"EVIDENTIAL REASONS FOR FAITH"

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The Bible & The Christian Faith Topic: The Bible & The Catching Up of the Church"

Q. What is the "catching up" of the Church?

A. This is a long awaited event of the church up through the ages (some Christians refer to it as the rapture), which comes from a Latin term rapiemur which mans (to seize away or catch up or away). Is this event taught in the Bible? It certainly is. In 1st Thessalonians 4: 15-17: and 1st Corinthians 15:51-53. At a time in the future, the believing Church of Jesus Christ will experience Christ's return in the clouds to gather his people to Himself. The sequence of this event is as follow:

- 1. The Lord Jesus will descend from heaven with a shout. 1st Thessalonians 4:16.
- 2. The voice of an archangel, with the trumpet of God will be sounded. 1st Thess. 4:16.
- 3. The dead in Christ will Christ bring with himself when he descends. They will be united with their new immortal bodies. 1 Thessalonians 4:14, 1st Corinthians 15:53-54.
- 4. The alive in Christ here on earth will be caught up with the raised believers in Christ in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, also receiving their immortal bodies.
- 5. The believer will always be with the Lord Jesus. 1st Thessalonians 4:17; St. John 14:1-4.

The Bible & Historical Accuracy Topic: The Bible & Archaeological Scholars

Q. Who is the second brilliant scholar of biblical archaeology?

A. William F. Albright - (1891-1971). For thirty years professor at Johns Hopkins. PH.D earned. One of the greatest, and most respected oriental scholar who ever lived. He writes the following, concerning the Bible, and his historical finds: "The reader may rest assured, nothing has been found to disturb a reasonable faith, and nothing have been discovered which can disprove a single theological doctrine We no longer trouble ourselves with attempts to harmonize religion and science, or to prove the Bible. The Bible can stand for itself. (Robert Young, Young's Analytical Concordance to the Bible, pg. 51)

The Bible & Scientific Accuracy Topic: The Bible & Medical Science

Q. Is the practice of circumcision given to Abraham circa. 1913 B.C. consistent with medical science?

A. Yes, 1) Dr. S. McMillen - author of "None of these Diseases," discussed the astonishing scarcity of cervical cancer among Jewish women due to the rite of circumcision practiced by Jewish males. The operation prevents the growth of cancer - producing smegmabacillus which can be transferred from the male to the female by physical relations. In November 1946, an article in the "Journal of American Medical Association," lists reasons why circumcision of newborn males are advisable. The newborn, however has a peculiar susceptibility to bleeding between the second and fifth days of life. Hemorrhaging is possible due to the fact that the important blood clotting element, vitamin K, is not formed until the 5th - 7th day. Prothrombin is also necessary for clotting. The science of pediatrics

has determined the 8th day is the best day for circumcision. Abraham was instructed by God to perform this rite on the 8th day. Only the Creator could have known this fact. Genesis 17:9-12.

The Bible & Prophetic Accuracy Topic: The Bible & the Second Coming of Christ

- **Q.** What is the scenario of Jesus Christ return to earth as predicted in scripture? **A.** 1. Immediately after the Great tribulation, the sun shall be darkened and the moon also. the Stars shall fall from heaven, and the power of the heavens shall be shaken. (St. Matthew 24:29; St. Luke 21:25-26)
- 2. In the midst of the calamity, the heavens will open & Jesus comes forth. He will be seen by the inhabitants of the earth. (St. Matt. 24:30; Revelation. 1:7, 19:11)
- 3. He defeats the Antichrist, and the worlds armies assembled at Armageddon. (Zechariah 12:2; 14:12-15; Revelation 19:17-21)
- 4. He touches down on Mt. Olives, causing a great earthquake. (Zechariah 14:4,8)
- 5. He will regather, regenerate, and restore faithful Israel. (Micah 7:18-19; Zechariah 12:10-12; 13:6)
- 6. He will gather the elect (St. Matthew 24:31)
- 7. He will judge unbelievers. (St. Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 9:20)
- 8. He will bind Satan. (Revelation 20:1-3)
- 9. He will set up his thousand year reign on earth. (Revelation 20:4-6) **week 18**