

A Bird's-Eye View for Me and You Revelation Part 3 of 3

Thank you for joining me once again today for "It's a Good Life." We've been going through "A Bird's-Eye View for Me and You," a study of the New Testament. Today, we're completing our study through the New Testament and we're going to look in just a few moments at the book of Revelation.

Let me remind you to look at our website today, www.LRWM.org. On the website, you'll be able to download this program and listen to it once again; you can also download a transcript of this program and others of "It's a Good Life." And we'd like to thank BibleTranscripts for supplying those transcripts. Please go to the website, www.BibleTranscripts.com.

Well, today, we want to continue our study in the book of Revelation, and remember that the book of Revelation is actually the revelation of Jesus Christ. It presents Him as King, as the Victor, and as the Lamb, the Lamb that takes away the sin of the world. Once again, as we think back to our study last time, the last thing we talked about was the tribulation period. Of course, the church will be taken out. Those people who have trusted Jesus during this time, those people who are members of His body, the church, will be taken out before the tribulation takes place.

We need to understand this, that there are participants in the Great Tribulation. The man of sin...he's the son of perdition. II Thessalonians 2:3 and Revelation 6:2 talk about this. Also, there will be people saved during the tribulation. According to Revelation 13:7, it says, *And it was given unto him to make war with the saints....That's the son of perdition, or the man of sin... and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.*

Revelation 13:10 says, *He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.*

So we see that there are saints who will be going through the tribulation period, not those people who are members of the church. These are those people that get saved after the tribulation starts. In Revelation 14:12-13, it says, ¹²*Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.* ¹³*And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth... He's speaking of the tribulation period.... Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.* So we see that there will be people saved during the Great Tribulation.

Well, is the Great Tribulation the end of the world? The answer to that, of course, is no. The end of the world as we know it will occur at the end of the millennium, the thousand-year reign of the Lord. To better understand the term "end of the world," we need to remember the flood that took place in Noah's day. The water overflowed the world and cleansed the world, and the Bible teaches us that this world will be cleansed with fire. Isaiah 66:22 says, *For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain...speaking of the Jewish people.*

Well, today we want to look at the purpose of the book, once again, is to present Jesus as King, the Victor, and the Lamb. The purpose of this study today is to present the Second Coming of Christ. You read about this in Revelation 19, verses 11-16. And Matthew 24:29-30 says, *Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars*

shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. This is not the end of the world. This is the Second Coming of the Lord.

Verse 30 says, *And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.* Remember last time, we said that every eye is going to behold Him and those people who are left on this earth after the Great Tribulation, at the end of it, everyone is going to see the coming of our Lord in glory. People who are unsaved at that point are going to be asking the mountains to fall on them; they're wanting to hide, but they can't get away from the Lord.

The Second Coming of the Lord is the return of the King Messiah. At the end of Daniel's seventieth week, according to Zechariah 14:4, it says, *And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

If you go back and study this, you'll find that many Bible scholars believe that Jesus was taken up into the clouds after His resurrection. He was taken up from the Mount of Olives, and this is exactly where He's going to come back. Every eye is going to see Him.

Now, the Second Advent or the Second Coming of the Lord is slow enough for people to realize and see what is happening. According to Revelation 1:7 and Matthew 24:27, the Second Coming of Christ to the earth will be visible and obvious to all. No one is going to miss the Second Coming of the Lord.

In Revelation 1:7, it says, *Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him...* Once again, Acts chapter 1, verse 11, speaks of this.... *and they also which pierced him....are going to see Him.... and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him....*

Well there are signs of the Second Coming of the Lord such as the events in Revelation 6 through chapter 18. And there is much that must be fulfilled before Christ returns to the earth such as all the events in Matthew 24:3-31. That's not speaking of the rapture in Matthew 24:3-31. It's speaking of the Second Coming of the Lord.

Well, where is He coming back? And I've already mentioned this, that according to the Scriptures, He's going to come back to the Mount of Olives. In Zechariah 14:4, it says, *And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives...* And I would recommend that you read Acts chapter 1, verses 9-11 also to read about His Second Coming.

