

Week 25: The Return and Reign of Christ

Grudem_{ST} 54-55; Grudem_{BD} 31-32; Ryrie 85-90

A. Rapture vs. Second Coming of Christ: (after LaHaye, 102, 104)

1. "Caught up" – 1Thess. 4:17 [Gr. *harpazo* – Lat. *rapio*] – "to take something forcefully" (TDNT)

Rapture	Second Coming
Scripture: John 14:1-3; 1Cor. 15:51-53; 1Thess 1:10; 4:13-18; 5:9; 2Thess 2:1-7; Rev. 3:10	Scripture: Zech. 12:10; 14:1-15; Matt. 24:15-31; Acts 1:9-11; 2Thess 2:8; 2Pet. 3:1-14; Jude 14-15; Rev. 19:11-20:6
Christ comes in the air for His own	Christ comes with His own to earth
Rapture / translation of all Christians	No one translated
Christians taken to the Father's House	Resurrected saints do not see Father's House
No judgment on earth	Christ judges inhabitants of earth
Church taken to heaven	Christ sets up His kingdom on earth
Immanent/could happen at any moment	Will happen after 7-year Tribulation
No signs	Many signs accompany His return
For believers only	Affects all humanity
Time of joy	Time of mourning
Before the Day of Wrath (Tribulation)	Immediately after the Tribulation
No mention of Satan	Satan bound in Abyss for 1,000 years
Judgment Seat of Christ	No time or place for Judgment Seat
Marriage of Lamb	His bride descends with Him
Only His own see Him	Every eye will see Him
Tribulation begins	1,000-year kingdom of Christ begins

B. The Antichrist (LaHaye, 207-227)

1. Prince to come (Dan. 9:26-27); Man of Lawlessness (2Thess. 2:3); Beast (Rev. 13:1-9; 17:3, 8)
2. His rise to power (Dan. 8:25; Rev. 6:2; 13:1-9), one-world government (Rev. 17:12-15), atheistic religion (Dan. 11:36-39; 2Thess 2:1-12), his prophet and mark (Rev. 13:11-18), ultimate destruction (2Thess. 2:8; Rev. 19:11-20)

C. Second Coming of Christ (Hitchcock, Mark: *101 Answers...End Times*, 199-209)

1. Mentioned 1,845 times in the Bible (1,527-OT; 318-NT)
2. People exhorted over 50 times to be ready for His return (e.g. Luke 12:35-36; Rom. 13:11-14)
3. He will establish Himself as King! (Matt. 19:28; Rev. 19:16)

D. The Millennial Kingdom

1. God will set up His kingdom that will never be destroyed (Dan. 2:44-45)
2. Who will be present in the Millennial Kingdom?
 - a. Resurrected OT saints (Dan. 12:1-3; cf. David in Ezek. 34:23-24; 37:24-25)
 - b. Resurrected and raptured NT saints (1Thess. 4:13-18; Jude 14-15)
 - c. Resurrected Tribulation saints (Rev. 6:9-11; 20:4-6)
 - d. Surviving Tribulation saints (Matt. 24:29-31; 25:31-40)
3. What will the Millennial Kingdom be like? (Hitchcock, 213-216)
 - a. Peace (Is. 2:4; 9:4-7; 11:6-9; Mic. 4:1-4; Zech. 9:10)
 - b. Joy (Is. 9:3-4; 12:3-6; 14:7-8; 30:29; Jer. 30:18-19; Zeph. 3:14-17; Zech. 10:6-7)
 - c. Holiness (Is. 4:3-4; 35:8; 52:1; Ezek. 43:7-12; 45:1; Zech. 8:3; 14:20-21)
 - d. Glory (Is. 35:2; 40:5; Ezek. 43:1-5)
 - e. Justice and righteousness (Is. 9:7; 11:1-5; 32:16; 42:1-4; 60:21; Jer. 31:23)
 - f. Deeper knowledge (Is. 11:1-2, 9; 54:13; Jer. 31:33-34; Hab. 2:14)
 - g. No sickness or deformity (Is. 29:18; 33:24; 35:5-6; 61:1-2; Ezek. 34:16)
 - h. Universal worship of God (Is. 45:23; 52:7-10; 66:17-23; Zeph. 3:9; Zech. 14:16)
 - i. Economic prosperity (Is. 35:1-2; 30:23-25; 62:8-9; 65:21-23; Zech. 8:11-12)
 - j. The presence of God (Ezek. 37:27-28; 48:35; Zech. 2:10-13)
4. Life in the Millennial Kingdom (Is. 65:17-25; Ezek. 40-48; Zech. 14:8, 16-21)