught a certain way by the churches that I went to but I want to see for myself. I want to see what the Bible says. I want to see what the Holy Spirit is teaching."

Over the years I can say with 99.99% surety that I am still, after all these years, a believer in what's called the pretribulation Rapture, in other words, that God is going to rescue and remove forcefully and quickly from the Earth all the people in His church, all the saved, born-again people, before the seven years of tribulation come. So we're going to talk about



that. We're going to talk about the Rapture today. For the next lesson I think when we finish the Rapture we're going to talk about the tribulation because that's what proceeds after the Rapture.

Now, even with that, even within that, within the pretribulation Rapture, there are groups in churches who believe that only people who are members of a certain kind of church. For example, there are Baptists who believe that only Baptists will be taken at the Rapture. Normally, we refer to these as Baptist Briders. There are those who believe that only the faithful Christians will be taken at the Rapture, meaning no matter what sect of Christianity, as long as they're faithful to God, whatever that means. Then there are others who believe that of the Baptists that only the faithful Baptists are going to be taken. So those are Baptist Brider Riders. And so you have all kinds.

Where do I stand? I'm not here to put my opinion out there. I'm here to show you what the Bible says and we will get into what the Bible says very clearly, but from what I have seen in the Scripture and I'm going to bring the Scripture out over the next few weeks, so what I've seen in here is what you're going to see, too, as far as what we're bringing out.

What I see in the Scripture is that, if you are a saved, born-again child of God, you will be taken at the Rapture regardless of whether you are backslidden or not, because there is no distinction for a person who is saved or in any condition regarding the Lord taking His people. There's a distinction between saved and lost but I don't see any distinction between faithful and unfaithful or backslidden or member of a Baptist church or not a member of a Baptist church. Men like to put so many

conditions into everything. They like to complicate everything. One thing that I've noticed from Scripture is that Jesus Christ when He came, one of the things that He taught us is the decomplication of things.

The Pharisees, by the time Jesus came along, they had complicated Judaism to such a point that it was like the tax codes. You don't know what all the laws are. There are so many different tax laws that you don't even know. You go to this accountant, he'll tell you one thing. You go to another accountant, he'll tell you another thing, and the BRR would change the law next year and there's another hidden law and there are loopholes. It's complicated. The Pharisees had done this to the religion of the Jews. Jesus came along and decomplicated the whole thing. He said, "You people have gone crazy with your traditions, with your commandments, and then you've made the commandment of God of none effect." And today we see the very same thing happening. Men have complicated simple doctrines, and I believe that the heart of Christ is decomplication.

So I don't believe in certain groups that are going to go in the Rapture. I believe what the Bible teaches is, very simply, those who are in Christ will be taken at the Rapture. They'll answer to God at the Bema Seat judgment when they face the judgment of Jesus Christ as a saved person, but I see nowhere in the Scripture where a saved, born-again person who had trusted Christ is going to be left here when the Rapture happens to endure the tribulation. Now, there will be saved people during the tribulation but they're going to get saved during the tribulation, but we'll get into the tribulation later.



Fasten your seatbelts, dear listener. The number here is 0999-862-7223, and here we go.

First Thessalonians 4:13: *But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren...* Now, that word “brethren” is very important because it shows who Paul is speaking to. Paul is not speaking to the world. On this radio broadcast right now, I am speaking to the world, so I have to address this. The Bible here is speaking to brethren. This teaching is going to be best understood or probably only understood by saved, born-again children of God, brethren. That is, those of you who are 100% sure that you are going to Heaven when you die because you’ve placed your trust in Jesus Christ and Him alone as your personal Saviour. If you’re not, I don’t expect you to fully understand this, but the good news is you can become a brethren. Just text us here. I’ll show you how, 0999-862-7223.

I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep... Jesus Christ many times referred to those who had died as only asleep, because, remember, this is talking to brethren. Those of us who die who are saved, we’re only asleep as far as our body is concerned. The Bible says, *To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.*

I have a dear friend who is a pastor. I call him a dear friend. I didn’t really know him that well, but I consider him a dear friend because he was one of the first pastors that I met here in the Philippines when Pastor Cañas took me around, showing me the island of Leyte and Samar. There was a pastor named Pastor Gaborni in MacArthur, Samar. I had the opportunity to preach at his funeral a couple of years ago. He was killed on a motorcycle. But as far as the Bible is concerned, as far as the

Lord is concerned, he is what we call asleep. We had a funeral and we lamented the fact that he departed this Earth, but his body is dead but he’s not dead. He’s asleep. He’s going to be one of the ones that come back with Jesus Christ at the Rapture because he was a saved person.

