



THE WISE VIRGINS

“They That Were Ready Went in with Him to the Marriage  
and the Door Was Shut.”

Matt. 25: 10.

"Watching" Saints shall be caught out before the Tribulation, and that the rest must pass through it. The latter base their claim on Heb. 9: 28, where it says—"Unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation." While this might apply to the living when He appears, it certainly cannot apply to the dead. There are tens and hundreds of thousands who "fell asleep in Jesus" who never heard of the Premillennial Coming of the Lord, or at least never grasped its meaning, and who therefore never "watched" and "waited" and "looked" for His Appearing. They surely are "In Christ"; and the "Dead in Christ" are to rise at the Rapture. Paul does not say in I Thess. 4: 16, 17, that it will be the "dead" who "watched" and "waited" and "looked," and those who are "alive" and "watch" and "wait" and "look" for His Appearing that shall be "caught out," but the dead "In Christ," and we who "Are Alive And Remain."

The order of the Resurrection is—"Christ the 'First Fruits,' afterward they that 'are Christ's at His Coming.'" Paul says—"Behold, I show you a Mystery; we shall not all 'sleep,' but we shall **ALL Be Changed.**" I Cor. 15: 51.

Then there is another fact that we must not forget, and that is, the **Unity of the Church.**

"For as the **Body Is One**, and hath many members, and **ALL the Members Of That One Body, Being Many ARE ONE BODY**; so also is Christ. For by **One Spirit** are we **ALL Baptized Into One Body.**" I Cor. 12: 12, 13.

All then who have been "born again" (John 3: 3-7) are part of Christ's "Body," and we cannot conceive of Christ's "Body" being divided; part of it remaining "asleep" in the grave, and part of it "raised in glory"; part of it left to pass through the Tribulation, and part of it "changed" and caught up to meet Him in the air.

If "all" the Church are to pass through the Tribulation, then instead of waiting and watching "for the Lord," we should be waiting and watching "for the Tribulation," which is contrary to the teaching of Christ Himself. Matt. 24: 42-44.

The Tribulation is not for the perfecting "of the Saints." It has nothing to do with the Church. It is the time of "Jacob's Trouble" (Jer. 30: 7), and is the "Judgment of Israel," and it is God's purpose to keep the Church **Out Of It.** Rev. 2: 10. The Book of Revelation is written in chronological order. After the fourth chapter the Church is seen no more upon the earth until she appears in the nineteenth chapter coming with the Bridegroom "from" Heaven. The entire time between these two chapters is filled with appalling judgments that fall upon those that "dwell on the earth," and as the Church is not of the earth, but is supposed to "sit together in 'Heavenly Places' in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 2: 6), she will not be among those who "dwell on the earth" in those days.

The confusion is largely due to the fact that students of Prophetic Truth do not distinguish between Christ's coming **FOR** His Saints, and **WITH** His Saints. The former is called the "Rapture," the latter the "Revelation."

Numerous passages in scripture speak of Christ coming "with" His Saints (Zech. 14:5, Col. 3:4, I Thess. 3:13, I Thess. 4:14, Jude 14), but it is evident that they cannot come "with" Him, if they had not been previously caught out "to" Him. All such passages refer therefore to the "Revelation" and not the "Rapture."

The typical teaching of the Scriptures demand that the Church be caught out "before" the Tribulation. Joseph was a type of Christ and he was espoused to, and married Asenath, a Gentile bride, during the time of his "rejection by his brethren," and "before the famine," which typified the Tribulation, because it was the time of "Judgment of his Brethren." This is the time of Christ's rejection by "His Brethren"—the Jews, and to complete the type He must get His Bride—the church, "before" the Tribulation.

Moses, who is also a type of Christ, got his bride, and she a Gentile, "after" his rejection by his brethren, and "before" they passed through the Tribulation under Pharaoh. Ex. 2:23-25.

Enoch, a type of the "Translation Saints," was caught out "before" the Flood, and the Flood is a type of the Tribulation, and Noah and his family of the "Jewish Remnant" or 144,000 sealed ones of Rev. 7:1-8, who will be preserved through the Tribulation.

How thrilling the thought that some of us shall not die, that in a moment, in the "twinkling of an eye" without being unclothed by the ghastly hands of Death, and instead of the winding sheet of the grave, we shall be instantly changed and clothed with the glorious garments of immortality. What a transport of joy will fill our being as we suddenly feel the thrill of immortality throbbing through our veins, and find ourselves being transported through the air in the company of fellow Christians and of our loved ones who fell asleep in Jesus. What welcome recognitions and greetings there will be as we journey up with them to the "Bridal Halls of Heaven," where we shall join in the new and triumphal song of Moses and the Lamb. Rev. 5:9, 10.

### WHAT WILL BECOME OF THOSE WHO ARE LEFT BEHIND?

This is a sad question, but it is eagerly asked by many. What saith the Lord?

"Then said one unto Him, Lord, are there **FEW** that be saved? And He said unto them, Strive to enter in at the strait (narrow) gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in (when He comes), and shall not be able, when once the '**Master of the House**' is risen up, and hath **SHUT THE DOOR**, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, open unto us; and He shall answer and say unto you, **I know not whence ye are**: then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in Thy presence, and Thou hast taught in our streets. But He shall say, I tell you, **I KNOW YOU NOT WHENCE YE ARE; DEPART FROM ME, ALL YE WORKERS OF INIQUITY.**" Luke 13:23-27.

The time of the closing of the door is revealed in the Parable of the "Ten Virgins." It will be when the Bridegroom comes, and those



THE FOOLISH VIRGINS  
"Too Late! Too Late! Ye Cannot Enter Now."

that are ready (the "Wise Virgins") have gone in with Him to the "Marriage." When the "Foolish Virgins" come later, and say—"Lord, open to us," He will answer—"I KNOW YOU NOT." That is, I never knew you. You were only mere professors. Then follow the words—"Watch therefore (be ready), for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh." Matt. 25:1-13. Note that the persons shut out are not those who never heard the Gospel, but those who had been professing followers of Jesus, who had eaten and drunk in His presence and even gone out to meet Him.

It may readily be supposed that the taking away of loved ones at the Rapture will cause many of those left behind to seek the Lord, but as the Holy Spirit goes back with the Church, and for the time being ceases His Office Work of Regeneration, who is to convert those who are left? There is a passage in Hebrews that has troubled many a sincere soul who has feared that they had committed the "Unpardonable Sin." It is this—

"For if we sin (continue to sin) wilfully after that we have received the knowledge (that is know about it) of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries." Heb. 10:26.

The preceding verse shows that this warning is connected with the Lord's Coming—"So much the more, as ye see 'The Day' approaching—the "DAY OF THE LORD." The expression—"there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins," implies that those who thus sin against their knowledge are without hope.

That there will be a "Great Multitude" saved after the Church is "caught out" in the "Time Space" between the "Rapture" and the "Revelation," is clearly revealed in Rev. 7:9-17, and some of them may be of those "left behind," but they will have to pass through great tribulation and suffer a martyr's death for refusing to worship the "Image of the Beast." Rev. 13:11-17. And we read that—When the Lord Jesus shall be revealed (at the close of the Great Tribulation) from Heaven with His mighty angels, in "flaming fire" He shall take vengeance on them that "KNOW NOT GOD," and that "OBEY NOT THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST." II Thess. 1:7-10. Let us not run the risk of being left behind.



