

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

MORNING MESSAGE

“Did I Miss the Rapture?”

2 Thessalonians 2:1-2

I. THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH (v.1)

A. This verse is an obvious reference to the rapture

1. The word “rapture” means “to snatch away” or “to catch away”
2. The word “church” means “an assembly”

B. The most thorough description of the rapture of the church is recorded in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

1. The return of the Savior (v.16a)
2. The resurrection of the sleeping (v.16b)
3. The rapture of the saved (v.17a)

II. THE RENOUNCING OF THE FAITH (v.3a)

A. This verse tells us there will be a falling away

1. “Falling” translates the Greek word “apostasia” that gives us the English word “apostasy”
 - a. It means to defect from the truth, forsake the truth, or renounce the truth

B. Demas is mentioned three times in scripture

1. Philemon 1:24, “Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellow laborers”
2. Colossians 4:14, “Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you”
3. 2 Timothy 4:10, “For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world”

III. THE RISE OF THE ANTICHRIST (v.3b)

A. This verse introduces the Antichrist

1. “Anti” means “against”
 - a. There are many anti-Christ's today

B. This speaks of the Antichrist with a capital “A”

1. Paul called him “that man of sin”; his main characteristic will be sin
2. Paul called him “the son of perdition”; “perdition” means “destruction”; his goal will be to destroy everything that is related to God and His purposes
3. John called him the “antichrist” in 1 John 2:18,22
4. John called him “the beast” in Revelation 13

CONCLUSION

A. What should you do?

1. Examine yourself

- a. 2 Corinthians 13:5, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith"

2. Encourage yourself

- a. 1 Samuel 30:6, "David encouraged himself in the Lord his God"

3. Exercise yourself

- a. 1 Timothy 4:8, "Bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things"