

BibleTalk Radio



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Christ for the Philippines Mission

End Times Bible Study Part 15

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This is Part 15 of the end times Bible study. In tonight's study I'm going to be talking specifically about something called the rapture. I started talking about it in our last episode. Jesus very clearly spoke about the rapture and it was also taught by the apostle Paul, because we looked at Paul's writing first in the very first episode in I Thessalonians Chapter 4. going back to the main text that we have been in for these last several weeks in Matthew Chapter 24. Please open your Bible to Matthew 24:36-44. I'm going to read the entirety of this to you, because we have already read this, so read along with me.

³⁶But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

³⁷But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

³⁸For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

³⁹And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

⁴⁰Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

⁴¹Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

⁴²Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

⁴³But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.

⁴⁴Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

God is very clearly telling us to be ready for the rapture. The context of this verse is the rapture. That's why He begins with "of that day and hour knoweth no man." We don't know when the rapture is going to happen. What is the rapture? Again, the rapture is that day that's coming soon – We don't know exactly when, but it's coming – when Jesus Christ Himself is going to return here to the Earth. He's going to come as far as the atmosphere. He's not going to touch the ground yet, and He's going to take all of the believers who are living and who have died in Jesus Christ. He's going to take us immediately to Heaven.

The ones who are left behind are the ones who never received Jesus Christ. They may have received Saint Mary; they may have received their baptism; they may have received their religion, but they have not received Jesus Christ. Those people will be left behind. That's the gist of what is the rapture. The rapture means catching away or taking away.



If the rapture were to happen today, I would be gone, Sister Ypille would be gone, and so would all true believers be gone. You would also see what you would think would be a zombie apocalypse, because you would walk around the graveyards and you would see many graves open and the bodies, the bones, missing. Those would also be some of the people who were in Christ, who had received Jesus Christ as their Saviour. According to the Bible, they would be the first ones to go.

It's no coincidence that for the last 15 or 20 years Hollywood, which is controlled by Satan himself, has been making movies about aliens coming and people being taken and the zombie apocalypse and World War III and Independence Day and all those movies, because the devil is trying to set everybody's mind easy and satisfied with the fiction of the movie, desensitized with the fact that there is coming a day where millions of people will disappear off the face of the Earth and the graves will be opened. It's no coincidence. If you weren't a Bible believer, you would at least say, "Wow, something is going on."

So, at that time if the rapture were to happen today, we would have chaos, millions upon millions of people off the face of the Earth, the true Christians, and from that point forward, at least for the first few days or weeks, there would not be one, not even one saved person walking around on the surface of the Earth. From that point to another point... again, we do not know exactly where that is... out of all this chaos, because the chaos is the perfect environment for it, one leader is going to step on the world stage and he is going to pretty much fix everything. He's going to make peace finally. He's going to make peace between China and the

Philippines with regard to the South China Sea and the Spratly Islands. He's going to make peace between China and Taiwan. He's going to make peace between Russia and the Ukraine. He's going to make peace between the European Union and Turkey. He's going to bring peace and economic prosperity to Venezuela, which is in the crumbs right now, the people in the US, the ones that hate Trump and the ones that love Trump, and the cops are against these groups, and these groups are against the cops. This guy is going to come around and he's going to bring peace all over the world.

His crowning achievement is he's going to be able to make a peace agreement, a treaty, between Israel and all of the surrounding Arab nations that want to destroy her, and that peace treaty is going to be for seven years. Before the ink dries from the pens signing that treaty, that will begin what's called the tribulation time, which is seven years, seven years where God has to deal with one specific group of people on the Earth, not the Christians.

First of all, all the Christians will have been taken. There'll be a few during those seven years who will hear the Gospel and they'll get saved. Praise the Lord. But that's not who God is dealing with. That's only part of His mercy. God will be dealing with a group, a specific religious, ethnic, and national group of people, and that group of people is called Israel, whose capital is Jerusalem.

This great leader will also be known as, in the book of Revelation, the beast. First John calls him Antichrist. We know him from movies and media as the Antichrist. Who is it? I don't know. It's none of my business. It's not my



concern. I won't be here. It's another thing that Christians get caught up in, trying to figure out who's the Antichrist. It doesn't matter. It's not our place. It's not for us, because the Bible very clearly says in II Thessalonians Chapter 2 that, after all this rapture happens, then that man of sin shall be revealed, the son of perdition. So it's not for us to know.

