



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD
CHRIST THE LORD PARISH
LAGOS PROVINCE 20
LEKKI PHASE 1

Date: 13-08-2024

Theme: The Last Days

Topic: The Rapture

Text: I Thessalonians 4v13-18

1 Cor: 15v51-52

INTRODUCTION: The first time Jesus Christ appeared on earth; He came to reconcile man to God. He died on the cross and shed His blood, to take away our sins and rose again. When He was about to leave, He promised that He will come back again, John 14v3 and Acts 1v10-11. His ascension was bodily and visible. The second coming will be during **The Rapture**. The time is not known by any man. Matt 24v42 only God knows, and Matt 24v36. We should note that, the Bible reveals that, some things must happen first before He returns, Matt 24 v 1-14. There shall be wars, and rumors of war, pestilence, earthquakes and famine. Many false prophets will come, and iniquities shall abound, and the love of many shall wax cold. Most, if not all of these have happened. We are therefore in the **LAST DAYS**, and He may come back anytime from now.

In this study we are looking at **The Rapture**, but there are many other series of events, that will follow **The Rapture**, examples are “**The Great Tribulation, The Anti-Christ, The Battle of Armageddon, The Millennial Reign**, to mention just a few.

We will take a close look at The Rapture event.

OUTLINE I:

What is The Rapture?

- i. The word Rapture is derived from a Latin Word (Raptus), which means to carry off or to seize, it can also mean intense excitement. Believers/ Saints will be carried off from this world, suddenly. 1 Thes: 4v16-17.
- ii. It is expected to precede The Great Tribulation i.e the period of the Anti-Christ reign. 1 Thes: 1v10, Rom 5:9.
- iii. Examples of such in the Bible are Enoch and Elijah. Hebrews 11v5 and 2 Kings 2v11.

OUTLINE 2:

When and how it would Happen?

- i. The exact time is not known, Matt 24v42 and Matt 24v36.
- ii. The Trumpet of God will sound. 1 Cor 15v52, 1 Thes: 4v16.
- iii. The dead in Christ will rise first- John 5v25.
- iv. The Saints that are alive will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. I Thes: 4v17.
- v. The Saints shall be transformed and put on immortal bodies, Phil 3v20-21
- vi. There shall be extraordinary chaos on earth, after rapture- Matt 24v40-42, Luke 17v35-36.

OUTLINE 3:

Who will be Raptured?

- i. Those that are in Christ at His coming- John 1 v12, John 3v16
- ii. Those who love the Lord and keep His commandments – John 14v15.
- iii. Those who are living Holy. I Peter 1v15-16

OUTLINE 4

What will happen to those who are left behind?

- i. Those left behind will face the Tribulation period which means trouble, hardship and distress all over the world.
- ii. It begins after The Rapture. 2 Thes: 2v8-9
- iii. The believer that will not cooperate with the Anti-Christ will be killed. Matt 10v21.

CONCLUSION

We must be prepared to go with the Saints at Rapture. Those believers who are not ready will face untold hardships that have not been experienced before.

May God help us to be ready, in Jesus Name.

PRAISE THE LORD