

# **Key West Church of God**

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Dear Friends,

I send you greetings in the name of our soon coming King, the Lord Jesus Christ! One of the recurring messages of the New Testament is that the Lord Jesus Christ will return to this planet. Heb 9:28 KJV "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." 1Jo 3:2-3 KJV "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. (3) And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

The appearance of Jesus Christ for the believer is called the Rapture. The word Rapture is from a Latin word **which** means to be caught away. Paul gives us a detailed description of the Rapture and its mechanics in the following passage, 1Th 4:14-18 KJV "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. (15) For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. (16) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: (17) Then we which are alive *and* remain shall 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. (18) Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

**The first step in understanding the Rapture** is understanding that God has chosen the time for it. When Christ came the first time, He came in the "fulness of time." Gal 4:4 KJV "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law," God has appointed a time for the Rapture to take place. When you get to the fullness of time, time has run out; time has filled up; the cup is now full. It is time; it is the end of the road. As with most modern highways, there are road signs that give you needed information. Among the signs there are those that reveal how far down the road you have traveled and how far it is to your destination. In the Word of God, we are given road signs. When we see them, we know that we are advancing down the road. There are signs along any road that when seen you know that you are nearing the end of your trip. The last miles are before you. Instead of miles down the road to the rapture, it is markers of time, years, days, minutes and seconds. The time of the Rapture and the following Tribulation is said to happen in the "Last days," "Latter days," "Latter Times," "Last Time," and the "Time of the End."

Now the question could be asked how close are we to the Rapture of the Church? We are told by the Lord that no one would know the day or the hour. That is reserved for the Father. The only way that we can judge the timing is by looking at what would closely follow the Rapture of the Church. What follows the Rapture of the Church? The Tribulation. There are a number of things that are developing at this very moment that lead us to believe that our time is short. Israel and the events connected to it become our mile marker. The official beginning of the Tribulation is a covenant that will divide Israel and create the "two state solution." The world will feel that they have now achieved peace and safety. The second step into the horrors of the Tribulation is Russia's invasion of Israel. That will ignite a nuclear war. Any activities taking place in connection to the two related events will give us some idea that we are nearing the end of our journey and that the time of the Rapture is upon us.

The second step in understanding the mechanics of the Rapture is to understand what happens to those who die in Christ. The Bible refers to those who have died in Christ as those who sleep in Jesus, "even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." It was termed that way for the Spirit of God wanted us to understand even though the body is dead, God will raise it to new life as easily as awaking someone out of sleep. So what happens to the believer when he dies? It is only the believer's body that dies. He himself is alive for evermore. This is what Jesus will reveal in the following passage, Joh 11:25-26 KJV "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: (26) And whosoever liveth and **believeth in me shall never die.** Believest thou this?" He is stating to believe in him is to never die. Again he repeats the same thing in this passage, Joh 8:51 KJV "Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death." Yet he acknowledges the death of the believer. It would seem confusing if we did not understand that there is more to a man than just the body. Man is a living soul that lives in a body that comes from the earth. When that body dies, the soul

of man leaves the body that no longer is capable of supporting life. The soul does not die; it is alive for evermore.

Paul will take the time to enlighten us as to what happens to the believer upon dying. 2Co 5:1-2 KJV "For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. (2) For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven." The earthly house is the human body. Paul refers to it like having a tent that we are living in. When it becomes so tattered that it cannot support our life, then we leave it behind. In Heaven there awaits a heavenly body. It is a real body. It is a heavenly body as the one we have now is of the earth. 1Co 15:40 KJV "*There are* also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial *is* one, and the *glory* of the terrestrial *is* another." When it is time for the rapture of the Church, Jesus will come to the earth bringing with him the redeemed. 1Th 4:14 KJV "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." At that time Jesus raises the dead bodies of the redeemed, and the redeemed will reenter the body that has been raised. 1Th 4:16 KJV "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first." At that time the believers who are alive have their bodies changed and they join the newly resurrected in rising to meet the Lord in the air. 1Th 4:17 KJV "Then we which are alive *and* remain shall 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."

The Rapture will be like a flash of lightening. It is said that our change will come in a moment of time. 1Co 15:52 KJV "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." It is like a flash, and we are changed and caught up. Mat 24:27-28 KJV "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. (28) For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together."

