

THE RAPTURE AND SECOND COMING OF MESSIAH

LESSON FOUR

Yeshua tells us in Matthew 24, that when he comes back to earth everyone will see him. It is not going to be a quietly flying in collecting the church and quietly leaving again only to return again in **seven** years.

Matthew 24:29-31 CJB

(29) "But immediately following the trouble of those times, the sun will grow dark, the moon will stop shining, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in heaven will be shaken.

(30) "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, **all the tribes** of the Land will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with tremendous power and glory.

(31) He will send out his angels with a great shofar; and **they will gather** together his chosen people from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

At the time of Yeshua's return, **everything** that Yahweh planned from the time of Adam's sin will **have reached it climax**. He will have extended his last invitation to the nations to believe in his son, Yeshua, and to live with them forever in his everlasting kingdom.

Revelation 10:7 CJB

(7) on the contrary, in the days of the sound from the **seventh** angel when he sounds his shofar, the **hidden plan of God** will be brought to completion, the Good News as he proclaimed it to his servants the prophets."

However, **many things** will happen before and leading up to the second coming of the messiah. As we study the bible, let us keep in mind that no matter what happens, or how bad things seem to get, Yahweh main concern is the **salvation** of humanity. Throughout the tribulation period, He will continue to reach out to humanity to bring them into his kingdom

He proved this by sacrificing his own son, Yeshua, for the sins of the world.

John 3:16 CJB

(16) "For God so loved the world that he gave his only and unique Son, so that everyone who trusts in him may have eternal life, instead of being utterly destroyed.

After destroying the first world by water, Yahweh promised his wrath would **always be tempered by his mercy**. He placed a rainbow in the cloud as a reminder to the world of this promise.

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However, he **did not** promise us, believers, that we would not suffer at the hands of evil men. He promised us that we will be victorious in the end in spite of the suffering. As Yeshua, said, man can only destroy our bodies. He cannot destroy our soul, which is the **real us**. The real man; the real woman.

Matthew 10:28 CJB

(28) "Do not fear those who kill the body but are powerless to kill the soul. Rather, fear him who can destroy both soul and body in Gei-Hinnom.

The **gentile church** is not an elite group that will be protected from persecution, while all other believers suffer, and have been suffering throughout history. As Isaac watts writes in his song "Am I a soldier of the Cross".

*Must I be carried to the skies
On flowery beds of ease,
While others fought to win the prize
And sailed through bloody seas?*

However, even though the believers will go through persecution, they will not go through the wrath of Elohim. As the scriptures teaches, Elohim's wrath [his extreme anger] is his **judgment** poured out upon the wicked people on earth for their ungodly deeds and for participating in the beastly system of the anti-Messiah.

Everything that is happening **now**, has happened in the **past**, and will happen in the **future** are all in the plans of the almighty God. He uses wicked and vicious people to carry out his purpose. He used Nebuchadnezzar to defeat and punish Israel and the other nations. He even called him "my servant".

Jeremiah 27:6 TLV

(6) So now I have given all these lands into the hand of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, **My servant**. I have even given the beasts of the field to serve him.

In the end of the age, during the tribulation, Yahweh will orchestrate every event to accomplish **his will and his purpose**.

Revelation 17:17 TLV

(17) For God has put it into their hearts **to do His will**, and to be of one mind, and to give their royal power to the beast **until the words of God are fulfilled**.

Therefore, Yahweh will choose an **evil ruler** to reign over Israel for 7 years. This wicked ruler will put his people to a test. 3 ½ of those seven years will be a time of great distress, suffering and persecution. According to revelation chapter six,

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Yeshua will **remove** peace from the earth; wars will **increase**, natural **disaster** will take place; and widespread **famine**. Also, those who stand firm in their faith in the messiah **will** suffer persecution and death.

Revelation 7:14 CJB

(14)" Then he told me, "These are the people who have come out of the Great Persecution. They have washed their robes and made them white with the blood of the Lamb.

Daniels was given a vision about end time events when the anti-Christ will be in authority.

Daniel 7:7 CJB

After this, I looked in the night visions; and there before me was a fourth animal, **dreadful, horrible, extremely strong**, and with great iron teeth. It devoured, crushed and stamped its feet on what was left. It was different from all the animals that had gone before it, and it had ten horns.

Daniel 7:21-22 CJB

(21) I watched, and that horn **made war with the holy ones and was winning**,

(22) until the Ancient One came, judgment was given in favor of the holy ones of the Most High, and the time came for the holy ones to **take over the kingdom**.

