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# SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

## “What The Bible Actually Teaches”

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By: Phillip Hayes

Following is a “Statement of Belief” quote that fairly represents the modern church’s teaching of the Second Coming of Christ and the rapture of the church. The quote is from the Moody Bible Institute: *“We believe in the second coming of Christ. His return from heaven will be personal, visible and glorious, a blessed hope for which we should constantly watch and pray.*

*Before He establishes His kingdom on earth, Jesus will come for His Church, an event commonly referred to as the “Rapture”. At that time the dead in Christ will be raised and living Christians will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air and be with Him forever. In this resurrection, those who have died in Christ will have their redeemed souls and spirits united with a body similar to Christ’s glorified body. Christians living at the time of this event will not die, but will be changed to be like Christ. This expectation is a motivation for holy living, as well as a source of comfort. No man knows the day or the hour when this will take place.’*

So far, I think all Christians including myself would heartily agree that this statement is Biblically true! However, there is more to their teaching. As we continue reading the quote from Moody Bible Institute we will see how the teaching becomes

deceitful. The quote continues: *'After the Rapture of the Church, Christians will be brought before the judgment seat of Christ. He will reward them on the basis of the works they have accomplished. This is not a judgment to determine their salvation but a reward for labor on Christ's behalf. The Rapture will also inaugurate a period that the Bible characterizes as the 'great day of His wrath,' 'the great tribulation' and the 'time of Jacob's trouble'. This time of unprecedented difficulty will affect Israel and all nations. Its purpose will be to prepare Israel for her Messiah. At the end of the Tribulation, Jesus Christ will return with the hosts of heaven as well as the Church to establish the Messianic Kingdom on earth. His Kingdom will last for a thousand years.'* End of quote.

Our reply to this "Statement of Belief" quote will prove that this second portion of their teaching is contrary to what the Bible actually teaches about the Second Coming of Christ and the resurrection of His church. They are placing the rapture or "resurrection" as it is Biblically known and Christ's Second Coming as two totally separate events separated by a period of years. This theory actually creates a third coming of our Lord Jesus!

The Bible is abundantly clear what will occur during the most important event in human history. There are only 4 places in the entire Bible that clearly reveals the time frame when Jesus returns for His Church! Only 4! There should be no confusion for anyone that seeks the Truth as the Truth is expressed very clearly in these 4 passages.

The first place we will examine is found in Matthew chapter 24, specifically verses 29-31. In these verses we find the clear teaching of Jesus

Himself giving us the time setting of His glorious return to planet earth. In the first few verses of chapter 24 Jesus begins prophesying several future events. Afterward the disciples asked the Lord when these events would take place. Let's read it together: *"And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"* [Matthew 24:1-3]. They asked 3 questions: 1) When shall these things happen? 2) What will be the sign of your coming? 3) When will the world end?

I think it is remarkable and note worthy that Jesus' first answer to their questions was, *"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you"* [Matthew 24:4].

Let us also take heed to our Lord's warning and "Let no man deceive us"!

In the next several verses Jesus foretells many things that will transpire. He warns of deception, wars, famines, pestilences, and earthquakes. He said there was coming a time of great sorrows, afflictions, betrayal and hatred. He prophesied there would be a great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. Jesus said if those days were not shortened, no flesh would be saved!

I am sure most everyone has read about these

prophesies of Jesus. If you haven't, please stop now and read all of chapter twenty-four of Matthew.

Beginning with verse twenty-nine our Lord reveals the scenario of His coming and of the end of the world!

*"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other" [Matthew 24:29-31].*

Jesus is clear! Immediately after this great tribulation the power of the heavens would be shaken! The sun becomes dark, the moon has no light, the stars begin falling from heaven, a sign of the son of man is revealed in the heavens and the world sees our Lord Jesus coming in the clouds of heaven; a trumpet is heard and the church, the elect of God is gathered together by angels! Praise God!

This, my friends, is the time setting of the "Rapture" or catching away of God's church. Jesus said this all happens AFTER the tribulation. Not before the tribulation! Not in the middle of the tribulation! This is the teaching of Jesus and in this one instance alone it is contrary to the modern "rapture" teaching in the quote we read. But there is more, much more.

Now let's look at the second place in the Bible

that specifically speaks of the end time and the catching away or resurrection of God's church.

Our second place is found in 2Thessalonians chapter 2, verses 1-5: *"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? "*

It is obvious the people were terrified at the thought of Jesus returning in their lifetime! For this reason, Paul did not want them to be shaken or troubled. He comforts them by reminding them of his previous teaching while with them: What will actually happen at the coming of the Lord, and secondly, our gathering together unto Him. He refers to these 2 events as "The day of the Lord". Apostle Paul connects the coming of our Lord and our gathering together unto Him as a simultaneous event. In other words, we are gathered unto Him when He comes.

He states very clearly that 2 things would take place before the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him. The first thing Paul says will happen is: (1) A falling away, (2) The man of sin, the son of perdition (the antichrist)

would be revealed.

