

2010 BIBLICAL STUDY FOCUSING ON

DEATH

AFTERLIFE

AND

THE END TIME

Session #5

**THE SEVEN
BIBLICAL
RAPTURES**

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**HOW MANY “RAPTURES”
ARE RECORDED IN THE BIBLE (7)SEVEN**

RAPTURE = TRANSLATED - TAKEN UP

(3)THREE OLD TESTAMENT RAPTURES

#1 THE RAPTURE OF ENOCH

Gen 5:21-24 NLT

When Enoch was 65 years old, he became the father of Methuselah. ²² After the birth of Methuselah, Enoch lived in close fellowship with God for another 300 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ²³ Enoch lived 365 years, ²⁴ walking in close fellowship with God. Then **ONE DAY HE DISAPPEARED, BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM.**

Heb 11:5 NLT

It was by faith that **ENOCH WAS TAKEN UP TO HEAVEN WITHOUT DYING—“HE DISAPPEARED, BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM.”*** For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God.

#2 THE RAPTURE OF ELIJAH

2 Kings 2:1, 11 NIV

¹When the **LORD WAS ABOUT TO TAKE ELIJAH UP TO HEAVEN IN A WHIRLWIND,** Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.

¹¹As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and **ELIJAH WENT UP TO HEAVEN IN A WHIRLWIND.**

ELIJAH WILL RETURN JUST BEFORE THE TRIBULATION

Mal 4:5 NIV

“See, I WILL SEND YOU THE PROPHET ELIJAH BEFORE that GREAT AND DREADFUL DAY OF THE LORD comes.

#3 THE RAPTURE OF ISAIAH

Isa 6:1-3 NLT

It was in the year King Uzziah died that **I SAW THE LORD**. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple. ²Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³They were calling out to each other, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Heaven's Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory!"

HIS WAS A PHYSICAL RAPTURE NOT SPIRITUAL ONLY

Isa 6:6-7 NLT

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷**HE TOUCHED MY LIPS** with it and said, "See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven."

(4)FOUR NEW TESTAMENT RAPTURES

#4 THE RAPTURE OF PHILIP

Acts 8:39-40 NLT

³⁹When they came up out of the water, **the Spirit of the Lord SNATCHED PHILIP AWAY**. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰Meanwhile, **PHILIP FOUND HIMSELF FARTHER NORTH** at the town of Azotus. He preached the Good News there and in every town along the way until he came to Caesarea.

**PHILLIP IS THE ONLY ONE OF THE SIX WHO WERE RAPTURED
THAT WAS NOT RAPTURED TO HEAVEN**

#5 THE RAPTURE OF PAUL

2 Cor 12:2-10 NLT

2 I was **CAUGHT UP** to the **third heaven** fourteen years ago. Whether I was in my body or out of my body, I don't know—only God knows. **3** Yes, only God knows whether I was in my body or outside my body. **BUT I DO KNOW** **4** that I was **CAUGHT UP TO PARADISE** and **heard things so astounding** that **THEY CANNOT BE EXPRESSED IN WORDS**, things **NO HUMAN** is allowed to tell.

5 That experience is worth boasting about, but I'm not going to do it. **I WILL BOAST ONLY ABOUT MY WEAKNESSES**. **6** If I wanted to boast, I would be no fool in doing so, because **I would be telling the truth**. But I won't do it, because I don't want anyone to give me credit beyond what they can see in my life or hear in my message, **7 EVEN THOUGH I HAVE RECEIVED SUCH WONDERFUL REVELATIONS FROM GOD**. So to **KEEP ME FROM BECOMING PROUD**, I was given a **THORN IN MY FLESH**, a **MESSENGER FROM SATAN** to **TORMENT ME** and **keep me from becoming proud**.

8 Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. **9** Each time he said, **"MY GRACE IS ALL YOU NEED. MY POWER WORKS BEST IN WEAKNESS."** So now I am glad to **boast about my weaknesses**, so that the **POWER OF CHRIST** can work through me. **10** That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For **WHEN I AM WEAK, THEN I AM STRONG**.

#6 THE RAPTURE OF JESUS

Acts 1:6-11 NLT

6 So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?"

7 He replied, "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. **8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

9 After saying this, HE WAS TAKEN UP INTO A CLOUD while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. **10** As THEY STRAINED TO SEE HIM RISING INTO HEAVEN, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. **11** "Men of Galilee," they said, "WHY ARE YOU STANDING HERE STARING INTO HEAVEN? JESUS HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM YOU INTO HEAVEN, but SOMEDAY HE WILL RETURN FROM HEAVEN IN THE SAME WAY YOU SAW HIM GO!"

Rev 12:3-5 NLT

3 Then I witnessed in heaven another significant event. I saw a large red dragon with seven heads and ten horns, with seven crowns on his heads. **4** His tail swept away one-third of the stars in the sky, and he threw them to the earth. He stood in front of the woman as she was about to give birth, ready to devour her baby as soon as it was born. **5** She gave birth to a son who was to rule all nations with an iron rod. And HER CHILD WAS SNATCHED AWAY FROM THE DRAGON AND WAS CAUGHT UP TO GOD AND TO HIS THRONE.

#7 THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

THERE **ARE** THREE PASSAGES IN THE **BIBLE**
THAT BEST **DESCRIBE** THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

WITH RESPECT TO THE TEACHING OF THE FIRST 6 RAPTURES
THERE ARE ALSO THREE MAIN TRUTHS
TO **KEEP** IN **MIND** CONCERNING THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

TRUTH #1—THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH **WILL** LITERALLY HAPPEN

TRUTH #2—THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH **WILL INVOLVE** THE TRANSFER
OF PEOPLE FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER - FROM EARTH
TO HEAVEN

TRUTH #3—THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH **WILL HAPPEN**
INSTANTANEOUSLY

1 Thess 4:13-18 NLT

13 And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died* so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. **14** For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died. **15** We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died.* **16** For THE LORD HIMSELF WILL COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN WITH A COMMANDING SHOUT, with the VOICE OF THE ARCHANGEL, and with THE TRUMPET CALL OF GOD. FIRST, the CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE DIED* WILL RISE FROM THEIR GRAVES. **17** THEN, together with them, WE WHO ARE STILL ALIVE AND REMAIN ON THE EARTH WILL BE CAUGHT UP IN THE CLOUDS TO MEET THE LORD IN THE AIR. Then we will be with the Lord forever. **18** So encourage each other with these words.

John 14:1-4 NLT JESUS SPEAKING

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.
2 There is more than enough room in my Father's home.*If this were not so,
would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?*

3 When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always
be with me where I am. 4 And you know the way to where I am going."

1 Cor 15:50-58 NLT

50 What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that our PHYSICAL BODIES CANNOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD. These dying bodies CANNOT inherit what will last forever. 51 But let me reveal to you a **WONDERFUL SECRET**. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! 52 It will happen in a **MOMENT**, in the BLINK OF AN EYE, when the LAST TRUMPET IS BLOWN. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And WE WHO ARE LIVING WILL ALSO BE TRANSFORMED. 53 For OUR DYING BODIES MUST BE TRANSFORMED INTO BODIES THAT WILL NEVER DIE; our **MORTAL BODIES** must be transformed into IMMORTAL BODIES. 54 Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY. 55 O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?" 56 For SIN IS THE STING THAT RESULTS IN DEATH, and the law gives sin its power. 57 BUT THANK GOD! HE GIVES US VICTORY OVER SIN AND DEATH THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. 58 So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. ALWAYS WORK ENTHUSIASTICALLY for the Lord, for YOU KNOW THAT NOTHING YOU DO FOR THE LORD IS EVER USELESS.