That's why I'm not dwelling in this end times Bible study on who the Antichrist is and what he's going to do and all that stuff, because it's not part of our Bible study, because I'm teaching what's relevant to us here right now, not what's going to happen during the tribulation time where it's going to be too late. You need, dear listener, to respond to the call for salvation from Jesus Christ. You need to respond to that right now. You will not be able to do that after the rapture. Some people say, "Well, if the rapture happens, then I'll believe. Then I'll accept Jesus Christ."

Oh, no, you won't. You will not. You cannot, I guarantee it, because in II Thessalonians again, Chapter 2, God says that those who did not have a love of the truth -- You're hearing the truth that Jesus Christ died for your sins, that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day... all these things according to the Scriptures, He did it for your sins. If you receive Him, you can be a child of God. If you call upon His name, you can be saved. You need to be saved right now. You need to understand that you are a sinner, guilty, condemned before God, and you will go to Hell.

But if you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you will go to Heaven. That's the promise of God, because he says "shall," not "maybe." But

those who do not receive that message now, if the rapture happens an hour from now, they will not be able to receive Jesus Christ an hour later or a week later or a year later, because the Bible says in II Thessalonians Chapter 2 that, because they did not have a love of the truth, they will be given a strong delusion. What is a delusion, Ms. Ypille?

[Ms. Ypille:] A delusion is believing on a lie, believing on something that is not true.

A delusional person is a person who does not understand or believe truth. So the people who have heard the Gospel and have not received it when they had the chance, once the rapture happens they will receive the lie of the Antichrist.

[Ms. Ypille:] You know, Pastor, there are a lot of people walking around right now and maybe some of them listening to this program who say, "I will not look for Jesus right now. I will not look for God, because I'm having fun." And they'll say, "When the time comes when I'm near death, that's the time I will repent. That's the time I will ask for forgiveness from God and I'm going to be right with God." When they're sick and dying, or even when they get into an accident, but isn't that a very dangerous game, Pastor?

Not too long ago you and I were traveling on the Maharlika Highway, leaving Tacloban going towards Babatngon, and we were delayed by an accident that was delaying the traffic on the highway, and when we finally got to the point where the accident happened, it was a motorcyclist who had a head-on collision with a DLTB bus. Instantly, that man became kaldereta practically. I'm not making fun of it,



but there were nothing but pieces left of that person. You think he had time to repent?

[Ms. Ypille:] No. Exactly.

In Yolanda time there were thousands who were sitting around and they didn't have time to repent because they were too busy trying to survive when that tsunami, when that surge came, and some of them, I'm sure, before they even had a chance to try to collect their thoughts. Because people were running after their children. People were looking after their house. People didn't understand what was happening. The water was coming up, up, up, two feet, three feet, five feet, ten feet. It would not stop. At 20 feet here in the Magallanes area, the water was still continuing to rise. People weren't stopping to get their life right with God. They were worried about surviving, swimming. And how many of those people in the middle of that, trying to survive, in the middle of swimming, boom, a GI sheet came and sliced their head clean off?

I have a young man that I know that's a son of a friend of mine who's a little boy. He's only 10 or 11 years old, and he told me he saw another little boy in the street the day after, and they were walking around all the dead bodies. Another boy about his age more or less, eight, nine, ten years old dead in the street with an antenna through his head. If these people played a dangerous game, it was very dangerous because it's over. Because you don't know when you're going to die.

You do realize there are people who are walking healthy, and all of a sudden for no reason, boom, they die of a heart attack or a stroke right where they are with no history of illness. So to play that dangerous game, it's

more than dangerous. It's eternal. And then in hell, they will be screaming, screaming for all of eternity. "How stupid I was. I wish I had one more chance. This fire is killing me. I'm burning, I'm burning. I'm suffering. Oh, my God, what's happening? Oh, God!"

Never an escape, never a hope of mercy from that point forward. And they'll remember the time where somebody told them about Christ and they decided to play that dangerous game. "I'll repent when I'm sick, when I'm on my deathbed," and they didn't realize that that day they were going to be hit by a car while crossing the street, instantly. It's very grave, a grave situation.