The Tribulation will follow the rapture. Mat 24:29 KJV "**Immediately after the tribulation** of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken." Since the timing of both events are so close together, the sign of one event is the warning of the other. So when we see things and events that must happen to begin the Tribulation, then we know that the Rapture of the Church cannot be all that far away. There are two events I want to talk to you about. Our first will lead to the other. The first will be the signing of a treaty or covenant that will formally split the nation of Israel into two states. It has been referred to as the "Two State Solution." It is the creating of the Palestinian State. The second will be the invasion of Israel by the Russian alliance as prophesied in Ezekiel 38 & 39. When we see signs of either of these events, then we know we are nearing the end of our journey.

The "Two State Solution" - Dan 9:26-27 KJV . . . the prince that shall come . . . shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease," The prince that shall come is the Antichrist. The covenant is the treaty that decrees the "State of Palestine" into existence. The Antichrist is the rider of the White horse of Revelation 6:1-2. It is not necessary for him to write, create, or push this treaty. **All** he has to do is back it and sign onto it. When we see someone pushing and promoting the treaty, we know we are nearing the Rapture mile marker. The closer the treaty comes to being implemented, the closer we are to the Rapture. Recent headlines give us warning that the first step may not be far away.

Headline - **Kerry Warns: Last Chance for Israel-PA Peace** "If efforts to reach peace fail now, there may never be another chance, warns Secretary of State." Elad Benari <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/168591>

"U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry on Monday issued a stark warning to Israel to resume long-stalled peace talks with the Palestinian Authority, saying that if efforts fail now they may never get another chance. "We are running out of time. We're running out of possibilities . . . If we do not succeed now, we may not get another chance," Kerry told a forum held by the American Jewish Community, according to the *AFP* news agency."

"We will find ourselves in a negative spiral of responses and counter-responses, **that can literally slam the door on a two-state solution**, having already agreed, I think, that there isn't a one-state one," Kerry said, according to *AFP*.

"The only way forward was to **work towards a two-state solution**, Kerry said, stressing that while the United States "will always have Israel's back," it would be even better "if we had some more company." End of Quote

Headline - **Obama to Demand Israel Withdrawal from Judea & Samaria?** March 7, 2013 By Joseph Klein - <http://frontpagemag.com/2013/joseph-klein/obama-to-demand-israel-withdrawal-from-judea-samaria/>

"According to an unconfirmed report by World Tribune, quoting unnamed Israeli sources, Obama wants Prime Minister Netanyahu to present him with a detailed Israeli plan for withdrawal from the West Bank so that a Palestinian state can be established there as early as 2014." End of Quote

If the headlines are any indication of where we are at on our road to the Tribulation, then it seems that we are nearing the end. The Obama administration is pressing Israel hard to allow its land to be divided by 2014. Here we are in June of 2013. Not much time left! Mr. Obama may not get his way when he wants to get his way. The underling message of Revelation chapter 6 is that God is in control of the timing. Until Jesus breaks the seals, the world experiences the mercy of the restraining hand of God. The day will come when the Rapture will happen and Jesus will break the first seal and the Antichrist will be allowed to come forward and confirm the covenant. The "two state solution" will be implemented.

The Palestinian state is something that God does not desire and when it is decreed God's anger will be unleashed on the nations of the earth. The Palestinian state will not last long. Zep 2:1-2 KJV "Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; (2) Before the **decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD'S anger come upon you.**"

That brings us to our second event. The world will think that they finally have world peace. They will rejoice, not understanding that in a matter of a few days one forth of the world will die. 1Th 5:3 KJV "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." God makes this promise to Edom or the new Palestinian State, Eze 35:10-14 KJV "Because thou hast said, **These two nations and these two countries shall be mine**, and we will possess it; whereas the LORD was there: (11) Therefore, *as I live*, saith the Lord GOD, I will even do according to thine anger, and according to thine envy which thou hast used out of thy hatred against them(*Israel*); and I will make myself known among them, when I have judged thee. (12) And thou shalt know that I *am* the LORD, *and that* I have heard all thy blasphemies which thou hast spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they are given us to consume. (13) Thus with your mouth ye have boasted against me, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard *them*. (14) Thus saith the Lord GOD; **When the whole earth rejoiceth, I will make thee desolate.**"

While the world is rejoicing over the new state, the Palestinians will move to conquer all of Israel. God has foreseen their plan to have both the Palestinian state and Jewish state, "Eze 35:10 KJV "Because thou hast said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas the LORD was there:" The Russian alliance as listed in Ezekiel 38 & 39 will invade Israel at that time. At this moment peace will be removed from the earth. Rev 6:4 KJV "And there went out another horse *that was* red: and *power* was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword." The rider of this horse is the leader of Russia. The war will turn nuclear in short order. Rev 6:12-14 KJV "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; (13) And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. (14) And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places."

The headlines tell us that we are moving closer to that mile marker. Nuclear war was once unthinkable, but that is all changing with the developments in new technology. The Russian, Chinese and Iranian armies are all arming, training, and developing strategies to fight America. This is occurring at the same time that the Obama administration is down grading America's capabilities.

#### Headline - **Russia Conducts Test of New ICBM Designed to Defeat U.S. Defenses**

<http://freebeacon.com/russia-conducts-test-of-new-icbm-designed-to-defeat-u-s-defenses/>

Russian official: 'We tested an intercontinental ballistic missile which I call 'a missile defense killer'' BY: Bill Gertz - June 7, 2013

"On Friday, Russian Deputy Premier Dmitri Rogozin said the new missile was designed specifically to defeat U.S. missile defenses—a key Russian priority for its strategic nuclear arms buildup."

"The strategic missile test comes as Russia has been conducting several Cold War-style strategic bomber incursions into U.S. air defense zones. Russia also announced recently that Moscow will resume ballistic missile submarine patrols." End of quote

#### Headline - **Newsmax - Air Force Expert: US-Russia Confrontation Likely If Russia Delivers Missiles to Syria - Friday, May 31, 2013 By: Bill Hoffmann**

<http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/russi-syria-missiles-confrontation/2013/05/31/id/507429>

Russia is allied with Assad's Syria and as such is being pulled into the war in Syria. That is setting up a conflict between Russia the US and Israel. The Palestinian allies Hizballah are fighting along side Assad's forces. Once the

“Two State Solution” has been declared it would be an easy move for Russia and her allies to move into the new state with the intentions of destroying Israel as a Jewish state.

I have just finished reading an article **“No Longer Unthinkable: Should US Ready For ‘Limited’ Nuclear War?”** By Sydney J. Freedberg Jr. The premise of the article is that the world is developing a new kind of nuclear weapon that can be used on a limited base. Russia is one of the nations that is investing in this type of weapon. Here is a quote, “Russia has not only developed new, relatively low-yield tactical nukes but also routinely war-gamed their use to stop both NATO and Chinese conventional forces should they overrun Moscow’s feeble post-Soviet military,” The idea behind such planning is that when Israel is invaded, striking America with this type of weapon will cause America to back away, leaving Israel alone to fend for herself. As the US is down grading her abilities, all of her enemies are planing for war with her. Things are not going to go as planned. God has warned that it will not be a limited war but an all out war of wholesale death. The rulers of this world will be shocked at what they have let lose. As the bombs and missiles are falling, this is what the rulers of the world will be crying, Rev 6:15-17 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men,. . . hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; (16) And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: (17) **For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?**

My friends, I see the mile markers. We are nearing the end of the road. How much time we have left I cannot tell you. This I promise you whatever time is left will pass quickly. Luk 12:40 “Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.”

**The message of the Month** - “Attack on the Bible Part 2.” Last month’s CD “Attack on the Bible Part 1” will help you to understand the allegorical method of destroying the Bible. Part 2 deals with destroying the Bible by changing its physical body, corrupting it by manipulation of its words, taking words away, adding words, and moving the words into different arrangements. This causes the message of the divine author to be replaced by the evil one’s message. Words of life soon become words of death. You will want to get the CD. It is yours by request.

**Moments in Bible Prophecy** - With the time that remains, we must remain faithful to proclaiming the Word of God to a world in ever increasing darkness. I want to thank you for helping me to continue to send the light into the darkness. I have some exciting news concerning our Moments in Bible Prophecy. On June 17, 2013, it will begin to air on a new shortwave station, WINB out of Red Lion, PA. Here is the broadcast schedule - 10:45-11:00 A.M., Monday through Friday, 13570 kHz. In addition to shortwave WINB is available by internet at winb.com and telephone streaming at 415-655-0846. WINB will broadcast our program a second time each day on a rotating schedule. Pray for and take advantage of our new outreaches.

There is a second development concerning Moments in Bible Prophecy and six of the radio stations owned by Wilkins Communications that air Moments in Bible Prophecy. Wilkins has just upgraded all of our stations live steaming over the internet. We will be adding the links to our website Momentin.com. Clicking on the different stations on our radio schedule will take you to the link. More and more people are listening to the internet for their radio, so this is increasing our presence on this important media.

I want to personally thank all of you who faithfully support our radio ministry. Without you “Moments in Bible Prophecy” would not be possible. If you are not presently helping us, I want you to prayerfully consider partnering with us. I know that still small voice that God often guides us with will let you know what you should do. If he directs you to help us to fulfill the Great Commission, I want to thank you in advance.

Your Friend in Christ,

Raymond L Shockley