

The End Times and the Servant Part II



TRI-CITY BAPTIST CHURCH
OCTOBER 23, 2011
MARK 13:9-13 – MESSAGE #59

The Rapture Precedes the Tribulation Period



1. The Explicit Teaching that the Church does not go through the Tribulation Period.
2. The Doctrine of Immanency
3. The Marriage of the Lamb (Revelation 19) follows the Pattern of the Jewish marriage custom.
4. The Template and Outline for the End Times as seen in the Book of Revelation.
5. The Church not mentioned in Tribulation period in Revelation 4-19.
6. The Rapture explains the sudden apostasy and lawlessness on the earth.
7. Paul describes the rapture as “a mystery” and that it is distinct from the teaching on the Revelation of Christ.

The Olivet Discourse focuses on Israel



- Jesus will teach His disciples about the Rapture (John 14), but in this Discourse He is focused upon His relationship to Israel and His earthly return to set up His kingdom.
- The context is Israel's rejection of Christ at His first advent. (i.e. temple attacks by Sanhedrin). At His second coming, Israel will be seen receiving and accepting their Messiah.
- The principles of watching, working, waiting would apply to both the rapture and the revelation.

The Problems with the Post-Tribulation Position



- The post-tribulation position states that the church will go through the entire 7-year Tribulation period. The church will then be “caught up” to meet Jesus in the air at His return at the end of the Tribulation and then immediately return with Jesus to the earth with a resurrected body.
- This view teaches that at the rapture all the saints of all the ages are raptured and given resurrected bodies. This would include the Old Testament saints, Church Age saints, martyred Tribulation saints as well as living Tribulation saints. Technically, Tribulation saints are Church Age saints since the church goes through the Tribulation.
- The first problem with this view is that the first thing Jesus does when He returns to the earth (Matthew 25) is separate the sheep (people saved in the Tribulation) from the goats (unbelievers on the earth when Jesus returns). With this view there are no sheep left to judge if they are all raptured and glorified.
- The second major problem with this view is that all saints are glorified (i.e. perfect and with no sin nature), leaving no one to enter into the millennium needing to be governed/judged in the millennium. There would be no need for Christ to reign with a rod of iron if all saints are glorified.
- The third problem, children are seen being born in the millennium. Glorified saints do not marry and reproduce.
- The Pre-tribulation view resolves all these problems.

The Olivet Discourse Outlined – Mark 13



- Prophecies Regarding the 7-Year Tribulation Period and the Revelation of Jesus Christ

(13:8) “**These are the beginnings of sorrows.**” – Signs that will be observed starting at the beginning of the Tribulation period.

(13:14) “**But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation spoke of by Daniel the prophet**” – this event marks the middle of the Tribulation period.

(13:26) “**And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds**” – this event marks the end of the Tribulation period.

Mark 13:9-13 Parallels Revelation 6-11



- Mark 13:1-8: Parallels the Seal Judgments in Revelation 6.
- Mark 13:9-13: Parallels the Persecution and the Preaching accounts in Revelation 6-11.
- Mark 13:14-25: Parallels the Prophecies of the Antichrist and the second half of the Tribulation in Revelation 12-18.
- Mark 13:26-27: Parallels the Prophecies related to the Return of Jesus Christ in Revelation 19.

I. The Prophecy of Persecution



- Mark 13:9,
But take heed to yourselves:
for they shall deliver you up to councils;
and in **the synagogues** * ye shall be beaten:
and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for
my sake, for a testimony against them.
- * The focus of the Olivet Discourse is on Israel (i.e. “the synagogues”), not on the church.

The Fifth Seal Judgment



- Revelation 6:9,
And when he had opened the fifth seal,
I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God,
and for the testimony which they held:
- Revelation 6:10,
And they cried with a loud voice, saying,
How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood
on them that dwell on the earth?
- Revelation 6:11,
And white robes were given unto every one of them;
and it was said unto them,
that they should rest yet for a little season,
until their fellowservants also and their brethren,
that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

Revelation 7 – The Martyred Tribulation Saints



- (7:9) After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;
- (7:10) And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.
- (7:11) And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,
- (7:12) Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

The Martyred Tribulation Saints



- (7:13) And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?
- (7:14) And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, **These are they which came out of great tribulation,** and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- (7:15) Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.
- (7:16) They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.
- (7:17) For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The Prayers of the Saints – Revelation 8:1-5



- (8:1) And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.
- (8:2) And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.
- (8:3) And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.
- (8:4) And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.
- (8:5) And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

II. The Prophecy of Preaching



- Mark 13:10,
And the gospel **must first** be published among all nations.

