

Questions & Answers from the End Times Class – Dec 2014

Your questions:

1. Is the Great Commission mentioned in Matthew 28 still important during the Tribulation Period?

1A: With all the Christians gone, the witnessing will be done by the 2 witnesses and the 144,000 Jewish witnesses. Some believe that those who are left behind and thought they were Christians will “wake up” and surrender for real to the Lord and be a part of the witnessing team. That is not a given. In 2 Thess 2:10-12, the Bible says God will give them a “strong delusion” to believe the lies of the world. There will be the silent witness of Bibles, sermons, notes and information left by the millions who vanish

2. What does “Missed my calling” mean when relating to Rapture? What do we do to get prepared?

2A: Most of the time when people talk about "missing their calling" it refers to normal vocational activities. For example, if I went to school and took a general business degree but later in life found a deep interest in Police work or Social work I might start over and do something different and say "I missed my calling". Usually it has to do with a change in direction and work area.

When I talked about a "calling" I was not speaking of vocational calling but a ***Spiritual Calling***. The word for Church used almost always in the Bible is the Greek work ***Ekklesia***, which is translated "Church" but more accurately means "the called out ones". In this sense, each of us who is a believer in Jesus Christ is a called out one. This means several things, among them is being called out (or set apart) of the rest of humanity to be witnesses for the Lord, obedient to His Word, and faithful to Him. In doing these things we each have spiritual gifts that we are to use to further the body of Christ (the believers here on earth) and the Kingdom of the Lord (the Gospel and work of God). So when I say each of us has a calling and we should figure out what it is and get busy doing it, I mean that each of us who are believers have been given at least 1 spiritual gift that we are to be using. If we don't know what that is we need to figure it out since God has placed each of us for some purpose in the Kingdom. All believers are "called" in this normal way, but sometimes God lays a special calling on a person, like Billy Graham, or like one of the Prophets of the Old Testament for a Special Work. Ministers are “called” to the Ministry. In my own case, I have a calling to be a Bible Teacher, but for the past few years I feel a special calling from God to teach Prophecy and End Times scripture. This special calling may be for a short period or be focused in a particular area since each special calling is different. An example is that Pastors/teachers are said to have a "calling" from God to preach/teach the Gospel. In some cases that is really a talent and not a calling from God. You can tell by the lives they (or anyone for that matter) live in contrast to what they preach or teach.

Talents and skills may or may not be part of a calling. Sometimes God calls a person totally out of their comfort zone or skill zone, like Moses, because God sees us for who we can become, not who we believe we are. God never calls us to do anything He has not given us the power to do through Him.

In terms of getting ready for His coming, the primary thing is to be a believer because everything else hinges on that as a reality. Once you are a believer, and I mean "born again" believer, you will want to look for your place to serve using the gifts given to you. If you are faithful to that and are looking for His Coming and trying to be as faithful and as

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good a witness as you can, you are ready. In the midst of this service, God may place additional "calls" on your life for tasks and work. These are blessings for us and others.

3. What happens to those who die before the Rapture? If they are Christians where does their Spirit and body reside?

3A: Those who die in Christ (as believers) will be the first resurrected in the Rapture and given an immortal resurrection body, and then will be joined by those of us who are alive at the rapture to meet Jesus in the clouds, and be with him and each other forever. (see 1 Thess 4:13-18)

4. Explain the two judgments you mentioned and who is in each Judgment Seat of Christ, and the Great White Throne Judgment (Robert Jessup) *Already done*

5. During the end of the Tribulation when the Jews cry out to God to come and Jesus comes, will all these Jews be saved?

5A: This occurs at the end of the Tribulation period before the Campaign or Battle of Armageddon. The Jews are being pressed on all sides and are made up of both believers and unbelievers at that time. When Jesus returns they are awestruck by the Messiah returning and deeply remorseful when they discover it is Jesus Christ, but vast numbers surrender to Him and are made believers and be saved although many will be killed for their faith

6. When Christ judges the Antichrist and the False Prophet and sends them into Hell (Lake of Fire), will those who believed in the Antichrist and have the Mark of the Beast be thrown into Hell at this time?

6A: No, when the Antichrist and False Prophet are thrown into the Lake of Fire, Satan is thrown into the Abyss, which is not the same. The millennial kingdom takes place for 1000 years and after that all the wicked Dead are judged and cast into the Lake of Fire. Those unbelievers that die in the interim go into Hades, which is the resting place for souls, awaiting the GWT Judgment.

Questions from DVD (selected)

7. When we die, will we see Jesus then or at the 2nd coming?

7A: The Bible tells us that when we die, our soul is instantly with the Lord, so we will see Jesus immediately at the time of death. An interesting quote from CS Lewis adds some light to this "We do not have a soul, we ARE a soul. We HAVE a body". What this tells us that our souls are separable from our bodies and the grave is simply the holding space for our bodies. For non Christians, the soul remains in Sheol (Hades) until the end time (except for those before Christ – amplify)

8. Near Death Experiences – how can people see those in Heaven with bodies if we don't get our resurrected bodies until the Rapture?

8A: I am skeptical of those NDE experiences especially when what they "see" includes things that are not Biblical, however, When Moses and Elijah came to the Transfiguration, they appeared in some sort of body, so God may have some way to accomplish this which is certainly under His control.

9. Is Heaven temporary or Permanent?

9A: This is an interesting question because of our incorrect perceptions of what the Bible actually teaches in regards to Eternity. The Bible clearly teaches that the current Earth and Heaven passes away and they are replaced by the New Earth, New

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Heaven, and New Jerusalem. So the current Heaven is temporary. What is the key is not the location, but the relationship. Our relationship is Eternal.

10. The USA is not mentioned in Bible Prophecy. What should we understand about that?

10A: The USA is not mentioned but there are many references to all nations, where America would be represented. So, it is clear that America is going to diminish in power and influence. I think you can see that happening today with our becoming less important in the world. The experiment of the USA is not normal but an anomaly in world history. Our focus must be to be urgent about being Salt and Light to our family and neighbors.

Any other questions you have or that I may have missed bringing out?

Late Q's

11. Will there be any churches that won't be raptured? (i.e. Shintoism, Zoroastrianism, Islam)? (when religion is unknown / ignorant / uneducated)?

A11: no churches will be raptured, only the people who are **born again believers** in Jesus Christ. They are the "church, or called out ones" who are raptured

12. During the 1000 years, will people marry since there will be children?

A12: Yes, life for humans will continue except under Christ's rule.

13. What happens to our homes, properties, pets after the rapture?

A13: They are left behind. **Added:** *Of course there animals in the New Earth because the Lamb lies down with the Lion, and so forth. So even though the Bible does not talk about the Rapture involving anyone or thing other than believing Christians; always remember that God loves all His creation. So since animals are in the New Earth with us, He is taking care of them.*

14. Will you explain the four blood moons, 1948, 1967, 2014, 2015?

A14: Some believe these are key biblical omens since they happened on Jewish Feast days but that is not clear. We just need to be ready for the Rapture. The next blood moon which is the 3rd of the current tetrad happens this Passover 2015.

15. Will the unbelievers in their graves go straight to hell during the rapture?

A15: No, that will happen as part of the Great White Throne Judgment

16. Some preachers talk about giving an account of our transgressions and others say that we are saved by grace. Which is it and does any pain and suffering we experience on earth count. Adam and Eve were punished. Will suffering on earth give ones more privileges in heaven?

A16: We are saved solely by Grace, but we will give an account, not for salvation but for rewards, in the Judgment Seat of Christ.