

REVELATION: Lesson 115

Chapter 12:5-6, The Woman Flees to the Wilderness

26 October 2020

Revelation 12:5-6 speaks of the man child (Jesus Christ) being caught up to God and to His throne. After that the woman (Israel) flees to the wilderness to a place prepared of God and is fed there for 3 ½ years. There is much more to this story, which we will investigate in this study.

- This record contains the Birth of Messiah → Ascension of Messiah → Great Tribulation. The Church is purposely not mentioned. Why?
 - To encourage you to study the Bible for answers.
 - So that nobody will confuse the Church with Israel. God is obviously dealing with Israel here.
- The wilderness provided safety for others in the Bible:
 - Hagar fleeing from Sarah (Gen 16:7).
 - Moses fleeing from Pharaoh's wrath (Exod 2:15).
 - The Israelites fleeing from the Egyptian Army (Exod 13:18).
 - Elijah fleeing from Jezebel (1 Kings 19:4).
- This prepared place is not for the Church. God has prepared another place for the Church (John 14:1-3). Our place is with Christ in New Jerusalem in Heaven. Israel's place is on the Earth.
- God prepared another place for the Devil and his angels (Mt 25:41).
 - Hell was prepared before the foundation of the world, but it wasn't prepared for man.
 - There was no place prepared in Heaven for man before the foundation of the world. Jesus said, "I GO to prepare..."
 - These facts disprove the basis of Calvinism. God didn't create some people for Heaven and some people for Hell.

ONE THING THAT MUST TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE TRIBULATION CAN BEGIN

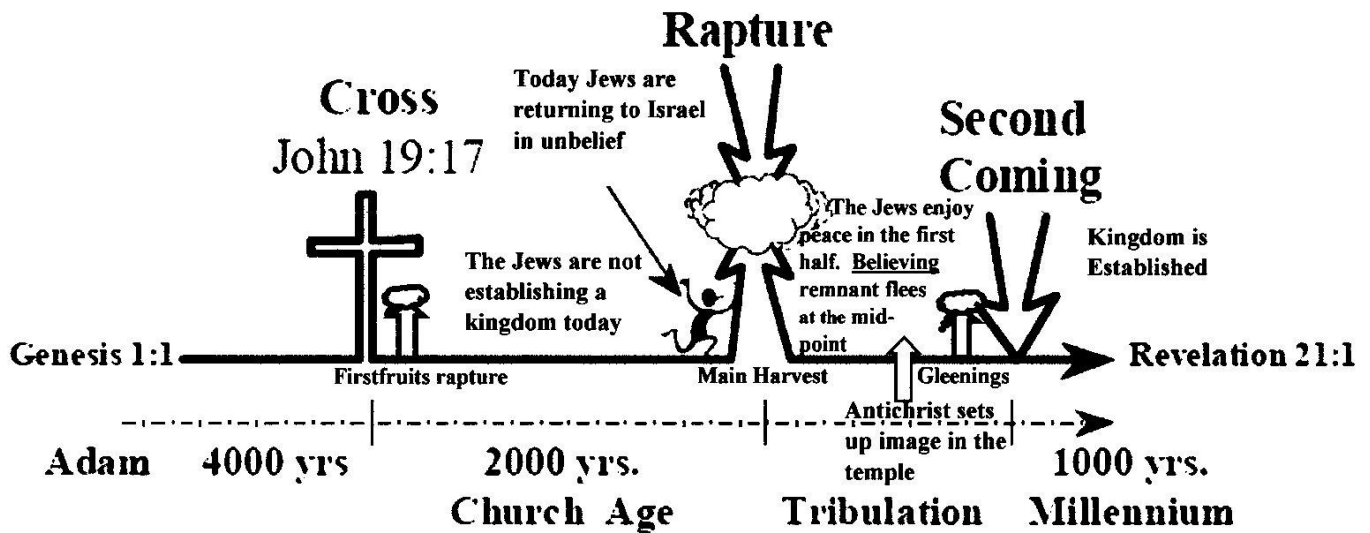
1 Peter 3:20 speaks of another time when God saved a remnant (Noah and his family) from destruction.

