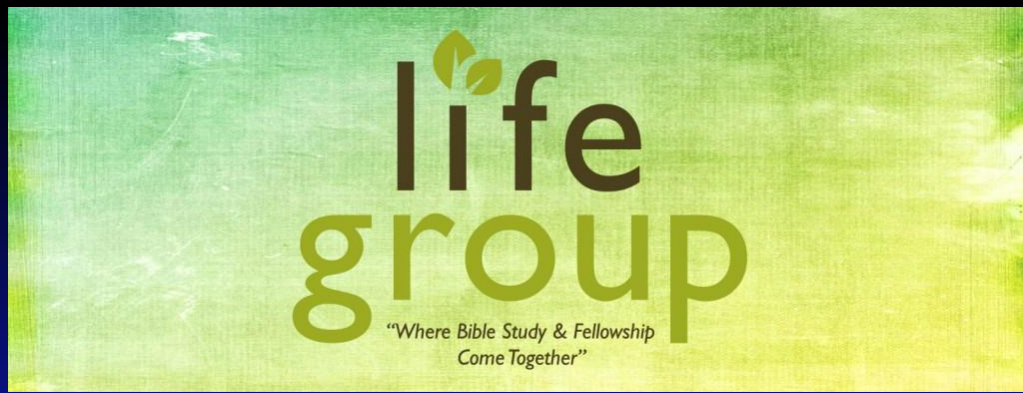


**Welcome to the Worship Celebration of**



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED



**LIFE Group ...**

**6:30 pm at the PEED's home this Wed. evening  
Bring your Bibles, your Notebooks, an  
Expectant heart and a Prayerful-Thankful Attitude  
to Experience the Presence, the Power and the  
Purpose of Jesus Christ, together**



# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1



# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

## Revelation 4:1

**AFTER THESE THINGS** I looked, and behold, a **DOOR** standing **OPEN** in **HEAVEN**. And the first voice which I heard was like a **TRUMPET** speaking with me, saying, “**Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place AFTER THIS.**” (**OPEN DOOR Policy?**)

# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

Let's Analyze this verse:

**AFTER THESE Things ... AFTER THIS** → Jesus, thru John, already revealed to us the **Time Divisions** within this book (i.e. the Book (or scroll) of Revelation)

Jesus told John in **Rev. 1:19**: **Write the things which you HAVE SEEN, and the things which ARE, and the things which will take place AFTER THIS.**

# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

**Let's Analyze this verse:**

**Things Which you Have Seen** → Acts 2 thru the time in which John wrote Revelation. (Ephesus)

**Things Which ARE** → **The Church Age** from John's time until the end of the LAODICEAN Period (i.e. The **rest** of the Church Age / The Gospel Age – Smyrna thru Laodicea)

**Things Which will take place AFTER THIS** → Matches with Rev. 4:1 – After These Things ... **After the “Church Age” is over ...** → Ends with the Rapture

# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

So, Revelation 4:1 relates to what takes place During and AFTER the Rapture Event ... seen from Heaven's Vantage Point ... it is as if we are viewing the rest of the Book from the Balcony in a Theater.

**AFTER THIS →** what “THIS”? → The Church AGE ... God is DONE working with the Church. This is the last time the word “**CHURCH**” is used in the Book of Revelation.

God will **BEGIN** to work with Israel to fulfill His Remaining Promises to them from Revelation 7 onward. It is Israeli-Centric from that point forward. **A Tale of Two Cities** from Genesis 10, onward ... Babel/Babylon – AND – Jerusalem. The last set of 7 years remaining (the 70<sup>th</sup> “week” of years) – 69 have been accomplished (see Daniel 9:24-27) – that last 7 years corresponds perfectly with the Great Tribulation (a 7 year period) ending with Jesus coming back (Rev. 19 & 20) and ruling over Israel for 1000 years (also see Zechariah 14).

# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

The Rapture Takes Place **BEFORE** the Great Tribulation Starts:

Taking place in the following order:

1. **The Church Age** (Revelation 1 thru 3)
2. **The Rapture Event** (Revelation 4:1; 1 Cor. 15:51-58; 1 Thess. 4:13 – 5:11 → Trumpets?) The Rapture Corresponds to the Feast Day of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah / Yom Teruah) The Feast Day of Trumpets happens **AFTER PENTECOST** (→ the Church Age) and **BEFORE** the Day of Atonement (→ Israel within The Great Tribulation) - Thus, the Rapture must take place **AFTER** the Church Age, but **BEFORE** the Great Tribulation
3. **The Great Tribulation** (Revelation 6 thru 19)
4. **The Millennium** (1000 years of Christ's Reign on Earth on David's Throne in Jerusalem) Revelation 20:1-10 – compare with Zechariah 14, Isaiah 65:17-25, Ezekiel chptrs 40-48



## **Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1**

**Which concept or idea brings you more COMFORT and Joy?**

- 1. You will have to go through the Great Tribulation and then during the Middle or at the End of the Great Tribulation you will be Raptured ... only IF you are not beheaded or otherwise killed by the Beast's Minions ... you will be Raptured**  
**(Rev. 14:12-13 - Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who DIE in the LORD FROM NOW ON.'" – after Rev. 13)**
- 2. The Rapture occurs BEFORE the Great Tribulation**  
**(Rev. 3:10-11; 4:1; 1 Thess. 4:13-18)**

# **Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1**

Let's just read the following verses ... and let God answer these two questions, Himself.