Modern day "rapture" teachers would have us believe the church is taken to heaven before Jesus returns and before the great tribulation during which the man of sin, the antichrist is revealed. This is contrary to Our Lord's teaching in Matthew 24 and Apostle Paul's teaching which we have just read.

Also please remember in 2Thessalonians chapter 1 Paul writes that when Jesus returns, He returns in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power. (See verses 8 and 9).

The third place in the Bible that specifically speaks of the end time and the catching away of God's church is 1Corinthians chapter 15. *"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" [1Corinthians 15:51-52].*

Here again is the precise setting of the rapture (resurrection). It's very important that this "change" happens in the twinkling of an eye; it's instantaneous! Secondly in importance, it happens at the last trumpet sound! Third in importance is the dead or raised and the living saints at this instance will be changed.

The reason these three things are so important is once again it destroys the pre-tribulation teaching of the rapture! Please note that in Matthew 24 Jesus said there would be a great sounding of a trumpet.

Here in Corinthians Paul says the rapture (resurrection) would take place at the last trump or trumpet sound! This is extremely important! Don't forget about this trumpet sounding! We will review the sounding of the Trumpets soon.

The pre-tribulation rapture teaching uses their interpretations of allegories and parables to "prove" their doctrine and not the sound end time teaching of Jesus and His apostles. Here is one example: They teach the parable Jesus gave in Matthew 24 and Luke 17 of "one shall be taken and one shall be left" is referring to the rapture. This cannot be so for one glaring reason: The rapture or more correctly the resurrection happens instantly without warning!

When one reads through Jesus' parable in Matthew 24 and Luke 17 we find Jesus is speaking of the end time being as in the days of Noah. However the following two verses prove He is not talking about the rapture (resurrection) specifically. *"Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back"* [Luke 17:30-31]. According to the last day events that we have already read, there would be no time, to get your stuff or make a decision to stay in the field or return! Obviously the Lord is referring to a time before His Second Coming when we shall see these things begin to come to pass, we should lift up our heads for our redemption is drawing near! (See Luke 21:28).

In Matthew chapter 25, verse 13 Jesus said, *"Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."* Jesus

said we would not know the day or even the hour in which He would return! But we would know the season because we would see His prophecies coming to pass and we could prepare ourselves.

The fourth place in the Bible that specifically speaks of the end time and the catching away of God's church is 1Thessalonians chapter 4, verses 13-17:

*"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 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 shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord".*

Apostle Paul writes that he doesn't want the church to be ignorant. We can know the Truth!

Paul is gracious to share exactly what will happen at the end when Jesus returns to planet earth. There is no room for error. The time setting is specific!

Paul reveals exactly what will happen, he writes, *"The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God.* Notice, there is "no secret rapture" about this! Jesus descends from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and



with the Trumpet of God! This is going to be a loud, earth shaking worldwide event! His Voice will be heard worldwide and everyone will hear the blast of a Trumpet!!

Paul says the first thing that will happen when that trumpet blows is the dead shall rise first! Then secondly, those who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them! How in the world can anyone get this wrong!

Each of these 4 places gives very clear direction to God's people what to expect when Jesus returns.

Notice, there is that trumpet again! In Matthew chapter 24, Jesus said when He returned there would be a great sound of a trumpet. In 1Corinthians chapter 15, Paul said, "We would be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump". The last trumpet!? So there were more trumpets sounding! Does the Bible let us know about the other ones? Yes, God doesn't leave us ignorant.

Revelation chapter 8, verse 2, *"And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets."* Verse 6, *"And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound."*

The book of Revelation is filled with allegories and spiritual pictures. In the Old Testament trumpets were blown for various reasons such as to prepare for battle or as a warning of impending danger, etc.

The seven angels with seven trumpets in the book of Revelation have a divine purpose. These trumpets are the last judgments of God! Read it for yourself in chapters eight through eleven. Let's look

at what happens in the book of Revelation when the seventh angel sounds the last trumpet! Here it is: *"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever"* [Revelation 11:15]. This is that last trump Paul was speaking about! When it sounds Jesus reveals Himself from the Heavens as King of kings and Lord of lords. The dead in Christ are resurrected and we that are alive at that time are changed in a moment in the twinkling of an eye. This is the final event in the history of mankind!

When is the Second Coming and the Rapture (Resurrection) of the church? It is after the tribulation! It is after the rise of the man of sin, the antichrist. It is after the Mark of the Beast. It is after the falling away. This is the Truth! Don't be deceived!

The Pre-tribulation rapture taught today IS NOT in the Bible! You can spiritualize it, imply it, pervert the meaning of our Lord's parables, and dream about it, but you cannot prove it with God's Word! All you have is a false dream and vision, but God's Word is forever settled in Heaven. It will come to pass exactly as it is written.

If you would like a further study of the subject we have several articles written by Brother Hayes as well as audio and video recordings available. You can find most of these available as a free download on our web site [www.WOFCI.com](http://www.WOFCI.com) or on our YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/@brotherhayes](http://www.youtube.com/@brotherhayes).

**COMING SOON "The Sounding Of The Trumpet"  
A deeper revelation concerning the Trumpets.**