Daniel 7:24-25 CJB

(24) out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and yet another **will arise after them**. Now he will be **different** from the earlier ones, and he will put down three kings.

(25) He will speak words **against the Most High** and try to exhaust the holy ones of the Most High. He will attempt to alter the seasons and the law; and the holy ones will be handed over to him **for a time, times and half a time [3 1/2 years]**.

Daniel teaches that Elohim's holy ones **will go** through a time of trial unequalled to anything that has happened since the world began.

Even though Yahweh permits his holy ones to experience persecution, he does not permit them to be **destroyed**.

Daniel 12:1-3 CJB

(1) "When that time comes, Michael, the great prince who champions your people, will stand up; and there will be a time of **distress unparalleled** between

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the time they became a nation and that moment. At that time, **your people will be delivered**, everyone whose name is **found written in the book**.

John was also given a vision of a beast with ten horns which is a confirmation of Daniel vision concerning end time events when the evil ruler will be in charge. He writes **in revelation chapter 13**.

Revelation 13:1-10 CJB

(1) I saw a beast come up out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads. On its horns were ten royal crowns and, on its heads, blasphemous names.

(2) To it the dragon gave its power, its throne and great authority.

(3) and the **whole earth** followed after the beast in amazement.

(5) It was given a mouth speaking arrogant blasphemies; and it was given authority to act for forty-two months. [**3 ½ years**]

(6) So it opened its mouth in blasphemies against God to insult his name and his Sh'khinah [Glory], and those living in heaven;

(7) it was **allowed to make war on God's holy people** and to defeat them; and it was **given** authority over every tribe, people, language and nation.

(8) Everyone living on earth will worship **it except** those whose names are written **in the Book of Life belonging to the Lamb** slaughtered before the world was founded.

(10) "If anyone is meant for captivity, into captivity he goes! If anyone is to be killed with the sword, with the sword he is to be killed!"

This is when God's holy people must persevere and trust!

At some point in the future, when Yahweh put an end to the evil that has invaded his creation, he **will allow his holy ones to be tested**. John said when these things are happening, "***This is when God's holy people must persevere and trust!***"

However, that time of stress, will also be a time when the Lord **will continue** to reach out to Israel and the **nation** of the world, because **His desire** is for all to be saved.

He will even use an **angel** to preach to the people, giving them one last chance to change.

Revelation 14:6-7 CJB

(6) Next I saw another **angel flying in mid-heaven** with everlasting Good News to proclaim to those living on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people.

(7) In a loud voice he said, "Fear God, give him glory, for the **hour has come** when he **will pass judgment!** Worship the One who made heaven and earth,

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the sea and the springs of water!"

What an **awesome**, loving God we serve! Even to the **very last** minute he reaches out to humanity.

2 Peter 3:9 CJB

(9) The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some people think of slowness; on the contrary, he is patient with you; for it is **not his purpose** that anyone should be destroyed, but that everyone should turn from his sins.

Since Yahweh's desire is for all people to repent, he gives humanity **one** last chance. Before his **wrath** is poured out upon the earth. The angels said "***the hour has come when he will pass judgment***

During that **3 ½ years**, Israel will be saved as promised.

Chapter 11 of revelation tells us that the temple in Jerusalem and its worshippers will be preserved; and **two witnessed** prophesied or bore witness to Yeshua to the **Jewish people**.

Revelation 11:1-3 CJB

(1) I was given a measuring rod like a stick and told, "Get up, and **measure** the Temple of God and the altar, and count how many people are worshipping there!

(2) But the court outside the Temple, leave that out; don't measure it; because it has been given to the nations, and they will trample over the holy city for forty-two months.

(3) "Also I will give power to **my two witnesses**; and they will prophesy for **1,260** days, dressed in sackcloth."

Measuring symbolizes reserving a city either for preservation or for destruction.

Revelation 11:13, tells us that it was for **preservation** because when the city of Jerusalem was hit by Elohim's woe, the Jewish people turned and worshiped Elohim.

Revelation 11:13 CJB

(13) In that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city collapsed. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the **rest** were awestruck and **gave glory to the God of heaven**.

The apostle Paul said **all** Israel will be saved:

Romans 11:25-26 TLV

(25) For I do not want you, brothers and sisters, to be ignorant of this **mystery**—lest you be wise in your own eyes—that a partial hardening has come

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upon Israel **until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;**

(26) and in this way **all Israel** will be saved, as it is written, "The Deliverer shall come out of Zion. He shall turn **away** ungodliness from Jacob.

