Revelation 4-5 The Glory of Heaven

When will the rapture happen? Mat 24:36-42

- Scoffers (2Pe 3:3-4)
- Selfishness and materialism (2Ti 3:1-5)
- Unwillingness to hear the TRUTH (2Ti 4:3-4)
- Increase in knowledge and mobility (Dan 12:4)
- In the words of Jesus: (Mat 24:6-7 and 11-12)
- ISRAEL as a nation (Mat 24:32-34)

Has a rapture happened before?

- ENOCH (Gen 5:24)
- Elijah (2Ki 2:11-12)

YES!

Can a person wait until the rapture to be saved?

2Th 2:11-12 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: ¹² That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Only those who have NEVER
HEARD the gospel can be saved

Will the Holy Spirit be removed from earth when the rapture happens?

2Th 2:7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

BUT! ... See Jhn 16:8-11 and Eph 1:13

Will the Holy Spirit be removed from earth when the rapture happens?

NO

- The Holy Spirit will still be taking an active part in the SALVATION of and SEALING of souls after the rapture.
- ► However, the Holy Spirit's power to restrain sin will be limited or removed

What will happen to babies and young children?

"The tribulation is reserved for those who have consciously rejected the truth and for those who are able to choose but have not yet heard the truth of the gospel" ...seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God...

A picture of the SEVEN-FOLD spirit of God, not of seven individual spirits

Isa 11:2-3

Rev 1:4

Rev 5:6

→ Wisdom

→ Understanding

→ COUNSEL

→ Might

→ Knowledge

→ Fear of God → RIGHTEOUSNESS

...four beasts full of eyes before and behind...like a lion...like a calf...a face as a man...like a flying eagle...

Representations of the manifold character of God?



Lion – His MAJESTY and omnipotence

Ox- His faithful labour and patience

Man – His intelligence

✓ Eagle − His supreme sovereignty

...four beasts full of eyes before and behind...like a lion...like a calf...a face as a man...like a flying eagle...

Representations of Christ as depicted in the Gospels?



/ Mark – The OX as the servant of Yahweh

Luke – The incarnate HUMAN Jesus

John – The EAGLE as the divine Son of God

...those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, ¹⁰ The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever...

The redeemed will WORSHIP God for all eternity

...for thy pleasure they are and were created...

All things are created for God's PLEASURE

The Scroll

- Contains the judgments to come
- Having been written on both sides indicates the TOTALITY of the judgments to come

Dan 12:1 and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time

 The unrolling of the seals indicates the successive nature of the judgments to come

The Scroll

- Whose seals were on the scroll?
 - → God the Father's
 - Only the qualified recipient could break the seals
 - → Jesus PURCHASED the right to break the seals

The Lamb

- Jesus is referred to as a Lamb (His first coming as Saviour) and as a Lion (His second coming as JUDGE)
- In Revelation, Jesus is only called Lion once, but is called Lamb 27 times
- This shows that God is more interested in SAVING souls than in destroying the wicked

The Lamb

...having seven horns...

 Seven horns depicts the authority and strength of a sovereign ruler

Heaven

- A real place, not IMAGINED
- A place of the indescribable glory and infinite MAJESTY of God