This rapture we're talking about and this seven years of tribulation that it would be, with some of the folks that we were doing a Bible study with, it took me eight months to get through what it's going to be like after the rapture in the book of Revelation. I'm not going to spend eight months on this show talking about what's going to be going on through the tribulation, but it would be interesting. But I want to dedicate our show time to a wide range of topics for people who need to understand the Bible.

But the seven years of tribulation – there is a lot of information for it. There is a lot of information. And here and there, we'll touch on that as we go through, but Jesus said it's going to be the worst time in history. It has never occurred before nor will ever occur like that again. So if you think that Yolanda was bad, if you mention Yolanda times a hundred in every single city in all the whole world, then that's what the tribulation is going to be like. Between the stars falling, the sun burning and scorching men, the demons being allowed out, the



Antichrist killing all the people who don't agree with him, and the wars, and all these things that are going to happen, the seven seals opening, the seven trumpets blowing, the horsemen, everything that's going to be happening, we don't have time to cover that, but let's just put it this way. It is not a place where you want to be.

One thing is, you most likely won't survive it. The Bible clearly teaches that half of the world's population will be killed. If you have seven billion people on the earth after the rapture, that means that 3.5 billion people will be dead by the end of the tribulation. So on the one hand you have a 50-50 chance that you won't survive.

Secondly, if you survive to the end and you're not a believer in Christ because you had that chance now, He'll kill you, because the Bible says that He's going to slay all the survivors that are not His with the edge of the sword that proceeds out of His mouth. It's a no-win situation. You're going to receive Jesus Christ now while you have the chance or – By the way, earlier I did say that there will be a few people saved during the rapture. None of you that are listening right now will be those, because you've heard the message.

The only people that have a chance of being saved, the relatively few, during the tribulation time is people who have never heard this message, have never truly heard the clear presentation of the Gospel that Jesus Christ only died for your sins, that He was buried according to the Scriptures, and that He rose again the third day. Only the people who have not heard that message are going to have a chance because it will be new to them so they haven't rejected it before. So

you're on dangerous ground if you're playing that game.

Now, let's continue. Seven years' tribulation time but the rapture is going to happen first. There's a term for that in theology and it's called the pretribulation rapture or the pre-tribulational view. The word "pre" means before and tribulation, so pretribulation rapture. We believe that, clearly, Jesus teaches that the rapture is going to happen before the tribulation.

Let me take you to some places where, again, it's not my opinion; it's not because I believe it or because I believe that's how it's going to be. It's very clear in the Bible. So let's take a look at what the Bible says. There are some examples in the Bible of a rapture. There are already some examples. I want to choose a few out of the Bible so that you can see what exactly is maybe entailed in the rapture. Some of the examples I'm going to look at are going to be symbolic example, and some of them are going to be actual, literal examples.

The first one that we're going to look at is an actual example, like a real-life example of the rapture. We find this in Genesis 5:21-24. This is about a man named Enoch. There's a man in the Old Testament whose name was Enoch, and he was apparently very close to God. He was a prophet and he somehow even had some kind of close relationship with God and he was able to deal with angels and prophecy. Interestingly enough, we don't find out about some of his prophecies until late in the New Testament in the book of Jude, which is the second to the last book of the Bible.

But here in Genesis 5:21 it says: *²¹And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat*



Methuselah. In other words, he had a son named Methuselah. Methuselah you might know. He's kind of famous. He's recorded as the longest man ever lived, 969 years old.

22 And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters. So, the statement that he walked with God, it means he had a very close relationship with God. I have on and off a close relationship with God. I try to keep it close, but sometimes the flesh just gets in the way, but I pray to God, if the Lord doesn't come back soon and He gives me a long life, maybe I could have 30 or 40 or 50 years walking with God. Enoch had 300. Wow!

23 And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years. Because it clearly said in verse 21 he was 65 years old and his first son was Methuselah, and after he had Methuselah, three hundred years he walked with God. So the total, of course, is 365 years.

24 And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him. That's it. He's gone, and then it continues on with Methuselah's life and so on and so forth.

