

The Judgments of God during the Tribulation period

<i>The first half of the Tribulation period</i>	<i>The last half of the Tribulation period</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Famine and death will increase greatly 2. There will be earthquakes that cause every mountain and every island to be moved out of its place. 3. Hail and fire, mingled with blood, will be cast onto the earth until one-third of all trees and all its grass is burned up 4. One-third of the sea will turn to blood 5. Demon creatures will torment men and will cause pain that is so terrible that men seek to die, but will be able to. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The antichrist will have complete rule 2. The Jews will be sought after to be destroyed 3. No one will be able to buy, or sell, with a mark of the beast on them 4. Grievous sores will fall on men 5. All the sea will be turn to blood 6. Men will be scorched with great heat of the sun 7. Hail, weighing 100 lbs will fall.

This information is taken from the book of Revelation. For more investigation on this subject, see the study on “*The Book of Revelation.*”

There will be “*a great number, a multitude, that no one could count from every nation, tribe, people and languages*” saved during the Tribulation (Revelation 7:9), however, they will not escape these terrible judgments due to the fact that they were not ready to go with Christ at the rapture of the Church. They are saved **after** the rapture and will be martyred for their faith.

Thank God, the church will NOT be here on earth for these terrible judgments!

See: Luke 21:36; Revelation 3:10 and 2 Peter 2:9

See study on “*Are The Saints Schedule to go Through the Tribulation?*”

The confusion arises from the fact that some do not make the distinction between two different events – “*The Rapture of the Church,*” and “*The Day of the Lord.*”

While the word “*Rapture*” does not occur the various of our English Bibles, the word is derived from a Latin word which means, “**Our gathering together unto Christ,**” which is a fact that is clearly taught in Scripture.

The Rapture of the Church

1. Occurs when the Church is caught up to meet the Lord in the air before the Tribulation (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).
2. Occurs when Christ comes in the air **FOR** His saints (John 14:3, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).
3. Occurs when Christ comes as the Bridegroom to take unto Himself His Bride (Matthew 24:42; 25:10 Eph.5:25-32).

4. May occur at any moment
(Matthew 42:42, 44; 25:13; Mark 13:32-37).

The Day of the Lord

1. Occurs when Christ comes **WITH** His saints to end the Tribulation by executing righteous judgment on earth
(2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Colossians 3:4; Jude 14-15; Revelation 19:11-21; Zechariah 14:5).
2. Occurs when Christ comes to earth with His saints, His feet stand on Mt Olivet
(Zechariah 4:4).
3. Occurs when Christ comes **WITH** His Bride to rule the nations
(Revelation 2:26-27; 5:10; 19:15).
4. Cannot occur until the antichrist is revealed and times and seasons are fulfilled.
(2 Thessalonians 2:3; Luke 21:10-27).

The only signs mentioned in the Bible of Christ's second coming refer to the "*Day of the Lord*," when He comes back **WITH** His saints to reign on the earth, because, there are not any signs found in Scripture that must precede the "*Rapture of the Church*." The Rapture of the Church is an *imminent* event (It can take place at any moment!) The New Testament saints looked for Christ's coming at any moment in their lifetime because they were taught that Jesus could come any time after the Day of Pentecost. There are no signs foretold, which must precede the Rapture of the church (See Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10; 4:17-18; Titus 2:11-13 and 1 Corinthians 15:52).

The "*signs*" mentioned in Matthew 24 and Luke 21, are signs of "the end of the world" and not the Rapture of the Church (See, Matthew 24:3 & 29). The signs mentioned: wars – increased wickedness – Israel restored as a nation again – signs in the heavens and on earth – are not signs of the Rapture of the church, but rather, of what will precede the Day of the Lord, when Christ comes *back* to earth with His saints.

Jesus said, concerning His "*gathering together His saints unto Himself*," that it could take place at any moment, and that "*no man knoweth the day or the hour*" of this event (See: Matthew 24:42-44; 25:13; and Mark 13:32-37). So, unlike the "*Day of the Lord*" that will be announced by signs preceding it, the "*Rapture of the Church*," (because no signs will precede it), will come without warning.

The phrase "*the Day of the Lord*," which occurs between 30 and 40 times in the prophecies of the Old Testament and several times in the new Testament, refer to the day Christ comes back with His saints to triumph over His enemies and sets up His Millennium, Kingdom as described in Revelation 19:11 through 20:3.

