

Making Sure You're Not Left Behind (Part 1)

Series: Future Ending

Selected Scriptures

Bro. Ken Culver

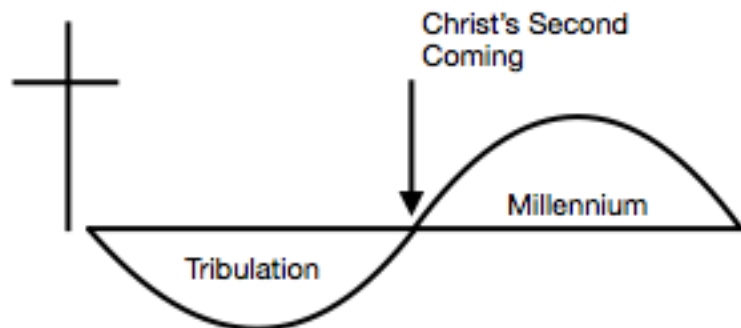
I. The Rapture In Perspective

A. The Mystery Of The Church Age

How that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already...).
Ephesians 3:3

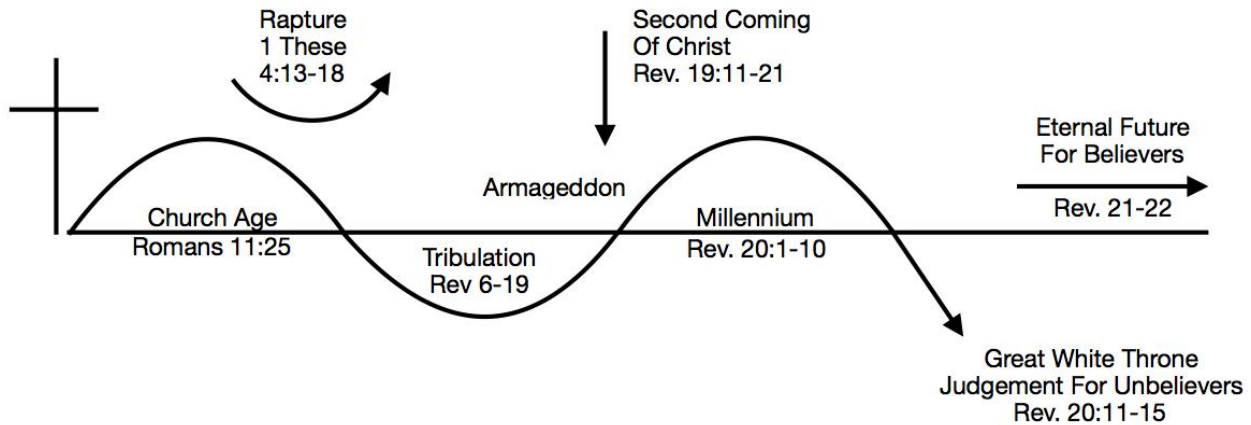
Which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel. **Ephesians 3:5-6**

A Diagram of Matthew 24-25



For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. **Romans 11:25**

B. An Illustration of The Church Age



C. The End Of The Church Age: The Rapture

II. The Details of The Rapture

A. The Thessalonians' Concern

B. Paul's Reassurance

*But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. **1 Thessalonians 4:13-14***

C. Paul's Description of The Rapture

Four Ingredients of The Rapture

1. The Descent of Christ

*For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **1 Thessalonians 4:15-16***

*Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words. **1 Thessalonians 4:17-18***

And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives,

*Which faces Jerusalem on the east.
And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two,
From east to west,
Making a very large valley;
Half of the mountain shall move toward the north
And half of it toward the south. **Zechariah 14:4***

2. The Resurrection of The Dead In Christ

*For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **1 Thessalonians 4:16***

3. The Removal of All Living Christians

*Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. **1 Thessalonians 4:17***

4. The Transformation of Our Bodies

*Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. **1 Corinthians 15:50***

*Behold, I tell 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 trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. **1 Corinthians 15:51-53***

*looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. **Titus 2:13***