God took him. That's an example of the rapture, because God just simply reached down and took him. That's what God's going to do with the rapture. He's going to reach down and He's going to take us. In His supernatural way, He'll be able to take all of us at the same time off the face of the earth and, of course, the dead in Christ shall rise first and their bodies came from under the earth.

[Ms. Ypille:] What about the prophet Elijah?

Well, that's another one of the examples, but before we get to the example of Elijah, I want to get to our second rapture example. This is a symbolic example. We find this one a couple of chapters later in Genesis Chapter 7.

This, of course, is when Noah was going into the ark and God commanded to take two of every kind of unclean animal and seven of each kind of clean animal, so two of each kind, and some people today will say, "Well, how did all the different kinds of dogs fit on the ark? It wasn't big enough. How did all the different kinds of cats?" And so forth.

Well, Noah didn't have to take every single different breed of dog and cat. He took two of their kind. He took two dogs. Two. And those two dogs had puppies and those puppies had puppies, and those puppies had puppies, and we end up with the mess that we have today. And we ended up with all the breeds we have today.

[Ms. Ypille:] The two contained the genetic information of all the canine breeds.

Correct. All of the breeds just simply diverged over the years. Even today we can still do that. After two or three generations, we can breed a new breed of dog. It's not a new kind of animal, like evolution. It's still a dog, but we can breed from a mostly black dog to mostly brown dogs, short-haired dogs to hairy dogs, big dogs, small dogs. We can breed them because they're different breeds, but they all came from two that were on the ark.

The same thing with cows. We have different kinds of cows today. Brown cows, we have milk cows, all kinds of cows, Texas longhorns, they



all came from two cows. So, two of every kind of animal.

Once everybody got upon the ark, this is what the Bible says right before the flood started and everybody is onboard the ark. It says in Genesis 7:16: *16 And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in.* God took Noah and his family, the only people that were going to survive what's coming, step off of the earth and into the ark. The Bible says God shut him in. God shut the door of the ark. Who's going to be able to get in there? Later on, it says that the people started banging on the door, screaming to let them in because the waters started prevailing. It started raining 40 days and 40 nights. Who's going to be able to get into that door if God shut it? Nobody can get in there. And neither were they going to be able to get out until God opened it.

[Ms. Ypille:] I don't think there was a doorknob.

There was no doorknob or a latch or anything. God did it. So that's a symbolic way of looking at the rapture, because God is going to take us off of the earth and He's going to shut the doors of Heaven and even Satan himself will not be able to come in or out. Satan is going to be stuck on the earth. We find that in the book of Revelation. He's finally kicked out of all his access. All his passwords changed. He can't get into Heaven anymore. So he's going to be stuck on the earth. According to what we understand from the Bible, he won't even be able to go to outer space anymore. That's why he's going to be so angry.

[Ms. Ypille:] Because he's contained.

Correct. So that's a symbolic example.

Now, you were asking about the prophet Elijah. That's a literal, an actual example of the rapture, and we find that in II Kings 2:11:

11 And it came to pass, as they still went on... "they" meaning Elijah and his protégé Elisha... and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted [or came between] them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. 12 And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces.

So, Elijah the prophet was taken up by a chariot of fire. He was alive. He was taken off of the earth. He was taken up and Elisha sees this, and he yells, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof," and he sees him no more. So there's another actual example of someone who was taken.

So God over the years has been providing to us example after example of the rapture. Is there another example of the rapture? Yes, actually, a real life, real world example. We find that in the New Testament in the book of Acts, Chapter 1, with Jesus Christ Himself. Jesus, after He rose again from the dead, gave some last-minute instructions to His disciples, and this is what happened in Acts 1:9:

9 And when he had spoken these things... the last-minute instructions... while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven... because they're going, "Wow, He just



went up in a cloud.” So they’re still staring at the sky. *And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel.* Presumably, these are angels, and this is what these angels said to these guys: *“Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing – “Why are you standing here looking?” – up into heaven? this same Jesus – not a replacement, not an angel, not a general, the same.*

That corresponds to I Thessalonians Chapter 4 where it says, “The Lord himself” shall come and get us. *This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so [or shall like that] come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.*

So that’s an example of a rapture, taken up, but He’s coming back again. Amen. The Lord Himself shall come. Praise the Lord for that.

