

PERFECT ENDING

WHY YOUR ETERNAL FUTURE MATTERS TODAY

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HISTORY'S MOST IMPORTANT EVENT
Revelation 19:11-25

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Introduction: Everything we have discussed so far in our series on Bible prophecy is only a prologue to the event we will examine today -- the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

I. Review Of Events Preceding The Second Coming Of Christ

A. God's Promise to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3)

Psalms 89:33-34 "33 But I will not break off My lovingkindness from him, Nor deal falsely in My faithfulness. 34 My covenant I will not violate, Nor will I alter the utterance of My lips."

Daniel 9:24-27 "24 Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place. 25 So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. 26 Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

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B. The Gap Between Christ's First Coming and His Second Coming (Romans 11:25; Daniel 9:24-27)

1. The Church Age (Romans 11:25)

Romans 11:25 "For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery, lest you be wise in your own estimation, that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;"

2. The Great Tribulation (Daniel 9:27)

Daniel 9:27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 "13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do the rest who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words."

God's Purpose for the Tribulation:

- To pour out His **wrath** on **unbelievers**.
- To give unbelieving Israelites and Gentiles one last chance to **repent** prior to the return of Christ.

3. The Battle of Armageddon (Revelation 16:12-21; 19:17-21)

Revelation 16:13-14, 16 “¹³And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; ¹⁴for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. ¹⁶And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon.”

The Satanic trinity: The dragon = **Satan**
 The beast = **Antichrist**
 The false prophet = Antichrist's **lieutenant**

Revelation 14:20 “And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.”

Revelation 16:17 “And the seventh angel poured out his bowl upon the air; and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne saying, ‘It is done.’”

Revelation 16:18-20 “¹⁸And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it, and so mighty. ¹⁹And the great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. ²⁰And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.”

II. The Second Coming Of Jesus Christ (Revelation 19:11-16)

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A. The Appearance of Jesus Christ (Revelation 19:11-13)

Revelation 19:11-13 “¹¹ And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war. ¹² And His eyes are a flame of fire, and upon His head are many diadems; and He has a name written upon Him which no one knows except Himself. ¹³ And He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood; and His name is called The Word of God.”

B. The Appearance of the Church (Revelation 19:14)

Revelation 19:14 “And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses.”

Revelation 19:8 “And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. ”

Isaiah 64:6 “For all of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; and all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.”

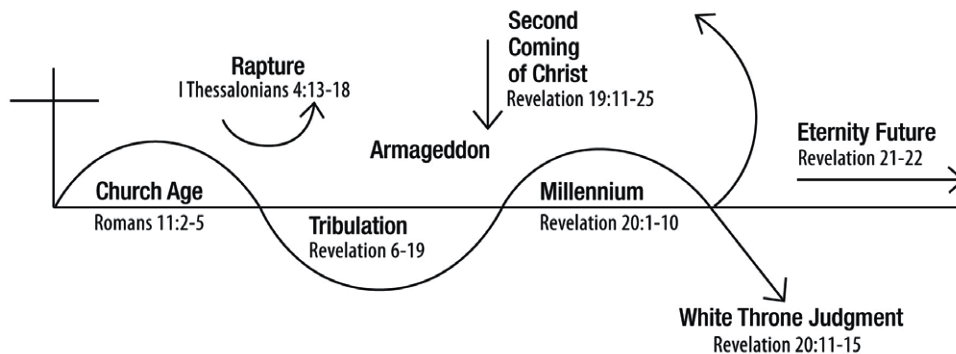
C. The Defeat of Christ's Enemies (Revelation 19:19-21)

Revelation 19:19 “And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war against Him who sat upon the horse, and against His army.”

Rev. 19:15, 21 “¹⁵ And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron, and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. ²¹ And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat upon the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.”

2 Kings 19:35 “Then it happened that night that the angel of the Lord went out and struck 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men rose early in the morning, behold, all of them were dead.”

III. The Differences Between The Second Coming And The Rapture



- Post-tribulation Rapture view: The Rapture and the Second Coming of Christ is a single event.
- Pre-tribulation Rapture of the Church: The Rapture and the Second Coming are two distinct events, separated by seven years of tribulation.

A. Similarities Between the Two Events

- Parousia (which means "coming," "arrival," or "presence," and is found in 1 Thessalonians 4:15 and Matthew 24:27).
- Apokalupis (which means "unveiling" or "revelation" and is used in 1 Corinthians 1:7 and 2 Thessalonians 1:7).
- Epiphaneia (which means "manifestation" and is used in 2 Timothy 4:8 and 2 Thessalonians 2:8).

B. Differences in the Two Events

1. No **prophecies** necessary for the Rapture; many prophecies necessary for the Second Coming.
2. Christ appears in the **air** at the Rapture; Christ returns to **earth** at the Second Coming.

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1 Thessalonians 4:17 "Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord."

Zechariah 14:4 "And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south."

3. Jesus returns to heaven with believers at the Rapture; Christ returns to earth with believers at the Second Coming to establish His kingdom.
4. The Rapture is a mystery; the Second Coming is prophesied.
5. After the Rapture, only believers are judged; at the Second Coming, Israel and Gentile unbelievers are judged.
6. After the Rapture, there is no physical change in the earth; after the Second Coming, partial renovation of the Earth.
7. After the Rapture, Satan continues to work; after the Second Coming Satan is bound for 1000 years.
8. At the Rapture, only believers will see Christ; at the Second Coming, everyone will see Christ.

Zechariah 12:10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a first-born."

Philippians 2:10-11 "10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

IV. The Necessity Of The Second Coming of Jesus Christ

2 Peter 3:3-4, 8-9 “³Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, ⁴and saying ‘Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.’ ⁸But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance.”

A. Christ is Coming to **Fulfill** the Prophecies of the Bible

B. Christ is Coming to **Judge** Unbelievers

Isaiah 11:4 “But with righteousness He will judge the poor, and decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; and He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.”

2 Peter 3:7 “But the present heavens and earth by His word are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.”

C. Christ is Coming to **Reclaim** the Earth

Revelation 11:15 “And the seventh angel sounded; and there arose loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.’”

Conclusion