

## **The Rapture of the Church, Do you Qualify?**

This is the second part of our two part series on the rapture of the church. In the first part we debunked many of the common myths about the rapture. We saw in scripture, where the rapture is referred to, as in the Olivet Discourse, where our Lord talks about the rapture eight times, and we saw in Saint Paul, Thessalonians and Corinthians, where Saint Paul is actually talking about the Lord's fourth coming at judgment, and not His second coming at the rapture.

Now let's look at the four groups who will reign in the millennium including the raptured. In Revelation chapter 11, verse 18, Saint John writes, 'you will render reward to your servants, prophets, saints and to those who fear your name.' Saint John is not referring to one group here, but four specific groups. The servants are the converted Jews. The prophets are the raptured Protestants. The saints are the protected Catholics, and those who fear God's name are the holy martyrs.

In chapter 17 verse 14, we see the three groups who will join with Jesus at Armageddon, 'and they that are with him are called, elect and faithful'. Again, this is not one group. The 'called' are the raptured Protestants. The 'elect' are the protected Catholics and the 'faithful' are the holy martyrs. Those are the three groups, who will join with Jesus at Armageddon. Notice that although the converted Jews will reign during the millennium, they are not part of the battle of Armageddon because they will have already fled from Judea.

Now, let's look at the twelve characteristics of the raptured Protestants. In Revelation 19, verse 6, we read; 'I heard the voice of a great multitude, the voice of many waters and the voice of great thunders'. Those are the first three characteristics. They sing, 'Let us be glad and rejoice for the marriage of the Lamb is come. Blessed are they who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb. Being called to the marriage supper is their fourth characteristic.

Now let's look at the rest of their twelve characteristics. Before Saint John describes the return of the raptured however in chapter 14, he describes the holy martyrs who are also with Jesus at Armageddon. 'Behold a Lamb stood on Mount Zion and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand having his name and the name of his father written on their foreheads'. These 144,000 are not the converted Jews nor are they the raptured Protestants; they are the holy martyrs.

In chapter 14, verse 2, we read about the return of the raptured. 'I heard a voice from heaven as the voice of many waters'; that's the same characteristic as before, 'as the voice of great thunders'; again, the same characteristic as before, 'and the voice of harpers harping on their harps'. So now this is a new characteristic; they also sing as harpers harping on their harps. That's their fifth characteristic.

Let's read their sixth characteristic. 'And they sing a new canticle and no one could say the canticle, but those one hundred and forty four thousand who were purchased from earth.' Notice Saint John uses the word 'purchased' instead of 'raptured'. Rapture does not appear in the bible, but 'called' and 'purchased' are the two terms which Saint John uses for that graced group. In verse 4, the raptured receive six more characteristics.

They were not defiled with women, but they are virgins, number seven. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes, number 8. These were purchased from among men. Now they've already been ascribed as purchased so that doesn't count as a new characteristic. The first fruits to God, number 9 and to the Lamb, number 10, and in their mouth was no lie, characteristic number 11, for they are without spot before the throne of God, characteristic number 12.

Notice this group of raptured have four of the exact same characteristics as the wise virgins in Jesus parable of the five wise and foolish virgins. First, they are virgins, second they are called, third they follow him wherever he goes, and fourth, they go into the marriage feast.

These three groups who joined with Jesus at Armageddon are also described by Our Lord in the Olivet Discourse. In chapter 24 verse 31, Jesus says, 'and he shall send his angel with a great sound of trumpet and they should gather his elect from the four winds from one end of heaven to the other'. This is not one group that Our Lord is talking about. He gathers the elect from the four winds, meaning on earth; those are the protected Catholics. And the two groups that are in the two ends of heaven are the raptured Protestants and the holy martyrs.

The three Armageddon groups and the four millennial groups are found in three places in Daniel. In chapter 3, we read about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and the Son of Man, four individuals in the

fiery furnace. The fiery furnace symbolizes these End Times, as I explained in my You Tube video on Daniel chapter number 3.

In Daniel chapter number 5, the words which King Belshazzar sees written on the wall, 'Mene, Tekel and Parsin', stand for the three groups who will be with Jesus at Armageddon, the raptured Protestants, the protected Catholics and the holy martyrs. Again, check out my video on You Tube on chapter number 5. And if you check out my video on chapter number 11 of Daniel, you will find that Edom, Moab and Ammon symbolize the three groups who survive the Antichrist, the protected Catholics, the raptured Protestants and the converted Jews.

To sum up this series on the rapture, we find that very few will actually be raptured. We find Saint John mentions only 144,000. There will also be 144,000 converted Jews and 144,000 holy martyrs. The number of protected Catholics is never mentioned by Saint John. We've also discovered on this series that Saint Paul is not talking about the rapture in Thessalonians or Corinthians.

Let's look at the verses where he is talking about the End Times that we are living in right now. In Second Timothy, chapter 3, Saint Paul writes, 'also in the last days perilous times shall come.' Notice the warning aspect. 'Men shall be lovers of themselves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers without natural affection, despisers of those who are good, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God, ever learning but never coming to the knowledge of the truth.'

Whenever Saint Paul or our Lord are talking about the days leading up to the End Times, they give warnings. They are not giving comfort as Saint Paul is when he is talking to the early Christians in Thessalonians and in Corinthians. As we saw on this program, those who are graced to be raptured must have twelve very significant characteristics in order to join with Our Lord at Armageddon and survive into the millennium.