## The Snatching Away Of The Saints

Jesus and the Apostles told us many times that there would come a time, and no-one knows exactly when, that he will remove the believers out from the troubled times, just like he did with Abraham's nephew Lot in the story of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Jesus said, about those troubled times;

Mat 24:29 "Immediately after the troubles of those days, 'The sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of heaven will be shaken loose.'

Mat 24:30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, [this is the Rapture] and all 'the tribes of the land will mourn' when they see 'the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven' with power and great glory. [this is the Return of the king]

Mat 24:31 He will send out his angels with a loud trumpet blast, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to another." [referring back to the Rapture]

Mat 24:36 "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. [Jesus didn't know until after he ascended into heaven]

Luk 17:28 So it was in the days of Lot. People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building.

Luk 17:29 But on the day when Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed all of them.

Luk 17:30 The day when the Son of Man is revealed will be like that.

Gen 19:14 Lot then went out and told his sons-in-law (they had married his daughters), "Get out of here! The LORD is going to destroy this city!" But his sons-in-law thought he was joking.

Gen 19:15 As dawn was breaking, the angels pressured Lot. "Get going!" they told him. "Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be engulfed by the devastation that's coming to this city."

Gen 19:16 But Lot kept lingering in the city, so the men grabbed his hand and the hands of his wife and two daughters (because of the LORD's compassion for him!), brought them out of the city, and left them outside.

Gen 19:17 Then one of them said, "Flee for your lives! Don't look back or stop anywhere on the plain. Escape to the hills, or you'll be swept away!"

Gen 19:22 Hurry up and flee there, because <u>I cannot do anything until you get to that town</u>."

Lot and his family were removed before the destruction that was coming, just as the Church will be removed from the destruction that is coming

Some more verses about the Rapture of the Church;

Heb 9:28 so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

**1Th 1:10** and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus <u>who delivers us</u> <u>from</u> the wrath to come.

Tit 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ;

We are warned that times will get tough before the Lord comes back;

2Ti 3:1 You must realize, however, that in the last days difficult times will come.

2Ti 3:2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,

2Ti 3:3 unfeeling, uncooperative, slanderous, degenerate, brutal, hateful of what is good,

2Ti 3:4 traitors, reckless, conceited, and lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.

2Ti 3:5 They will hold to an outward form of godliness but deny its power. Stay away from such people.

2Ti 3:13 But evil people and impostors will go from bad to worse as they deceive others and are themselves deceived.

2Ti 3:14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and found to be true, because you know from whom you learned it. [Grampa Roy ;)]

2Ti 3:15 From infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures that are able to give you the wisdom you need for salvation through faith in the Messiah Jesus.

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

2Ti 3:17 so that the man of God may be complete, throughly equipped for every good action.

The Book of Revelation even mentions the Rapture in one of the 7 letters;

Rev 3:10 Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, <u>I will keep you from</u> the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth.

So; The Rapture is the hope of the Church, that we will be spared from the "wrath of God" when HE decides enough is enough. The question is, when will it happen?

Jesus said we can't know the day, but like the trees budding out is a sign of spring, we can see the conditions of the families, the governments, and the Church and recognize the season when he will come again.

I think it is upon us.