**Topic:** Rapture and Beyond – supplement study

**Date:** September 8, 2019

**Introduction:** The Apostle Paul’s preaching of Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began includes the “blessed hope” (Titus 2:13) when the Body of Christ (1Corinthians 12:27) shall all be changed (1Corinthians 15:51-52) and be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. (1Thessalonians 4:17)

This supplement study examines what Paul writes to the Body of Christ concerning its first three days in the heavenly places, and the time beyond.

**Study:**

This study takes advantage of the consistent language preserved for us in the King James Bible. The “day of the Lord Jesus” is a day different from the “day of Christ”; the final noun of each phrase being the distinguishing identifier.

Remember: “work” “study”

2Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Read: Colossians 1:20-29

Day One: **the Day of REDEMPTION** (a.k.a. “the rapture”: the words not actually found in the KJB)

* The day when the body of Christ will be “caught up” into heaven.

Key verse: Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

Additional references:

Ephesians 1:13-14 …after ye believed…

1Thessalonians 2:19-20 …our hope…

1Thessalonians 4:17 …caught up…

2Thessalonians 2:1 …our gathering together…

Day Two: **the Day of the Lord JESUS**

* The day when the body of Christ will stand before the judgment seat of Christ in heaven.

Key verse: 2Corinthians 1:14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also *are* ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.

Additional references:

1Corinthians 3:8 …every man…his own reward…

1Corinthians 3:13 …every man’s work…the day shall declare it…

1Corinthians 3:15 …if any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss…

2Corinthians 5:10 …judgement seat of Christ…things done in his body…

(Note: Paul writes this “judgement” will be for “…things done in his body…” which is to be distinguished from things done by the believer’s body (such as giving money, talents, time, service, suffering, kindness, controlling the flesh and tongue, hospitality, witnessing and soul winning, faithful in our vocation, etc.; all things done by the body). Thus, the judgement will concern sound doctrine in the believer, and NOT the behavior of the believer.)

Colossians 1:28 …warning every man, and teaching every man…that we may present every man perfect… (Note: the warnings and teaching of Paul, that is, his doctrine. See Romans 2:16)

Day Three: **the Day of CHRIST**

* The day when the body of Christ is presented to the Father and without spot, wrinkle, or blemish.

Key verse: Philippians 2:16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Additional verses:

1Corinthians 1:8 …confirm you unto the end…blameless in the day…

Ephesians 5:26-27 …to present it to himself a glorious church…

Philippians 1:6 …will perform it until the day…

Colossians 1:22 …to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight…

1Thessalonians 2:19-20 …crown of rejoicing…

1Thessalonians 3:13 …your hearts unblameable…before God, even our Father…

 (Note: Paul writes here of the coming of Jesus before the Father, NOT the coming to earth.)

Day Three: Simultaneously, on earth – **the Day of the LORD**

1Thessalonians 5:2 …the day of the Lord…

Isaiah 2:12 …the day of the LORD…

Jeremiah 30:7 …that day…the time of Jacob’s trouble…

Romans 2:5, 16 …day of wrath… 1Thessalonians 5:9 …not appointed unto wrath…

2Thessalonians 2:2-3 …the day of Christ…that man of sin revealed…

Note: There is no error in 2Thessalonians 2:2 KJB reading the “day of Christ”, as some have charged. The day of Christ in the heavenly places corresponds to the Day of the LORD on earth. The day of Christ is a day of rejoicing in the heavenly places, while the day of the LORD is the beginning of a period of judgement (Jacob’s trouble) on the earth.

Beyond Day Three: Body of Christ in the heavenly places

* The Body of Christ, gathered, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, and following presentation to the Father by Jesus Christ.

Key verses: Ephesians 2:6-7 And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Additional verse:

Philippians 3:20a …for our conversation is in heaven…

(Note: “conversation” Gk: politeuma: state, community, citizenship. The Body of Christ is no longer referred to by Paul as “ambassadors” (see 2Corinthians 5:20); the diplomatic ministry of reconciliation is ended. The “ambassadors” (Body of Christ) have been recalled to their country of origin which is the “heavenly places”, where it will take up its new function of “judging angels”; 1Corinthians 6:3)

**Conclusion:**

Colossians 3:1-4 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Revelation 12:7-12 …rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them…

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