

THE WEEK THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

THE GOOD NEWS OF LUKE 20-24

The Rapture

- Definition – moment when the church will be taken up to meet Christ in the air.
- Key Bible Passages – Luke 17:34-35 (Mt 24:41-42); John 14:1-3; 1 Thess 4:13-18; Rev 3:10

Key Bible Passages

“I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed. One will be taken and the other left. There will be two women grinding together. One will be taken and the other left.”

Luke 17:34-35 (Mt 24:40-41)

Key Bible Passages

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”

John 14:1-3

Key Bible Passages

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

1 Thess 4:13-15

Key Bible Passages

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 Thess 4:16-18

The Tribulation

- Definition - a seven-year period of unprecedented human rebellion and divine wrath before the return of Christ.
- Key Bible Passages – Daniel 9:24-27; Matthew 24:4-28; Revelation 6-18; Zechariah 11-12

Key Bible Passages

“Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place. ²⁵ Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time.

Daniel 9:24-25

Key Bible Passages

²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. ²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

Daniel 9:26-27

Daniel's 70th Week – A Tribulation

- Passages describing the end-time tribulation:
 - Dan 7:25 – end-time ruler who persecutes Israel for 3.5 years
 - Matt 24:15-24 – abomination of desolation; great tribulation
 - 2 Thess 2:1-4 – ‘man of lawlessness’ in the temple
 - Rev 6-18 – Tribulation timeline based on Daniel's 70th week
- Beginning – rise of antichrist, covenant, deceptions, judgment (Rev 6-11)
- Midpoint – betrayal, abomination, end of sacrifices, marking of 1,260 days (Rev 11-13)
- Ending – persecution for Israel, wrath poured out (Rev 14-16)

The Church during the Tribulation

- Will the church be spared?

- 1 Thess 5:9 – “For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- Revelation 3:10 – “Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth.”

- Rev 6-18 – No references to the church

Event	Key Scriptures	Description	Outcome	Relevance
Rapture	1 Thess. 4:13-5:11; Luke 17:34-35; John 14:1-3; Rev 3:10	Church meets Jesus in the air; believers receive glorified bodies	Believers taken to be with Christ in heaven; church spared from wrath to come	Comfort, relief
Tribulation	Daniel 9:24-27; Matthew 24:4-28; Rev 6-18	Seven-year period of divine judgment and human rebellion under the antichrist	World faces judgment; Israel prepared for national repentance	Shows God's character, gives urgency to mission

The Millennial Kingdom

- Definition – a future era after Christ's return when Christ will reign over all the nations.
- Key Bible Passages – Revelation 20:1-6; Isa 2, 11; Mic 4; Zech 14

Key Bible Passages

“Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. ² And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, ³ and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.”

Rev 20:1-3

Key Bible Passages

“Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.”

Rev 20:4-6

The Millennial Kingdom

- Features of the Millennial Kingdom
 - Jesus on the throne
 - Satan bound
 - Saints resurrected
 - Peace & Health & Prosperity

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It's the answer to our prayer, 'thy kingdom come' on earth as it is in heaven.

New Creation

- Definition – in the eternal state, we will dwell together with God in a new heaven and a new earth.
- Key Bible Passages – Revelation 20:7-15; 21-22; Isaiah 65:17; 2 Pet 3:10-13

Key Bible Passages

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:1-4

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2nd Coming	Rev 19:11-16; Luke 21:25-28	Christ returns with the saints as conquering king of kings	Antichrist defeated; Satan bound; nations judged	Justice, assurance of deliverance
Millennial Kingdom	Rev 20:1-6; Isa 2; Mic 4; Zech 14	Christ reigns for 1,000 years from Jerusalem over a renewed earth	Global peace & righteousness	Christ's authority vindicated
Final Judgment	Rev 20:7-15	All unbelievers stand before the Great White Throne for judgment	Eternal separation from God in the lake of fire	Sobriety and holiness, evangelism
New Creation	Rev 21-22; Isa 65:17; 2 Pet 3:10-13	Creation renewed; God dwells with his people	Perfect union with God; no pain or death	Hope