

The Messiah and The Rapture

Let us pray.

BAR-CHU et Adonai ham'vorach. Baruch Adonai ham'vorach l'olam vaed. Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha-olam, asher bacher banu mi-kol ha'amim, v'natan lanu et Torato. Baruch Atah, Adonai, notein ha Torah.

BLESS ADONAI who is blessed. Blessed is Adonai who is blessed now and forever. Blessed are You, Adonai, our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has chosen us from among the peoples, and given us the Torah. Blessed are You, Adonai, who gives the Torah.

Amen.

Isaiah 40:3 A voice of one calling in the wilderness, "Prepare the way for the Lord".

We are at the very end of days and we are in the days of preparation before the coming of Messiah and the Kingdom of God on Earth. All of Gods people both Jews and Christians look forward to their last day expectation. The Jews look for the Messiah and the Christians look for the Rapture. But there are some things that need to happen yet before those things take place. And there are some things that need to be cleared up about the Messiah and the Rapture.

First, I will speak to the Jews. The Messiah isn't the character or characters that appear in the teachings in the Talmud. The Talmud was written by men and is the traditions and doctrines of men and not God. Much has been added to the Torah in the Talmud and we need to repent from these things. (Deuteronomy 4:2 Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I give you.) The discussions of Rabbis do not become God's voice.

The Messiah is given to us twice. First as the man Jesus of Nazareth in the New Testament who is born of a virgin, lives a perfect life, performs miracles, preaches to thousands, teaches his disciples, is hung on a cross, is buried in a tomb, and is raised up from death and ascends to heaven with his promise to return at the end. And so, the Messiah will return at the end to save Israel from the armies of the world, conquer the nations, judge the nations, establish a kingdom, and set up a dominion over the nations of the world that will last 1,000 years.

Now, let me address the Rapture.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This gathering in the clouds is called the Rapture. A beautiful thing to look forward to. But God does not promise that the Rapture will let us escape the tribulation. To the contrary he warns us that the beast of Revelation was given power to wage war against God's holy people and to conquer them (Revelation 13:7). The Rapture is also not for all of God's people. The Rapture is only for the Bride of Christ. And whether you will hear this or not, not all Christians are of the Bride. All Christians have the Living Torah (Christ Jesus) in their hearts and therefore are adopted sons of Abraham and God's people and heirs to

the promise. But not all are a part of the Bride. The Bride is only those who Jesus himself has chosen to be his Bride.

And concerning when the Messiah and the Rapture will come?

2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us – whether by prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter – asserting that the day of the Lord has already come. Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

Now, is "that day" referring to "the day of the Lord" or to "our being gathered to him" because these are two different events. The day of the Lord is the tribulation, but our being gathered to him is the rapture. So if "that day" is referencing the gathering then this verse provides a timing for the rapture. But if "that day" references the day of the Lord, then this verse provides timing for the tribulation.

Before "that day" we first must see the man of lawlessness, the Antichrist revealed and set up in God's temple. This means the temple must be built in Jerusalem. And the Antichrist will do much damage to God's people before he gets to the temple. There are hard days ahead for us before Messiah comes and for this we must also be prepared.

It is possible God's people do not escape Revelation, but God's people have been given Revelation in advance.

Let us pray,

BARUCH atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha-olam, asher natan lanu Torat emet, v'chayei olam nata b'tocheinu. Baruch Atah, Adonai, notein ha Torah.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has given us a Torah of truth, implanting within us eternal life. Blessed are You, Adonai, who gives the Torah.

Amen.

Thank You,

A Voice in The Wilderness