Concerning them which are asleep... So, a person who is not saved when they’re dead, a person who is saved, they’re asleep as far as the body goes. He said, *that ye sorrow not...* Don’t sorrow. That’s why we lament. It’s like when somebody is going off on a long trip. When I left the United States to come here to the Philippines to be a missionary and my mission here is a lifelong term. I’m not here on a contract. I’m not here part time. I’m not here until the times get hard and then I’m going to run back home with my tail between my legs. I’m here because this is where God put me as far as I know, and I will not leave this place until God moves me.

When I left my friends and family in the states, we said goodbye and we shed some tears. My sister, I don’t know if I’m ever going to see her again. My mother, I don’t know if I’m ever going to see her again, or several dear friends that I don’t know if we’re ever going to see again. But I didn’t die, so there’s always a possibility that we’re going to see each other again. Technically, if I wanted to, I can get on a plane tomorrow and fly back to the States and see them. So even though it was sad that we were leaving for a moment, it was not as if there was no hope, because I was just leaving to the other side of the world.

For a Christian who dies, we don’t have the same kind of sorrow as the people who cry and jump and scream and lament and howl like wolves when their people die. Because when



brothers and sisters in Christ die, we have hope that we're going to see them again. See, going back to Pastor Gaborni, yes, I'm very sad. I was looking forward to getting to know him better and spending some time and fellowship with him, so I'm sad that he left, but I'm going to see him again. I have hope there. As far as my brethren in Christ go, there's nobody who dies that I won't see again.

He says don't sorrow. *Sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.* We Christians, we have hope. That's something, dear listener, that you should understand that if you surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ, if you receive Him as your personal Saviour, you will have that kind of hope.

Now, that's also the reason why it's so important to spread the Gospel for those of us who are saved. To spread the Gospel because, for a person who does not receive Jesus Christ, when they die there's no hope. I know people who have died who I don't believe have received Jesus Christ. There's no hope that I will ever see them again. That's very sad. But for brethren, we'll see them again.

I said goodbye to my mama. She's the greatest person in my life until I left her to cleave to my wife, but she's still a great person. In fact, my wife and my mother are the two greatest people in my whole life. I don't know if I will ever see my mom again. I was so unbelievably close as the youngest and only son. She raised me. My father was not in the picture, so it was me and my mom. I remember very vividly when I was about three or four years old, I remember the feeling of sleeping on my mom's chest as a little baby boy. I have cats that jump on my lap and they lie down and they sleep on my lap and they purr on me, and sometimes I look at them

and I say, boy, that's exactly how I was when I was lying on my mama's chest way back in, like, 1975 when I was only about three years old, four years old. I love my mother so much. I don't know if I'll ever see her again on this Earth. I don't know, because even if I got on a plane to fly back tomorrow, who's to say that she'll be there? My mom is 72 years old. But I have hope because she is a saved, born-again person and so am I. So whether or not I ever see her here again, I know I'll see her in Heaven again, so we have hope. If she dies, I'll cry that I miss her, because I don't know how many years it'll be that I have left here, but I know I'm going to see her again.

So, he's saying here don't be ignorant. "I don't want you to be ignorant, brethren, saved people." He says people who are saved who died, they're just asleep so they don't have that kind of sorrow like the people who have no hope.

Now, in verse 14, he starts getting into some prophecy. He says, *For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again...* Now that's very interesting that he would write that, "if." That's a very big word, "if." You see, there are many Christians out there who say they believe in Jesus Christ. They believe that He died for their sins and that He rose again on the third day, but then when it comes to this prophecy stuff, as you said earlier, Ms. Ypille, they would rather remain ignorant. They would rather turn their head. But he says, "But if you believe that Jesus died and rose again," he says, "I've got something else to tell you. And you need to believe that with just as much veracity. It has just as much veracity as the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ." He says, "Even so, if you believe that Jesus Christ rose again, *even so them also which sleep...* There's that word "sleep" again... *in Jesus...* So these people



are with Christ in their spirit... *will God bring with him*. So there's a prophecy. If the Lord Jesus returned today, guess who He's bringing with Him, well, He's bringing Pastor Gaborni that I was just talking about. He's bringing all the people who have died.