Well, at the Second Coming, unbelievers are removed. Believers remain according to Matthew 24:37-41. Yes, there will be believers, people saved during the Great Tribulation, and those people are going to remain and go into the millennium. In Luke chapter 17, verses 34-37, talk about this, and Matthew 24:38 talks about the unbelieving world in Noah's day when they were taken away in judgment. And that's what's going to happen to unbelievers at the Second Coming of the Lord. They will be taken away.

Now, I remind you once again, Matthew 24 is not speaking of the Rapture. It's speaking of the Second Coming of the Lord. Matthew 24:38 says, *For as in the days that were before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark.* Well, that's what's happening today. People are celebrating. They have no concern. They do not believe that Jesus is coming again, but I've got news for you. He's coming again, and you need to

be ready for Him. First of all, if you've trusted Him as Savior, you're going up into the Rapture as we've spoken of last time that we were together studying the book of Revelation.

Well, the Second Coming is not the Rapture of the church. The Second Coming will not take place until the end of the tribulation period.

And then we want to look at the millennium. The millennium is spoken of here in Revelation chapter 20, verses 1-6, and in verse 6, it says, *Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ... And notice this.... and shall reign with him a thousand years.*

There will be a thousand-year reign of Christ upon this earth before eternity. In Daniel 7, verses 13-14, it talks about Christ is going to rule the earth, and the millennium is an answered prayer, once we stop to think about it. In Matthew chapter 6, verses 9-10, it says, *After this manner therefore pray ye... Jesus is speaking to the apostles.... Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Notice verse 10 now: Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. So the millennium is actually an answer to prayer... Thy kingdom come.*

And the will of God will not be done in earth as it is in heaven until the church is taken out, the tribulation takes place, and the millennium starts. His will will be done on the earth.

In the millennium, there will finally be peace on the earth, according to Isaiah chapter 2 and verse 4, and Isaiah chapter 9 and verse 6. The Lord Himself will teach the unadulterated Word of God. We concern ourselves sometimes with how do we know what is the Word of God today. We hear so many different things about God. How do we know that it's true? Well, people who are there during the millennium, they won't have to concern

themselves with that because Jesus Himself will be the Teacher.

And then, eternity. What is eternity? There has always been eternity. We as human beings are governed by time, but God is not governed by time. Isaiah 57:15 says, *For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.*

The first part of that talks about the One who inhabits eternity. With God, it's always eternity. With us, we are governed by time at this point, but eternity always has been. We look back and in Hebrews 13:8, it says, *Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.* God is not hampered with time such as you and I, and eternity will take place. Our eternity, and we think of it as future, but eternity is right now when you stop to think about it. Eternity always has been. It's never going to have an end.

Who will be present after the millennium? Of course, we know, not those who have never trusted Christ... and the devil. It says in Matthew 7:23, *And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.* Matthew 25:41 says, *Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.*

All those people who have never trusted Christ... the devil and his angels and all those people who work iniquity.... They are all going to be in eternity, but they're not going to be with those people who are saved. Those people who have trusted Christ as Savior, we will be with the Lord. It's sad that those people who have never trusted Jesus will be with the devil. He says, "Depart from Me, you workers of iniquity. I never knew you." And they go to be with the devil... a

place prepared for the devil and his angels, which is the Lake of Fire. And that's sad.

Eternity, Isaiah 66:22, says, *For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.*

I believe that human beings will inhabit the earth during what we consider a time period, which is not a time period...eternity. The covenants that were given to the Jewish people, these covenants have to be fulfilled. God said that they will inhabit the earth forever.

And notice in Isaiah 45:17-19, it says, ¹⁷*But Israel shall be saved in the LORD with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end*

¹⁸*For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else. ¹⁹I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.*

In Revelation 22:3, the first part says, *And there shall be no more curse....*

Well, God loves you today and He wants you to be saved. He wants you to know Jesus as your Savior. Why not call upon Him today.

Thank you for joining me, and until this same time when you'll hear me say, "It's a good life," may the Lord bless you richly is my prayer.