

Will You Be "Left Behind" ?

-- Matthew 24:34-44 --

- A. "What shall be the sign of thy _____, and of the end of the _____?" (**Matt 24:3**) is the question from Jesus' apostles.
- B. Several signs indicate the coming of Jesus (not the appearing of Jesus) upon the city of Jerusalem, not the end of the world, because these things will "be accomplished" in "this generation" (**v.34**).
- C. Similar circumstances will prevail at Jesus' second coming. Some have tried to depict these events in the movie "Left Behind". Although it is described as happenings of the end of the world, the world does not end. People are still alive, left behind to endure 7 yrs of tribulation and the rise of an Antichrist. Such teaching is an attempt to indoctrinate the world to believe the teachings of rapture and premillennialism....

- 1. _____ at _____ and _____**
- A. Those believing this doctrine say the kingdom of Jesus was not established in **Acts 2**. The church is established only until His "kingdom" comes, which will be on the earth in Jerusalem.
 - B. It is to be established in Jerusalem because of the land promise made to Abraham (**Gen 12**).
 - C. This "kingdom" is to come after a "Rapture" (Jesus' return). The Lord will suddenly, excitingly, and silently take away the righteous

- 2. _____ with the _____**
- A. **Denies the church is the kingdom prophesied by O.T. prophets.**
 - 1. John the Baptist, the 70, and Jesus spoke of the kingdom "at hand" (**Mt 3:1,2; Mk 1:14,15; Lk 10:10,11**)...
 - 2. **Acts 2** is a fulfillment of the church, the kingdom (**v.30-47**).
 - 3. Notice also **Col 1:13; John 3:5, 1 Cor 15:24**, and **Rev 1:6**.
 - B. **Two comings & two (three) resurrections**
 - 1. The rapture is said to be a "coming" (**1 Thess 4:17**).
 - 2. Compare with **Jn 5:28,29; Acts 24:15; Jn 6:39,54; 1 Cor 15:50-57; 2 Pet 3:9-12; and Heb 9:27**
 - C. **Restoring Israel to Palestine.** God promised Abraham a land (**Gen 12:1-3**). This promised was fulfilled (**Ex 13:5,22; Josh 1:6; 23:14; 24:13,28**). Staying in the land was conditioned upon their obedience (**Deut 28; 30:11-20**).

- 3. What Will Happen at _____ ?**
- A. The time of His return is unknown (**1 Thess 5:2,3**)
 - B. Jesus will descend as he ascended (**Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thess 4:16**)..
 - C. There will be a shout, as the voice of an archangel (**1 Thess 4:16**), and will be heard by all, not just a few
 - D. A trump of God (**1 Thess 4:16**)
 - E. Dead in Christ shall rise first (**1 Thess 4:16**) , at that point death is abolished (**1 Cor 15:26**) & all that are in the graves will rise...
 - F. Those alive (righteous) will be caught up (**1 Thess 4:17**).
 - G. Bodies will be changed (**1 Cor 15:38-44,52,53; 1 Jn 3:2**).

- H. So shall we ever be with the Lord - Eternal bliss (**1 Thess 4:17**).
- I. The end of the world - Destroyed (**2 Pet 3:10,11**).
- J. The wicked & disobedient will experience flaming fire, eternally (**2 Thess 1:7-9**).
- K. No one will escape (**1 Thess 5:3**).