**Titus 2:13 - looking forward to the BLESSED HOPE and GLORIOUS APPEARING of our Great God and Savior Jesus Christ ...**

**(are you eagerly longing for Him? Is HE your HOPE?)**

**Philippians 3:20-21: For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also EAGERLY WAIT for the Savior, the LORD Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.**

**(also see 1 John 3:1-3 → "... when we see Him we will be like Him . . ." )**

# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

Let's just read the following verses ... and let God answer these two questions, Himself.

**1 Corinthians 15:51-53:** Behold, I tell you a **MYSTERY**: We shall **NOT** all sleep, but we shall all be changed - <sup>52</sup>in **A MOMENT**, in the **TWINKLING OF AN EYE**, at the last **TRUMPET**. For the **TRUMPET** will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup>For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. (is this **TRUTH** Comforting to you?)

# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

## 1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 5:11

<sup>13</sup> But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

<sup>15</sup> 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 will by no means precede those who are asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the LORD Himself will DESCEND from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the TRUMPET of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words.

## Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

**5:1** But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. **2** For you yourselves know perfectly that the **DAY OF THE LORD** comes as a **THIEF IN THE NIGHT**. **3** For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then **SUDDEN DESTRUCTION COMES UPON** them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall **NOT ESCAPE**. **4** But you, brethren, are **NOT** in darkness, so that this **DAY** should **OVERTAKE YOU AS A THIEF**. **5** You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are **NOT** of the night nor of darkness. **6** Therefore let us **NOT** sleep, as others do, but let us **WATCH** and be sober. **7** For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. **8** But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the **HOPE** of salvation. **9** For God did **NOT** appoint us to **WRATH**, but to obtain salvation through our **LORD Jesus Christ**, **10** who died for us, that whether we are awake or asleep, we should live together with Him. **11** Therefore **COMFORT** each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

# **Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1**

→ Notice 4:18 → Therefore **COMFORT** one another with these words

→ Notice 5:11 → Therefore **COMFORT** each other...

**1 Thess. 4:13-18 is definitely focused on the RAPTURE EVENT,**

**Clearly – based on Plain Reading**

**1 Thess. 5:1-10 is focused on the DAY of the LORD (i.e. The Great Tribulation). Notice how the Day of the LORD should NOT overtake Christians (children of the LIGHT) as a Thief in the Night (remember Sardis? Jesus COMES UPON THEM as a Thief) Thus, the DAY of the LORD doesn't apply to Genuine Born Again Christians.**

**1 Thess. 5:9-10 → For God did NOT appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our LORD Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we are awake or asleep, we should live together with Him (ref: 4:13-18)**

# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

Revelation 3:10 (Jesus speaking to the church of Philadelphia):

Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will **KEEP YOU FROM THE HOUR OF TRIAL WHICH SHALL COME UPON THE WHOLE WORLD, TO TEST THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE EARTH.** (i.e. The Great Tribulation – as seen in Revelation chptrs 6 thru 19).

The phrase in the Greek text for “**KEEP YOU FROM**”

is **τηρησω εκ** - which literally means “shall **BE KEEPING [YOU] OUT OF**”, which does **NOT** imply being kept in or being kept through.



# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

**Revelation 4:1 - AFTER THESE THINGS** I looked, and behold, a **DOOR** standing **OPEN** in **HEAVEN**. And the first voice which I heard was like a **TRUMPET** speaking with me, saying, “Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place **AFTER THIS**.”

Which church was given **KEYS** and an **OPEN DOOR**? How does that Relate to the **OPEN DOOR** in Heaven in Rev. 4:1? Does having an **Open Door Policy** with Jesus relate to an **Open Door** for us into Heaven?

Think of **LAODICEA** - did they have an **Open Door** policy with Jesus? Think of the **5 foolish/lazy virgins** in Matt. 25 – was the door open or shut to them? → Think of the folks during Noah’s Day – **Door Shut**?

As it was in the Days of Noah, so it shall be when Christ returns  
**Open Door** to Heaven or a **Door** that is **Shut** (what is your “**Door**” Policy with Jesus, today? (**Open Door Policy** or **Closed Door Policy**?)



# Jesus Reveals the Future – Part 1

The COMFORT TEST ... from Scripture...

**SO ... Are you looking forward to Going through the Tribulation?**

**→ Or are you looking forward to Being with Jesus Christ, BEFORE the Great Tribulation?**

**End-Times Prophecy, Properly Understood, should ALWAYS Bring the Genuinely Born Again Christians → COMFORT and JOY.**

**See y'all Next Time we Gather...**  
**@ LIFE Group and/or Here Next Week**



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