

THINGS TO COME

(Most Asked Questions #4)

The Book of Revelation

One of the wonderful and amazing things about God is that He tells us the future. God knows all things and has a plan that has ordained everything. Again, the future is certain. It is not left to chance.

God tells us in the Bible about certain events that will take place. This is called eschatology. It includes the prophetic statements given by God so as to encourage His people. Think about the prophecies unfolding the first coming of Jesus. (Isa. 7, 9, 53; Micah 5:2; Psalm 22, etc) Each one of these was literally fulfilled by the Lord.

From our point forward, God has told us of certain events yet to come...these too are certain...and probably not far off. These future events seem close and is like watching a stage being set for a play at the theater.

FOUR COMING EVENTS THAT WILL UNFOLD GOD'S PROGRAM OF OUR REDEMPTION.

For these events will complete everything God ever told us about the future.

I. We As Christians Are Waiting For The Rapture of The Church. (1 Thess 4:13ff)

- A. The church is described as a "mystery" by Paul, in that this age of ours was not foretold by the Old Testament prophets. (Eph. 3:4-5) A mystery was something hidden, but now revealed.
 - 1. The church is made up of both Jew and Gentile. No difference between the two. (Rev. 3:6)
 - 2. The church began in Acts 2...Pentecost. After the ascension of Jesus...
 - 3. The church "age" will continue until the "body of Christ" is complete.
- B. Paul tells us that the Lord's return could occur at any moment. This is called the imminent return of Jesus for His bride...the church.
 - 1. Paul tells us, "we, who are alive and remain will be..." (1 Thess. 4:15) He expected to be...
 - 2. This is a meeting that will take place "in the air." (v.17) After this meeting, we will go to heaven with the Lord. (John 14:1-3) (1 Corinth 15) (Rev. 3:10)
Some Christians will go without dying, but the majority of Christians will have died and their bodies will be resurrected and joined with their souls "in the air."
- C. At this point, we as Christians will all stand before the Lord at the "judgment seat of Christ" and give an account of our service for the Savior. (2 Corinth 5:10) (Romans 14:10-12)

II. While We Are In Heaven, The Tribulation Period Of Seven Years Will Take Place On The Earth. (Revelation 6-19)

