



WHEN

CHRISTIANS

DISAPPEAR

More than 20 million people died in World War 1. Another 85 Million died in World War 2. Despite the size of those figures, they are only small compared to the billions who will die during a future day prophesied in the Bible. “Armageddon”, “The Apocalypse”, “The End of the World” are well known titles that point forward to this tragic day.

The Bible often refers to this event as **“The Day of The Lord.”** The purpose of this day is for God to intervene directly in human affairs and unleash His vengeance and fury on a world of wicked nations and individuals during seven years of unparalleled devastation. Because God is holy, this judgment will come as a result of His anger towards sin. His judgments will cause global, cataclysmic destruction on an extreme scale. Right now, His judgment is delayed because He **“is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance”** (2 Peter 3:9).

WHEN WILL THIS DAY BEGIN?

Before this day can begin, the Bible has also prophesied another event when **CHRISTIANS WILL DISAPPEAR**. Jesus Christ has promised that all those who truly believe in Him for salvation, will not have to face this day. This event is also known as the Rapture of the Church.

According to the Bible, Christians will be delivered from this **“wrath to come”** because God has not destined us for wrath (1 Th. 1:10; 5:9). Since God pours out His wrath for the entire seven-year period, Christians will be removed before it takes place. At the Rapture, Jesus takes all Christians with Him to Heaven, making way for this terror-stricken day to commence.

WHAT WILL THE DAY OF THE LORD BE LIKE?

Jesus Christ spoke of this time period and said **“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be”** (Matt. 24:21). It is a sobering thought to realise that there is a day coming that will be worse than anything the world has ever seen. **“Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it”** (Isa. 13:9).

The world will be completely unprepared for this terrifying day. That’s because the Bible says **“...The day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape”** (1 Thess. 5:2-3).

This day is fast approaching and it could begin at any moment. The Bible says "The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly" (Zeph. 1:14).. "Howl ye; for the day of the Lord is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty" (Isa. 13:6).

In the book of Revelation 6-19, God has given us a detailed outline of perils that people will face during this day. Here are a few examples:

A Time of Deception. A man known as "the Anti-Christ" will appear not long after the Christians are taken from the world, and will offer a false peace and safety to a world in trouble. He will attempt to gain complete control by introducing some sort of mark that he will give to everyone who willingly accepts it. If you refuse his mark, it will mean that you won't be able to buy or sell. Accepting the mark will result in eternal judgment. (Read Rev. **13:11-18; 14:9-11**).

A Time of Death. Death will be a direct result of plagues, diseases, worldwide warfare and direct judgments from God. In the first 3 and a half years alone, almost 2 billion people will die. (Read Rev. **8:6; 11:5; 15:1-4**).

A Time of Disasters. Global disasters such as earthquakes, seas and rivers polluted and turned to blood, and much of the world's plantation burned up will create major suffering. There will be cosmic disturbances from which the sun, moon and stars will be affected resulting in great darkness. (Read Rev. **8:12; 11:6; 16:1-4; 18:8**)

A Time of Damnation. All of these perils are just a taste of what is coming for those who continue to reject the God of the Bible. At the completion of this day, God will destroy every unsaved person and will bring them before His Great White Throne to be judged. Anyone that appears before this throne, will be judged for their sin and sentenced to hell in the eternal lake of fire. "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and **all liars**, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Rev. 21:8).

But there is good news, you can escape this terrible day!

Please pay careful attention to this way of escape that you are about to read. If you read this message and reject it, when the day of the Lord arrives, you will not be given another opportunity to be saved.

HOW CAN YOU ESCAPE?

As we have already mentioned, God has made a promise, that anyone who is a Christian will be taken to Heaven before this day begins. **Therefore, the answer is simple:** To avoid going through the Day of the Lord and ending up in hell, you must become a Christian.

This is more than just believing the facts about Jesus and the Bible, or growing up in a Christian home. To become a Christian, you must personally make a decision to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ with your whole heart. But first, you must understand why you need Jesus and then how you can trust Him as your Lord and Saviour.

1. The Bible teaches that every human being has “sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23). **Ask yourself:** Have you ever lied? Stolen? Looked with sexual lust? Blasphemed God’s name? It is very important to understand that God not only looks at your actions, but He knows your thought life too!

2. Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins. His death satisfied the demands of God's justice, thereby enabling Him to forgive and save those who place their faith in Him. “For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God...”(1 Pet. 3:18). He arose from the grave three days later, showing that God accepted His payment for sin (Read 1 Cor. 15:1-4).

3. You must make a personal decision to **REPENT** of your sin. This means to have a change of mind about your sinful condition. You must turn from your sin and the path of destruction you are on. “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out...” (Acts 3:19). You must **TRUST** in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. This is a free gift offered to all. “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph. 2:8-9).

If you decide to repent and trust Jesus Christ as your **Lord** and **Saviour**, God has promised to forgive you for all your past, present and future sins. He will take you to Heaven and deliver you from this terrifying day and eternal damnation. What will you do?



**NORTHSIDE
BAPTIST
CHURCH**
PREACHING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

145 Nelson Road, Para Vista S.A.

nbcadelaide.org.au

Contact:

Pastor Simeon Western

P: 0413 076 622

E: pastor@nbcadelaide.org.au

Services:

Sunday - 10:30am & 6:00pm

Wednesday - 7:00pm