[Ms. Ypille:] My mom.

Your mom, dear Nana, whom I also miss very much, because, see, we have hope that we're going to see her again. We'll see Nana again, because it says right here in the Scripture those that sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. When is He going to do this? Well, we're going to get into that a little bit later. This is not a study that's going to be done in one day.

So the Scripture here is plainly showing us something already in verse 14. It says those that sleep, who have died, who have departed this Earth... The Bible says to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord, so they sleep in Jesus... *will God bring with him*. Bring with Him. That must mean He's coming back. You'd better believe it. He made a promise to us there. He said He was going to be bringing those that slept in Him with Him when He comes back.

Now I have a quiz question. While Jesus was standing on the Earth, where did He say He would be coming back, Ms. Ypille? Because this is Paul in I Thessalonians but where did Jesus say?

[Ms. Ypille:] I think He said that in two occasions, didn't He?

Okay, where?

[Ms. Ypille:] One was right before He ascended and the other one was in the book of John when He was saying, "I'll take you with me. If it were not so...."

Yeah, you got it. The first one, you're talking about the book of Acts when He ascended. No, He didn't say anything about coming back. That was angels that said that. But you're correct about John Chapter 14. He says, *Ye believe in God, believe also in me. 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*. And here comes a promise. *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*.

So He Himself promised that He was going to be coming back. That's Christ Himself. So, dear listener, those of us who claim to believe what Jesus said, you can check it out for yourself in John 14, beginning in verse 1, and you should read that all the way to verse 6. But Jesus Himself said I am going. He's talking about His death, burial, and resurrection. He says I'm going to prepare a place for you. And then He promises. He says, "I will come back and I will receive you," Jesus Christ. "I'm not going to send an angel. I'm not going to send a spaceship. I will receive you unto myself."

Okay, so that correlates with what our text verse is, I Thessalonians 4:14, *For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him*. Let's continue, verse 15. This first part of this verse relates to the title of the show, BibleTalk, what the Bible says. It says, *For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord...* So, "by the word of the Lord," meaning the prophecies are there in the Scripture and also Jesus Himself said. So, *by*



the word of the Lord... This is what Paul is going to say here, the next couple of verses, he's saying by the very word and the very authority of Jesus Christ Himself.

For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord... In other words, if the Lord should come back today, there are people like you and me, Ms. Ypille, who are alive and remain. There are people waiting for two thousand years for the return of Christ, but if it happens today, you and I are alive. This is what it's talking about, saved, born-again believers. *We which are alive and remain unto the coming...* In other words, when He comes, whether it be 2017, 2024, whenever He comes... *shall not prevent* [or go before] *them which are asleep.*

So, in other words, if the Lord were to come today, we're going to go but there's an order. There's a privilege order. He says we're not going to go before those that slept already. Going back to my friend Pastor Gaborni, it talks about him. It starts talking about him in just a moment.

It says in verse 16, *For the Lord himself...* See, this is going back to John Chapter 14 where Jesus says, "I will receive you unto myself, for where I am there you may be also." The Lord himself, He's not sending an angel, he's not sending a ship, He's not sending some kind of ambassador. *[Jesus Christ] himself shall descend...* That means come down from Heaven... *from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet* [or trumpet] *of God...* Now here's where it talks about my friend Pastor Gaborni... *and the dead in Christ shall rise first.*

When Jesus comes back, whenever that may be, it could be five minutes from now, all of a sudden, all of the graveyards in every country in the world that contains the bodies of people who have died in Christ, including one here in the Philippines that contains the body of your Nana and the body of my friend Pastor Gaborni. When Christ comes back, a body is going to come out of that grave.

Now, I'm not talking about like the zombie, like the video games and these stupid movies and TV shows. We're not talking nonsense zombie stuff that Satan has proliferated over these years. We're talking about a perfect glorified body that's going to come up out and through that dirt. All the atoms and molecules, because most of those bodies have disintegrated. They have already decomposed and rotted, but God knows where every single atom that made up that physical body went. Some people have been cremated so most of their body went up in ashes, went up in smoke.

But those atoms, if you know anything about physics, one thing you know about physics is there are changes in states, there are changes in molecules, but the atoms are the same. God will regather every atom and reanimate that into molecules that make cells, that make tissues, that make organs, that make entire bodies, flesh and bone. Wherever they are from, He'll gather them from the four winds. And up from these graves will come these glorified, glowing, angelic, heavenly bodies. The dead in Christ shall rise first.

