



VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Weekly Bible Study - 19:05:2010

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STUDY 41: BE PATIENT UNTO THE COMING OF THE LORD

James 5:7,8

James 5:7-8 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

We are living in the very last days of this age. The prophecies which are to be fulfilled only in the last days are being fulfilled before our very eyes. Anyone who is not ready to meet the Lord now puts himself in a terribly delicate and fearful situation.

There are two end time events that will mark the coming of the Lord – the catching away of believers to meet the Lord in the air, which is popularly referred to as the rapture (I Thessalonians 4:13-17), and subsequently the coming of Christ with the raptured saints to rule on earth for a thousand years, which is also known as the second coming of Christ (Zechariah 14:1-5; Jude 14; Revelation 19:11-21).

In this study we closely examine how believers can prepare to qualify for meeting the Lord Jesus at His appearing. to the earth.

1. Identify, giving practical illustrations, the signs which prove that we are living in the last days.
 - a) Luke 17:26,27;
 - b) Matthew 24:11-12, 38-39;
 - c) I Timothy 4:1-3;
 - d) II Timothy 3:1-5;
 - e) 1 John 2:18, 4:3;
 - f) II Peter 3:3,4.
2. What facts about the coming of The Lord Jesus Christ can be identified from the following references?
 - a. I Thessalonians 4:13-17
 - b. I Thessalonians 4:16,17
 - c. I Corinthians 15:23, 51-58:
 - d. Philippians 3:20,21.
 - e. Genesis 5:24
 - f. Hebrews 11:5
 - g. II Kings 2:11,12
 - h. Acts 1:9-11.

As Noah escaped the flood and lot escaped the Judgment of Fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, so also will the saints living at that time escape the Great Tribulation. All believers go through persecution (called tribulation) today (I John 16:22; Acts 14:21,22; Romans 5:3-5; I Thessalonians 3:3-5; II Timothy 3:10-12; Revelation 2:9) BUT all believers will be caught up (raptured) before what is known in

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prophecy as the Great Tribulation or the time of Jacob's Trouble (Jeremiah 30:7; Luke 21:34-36; II Peter 2:4-9; Revelation 3:10,11).

3. Mention the purpose of the rapture in the following references:

- a. I Thessalonians 4:13-16; I Corinthians 15:21-23, 51-58; Revelation 20:4-6.
- b. I Corinthians 15:51-58; Philippians 3:20,21; II Corinthians 5:1-8.
- c. I Thessalonians 4:13-17; Luke 21:34-36; II Thessalonians 2:1,7,8.
- d. John 14:1-3; I Thessalonians 4:17; Ephesians 5:27; II Thessalonians 2:1.
- e. Revelation 19:1-11; II Corinthians 5:8-10.

4. Qualifications for partakers in the rapture.

- a. I Thessalonians 4:16,17;
- b. I Corinthians 15:23;
- c. II Corinthians 5:17;
- d. Hebrews 12:14;
- e. Ephesians 5:27;
- f. I John 3:1-3;
- g. Luke 21:34-36;
- h. Titus 2:11-14;
- i. John 4:35-38; 9:1-4.

At the rapture, every genuine Christian living righteously, walking in the light – (i.e. "in Christ") will be "caught up" to be with Christ. "They that are Christ's", those "in Christ" or in another word the "Church", will be raptured. To be saved and maintain a holy walk "in Christ" at the time of the RAPTURE or at the time of death as the case may be are necessary qualifications. But they that look forward to the coming Rapture "purifieth" themselves "as He is pure". "Be ye stedfast, unmoveable", always abiding in Christ and abounding in His work (I Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:26; 3:11).