

## My View Of The End Times 9

### The Rapture in Luke 17

The following chart begins by looking at events in Matt. 24 and then switches to Luke 17 at Point #3 which is highlighted in white - this is where Jesus returns like lightning in both Matt. 24 & Luke 17.

We begin here in Matt. 24:15 where the Antichrist sets up the Abomination.

Next, the Great Tribulation occurs (Matt. 24:21).

This is the common point where Jesus appears like lightning in both Matt. 24:27 and Luke 17:24. The rest of the chart follows Luke.

Luke 17:26-27 say that in the days of Noah everyone was living as normal until Noah entered the Ark, then the flood came and destroyed them all. Then Luke 17:28-29 tell us that in the days of Lot everyone was living as normal until Lot left Sodom and then fire and sulphur destroyed them all.

Next, in Luke 17:30, Jesus said that when He returns it will be just like it was in the days of Noah and Lot. That is, the unrighteous will be unaware, living life as normal, when the righteous are taken to safety leaving the unrighteous to be destroyed by God's wrath.

Then, in Luke 17:31-36, Jesus said that on the day when He returns like lightning, "one will be taken and the other left". This is the Rapture in which the righteous are taken to safety. After the righteous are safe, the unrighteous are destroyed, just the same as in the days of Noah and Lot.

Some Christians say that those taken are the unrighteous but that cannot be true as Jesus said that when He returns it will be the same as in the days of Noah and Lot. At that time, it was the righteous who were taken while the unrighteous were left where they were and destroyed.

The second reason we know that it is the righteous who are taken is because the Greek word translated "taken" is the same word used in John 14:3 where Jesus said that He will return to "take you to be with me". The Greek word means "to take or to join to oneself" while the Greek word for "left" means things like

The Day Of The Lord ends with the war of Armageddon. The Gentiles who survive this war will be judged at the Sheep and Goat Judgment of Matt. 25:31-46 and those who are found worthy will enter the Millennium. Zech. 14:16 tells us that these Gentiles will go to Jerusalem each year to worship the Lord and to celebrate the Jewish feasts. See "My View Of The End Times 7" about the Millennium.

| # | Event  | Verse(s)                 |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| 1 | The Antichrist sets up the Abomination.  | Matt. 24:15              |
| 2 | The Great Tribulation  | Matt. 24:21              |
| 3 | Jesus appears like lightning.  | Matt. 24:27 & Luke 17:24 |
| 4 | The days of Noah   | Luke 17:26-27            |
| 5 | The days of Lot  | Luke 17:28-29            |
| 6 | It will be just like the days of Noah and Lot when Jesus returns.              | Luke 17:30               |
| 7 | On the day Jesus returns like lightning, one will be taken and the other left. | Luke 17:31-36            |

"abandon and divorce". So, when Jesus returns, He will take the righteous to be with Himself while the unrighteous will be left on the earth to be destroyed by God's wrath during the Day Of The Lord. This interpretation is confirmed by Isa. 13:9 which tells us, "See, the day of the LORD is coming - a cruel day, with wrath and fierce anger - to make the land desolate and destroy the sinners within it."

From this we can see that the flow of End Times events is -

- The Antichrist is revealed.
- The Great Tribulation begins.
- Jesus appears like lightning.
- The righteous are taken to safety in the Rapture while the unrighteous are left where they are and destroyed by God's wrath during the Day Of The Lord, just the same as it happened in the days of Noah and the days of Lot.

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