And by the way, who is the pattern for our resurrection? The pattern is none other than Jesus Christ Himself. He rose from the dead and He was glorified. Amen. So the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then going back to "we



which are alive and remain,” verse 17, *Then we which are alive and remain...* So these graves are going to open up. Very quickly these bodies are going to come out and fly straight up to the sky to the air, *Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them...* Those spirits that came from Heaven of the people who died here who were saved. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. Those spirits will be reunited with those bodies that are in those graves. All of the atoms, all of the molecules will be reanimated, and, *Then we [here] which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them...* and where will this be? We’re caught up together with them... *in the clouds.*

See, the Bible is very clear. There’s no guessing game here. You don’t have to earn a four-year degree to find out about the Rapture. *Together with them...* Where?... *in the clouds.* If you’ve ever flown in an airplane, or even if you haven’t. Even if you’ve just taken some basic science, high school science, you know that there are different strata or levels of clouds. There are clouds as high up as forty thousand feet.

[Ms. Ypille:] Cumulus and all the others.

Yeah, cirrus clouds, cumulonimbus clouds, but there are clouds as low as about one thousand feet, and there are clouds as high as, sometimes, forty thousand feet. On average, they’re between five thousand and twenty thousand feet. So, if the Bible says that we’ll be with them in the clouds. That means we’re not even going to be in low Earth orbit. We’ll still be in the sky. Pretty interesting stuff.

To meet the Lord... Where?... in the air. So obviously it’s not in outer space because there’s no air in outer space, so it’s somewhere within this atmosphere. *And so [by leaving] shall we ever be with the Lord.* Ever. We shall ever be with the Lord. From that point forward, we shall ever be with the Lord. That’s Heaven. What makes Heaven Heaven? The presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

It’s not Heaven although obviously it is a place in the Bible, but for those of us who love Jesus, Heaven is not so much a place as it is a state. It is a state of being with Christ, like actually being finally physically united and spiritually united in all kinds of ways that we can’t understand, united with Christ the way we can’t be now, because we’re separated by this body of sin.

There’s a glorified state. Even the people who have died and gone to Heaven, they’ve gone to a place, but apparently they’re also not in the state that this is talking about, because it says here, *and so [like this] shall we ever be with the Lord.* It’s a state of being. The people who are in Heaven right now, that means the ones who are in the place called Heaven, I’m not sure that they’re in what we would call an eternal state, although they will be there for eternity. What I mean by that is time still exists.

When we’re finally with the Lord we will be in a state of no time. I believe time began with the Earth when God created the Heaven and the Earth and sin came in. It did something to the time. Time is a fourth dimension. Without getting into the technicalities of Chuck Missler, we talk about time and space, but it’s actually time-space, and I understand that. The four dimensions are one, and there’s



probably ten dimensions. I don't want to get into that. It's going to be complicated.

So this is a very basic passage. It's also a good clear foundational passage regarding the Rapture, when the end of the world finally does come. And look how casual it is. It's not full of fireworks and full of doom and gloom at the end of the world. We are going to get into that because Jesus had a lot to say about that. In fact, next week, when we get into it, we're going to go into Matthew 24 and we're going to see a lot of doom and gloom.

So, dear listener, if you really want to get into the doom and gloom and you want to get a little scary pants going on, next week, Matthew Chapter 24. In fact, I'll give you an assignment. Go ahead and read Matthew Chapter 24, the whole chapter, of the King James Bible so that you will be ready for next week's lesson.

But for people who are not saved, for those who don't know Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, for those who do not know if they're going to Heaven, they're not sure, that means they don't know Jesus Christ. This should be very scary to you. But remember this was written to whom?

[Ms. Ypille:] To the saved, the brethren.

So to the saved people those of us who know Jesus Christ, those of us who are a hundred percent sure that we're going to Heaven when we die because we know Him, those of us whose sins have been forgiven and washed away, not because we were good, not because we belong to a religion, not because we've got favor with God, but because of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and His blood. Because of that, verse 18 applies to us.

Wherefore [scare] one another with this words.

[Ms. Ypille:] Uh-uh.