Daniel 12:1 CJB

"When that time comes, Michael, the great prince who champions your people, will stand up; and there will be a time of distress unparalleled between the time they became a nation and that moment. At that time, **your people** will be delivered, everyone whose **name is found written in the book.**

Your people means, Israel.

The suffering that will come upon Elohim's people is **not** to destroy them, but to test them and to save them. And when those times come, the Lord has his own ways of **protecting** them, so they will not be destroyed.

Yeshua gave the **congregation in Smyrna** a message about persecution.

Rev 2:8-11 CJB

(8) "To the angel of the Messianic Community in Smyrna, write: 'Here is the message from the First and the Last, who died and came alive again:

....

(10) Don't be afraid of what you are about to suffer. Look, the Adversary is going to have some of you thrown in prison, **in order to put you to the test;** and you will face an ordeal for ten days. Remain faithful, even to the point of death; and I will give you life as your crown.

(11) Those who have ears, let them hear what the Spirit is saying to the Messianic communities. **He who wins the victory** will not be hurt at all by the second death." '

We must keep in mind that God has **two ways** of delivering his people. He can deliver them **from** tribulation, or he can deliver them **through** tribulation. He did not keep Daniel from the lion den; however, he did deliver him through the ordeal, without being harmed. Noah and his family were kept safe during the flood.

The apostle Peter tell us Yeshua knows how to protect his people when they are going through trials.

2 Peter 2:9 CJB

So the Lord **knows how to rescue** the godly from trials and how to hold the wicked until the Day of Judgment while continuing to punish them, Yahweh's intention is **not** to destroy his holy people. However, When the tribulation period begins **a separation** will be made from those whose name is **written in the book of life,** and those who claim the name of Yeshua in words

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only. Those who have no real depth in Messiah will give up and turn from the truth and believe the lies of the false prophet.

As Yeshua says,

Matthew 24:10-13 CJB

- (10) At that time many will be **trapped** into betraying and hating each other,
(11) many false prophets will appear and fool many people;
(12) and many people's **love will grow cold** because of increased distance from scripture.
(13) But whoever **holds out till the end will be delivered.**

The **true believers** will remain faithful and will refuse the mark of the beast, even at the risk of death. Some will indeed **lose** their life, but not their **souls**.

Those believers who survive the time of persecution will be raptured away for a time but will eventually come back to the earth. I believe the rapture will take place in order to remove the holy people from the earth before Elohim's wrath is poured out on the wicked. When the judgement begins the earth will be hit hard. wicked human beings will suffer and die.

As a result of the turmoil, everything will need to be made new. The earth will need to be prepared for the thousand-year reign of the messiah and the victorious redeemed.

I believe things will happen in the following order:

1. At the end of the seven-year reign of the anti-Messiah, **Yeshua, will come back**, collect his people and take them away. When they are gone,
2. Yahweh will begin to pour out his wrath upon the earth and upon the people living on the earth.
3. Satan will be chained and held captive in the bottomless pit.
4. As a result of the direct hit, the elements of the earth will be in a shamble and unfit to be inhabited.
5. Therefore, the Lord will make a new heaven and a new earth.
6. After renewing everything, the Lord will return with the saints and set up his kingdom and reign for a thousand years.

Revelation 20:4 CJB

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Then I saw thrones, and those seated on them received authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for testifying about Yeshua and proclaiming the Word of God, also those who had not worshipped the beast or its image and had not received the mark on their foreheads and on their hands.

They came to life and ruled with the Messiah for a thousand years.

When Yahweh told his son Yeshua what will happen in the future, Yeshua sent his angel to show these things John, who will inform the congregation and we will not be caught off guard.

2 Peter 3:11-13 CJB

(11) Since everything is going to be destroyed like this, what kind of people should you be? You should **lead holy and godly lives,**

(12) as you wait for the Day of God and work to hasten its coming. That Day will bring on the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt from the heat;

(13) but we, following along with his promise, **wait for new heavens** and a new earth, in which righteousness will be at home.

Revelation 1:1 CJB

(1) This is the revelation which God gave to Yeshua the Messiah, so that he could **show his servants** what must happen very soon. He communicated it by sending his angel to his servant John,

His last words to the congregation in chapter 22 is:

Revelation 22:20 CJB

(20) "The one who is testifying to these things says, **'Yes, I am coming soon!'**
" Amen! Come, Lord Yeshua!