THE END TIMES

A SERMON SERIES BY GREGG MATTE

March 8, 2009 • Pastor Gregg Matte

Part 4: What Now?

1 Thessalonians 5:8-11 (p. 837)

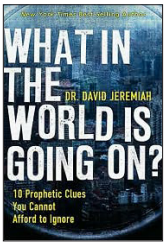
• The purpose of prophecy is godliness.

- Protect the heart from sin and the head from error.

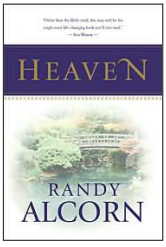
• His death gives us life. We'll be with Him.

• Are the End Times close?

Book Recommendations:



What in the World is Going on? by Dr. David Jeremiah

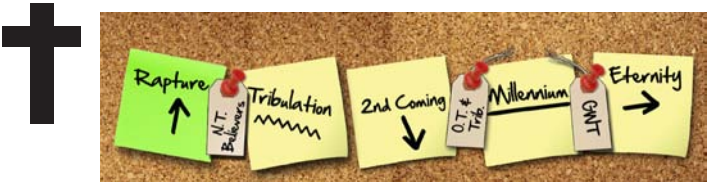


Heaven by Randy Alcorn

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Part 1: The Rapture 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

• Three arrows and two lines, to explain the End Times



↑ **Rapture:** Christ coming *for* His church 1 Corinthians 15:50-58; John 14:1-3
~ **Tribulation:** 7 years of worldwide calamity Revelation 6-19; 2 Thessalonians 2
↓ **Second Coming of Christ:** He comes *with* His church Revelation 19:11-21
— **Millennium:** 1000 year reign of Christ on earth with His people Revelation 20
→ **Eternity:** New heaven and earth for believers; hell for unbelievers Revelation 21

• Thoughts of Why A Pretribulation Rapture
- **OT examples** of saints removed before wrath comes; i.e. Noah, Lot, and Rahab
- **Revelation**: The word "church" not mentioned in Revelation 6-19 when the Tribulation is described Revelation 3:10; 4:1-2; 6-19
- **1 Thessalonians**: 1 Thessalonians 4:17 uses "we" for the Rapture and "them" in 1 Thessalonians 5:3 for the Tribulation; 1 Thessalonians 5:9 concludes Paul's discussion

Part 2: Eternal Rewards 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3

• The purpose of prophecy is godliness.
• 1 Thessalonians 5:3, The Day of the Lord: a time period in which God intervenes in history, primarily for judgment. (Tyndale Bible Dictionary)
• Three Judgments (push pins) and Eternal Rewards

A. The cross was the ultimate judgment of sin. Colossians 2:13-14
B. The Judgment (Bema) Seat of Christ for believers is for evaluation not for salvation. Eternal rewards are based on faithfulness. Ephesians 6:8; Matthew 12:41-43; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15
1. Our Eternal Rewards
a. His presence and praise Matthew 13:46; 25:23
b. Reigning with Him: Revelation 5:10; 20:6
c. Ammo for worship; Casting crowns at Christ's feet. The goal of life is to increase our capacity for worship in heaven (i.e. Eternal Rewards) Revelation 4:10
C. The Great White Throne Judgment is for salvation. Since the unbeliever's righteousness was not exchanged for Christ's at the cross, they stand on their own righteousness at the GWT. Therefore, none will be saved. Revelation 20:15

Part 3: The Difference 1 Thessalonians 5:4-7

• The difference of the cross results in different paths.

Believers Path:



Unbelievers Path:

