

Welcome. I want to start with a prayer.

Jesus, I pray that every word spoken be anointed by the Holy Spirit and that this teaching on your Word will not return void, but it will accomplish the purposes of God. In Jesus name, Amen.

I want to continue my teaching on the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

To recap my last 2 teachings were on Matthew 24 and Mark 13, where Jesus told His closest friends, His disciples about the signs of the end time and the tribulation prior to the Second Coming of Jesus to the earth.

First, I will remind you that the scriptures in Matthew and Mark are two accounts in Jesus own words of the end time and Christ's second return. Jesus answered his disciples' questions regarding the signs of the end times and of Christ return, but Jesus never mentions a secret rapture or gathering of believers prior to or during the tribulation period.

In addition, I told you how this " secret rapture" lie became part of the modern Christian belief system and that the secret rapture theory is a false doctrine and never was a major part of church history until the 1800's, when John Darby wrote of his new beliefs called dispensational premillennialism in 1828. Although many of his theories are false and not based on historical Biblical teachings, they have changed the Western Christian church view. Darby distorted the end time teachings which had been since the time of Christ and the early church. Darby supported his new theory with scriptures taken out of context and Bible stories that could only infer a secret escape before the great tribulation.

Also, I explained how Cyrus Scofield perpetuated the rapture lie by planting seeds of Darby's secret rapture teaching in the Scofield Reference Bible published in 1909. That resulted in many Western Christians to be misled about the actual second coming of Christ. The secret rapture theory is not scriptural, but has to be taught. You cannot arrive at this conclusion by just reading the scriptures. Instead, the rapture doctrine is introduced and then the scriptures are twisted to fit the theory.

Consequently, I believe this false teaching is a demonic attack on God's truth and was meant to deceive the generation of people that would have to actually live in the end times. What a destructive lie of satan that teaches God's people that they will escape tribulation and thus they will not be prepared to endure the tribulation. Just as Jesus warned, do not be deceived.

So now I will continue the true teaching on the second coming of Christ by looking at more scriptures that the rapture doctrine has twisted and taken out of context to try and prove the rapture lie.

A set of scriptures that the false teachers like to twist to prove that Jesus will come in a secret rapture are the scriptures that refer to "He comes like a thief".

The first scripture we will examine is found in Matthew 24:42-44. Jesus is making His point by telling a parable.

Watch therefore: for you do not know what hour your Lord will come.

But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.

Therefore you also be ready: for in such an hour as you do not expect the Son of man cometh.

Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?

Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

So let's put these words of Jesus spoken to his best friends in the proper context. They want information about the signs of the end times and the second coming of Jesus. Jesus makes no reference prior to this short parable regarding any secret or surprise removal of believers from the earth. It is obvious though Jesus is warning his servants to be vigilant, watchful, faithful, and prepared at every hour of the day and night because the second coming will be at a time that they may least expect Him. I believe Jesus is stressing that His followers should not become complacent, but be alert to the deceptions, to continuously abide in their faith, to be ready every moment, and be prepared to endure to the end of the tribulation when they shall see Jesus coming in great power and glory and not in a secret rapture.

The second scripture I will study is in Luke 12:35-48

Be dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.

Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken

into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

Peter said, “Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for all?” And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. But if that servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming,’ and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and put him with the unfaithful

Now having read this scripture, can you honestly see any reference to a secret removal of God’s servants from the earth. Again it is obvious that Jesus is telling his disciples be faithful and wise and be prepared for when their master’s return. Jesus is emphasizing that they may not know what hour of the day or night that the owner of the house may return, but that each servant has a duty to open the door and have the lights on and be doing their job. Jesus warns them that they should not get idle because the master does not arrive when they expect him, but to stay alert or there will be harsh consequences for not managing the master’s household wisely.

Next we will look at scriptures in 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-8

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you.

For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

while people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief.

For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.

So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

Again when we actually read the scriptures Paul wrote in this letter, do you see any reference to a secret rapture of believers off the earth. What we do see is Paul warning believers to be sober, to be aware of the times, to not go to sleep on their watch, but to be awake and alert and children of the light and not of the darkness.

In addition, we will now study 2 Peter 3:10-13

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the

earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

This scripture really puzzles me as to how any one could confuse this description of the day of the Lord's return as a secret gathering of God's people off the planet. I think people will notice if the heavens are passing away and heavenly stars are burning up and all the works on earth will be exposed. Seriously, the event in this scripture will not be a secret anything. It is warning to us that the day of the Lord will be an earth shattering event and that we need to be living lives of holiness and godliness because the heavens will be dissolved by fire.

My final scriptures are in Revelations 3:3 and Revelation 16:15

And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: 'The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east. ¹³ And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs. ¹⁴ For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty. ¹⁵ ("Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!") ¹⁶ And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

The first scripture in Revelations 3 is a specific warning to the church at Sardis to also wake up, repent, and remember what they stand for. If they do not wake up then the day of the judgement will come at a time that they will not be expecting.