No, that's not what it says. It says, *Wherefore, comfort one another with these words.*

Can you imagine that this passage is talking about the Rapture? It's talking about the culmination of all history. It's talking about the end of the world and all the end times things, all those scary movies that they make with the earthquakes that are swallowing up entire cities and all the electronics malfunctioning and planes crashing, armies going against each other, asteroids coming to Earth, the sun exploding, all those scary things. A lot of that is going to happen. We're going to see that during the study of the tribulation. Can you imagine that this passage here is giving us a warning? It's telling us about all this that's about to happen, the signal of which is the Rapture.

And in verse 18, he says comfort. He says, *Wherefore [or because of this], comfort one another with these words.*

[Ms. Ypille:] This is how it becomes good news. You know how in the beginning of the show I was saying people are scared. People veer away from this topic because people hear movies about it, heavenly bodies, asteroids, meteors fall, and big earthquakes, fires, and hunger and so on. So people are afraid, but then for somebody who would, right now, receive Jesus Christ as Saviour, accept salvation coming from Him, this is good news. Because he will not suffer you. He will not put you in a situation. It's such a



comfort because it's even before all of these scary things happen.

We're going to be talking about some scary things, as I said. Next week we're going to get into Matthew Chapter 24. We're going to touch on the Old Testament prophets, like Daniel. Daniel is the Old Testament companion of the book of Revelation. The book of Revelation talks about the mark of the beast, 666. There are all kinds of TV shows and stories and false preachers and misinformation, but we are going to be talking about some scary things that the Bible talks about. And yet, I began with this particular verse because we're studying the Rapture, but that verse 18, it's the bottom line of this whole thing. Those who are in Christ can comfort one another with these words. In fact, that's a commandment. That's no suggestion.

And that's why I'm teaching this over the radio, and I also teach this at the church, because I'm commanded. And this is supposed to be a comfort for us.

Now, Ms. Ypille, what could you say to a person who might call or text on the number 0999-862-7223? What would you say to a person who texted and asked and said, "I don't want to be here for that when that time comes. It's very scary. What can I do in order not to go through that?" What would you say to a person who asked you that question?

[Ms. Ypille:] If I'm not in the presence of that person, quite simply, "Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and all you have to do is realize that you have sinned and then place your trust on Him and in Him alone, because He is the promised Messiah. So to have eternal life, whether here on Earth or eternal life, you have to trust on Jesus

Christ and salvation through Him. You will be saved and you will not undergo these things, because it is written in the Bible."

But if I'm in the presence of that person, I definitely point the person to a couple of passages in Romans, that salvation is in Jesus Christ and you cannot save yourself. Salvation is not by an organization, not by good works, or a position in any church. I would show that person to go to these verses in the Bible to show that Jesus Christ is the only One and the only Saviour. It's not to fight with any religion. It's not to go against any religion, because it is in the Bible. We believe the Word of God to be true. Let's believe it. Let's not look to the left and the right and complicate things, like you were saying things before. Just walk with God. Just go to Him.

I appreciate that, and that's why I asked you the question because I knew you would explain it.

I got a text from Brother Carlo and, sorry, Brother Carlo, I see the missed call there and I didn't see my phone earlier, but thank you for listening to the show. God bless you, my brother. He's one of the fruit from this ministry who's listened to this show several months ago and believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and was scripturally baptized. So, God bless you, my dear brother.

We're talking about end times. We're going to be on an end times series for the next few weeks, and we opened up today with something commonly called the Rapture. We looked at the preliminary verses that give us information about the Rapture. Now, we haven't even gotten into the Rapture really. We haven't



gotten into it deeply. We're going to, because, as I said, there are different kinds of teachings on the Rapture. Like, for example, when is it going to occur, or when relative to the tribulation is it going to occur? There have been books written saying that Jesus was going to come back on March 22, 2018, stuff like that. You know, they just pick random dates. Is it correct to calculate a date? Do we know? Do we have a clue as to more or less when is the date, the actual date that Jesus is going to come back, that the world is going to end? It's been two thousand years since Jesus went back to heaven and it's a nice round number to pick, but we're going to get into those things.

In fact, next week, we're going to get into Matthew Chapter 24. So, dear listener, if you'd like to get a head start, I'll give you a little homework assignment. It's just to read Matthew Chapter 24. It's not that long of a read; it's one chapter. Read that so you can start listening next week. In fact, if you have any questions about it, go ahead and text us, 0999-862-7223, and we'll be glad to be of service to you.