

# THE RAPTURE

Pastor Grant Williams February 28, 2018 Part 8

## 1 Thessalonians 4:17 KJV

*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.*

Tonight, we are continuing with the revelation of God's Word from the Old Testament and New Testament. Both testaments are revealing the same thing, Jesus would come in the flesh, then go away or ascend and then return to gather the dead in Christ and those still alive in Christ together in heaven, this is the Rapture.

My desire is to show you in the Word or reveal these things or prophecies from the beginning of time and their meaning for all time and why the believer in Christ, the Church, need not be ashamed. Jesus is coming and we need to let people know.

*The New Testament is in the Old Testament concealed;  
the Old Testament is in the New Testament revealed...*

Remember, from the beginning of time, God said watch Israel and Jerusalem. God could've chosen **anything**, why did He choose Israel and Jerusalem for us to watch?

### **Isaiah 46:9-10 AMPC**

*9 [Earnestly] remember the former things, [which I did] of old; for I am God, and there is no one else; I am God, and there is none like Me,*

*10 Declaring the end and the result from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure and purpose...*

Last week, we left off with Abram meeting Melchizedek who was the Priest of God Most High in Jerusalem. Abram is bringing a tithe to him, but he didn't bring a portion, he brought it all to be blessed and then kept only that of what he needed.

### **Genesis 14:17-20 AMPC**

*17 After his [Abram's] return from the defeat and slaying of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh, that is, the King's Valley.18 Melchizedek king of Salem [later called Jerusalem] brought out bread and wine [for their nourishment]; he was the priest of God Most High,19 And he blessed him and said, Blessed (favored with blessings, made blissful, joyful) be Abram by God Most High, Possessor and Maker of heaven and earth, 20 And blessed, praised, and glorified be God Most High, Who has given your foes into your hand! And [Abram] gave him a tenth of all [he had taken].*

First, Abram was tested with money or material things. Then we move ahead to Genesis 22 where God asks Abraham for his son as an offering. This story is about present obedience and future prophecies, a foreshadowing of things to come...

**Genesis 22:3-4 AMPC**

*3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and then began the trip to the place of which God had told him.*

*4 On the third day **Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.***

**Genesis 22:3-4 KJV**

*3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.*

*4 Then on the third day **Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.***

The Bible says that *Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off*. This is where it gets good... there are two Hebrew phrases used here. When you translate this from the Hebrew this is how it reads:

**“Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw something about God in the future”.**

This is what Jesus said...remember: Jesus only speaks the Word and since the beginning He was the Word. There is nothing new under the sun, God has already told us from the beginning what would happen in the end. Jesus is revealing or unveiling that which was already spoken, the revelation or understanding of the Word which had already been spoken.

**John 8:56 AMPC**

*56 Your forefather Abraham was extremely happy at the hope and prospect of seeing My day (My incarnation); and he did see it and was delighted.*

**John 8:56 KJV**

*56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.*

**Jesus said - He saw it...**

So why does he take Isaac here? Remember, he had paid the tithe to Melchizedek. He gave his first OFFERING here to the first king and priest. Now, he takes his first son here as an offering where he paid the tithe.

**Genesis 22:1-3 KJV**

*1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.*

*2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah;*

*and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.*

*3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.*

Why did he do this here? Because, he knows where the blessing is or the land of the blessing.

You have Abraham the father, who is a type of God the father, with his only son Isaac, as a type of Christ, to go to Mount Moriah which is right there in Jerusalem.

He then takes wood, that Isaac carries up the mountain...

**Genesis 22:6 AMPC**

*6 Then Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on [the shoulders of] Isaac his son, and he took the fire (the firepot) in his own hand, and a knife; and the two of them went on together.*

Just like Jesus who had to carry the cross and had someone help him.

**Luke 23:26 AMPC**

*26 And as they led Him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross and made him carry it behind Jesus.*

Abraham lays Isaac down on the wood just as Jesus is laid down on the cross...

**Genesis 22:9 AMPC**

*9 When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there; then he laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar on the wood.*

**Mark 15:22,24 AMPC**

*22 And they led Him to Golgotha [in Latin: Calvary], meaning The Place of a Skull.*

*24 And they crucified Him;*

But guess what? A ram shows up and the ram takes Isaac's place...and Isaac gets up off that wood!

**Genesis 22:13 AMPC**

*13 Then Abraham looked up and glanced around, and behold, behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up for a burnt offering and an ascending sacrifice instead of his son!*

The same way that Jesus, when he died, kicked out the bottom of the grave and gets out of it and lives again...