- Enoch walked with God by faith and God took him to Heaven.
 - This is a picture of the Church being raptured before the coming destruction (Tribulation).
- Noah and his family didn't leave this world when the flood came. God provided a place of safety for them to get them through the flood. They were still on the Earth after the flood.
 - This is a picture of the nation of Israel hiding in a place of safety prepared by God to survive the Tribulation. They will still be on the Earth after the Tribulation.
 - Notice "God waited" till the ark was prepared. He didn't send the flood until Noah's family had a safe place to get through the flood.
 - God won't begin the Tribulation time until a safe place is prepared for the Jews.

HOW WILL THE JEWS KNOW WHEN IT IS TIME TO FLEE?

Matthew 24:14-21 says that certain Jews will know that it is time to flee.

- The only Jews who will know to flee are the ones who believe what is written in the scriptures about the abomination of desolation in the holy place (Dan 9:27, 12:11, Mat 24:14-21). They'll have to believe the New Testament scriptures as well.
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DETAILS:

Psalm 107:1-7 gives the prophetic order of events in the last days.

- The Lord will gather His people (vs 3). It won't be voluntary.
- Then they wander in the wilderness (vs 4).
- Next, they cry unto the Lord in their trouble (vs 6).
- Finally, the Lord leads them to the city of their habitation (vs 7).

Jeremiah 16:14-17 gives the details of the Lord regathering the people from all over the world. The picture given is of a fisherman or a hunter catching them and taking them back to the land. This is the true gathering that fulfills prophecy. The Jews returning to Israel today are not fulfilling that prophecy.

Ezekiel 20:33-34 also reveals that the Jews will be gathered by force from out of all the lands where they are found. They will be "taken" (**Ezekiel 36:24**) from among the heathen and brought into their own land.

WHO IS THE LORD GATHERING TODAY?

Acts 15:14-16 says the Lord is taking people out of the Gentiles to be a people for His name. Today He is gathering His Church. AFTER He finishes gathering His Church, He will turn again to the Jews (vs 16). Therefore, the Jews returning to Israel today are not being gathered by the Lord.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE JEWS ARE GATHERED BACK TO THEIR LAND?

Ezekiel 20:35-38, God will plead with the people face to face, cause them to pass under the rod (correction), He'll bring all the Jews back to the land from all the countries where they sojourn, He'll purge out the rebels, and deal with the remnant in a bond of covenant (vs 37) after they repent.

Jeremiah 16:18-19 tells us the Jews will be punished double for their sin and iniquity until they cry out to God in the day of affliction (vs 19) and trust in Him, and Him alone.

Jeremiah 30:7-14, the Jew must go INTO the time of Jacob's trouble so he can be saved OUT of it (vs 7). God promised to save them (vs 10), but not before first punishing them (vs 11). After 3 ½ years of sore punishment, He will restore them and heal them (vs 17).

Isaiah 54:1-9, Israel is the wife of Jehovah God who has been forsaken and put away for a moment because of her sin (note that a moment, vs 8, is 2,500 years so far). God promised to have mercy on her (vs 8) after a time such as Noah faced when water covered the Earth (vs 9).

Zechariah 13:8-9, After ALL the Jews are gathered into the land, two thirds are going to die.

Malachi 3:1-3, Who will be left of the Jews at the Lord's Second Coming? Those who abide His purifying.

Ezekiel 22:17-22 describes the purification process of silver. The Jews will enter the Tribulation to be purified by God's fury.

THE JEWS BROUGHT THIS ON THEMSELVES

In the Law, a murderer must be put to death (Numbers 35:16-31).

The Jews murdered Jesus Christ and said, "**His blood be on us and on our children**" (Mt 27:25).

The next of kin (avenger of blood / revenger of blood) was tasked with killing the murderer. God the Father is Jesus Christ's next of kin.

When Jesus cried out "**Father forgive them; for they know not what they do**" (Luke 23:34), He reduced the Jew's crime from murder to manslaughter.

A person guilty of manslaughter was allowed to flee to a city of refuge and escape death (Numbers 35:6).

It's all about the cross!