

# THE EXPECTATION OF PROPHECY

RICK HOUK | MAY 24, 2023

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:50-52

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 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." (1 Peter 1:9-12)

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. THE Promise OF A PRETRIBULATION RAPTURE

#### A. A focused Promise

##### A SURE PROMISE

look for Jesus

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;" (Titus 2:13)

"For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ;" (Philippians 3:20)

Jesus comes again from heaven

"So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." (Hebrews 9:28)

"And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away." (1 Peter 5:4)

##### A SECURING PROMISE

Communion bread & cup until Jesus comes again

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (John 14:1-3)

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." (1 Corinthians 11:26)

B. A Factual Promise

*"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. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 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. 16 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: 17 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. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words." (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)*

**6 FACTS FROM 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18**

1. The Lord Will Come again second time
2. We Will Hear the Lord's Shout, Voice of the Archangel, and the Trump of God
  - To the Jews Feast of Trumpets
  - To the Roman Army - trumpet for war
3. The Dead in Christ Will Rise - Moving up to heaven

*"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." (1 Corinthians 15:52)*
4. Christians Will Be "Caught Up"

*"And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; 16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: 17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Revelation 6:12-17)*

less than  
1 second

7 year  
Tribulation

Revelation  
chapters  
6-18

5. We Will Meet the Lord in the Air
6. We Will Ever Be with the Lord *always with Jesus*

## 2. THE Perspective OF THE RAPTURE

- A. Seen as an Imminent return event - *imminent: at any time*

THE CHURCH IS NOT APPOINTED TO WRATH

*"For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ," (1 Thessalonians 5:9)*

*"And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come." (1 Thessalonians 1:10)*

**Quote:** "While Scripture presents many signs of Christ's 2nd Coming, and the establishment of His Kingdom, there are no predicted events preceding the Rapture. It could happen at any time..." — **John Walvoord**

THE CHURCH IS ABSENT IN REVELATION CHAPTERS 6-18

*the church  
Rev chap  
1-3, 19-22*

*"For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:27-28)*

*"Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God." (1 Corinthians 10:32)*

- B. Seen as an Inspirational hope

WE WILL SEE CHRIST

*"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." (1 John 3:2)*

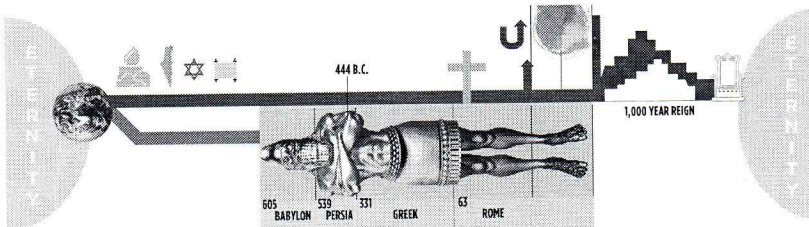
WE WILL RECEIVE A GLORIFIED BODY

*"...and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory." (1 Corinthians 15:52-54)*

CONCLUSION

## JEWISH MARRIAGE AND THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB TO HIS BRIDE

STEPS IN JEWISH MARRIAGE	STEPS IN CHRIST SECURING HIS BRIDE
<p><b>Purchase of the Bride</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Groom negotiates – for the bride</li> <li>Strikes a contract of marriage and pays a dowry</li> <li>Seals a contract with wine and piece of food</li> </ul>	<p><b>Purchase of His Bride</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus came to get a bride—Luke 19:10</li> <li>Jesus purchased the bride—1 Peter 1:18-19</li> <li>Jesus seals the contract—Eph. 1:12-14; Left us <u>Lord's supper</u> – 1 Cor. 11:26</li> </ul>
<p><b>Betrothal Period</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bride and groom separated while he goes to prepare a place to live at his father's property</li> </ul>	<p><b>Separated from our Saviour</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus goes to prepare a place for us—Jn. 14:1-3</li> <li>The church is separated unto Christ waiting for her bride groom to come get her—2 Cor. 11: 1-3</li> </ul>
<p><b>Fetching the Bride</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father tells the son when he can fetch his bride</li> <li>The bridegroom goes to get his bride</li> <li>Ceremony of marriage under canopy - father of bride proves her purity</li> <li>Couple goes into seclusion for private</li> </ul>	<p><b>Christ Fetching His Church</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father tells Jesus to get His bride—Matt. 24:36</li> <li>The rapture of the church – 1 Thess. 4:13-18 with a blowing of Judgment seat of Christ—2 Cor. 5:8-10</li> <li>Marriage Supper of the Lamb—Rev. 19:7-9</li> </ul>
<p><b>The Marriage Feast</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coming out of seclusion, the husband Presents his Bride to the guests</li> <li>The marriage celebration feast</li> </ul>	<p><b>The Second Coming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus, on what is called the day of Christ, will show the world His Bride at the 2nd Coming—Rev. 19:11</li> <li>The Millennial Reign of Christ—Rev. 20:1-6</li> </ul>



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