**Luke 24:1-7 AMPC**

*1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] went to the tomb, taking the spices which they had made ready.*

*2 And they found the stone rolled back from the tomb,*

3 But when they went inside, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 And while they were perplexed and wondering what to do about this, behold, two men in dazzling raiment suddenly stood beside them.

5 And as [the women] were frightened and were bowing their faces to the ground, the men said to them, Why do you look for the living among [those who are] dead?

6 He is not here, but has risen! Remember how He told you while He was still in Galilee

7 That the Son of Man must be given over into the hands of sinful men (men [a]whose way or nature is to act in opposition to God) and be crucified and on the third day rise [[b]from death]

Genesis 22 is a perfect picture of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ when you study all the parallels. **Now, Moses wrote the book of Genesis and he also wrote about what Abraham saw.**

Isaac asks Abraham, “Dad where is the lamb”?

**Genesis 22:7 AMPC**

7 And Isaac said to Abraham, My father! And he said, Here I am, my son. [Isaac] said, See, here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt sacrifice?

Abraham said, “My son, God will provide himself, the lamb”.

**Genesis 22:8 AMPC**

8 Abraham said, My son, God Himself will provide a lamb for the burnt offering. So the two went on together.

Hold on, a ram showed up and not a lamb...get a load of this in verse 14

**Genesis 22:14 AMPC**

*14 So Abraham called the name of that place The Lord Will Provide. And it is said to this day, On the mount of the Lord it will be provided.*

A ram showed up instead of a lamb because Abraham knew the lamb was coming and he knew God himself would become the lamb.

That's why once again Jesus said...

**John 8:56 AMPC**

*56 Your forefather Abraham was extremely happy at the hope and prospect of seeing My day (My incarnation); and he did see it and was delighted.*

**John 8:56 KJV**

*56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.*

The New Testament is revealing the Old Testament....

From Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, let's go from when the Israelites enter the Promised Land. There was a Canaanite tribe named the Jebusites who inhabited and built Jerusalem. Joshua was supposed to take them out and didn't. Canaan was full of giants...

Then, going forward to the time of King David, he comes in and takes over the same place which is Jerusalem that was known as Jebus prior to David taking it. It was also called the stronghold of Zion. David defeats the enemies and calls it the City of David.

So, why does David come here and take this city, Jerusalem?

In Davids' day there were 5 giants in the land...

David's mighty men wiped out the race of the giants. But, notice this in 1 Samuel 17 when David killed Goliath. For those of you who grew up in Sunday School as kids or have heard this story over and over here's something that most people do not teach or draw attention to.

**1 Samuel 17:54 KJV**

*54 And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.*

David put the armour in his tent...but, brought the head of Goliath to Jerusalem. So, what do you do with the head of Goliath? You pick a mountain - and you bury the skull.

**Note:** The giants are the seed of the serpent that God warned about in the book Genesis. Satan had used these giants on earth to corrupt the world in the days of Noah before and after The Flood. He used these giants to keep the Israelites out of the Promised Land and there were now only five of them left.

### **Genesis 6:1-7 AMPC**

*1 When men began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them,*

*2 The sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair, and they took wives of all they desired and chose.*

*3 Then the Lord said, My Spirit shall not forever dwell and strive with man, for he also is flesh; but his days shall yet be 120 years.*

*4 **There were giants on the earth in those days—and also afterward**—when the sons of God lived with the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.*

*5 The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination and intention of all human thinking was only evil continually.*

*6 And the Lord regretted that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved at heart. 7 So the Lord said, I will destroy, blot out, and wipe away mankind, whom I have created from the face of the ground—not only man, [but] the beasts and the creeping things and the birds of the air—for it grieves Me and makes Me regretful that I have made them.*

### **Numbers 13:32-33 AMPC**

*32 So they brought the Israelites an evil report of the land which they had scouted out, saying, The land through which we went to spy it out is a land that devours its inhabitants. And all the people that we saw in it are men of great stature.*

*33 There we saw the Nephilim [or giants], the sons of Anak, who come from the giants; and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.*

Remember, David took 5 smooth stones - he wanted to take them all out at one time.

**1 Samuel 17:39-40 AMPC**

*39 And David girded his sword over his armor. Then he tried to go, but could not, for he was not used to it.*

*And David said to Saul, I cannot go with these, for I am not used to them. And David took them off.*

*40 Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones out of the brook and put them in his shepherd's [lunch] bag [a whole kid's skin slung from his shoulder], in his pouch, and his sling was in his hand, and he drew near the Philistine.*

David takes the skull or the head of Goliath and buries it somewhere in the city of Jerusalem.

**1 Samuel 17:54 KJV**

*54 And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.*

Solomon then builds the Temple here, the Babylonian captivity takes place here, in the City of David...now lets go forward to the time of Christ.

