

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

MOVING INTO ETERNITY

RLJ-1422

JOHN S. TORELL

DECEMBER 15, 2013

PART 3: ROAD MAP OF THE END TIMES

A GLOBAL JUDGMENT

The knowledge that there will be a global gathering of all nations for judgment in the future was first given to Enoch before the flood.

*“And behold! **He cometh with ten thousands of His holy ones to execute judgment upon all, and to destroy all the ungodly: And to convict all flesh of all the works of their ungodliness which they have ungodly committed, and of all the hard things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.**”* (1 Book of Enoch 1:9)

This same warning was then repeated to the prophet Joel around 800 B.C. **Joel 3:11-16**

Here is what Jesus taught on the subject:

1. All unsaved people living on earth at the time of this global judgment are likened to tares, which at the harvest time are gathered and burned by fire. **Matthew 13:36-43**
2. Jesus said there will be a separation of the unsaved from the born again believers. **verses 47-51**
3. Jesus repeated this teaching at different times and locations. Each time the theme was the same; God's holy angels would bring together the people, there would be a global judgment of the nations and the lost would be sent to the Lake of Fire. **Matthew 25:31-46**

THE APOSTLE PAUL & THE END TIMES

It is interesting that in his letter to the Romans, Paul stated how the final judgment would be carried out. The Jews will be judged according to God's laws as found in the Old Testament while the Gentiles would be judged according to the coded law that God has inscribed in every human being. **Romans 1:18-20; 2:11-16**

Paul never addressed the issue of a final judgment on the human race; instead, he focused on the judgment of believers in Christ. **1 Corinthians 3:11-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10-11; Hebrews 10:26-31**

Paul died before the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D. The other apostles had been killed when Jesus gave the revelation of the end times to the apostle John around 90 A.D.



THE ROAD MAP OF THE END TIMES

Some 57 years after Jesus had ascended up into heaven (Acts 1:9-11), the apostle John was taken to heaven in the Spirit and shown God's plan for the end times and how life would be in the new creation. **Revelation 1:1-20**

1. John was shown that passed away born again believers were in heaven and very much alive. This includes people from the time of Adam and Eve that believed in the future Messiah and all people who had accepted Jesus as their Messiah. **Revelation 6:9-11; 7:9-17**
2. Jesus told John there were to be severe judgments for the people on earth who had rejected Jesus as the Messiah. **Revelation 6:1-8**
3. After the judgment upon the world, Jesus revealed there would be a world federation of nations ruled by Satan's man, known as the Antichrist. **Revelation 13:1-4**
 - a) This world dictator will make war with the Christians. **verses 5-9**
 - b) The Antichrist (first beast) will have a false prophet (second beast) at his side who will lead the unbelievers in worship of the Man of Sin. **verses 11-15**
 - c) It is the false prophet that is in charge of the Mark of the Beast program. **verses 16-18**
4. Jesus issued a strong warning that anyone taking this satanic religious mark of loyalty is doomed for the Lake of Fire. **Revelation 14:9-11**
5. Jesus exhorted the people living at this time not to take the Mark of the Beast. **verses 12-13**
6. Those who do not take Satan's mark of loyalty will be rewarded. **Revelation 15:1-4**

THE CATCHING AWAY OF CHRISTIANS

Jesus never said He would come and remove Christians from the world prior to the coming of the Antichrist. In fact, there is no mention of a catching away or rapture of all Christians in the Book of Revelation.

The apostle Paul is the only source for a teaching on the rapture; he too received direct revelations from Jesus. **Galatians 1:11-12**

It is interesting to note that Paul died some 25 years before John was given the revelation. Paul had no knowledge about the Book of Revelation nor did he know what it would contain.

WHAT DID JESUS REVEAL TO PAUL?

Let's take a look at what Jesus had revealed to Paul:

1. There will be the resurrection of the dead when the last trumpet sounds. **1 Corinthians 15:50-58**

2. In his letter to the church in Thessalonica, Paul stated a trumpet would sound and that this catching away (rapture) is connected with the general resurrection of those who have died in Christ. **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**
3. Paul also said that Christians are not appointed to the wrath of God, but unto salvation. Paul did not know about the terrible wrath mentioned in the Book of Revelation that God is going to pour out on the kingdom of the Antichrist. Therefore we can make the assumption that God will make a difference between the believers in Christ and the unsaved during the Tribulation period, just like God made a difference between the Israelites and the Egyptians. **1 Thessalonians 5:1-9**
4. In the second letter to the church in Thessalonica, Paul said the coming of the Lord and the catching away (rapture) of Christians would not take place until the Antichrist had established his throne on earth and proclaimed himself to be god in the temple of Jerusalem. **2 Thessalonians 2:1-13**

CONCLUSION

There is no reference in the New Testament that there will be a catching away (rapture) of all Christians prior to the coming of the Antichrist. Jesus said that when we see all prophesied events happening, we would know the end is near, but Jesus never told us how close we were to the end at that point. **Matthew 24:32-33**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?

The Book of Enoch

Translated from the Ethiopian by R.H. Charles, 1906

Book 1: Watchers

Chapter 1

1 The words of the blessing of Enoch,
wherewith he blessed the elect and
righteous, who will be

2 living in the day of tribulation, when
all the wicked and godless are to be
removed. And he took up his parable and
said -Enoch a righteous man, whose eyes
were opened by God, saw the vision of
the Holy One in the heavens, which the
angels showed me, and from them I
heard everything, and from them I
understood as I saw, but not for this
generation, but for a remote one which is
for to come.

3 Concerning the elect I said, and took
up my parable concerning them:

The Holy Great One will come forth
from His dwelling,

4 And the eternal God will tread upon
the earth, (even) on Mount Sinai,
[And appear from His camp]
And appear in the strength of His might
from the heaven of heavens.

5 And all shall be smitten with fear
And the Watchers shall quake,
And great fear and trembling shall seize
them unto the ends of the earth.

6 And the high mountains shall be
shaken,

And the high hills shall be made low,
And shall melt like wax before the flame

7 And the earth shall be wholly rent in
sunder,
And all that is upon the earth shall
perish,
And there shall be a judgment upon all
(men).

8 But with the righteous He will make
peace.

And will protect the elect,
And mercy shall be upon them.

And they shall all belong to God,
And they shall be prospered,
And they shall all be blessed.

And He will help them all,
And light shall appear unto them,
And He will make peace with them.

9 And behold! He cometh with ten
thousands of His holy ones
To execute judgment upon all,
And to destroy all the ungodly:

And to convict all flesh
Of all the works of their ungodliness
which they have ungodly committed,
And of all the hard things which ungodly
sinners have spoken against Him.