

## Five Stones Church

# Sermon Study

Keep Scripture Relevant with Study Guides



### Be Intentional

Before you start your study time, make sure you create an environment for Holy Spirit revelation.

### Study Group

You can discuss difficult questions or topics with your small group or study partners.



### Note-Taking

Take notes in an organized style to help you understand the subject more clearly. Take notes on Sunday

### Become Equipped

Challenge yourself to memorize Scripture and key points from Sunday's sermon



## **Opening Prayer:**

Invite God's presence into this study. Pray for understanding, peace, and clarity as we explore these profound promises and teachings about the End Times.

## **Anchor Scripture:**

For in those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be.

Mark 13:19 (NKJV)

**Sermon Study Guide - Mark 13:19 - 20**  
**The Raptured Church**

## **Understanding the Rapture**

### **Key Points:**

1. The Rapture is a Rescue:

- It's not an escape from hardship but a fulfillment of God's promise of salvation.
- It protects believers from the wrath of the Tribulation.

2. God's Timing Is Perfect:

- God's divine timeline ensures that His Church is spared from His wrath (1 Thess. 5:9).

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How does understanding the Rapture as a rescue, rather than an escape, change your perspective on God's plan?
2. What does God's promise of rescue teach us about His character?

### **Action Item:**

Write a prayer of thanksgiving, acknowledging God's perfect plan and His promise of salvation.

# Assurance of Salvation

## Key Points:

### 1. Hope in Salvation:

- The Rapture offers believers the hope of eternal union with Christ (1 Thess. 4:16–17).

### 2. Evangelism is Crucial:

- The Rapture underscores the urgency of sharing the Gospel.

## Reflection Questions:

1. Why is it important to share the hope of salvation with others?
2. How does the promise of the Rapture encourage bold evangelism?

## Action Item:

Identify one person in your life who needs to hear about the hope of salvation. Commit to sharing the Gospel with them this week.

# Tribulation vs. Rapture – A Distinction

## Key Points:

1. God's Wrath and Tribulation:
  - Tribulation signifies God's judgment on a sinful world (Mark 13:19).
  - The Church is not destined for wrath but for salvation (Romans 5:8-9).
2. Rapture vs. Second Coming:
  - At the Rapture, believers meet Christ in the air (1 Thess. 4:17).
  - At His Second Coming, Christ returns to earth with His Church (Zechariah 14:4).

## Reflection Questions:

1. How does distinguishing between the Rapture and the Second Coming deepen your understanding of God's plan?
2. What does it mean to you that God has not appointed His Church to wrath?

## Action Item:

Read Revelation 19:11-14. Meditate on Christ's victorious return and what it means for believers.

# The Holy Spirit's Role in the End Times

## Key Points:

### 1. Restrainer of Evil:

- The Holy Spirit currently restrains the rise of the Antichrist (2 Thess. 2:6-7).
- After the Rapture, the Holy Spirit steps aside to allow God's plan to unfold.

### 2. God's Perfect Timeline:

- Every event aligns with His purpose and plan.

## Reflection Questions:

1. How does the Holy Spirit's role as the Restrainer demonstrate God's sovereignty?
2. Why is it significant that the Holy Spirit's work prepares us for Christ?

## Action Item:

Spend time in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to empower you to live righteously and share the Gospel.

# Living with Expectation

## Key Points:

### 1. The Rapture Transforms Us:

- Believers will receive glorified bodies like Christ's (Phil. 3:20–21).
- This transformation affirms our heavenly citizenship.

### 2. Living in Readiness:

- The Rapture calls believers to live holy and purposeful lives (Titus 2:11–13).

## Reflection Questions:

1. How does the promise of glorified bodies encourage you in your current struggles?
2. What does it mean to live in readiness for Christ's return?

## Action Item:

Create a list of ways you can live with eternal purpose this week. Focus on holiness, service, and evangelism.

# The Church's Role in God's Plan

## Key Points:

1. Kings and Priests:
  - Believers are being equipped to reign with Christ during the millennial kingdom (Rev. 5:9–10).
2. Marriage Supper of the Lamb:
  - The Church's time in heaven includes preparation for eternal reign (Rev. 19:6–8).

## Reflection Questions:

1. How does knowing you are called to be a king or priest inspire you to serve God today?
2. What does the Marriage Supper of the Lamb symbolize for the Church?

## Action Item:

Serve in your local church or community this week as an expression of your role in God's kingdom.



# Finding Joy in the Rapture

## Key Points:

### 1. Not a Time to Fear:

- The Rapture is a joyous event for believers (1 Thess. 4:18).

### 2. Comfort One Another:

- Encouraging others with the hope of the Rapture strengthens the Church.

## Reflection Questions:

1. How does the Rapture bring you joy and comfort?
2. Who can you encourage with the message of the Rapture this week?

## Action Item:

Write a letter or send a message to someone, sharing the hope of the Rapture and how it has strengthened your faith.

## **Closing Prayer:**

Lord, thank You for the hope of Your return. Help us live ready and share Your love daily. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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## **Action Steps:**

The promise of the Rapture assures us that God's plan is perfect.

As we eagerly await Christ's return, let us live with purpose, share the Gospel boldly, and find joy in His salvation.

Maranatha—Come, Lord Jesus!