Jesus has to be crucified in the city of Jerusalem...it was the place where the first man or the first Adam was created in the garden. This is where the first Adam sinned (Genesis 3), where he ate of the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. This is the place where he hid from God amongst the fig trees.

**Note:** The Mount of Olives or Olivet is where you will find the house of the figs. Which, is also where Jesus cursed the fig tree on his way into Jerusalem.

**Mark 11:13-21 AMPC**

*13 And seeing in the distance a fig tree [covered] with leaves, He went to see if He could find any [fruit] on it [for in the fig tree the fruit appears at the same time as the leaves].*

*But when He came up to it, He found nothing but leaves, for the fig season had not yet come.*

*14 And He said to it, No one ever again shall eat fruit from you. And His disciples were listening [to what He said].*

*15 And they came to Jerusalem. And He went into the temple [area, the porches and courts] and began to drive out those who sold and bought in the temple area, and He overturned the [four-footed] tables of the money changers and the seats of those who dealt in doves;*

*16 And He would not permit anyone to carry any household equipment through the temple enclosure [thus making the temple area a short-cut traffic lane].*

*17 And He taught and said to them, Is it not written, My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations? But you have turned it into a den of robbers.*

*18 And the chief priests and the scribes heard [of this] and kept seeking some way to destroy Him, for they feared Him, because the entire multitude was struck with astonishment at His teaching.*

*19 And when evening came on, He and His disciples, as accustomed, went out of the city.*

*20 In the morning, when they were passing along, they noticed that the fig tree was withered [completely] away to its roots.*

*21 And Peter remembered and said to Him, Master, look! The fig tree which You doomed has withered away!*

This all goes back to Adam...

Jesus Christ begins to fulfill the type and shadow in Genesis 22. Abram and Isaac (like that of God the father) sends his son to mount Mariah to be offered as a sacrifice.

Jesus then goes up to a place called Calvary (in Latin) or in Hebrew it is called Golgotha. Now in Semitic languages when you do the root words they can mean different things.

I know when you take the word Golgatha what it eludes to - but read what Mark wrote...(it looks like a skull).

**Mark 15:22 AMPC**

*22 And they led Him to Golgotha [in Latin: Calvary], meaning The Place of a Skull.*

**Mark calls it the place of or the hill of a skull....so the question is whose skull?**

It is my understanding from study and research that the Jews knew where the head of Goliath was buried and they made it a stoning ground or crucifixion site so that Israel's enemies are killed where David killed one of Israel's biggest enemies and that is Goliath - and that made him king.

When he killed the giant and cut his head off the Jews knew they had a king. So, he drags that head up the mountain and buries it.

Look at the word Golgatha: Goliath was from Gath - Gol gatha

**1 Samuel 17:23 AMPC**

*23 As they talked, behold, Goliath, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, came forth from the Philistine ranks and spoke the same words as before, and David heard him.*

I believe that the cross is placed in the spot where King David buried the head of the giant that represents the seed of a serpent.

As Jesus is hanging on that cross with his feet above.... Jesus' feet are above the seed of the serpent. You might be thinking "Big deal Pastor Grant"... God told us from the beginning everything that would take place so we wouldn't miss out on eternity with Him. (Isaiah 46:9-10)

**Genesis 3:15 AMPC**

*15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her Offspring; (speaking to satan) He will bruise and tread your head underfoot, and you will lie in wait and bruise His heel*

**Genesis 3:15 KJV**

*15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*

When they crucified Jesus or crucified in general, people think that they overlapped the feet and drove a nail through the top down. That's not how they did it, they put the legs and feet sideways and drove a nail through the back of the heels so they could pull out the wood that was supporting their weight.

Jesus was crucified in the heel of the foot...and the point is, when he was crucified his feet were on top of the head of the seed of the serpent - the giant, the picture of satan.

**As Jesus hung there, the blood poured out over the enemy!**

When we read about the crucifixion at Easter, which is really the Passover, this story is so much deeper than Jesus riding into town on a donkey and hanging on a cross.

So why did God choose Israel and Jerusalem?

**Jerusalem is the place called the apple of God's Eye...**

**Zechariah 2:8**

**Jerusalem is the place called the city of the king...**

**Matthew 5:35**

**Jerusalem is called the place where God will put His name...**

**Deuteronomy 12:11**

**Jerusalem is the place where the first priest and king lived**

**Genesis 14:18-20**

**Jerusalem is the place where Abraham came and offered Issac...**

**Genesis 22:1-19**

All of these these things were spoken and fulfilled for you and I. We were told things by the prophets, the apostles and Jesus Himself that have all come true and there is only one more thing to take place, the rapture. