<u>Second Advent – Rapture Explained</u>

PLEASE don't CONFUSE the SECOND ADVENT of CHRIST with the RAPTURE

 The Second Advent of Christ WILL COME only after the rapture has already occurred. The Word Rapture is not found in the Bible; it is a mere word to describe an action. The word "Rapture" means caught up. 1 Thessalonians 4:17

Strong's Concordance shows us this: Caught up means:

- 1) to seize, carry off by force (power)
- 2) to seize on, claim for one's self eagerly
- 3) to snatch out or away

Words such as catch up used 4 times, take by force 3 times, catch away 2 times, pluck 2 times, catch 1 time, pull 1 time – are used in the New Testament.

- II. The "Rapture" or "Being Caught UP" according to 1 Thessalonians 4:16: "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:" 1 Thessalonians 4:17 "We shall be caught up or raptured" to meet the Lord in the AIR, to join HIM in the clouds." (At this time, THE FEET of JESUS DO NOT TOUCH the GROUND.) We "SHALL JOIN HIM" as the "BRIDE of JESUS CHRIST" Revelation 19:9 "And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, these are the true sayings of God". This is what we call "The RAPTURE", ONLY to describe the event which WILL take place BEFORE the SEVEN YEARS (3 ½ years of Trials, Tribulations and the 3 ½ years of WRATH of GOD ALMIGHTY)!!!
- III. The **SECOND Advent of JESUS CHRIST** occurs **AFTER** the Seven Years (Tribulation) during which time the "MARRIAGE SUPPER of the LAMB of GOD" will occur which is described in Revelation Chapter 19.

<u>Second Advent – Rapture Explained</u> (Continued)

Revelation 19:7ff

19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. **19:8** And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. **19:9** And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. **19:11** And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. **19:12** His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. **19:13** And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. **19:14** And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. **19:15** And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 19:16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. **19:17** And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; **19:18** That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. **19:19** And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. **19:20** And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. **19:21** And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

Second Advent – Rapture Explained (Continued)

IV. The BIBLE makes it VERY CLEAR that the "Rapture or Being Caught UP" MUST occur before the "Second Coming of JESUS"!!! God always works in patterns; the RIGHTEOUS ARE ALWAYS REMOVED BEFORE DESTRUCTION, as shown in the following scriptures:

Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever."

2 Peter 2:5ff

- 2:5 "And spared not the old world, but "saved Noah" the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;
- 2:6 "And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;"
- 2:7 "And delivered just Lot", vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:"
- 2:8 "For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds"
- 2:9 "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the Day of Judgment to be punished:"

1 Thessalonians 1: 10 "and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come."

1 Thessalonians 5: 9 *"For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,"*