Is there another example? Well, there is another one. It’s an example but it’s really more of a symbolic example than a literal example, but it’s really kind of both. This is the apostle John when he was receiving the revelation from the Lord Jesus Christ and he was given an introduction to Jesus Christ and he was given the outline for the book of Revelation and Jesus had already addressed the seven churches in Chapters 2 and 3 in the book of Revelation, and after this, we never, ever hear the word church again until the scenes in Heaven at the end of the book of Revelation.

Here’s what we who study the Bible believe is an example of the rapture. Revelation 4:1: *After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me [I Thessalonians Chapter 4, the voice of the*

archangel, the trump of God]; *which said, Come up hither...* “Hither” is an old English word for “here.” *Come up [here] and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.*

So it’s an example of perhaps what we saved people will both see and hear. When Jesus Christ appeared to the apostle Paul on the road to Damascus, Paul saw a blinding light which blinded him temporarily and he also heard the Lord Jesus speaking to him. But in the account, it says that the men who were traveling with him, because he was not traveling alone, saw a light but they didn’t hear a voice or at least it wasn’t a recognizable voice. It sounded like thunder to them or like many waters rushing.

So perhaps the world will see and hear something, but they won’t understand what it is. They’ll think it was a spaceship or something, maybe the global warming, the climate change, I don’t know. But I believe from the examples that we see, we who are saved who are taken, we will hear the voice and perhaps even those very words, “Come up hither.” And we’ll also probably see some kind of a light, I’m sure.

Then finally, there’s another example again, except this time it’s in the middle of the tribulation and it’s in the book of Revelation, as well, regarding two prophets that are going to be preaching during the tribulation time, the prophets that are going to be preaching to Israel. It’s interesting some of the things that happened to these prophets. I don’t want to get into it, but long story short, these prophets prophesied about the Lord Jesus Christ and the Antichrist, and the world got angry with them and killed them in the streets. After they killed them in the streets, they celebrated with a wicked, evil Christmas, because they sent gifts to each other. That’s a description of a wicked,



evil Christmas, which is a whole different ball of what Christmas is, but they're also live on CNN and Fox News and ABS, CBN 24 hours a day. Their dead bodies are going to be watched all over the world, and all of a sudden, great fear is going to come across everybody because their dead bodies will rise again from the dead.

And then here in Revelation 11:12, it says: *And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither...* Now, how can they hear a voice from Heaven if they're dead? Oh, because the Lord Jesus Christ has authority over death and He can give life to the dead. *And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud...* I think a cloud is going to be involved in our rapture... *and their enemies beheld them.* So the people saw them, and some other things happened.

If you read that, it's pretty much toward the middle of the tribulation time and a couple of chapters later, in Chapter 13, you'll read about the mark of the beast. A lot of people are interested. What is the mark of the beast? We don't know exactly, but the Bible says it's three things. It's his mark, so it could be some kind of a logo. It is his name or it is the number of his name, so there's some kind of mathematical correspondence to his name.

So that was the rapture, dear listener. I wanted to discuss with you what the rapture is today, culminating all these things. Jesus Christ taught a pretribulational rapture. The apostle Paul taught a pretribulational rapture, and I believe that those of us who are speaking and teaching sound doctrine will be teaching a pretribulational rapture. This is regarding the end times.

I'm going to wrap up this study next week with Part 16. We've gotten to that point. It's a bit anticlimactic maybe to some people who are looking forward into going deep into the book of Revelation. That was never my intention, because we would be here for the rest of the year. However, we will see a few things about that next week, because I will wrap it up.

But what you need to be concerned with, dear listener, is: Are you going to Heaven or are you going to receive the strong delusion? If the rapture happened today or if you were to die today, are you 100% sure you will go to Heaven? That is the question that matters, not what religion you belong to, not how many good works you have, but are you going to Heaven? The Bible says you can know, and the Bible says it's only through Jesus Christ.

Receive Him today. Repent of your sins, which means to turn from the fact that you are a sinner. You're not going to be able to stop sinning. That's not what repenting of your sin means. "Repenting" means changing your mind about the sin, about who Jesus Christ is, and turning to Him for salvation from those sins. Receive Him today and you'll be saved, according to the Bible.