The second scripture in Revelations 16 is describing the judgement being poured out on the earth by the angel with the sixth bowl and the world is preparing for Armageddon. According to rapture doctrine the believers are long gone off the face of the earth. So how can this scripture possibly be making a reference to a secret rapture of believers. I think if you will go back and read all these scriptures with references to "He comes as a thief" and examine the context you will find that these scriptures have nothing to do with a secret rapture but all of

them are warnings to stay awake, be alert, abide in faithfulness, do your Christian duty to the best of your ability and do not weary in well doing or there will be serious consequences just as if you neglected the security of your home and let a thief break in and spoil your life.

If you do not know where you would spend eternity if your soul was required of you today. Just repeat this prayer with me.

Jesus, I confess I am a sinner. I repent of my sins. Please forgive me of my sins. Jesus come into my heart and become my Lord and Savior. In Jesus name, amen.

Thank you and God bless

Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?"

⁵ And Jesus, answering them, began to say: "Take heed that no one deceives you. ⁶ For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am *He*,' and will deceive many. ⁷ But when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled; for *such things* must happen, but the end *is* not yet. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines ^[a]and troubles. These *are* the beginnings of ^[b]sorrows.

⁹ "But watch out for yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils, and you will be beaten in the synagogues. You will ^[c]be brought before rulers and kings for My sake, for a witness to them. ¹⁰ And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. ¹¹ But when they arrest *you* and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, ^[d]or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. ¹² Now brother will betray brother to death, and a father *his* child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. ¹³ And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who ^[e]endures to the end shall be saved.

¹⁴ "So when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' ^[f]spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not" (let the reader understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁵ Let him who is on the housetop not go down into the house, nor enter to take anything out of his house. ¹⁶ And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. ¹⁷ But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ¹⁸ And pray that your flight may not be in winter. ¹⁹ For *in* those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. ²⁰ And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days.

²¹ "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here *is* the Christ!' or, 'Look, *He is* there!' do not believe it. ²² For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the ^[g]elect. ²³ But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand.

²⁴ "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵ the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then He will send His angels, and gather together His ^[h]elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.

In Mark's account, Jesus also describes the end time and the second coming. Here we actually see Jesus saying that only the ones that endure to the end shall be saved. Jesus then tells believers that when you see the anti-Christ for them to flee to the mountains, not to look for a secret gathering of the saints in the clouds. Jesus goes on to explain that this time of tribulation on the earth is so bad that if the Lord did not shorten those tribulation days that no flesh would be saved. Jesus continues by saying that it is for the elect's sake that the days are shortened. In addition, Jesus states that the false Christ will be so convincing that even the elect may be deceived.

So who are the Lord's elect? Let's define elect. It means a special group of people, set apart, and committed to God. These are the born again believers on the earth. Now if ALL the Christians are gone and taken off the earth in a secret rapture, who is remaining on the earth except for sinners. If only sinners are left behind why will they be persecuted before rulers. Are we to believe sinners will witness to the whole world of Jesus. Also, how is there any Holy Spirit on the earth to show the persecuted what to speak before these rulers, if the Holy Spirit is taken out of the earth with all the believers in a secret rapture. Sorry secret rapture people you can't have it both ways. Jesus is saying Christian Holy Spirit filled believers or the elect will be on the earth and have to endure the great tribulation, not escape from it in a secret rapture.

Finally Jesus describes His coming as anything but a secret. He says there will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars. Jesus continues that those on earth will see His coming in the clouds with great power and glory and then He will send His angels to gather His elect from the uttermost part of heaven and earth. I think Jesus makes it very clear that His second coming will not be a secret, but an event that every person on earth will witness. Jesus also states clearly that His elect, born again believers will still be on the earth and it will be after the great tribulation that they will be gathered by the angels to meet Jesus in the clouds.

Consequently, in Matthew 24 and Mark 13 we have two accounts of the end times and of Jesus second coming told in Jesus' own words privately to his closest disciples. Who are you going to believe? Jesus or Darby or Scofield? I choose to believe Jesus. His words are not vague. Jesus really doesn't leave anything to get lost in translation. Jesus speaks forthright and clearly. You have to twist these scriptures to arrive at a secret and separate rapture teaching. Remember, Jesus said "do not be deceived".

I have to end this teaching today, but I will continue to teach the truth about Jesus second coming next time.

Thank you and God bless If you have not discovered the one true pathway to eternal life and if you do not know where you would spend eternity if your soul

was required of you today. I want to give you an opportunity to accept Jesus as your Savior. It is very simple. Just repeat this prayer with me and believe in your heart and you will be saved. Let us pray.

Jesus, I confess I am a sinner. I repent of my sins. Please forgive me of my sins. Jesus come into my heart and become my Lord and Savior. I believe and receive Jesus offer of salvation and resurrection unto eternal life. In Jesus name, amen.

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