The Gospel Preached in the Tribulation



- **The Two Witnesses** (Revelation 11 – central chapter of book)
Revelation 11:3, And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days (3 1/2 years), clothed in sackcloth.
- **The 144,000 converted Jews** (Revelation 7:1-9)
- **The “great multitude” of converted Gentiles** (Revelation 7:9)
- **An angel**
Revelation 14:6, And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,
Revelation 14:7, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

III. The Prophecy of Preparedness



- Mark 13:11,
But when they shall lead you,
and deliver you up,
take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak,
neither do ye premeditate:
but whatsoever shall be given you **in that hour**,
that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak,
but the Holy Ghost.

The Holy Spirit's Ministry in the Tribulation



- The Restrainer's influence exercised through the church is removed at the rapture. An enormous vacuum is created for the Evil One to move forward his agenda.
- The Holy Spirit will convict and regenerate sinners during the Tribulation period, just like He has in every time period.
- The Holy Spirit will be active in the lives of the Tribulation saints and will give them the right words to speak, "for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost" (Mark 13:11).
- There will be an incredible outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the end of the Tribulation and at the return of Christ to the earth (a universal Pentecost - Joel 2). Millennial saints will enjoy the indwelling of the Holy Spirit similar to the saints in the Church Age (Ezekiel 36:27).

The Holy Spirit's Ministry in II Thessalonians



The sequence of prophetic events in I and II Thessalonians

- The Rapture of the Church
- The Removal of the Restrainer
- The Revolt from the Faith
- The Revelation of the Man of Sin (Antichrist)
- The Revelation of the Son of God (Christ)

“He who now letteth” - II Thessalonians 2:6-8



- 2 Thessalonians 2:6,
And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.
- 2 Thessalonians 2:7,
For the mystery of iniquity doth already work:
only he who now letteth will let,
until he be taken out of the way.
- 2 Thessalonians 2:8,
And then shall that Wicked be revealed,
whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his
mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his
coming:

Prophecy of Joel 2 – double fulfillment



Fulfilled partially at Pentecost (Acts 2:16-21)

Fulfilled completely at the Revelation of Christ

- Joel 2:28, And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:
- Joel 2:29, And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.
- Joel 2:30, And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.
- Joel 2:31, The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.
- Joel 2:32, And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

God will pour out the Spirit of Grace upon Israel



- Zechariah 12:10, And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit (SPIRIT) of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.
- Romans 11:25, For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.
- Romans 11:26, And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Israel will participate in the New Covenant



- Isaiah 44:3, For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:
- Isaiah 59:21, As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever.
- Ezekiel 36:24, For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.
- Ezekiel 36:25, Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.
- Ezekiel 36:26, A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.
- Ezekiel 36:27, And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

IV. The Prophecy of Personal Betrayals



- Mark 13:12,
Now the brother shall betray the brother to death,
and the father the son;
and children shall rise up against their parents,
and shall cause them to be put to death.

V. The Prophecy of Perseverance



- Mark 13:13

And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake:
but he that shall endure unto the end,
the same shall be saved.

Christ will Come to Judge the Earth and to Deliver His Redeemed



Revelation 19:11, And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Revelation 19:15, And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Revelation 19:19-20, And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. (19:20) And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Lessons for the Disciples



Our Worshipful Responses to the Word of God:

1. “Fear God!” “Give glory to Him!” “Worship Him!”
2. Look forward to the coming of Christ! Be Watchful! Be Working! Be Waiting!
3. Expect an increase of persecution! Use each platform God gives to you to be a good “testimony!”
4. Preach the gospel “among all nations!”
5. Trust God to give you the right words to say when being attacked for your faith.
6. Be loyal to Christ, to your Christian family and to your church - no betrayals!
7. Don’t quit! “Endure” hatred and seek every opportunity to “Evangelize” all men.

God's Promise - "Shall be saved"



- "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered" (Joel 2:32).

Dear God:

I call upon your name to save me. I believe the "good news" that Jesus died for me and rose from the grave. I now put my trust in Jesus to be my Savior.

I pray in His name, amen.