

# The Rapture Of The Saints

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #15  
Isaiah 26 – November 22, 2016 – Tuesday

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## I. DEAD MEN SHALL LIVE, 19

- A. We know that lost men, who are dead in their sins, will live when their faith is in Christ by the grace of God.
  - 1. Ephesians 2:1 *And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;*
  - 2. Ephesians 2:5 *Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)*
  - 3. Colossians 2:13 *And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;*
- B. We also know that men die, for it is appointed to man to die.
  - 1. Hebrews 9:27 *And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:*
  - 2. Many today lie in graves, those who are lost and those who are saved; and, even though in a more physical way all men are equal in the grave, yet even while in the grave, Jesus knows those who are his, and there is an elective difference between graves in the cemetery: some are going to resurrect to everlasting life, and some to everlasting contempt.
  - 3. So says Daniel 12:2 *And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.*

## II. DEAD MEN SHALL ARISE, 19

- A. Now those men (or people) in the graves who are dead physically, and many who have been in the grave so long that their bodies have gone to ashes, shall arise.
  - 1. 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 *Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*
- B. These dead men are asleep in Jesus, not in their souls, but in their bodies.
  - 1. 1 Corinthians 15:6 *After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.*
  - 2. 1 Thessalonians 4:15 *For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.*
  - 3. 2 Peter 3:4 *And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.*
- C. Notice Isaiah 26:14 (speaking about “other lords”) *They are dead, they shall not live; they are deceased, they shall not rise: therefore hast thou visited and destroyed them, and made all their memory to perish.*

## III. DEAD MEN SHALL SING, 19

- A. The dead men in the grave, those believing saints of God will not only arise, but they will sing.
- B. This is an invitation for them to come out of the graves, “awake and sing.”
- C. They dwell in dust, but they will now dwell in chambers, houses, rooms, or mansions.
  - 1. Isaiah 24:14 *They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing for the majesty of the LORD, they shall cry aloud from the sea.*
  - 2. Revelation 15:3 *And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.*

#### IV. DEAD MEN SHALL BE WATERED WITH DEW, 19

- A. Remember that, before the flood, a mist came up from the ground and watered the plants, and there lush and bountiful produce.
- B. So shall the dead in the graves be watered with dew so that they can bring forth the fruit produced by God’s grace and enjoy the bounty of God’s provisions.

#### V. DEAD MEN SHALL BE CAST OUT OF THE EARTH, 19

- A. From among the dead bodies will be brought out of graves, from the bottom of the sea, and in every hidden place, men, women, boys, and girls who are born again by the grace of God.
- B. This metaphorically happens as God’s grace like dew comes upon them, and they are watered and come forth out of the ground like the sound of abundance of rain (1 Kings 18:41), and dead people shall awake from their deadness (or their sleep in Christ) and will come forth and be cast out of the earth, and gravity will lose its power.
- C. The magnet of God will bring dead people out of graves and catch them up into Heaven.
  - 1. 1 Thess. 4:16-17 *For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*
  - 2. Rev. 14:12-16 *Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. 13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. 14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. 16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.*

#### VI. DEAD MEN ARE INVITED INTO CHAMBERS, 20

- A. These are God’s people. We are the sheep of his pasture, his chosen ones.
- B. He loves us and watches us and protects us.
- C. He has made eternal preparations for us.

1. Jesus said in John 14:2, “. . . I go to prepare a place for you.”
2. In this same verse the place is said to have mansions.
3. In our verse here in Isaiah, he speaks of chambers.
4. This word “chamber” is the Hebrew KEDER and means “the innermost room.”
5. This sounds to me much like the holy of holies in the tabernacle and temple.
6. There we will be in the most holy place in God’s entire existence.
7. What a place to live!
8. The word in John 14:2 “mansions” is the Greek word MONE and indicates a place of permanent dwelling.
9. That’s where we shall be. Dead men are invited here.

VII. DEAD MEN PROTECTED FROM THE INDIGNATION, 20

- A. We have often noticed that God’s people are taken out of the world before the Great Tribulation takes place on the earth.
- B. He does this to protect us from harm, for “there is therefore no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit.” Romans 8:1
- C. He says here to shut the doors and “hide thyself as it were for a little moment.”
- D. Revelation 7:14 . . . *These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.*

VIII. DEAD MEN WAIT WHILE GOD’S JUDGMENT COMES, 20

- A. While the Tribulation is happening for a “little moment” here on earth, we are safely kept in the secure abode of Heaven with Jesus.
- B. “Until the indignation be overpast.” That is, until the wrath of God has been poured out and has satisfied God’s judgment upon those who hate believers and who punish them and kill them.
- C. As Noah and his family stayed safe in the ark and waited for the passing of the indignation of the flood, so we shall be in Heaven safely held with doors shut while God pours out his indignation upon the whole earth again with fire.
- D. The blood on the doorpost in Exodus, while the Hebrews waited that night in their houses, the death angel came by and passed over the house because of the blood applied to the door post.
- E. The blood on the doorpost was safety to those within and judgment to those who were without.
- F. So, after God raptures all of his saints and they are safe in heaven, the death angel, as it were, will come by every house on earth with judgment, but he will not bring judgment to those who are safe in Heaven by the blood of the Lamb.

IX. GOD LEAVES HIS MERCY SEAT TO JUDGE, 21

- A. God’s abiding place is upon the mercy seat, as we see in the tabernacle and the temple.
- B. But sometimes he “cometh out of his place go punish.”
- C. John the Baptist said to the scribes and Pharisees in Matthew 3:7 *But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?*

- D. His wrath comes in the form of fire: Revelation 8:5 *And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.*
- E. 2 Peter 3:12 *Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?*

X. DEAD MEN'S BLOOD WILL REVEAL GOD'S ANGER, 21

- A. We remember the story of Cain and Abel and how Abel's blood cried from the ground to reveal the sin of murder committed against him.
- B. Genesis 4:10 *And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.*
- C. John gives this summation of the wrath of God upon the earth in vengeance for the blood of the saints of God: Revelation 16:6 *For they have shed the blood of saints\_and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.*
- D. Then forever there will be no more blood to cover up the lies, the conniving, the persecution, and the slaughter of innocent blood. It will be truly and finally revealed, and God's judgment will be satisfied with vengeance.
- E. And there we are, in heaven, enjoying the presence of Jesus Christ and that great inheritance that he has for us:
  1. Ephesians 1:11 *In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:*
  2. 1 Peter 1:4 *To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,*