Imagine the awfulness of that terrible judgment of God when Christ, the Church, and army of angels, come down from heaven to fight against sinful humanity. Remove from your mind any thought of mercy in that "*day of the vengeance of God*" because God's long suffering will be over as His holy hatred toward sin is unloosed in all its fierceness at the coming "*Day of Wrath*," because, His long awaited for vengeance of sin will have arrived!

THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

The “*Battle of Armageddon*,” which will take place at the time of the Day of the Lord and which will be when all the armies of earth, led by Satan, will be totally defeated, is mentioned many times in Scripture. Isaiah 24:21-23 and 63:1-6; Revelation 19:19 through 20:3; just to mentioned a three of them.

1. The Place of the battle – Joel 3:12

[The Valley of Jehoshaphat is between the Euphrates and the Nile rives, from mount Carmel southwest to Jerusalem]

2. The Time of the battle

(A) At the end of this present Church Age – Matthew 13:40-43

(B) After the Tribulation – Matthew 24:29-35

(C) When Christ comes to set up His Kingdom – Revelation 19:11 through 20:3 and 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10

3. The Armies that are involved

This Battle of Armageddon will not be an ordinary battle between earthly armies, but rather, it will be a battle between the armies of heaven, under Christ, and the armies of earth, under Satan.

On Christ's side:

(A) **Israel** – Zechariah 14:1-15

(B) **Angels** – Matthew 25:31-45 and 2 Thessalonians 1:1-10

(C) **Raptured Saints** – Zechariah 14:1-5; Jude 1:14; and Revelation 19:14

On the Devils side:

(A) Demons – Revelation 16:13-16

(B) The Kings of the Earth – Revelation 17:14-17

(C) The Antichrist and the False Prophet

4. The Purpose of this battle will be to:

(A) Deliver Israel – Zechariah, the 14th chapter and Isaiah 63:1-10:

(B) To punish the nations – Matthew 25:31-46

(C) To set up Christ's Kingdom on earth.

5. The Length of this battle – *One day!* – Zechariah 14:5-7

6. The Result of this battle will be that:

(A) The armies of earth will be totally defeated – Revelation 19:17-21

(B) The Antichrist, the False Prophet, and Satan will be consigned to “*hell*” – Revelation 20:1-7

(C) Israel will be delivered from all her enemies and God's Kingdom will be set up – Daniel 2:44; 7:18, 27; Revelation 11:15; 20:1-10; 21:1 through 22:5.

[Blood will flow up the horses' bridles – Revelation 14:14-20]

THE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS

Many have confused the “*Judgment of the Nations*,” found in Matthew 25:31-46, with the “*Great White Throne Judgment*,” found in Revelation 20:11-15, however, the Judgment of the nations differs from the Great White Throne Judgment in that it is:

1. A judgment of “*nations*” rather than of individuals (Matthew 25:32).
2. A judgment of “how one has treated the Lord’s brethren, the Jewish nation, rather, than a judgment either for salvation, or rewards (Matthew 25:40).
3. A judgment whose outcome relates to an earthly peace during the millennial reign of Christ on earth rather than to an eternal peace in heaven.
4. A judgment that includes, rather than just two classes of people (the saved and the lost), there are *three* classes of people: namely the *sheep nation*, the *goat nations*, and the *Lord’s brethren*.
5. A judgment where there is not any mention of a resurrection
6. A judgment which takes place “*when the Son of Man (Christ) shall come in His glory*” (Matthew 25:31)
7. A judgment that takes place **on earth** rather than in heaven, or at God’s throne.

Since, in Zechariah 14:16, we are told that there will be “*nations*” which will still be in existence **AFTER** the Tribulation period and will, therefore, exist during the Millennium period, this *Judgment of the Nations*, evidently, determines which ones of those nations will be allowed to enter the glorious time of Christ’s Millennium reign on earth, and which ones will not be so allowed.

Those nations, the “*sheep nations*,” which have shown kindness, and consideration, toward the Jewish people will be the ones who will be allowed to enter the millennium with Christ, while, on the other hand, those nations, the “*goat nations*,” which have shown brutality and inhumanity toward the Jewish people will be destroyed.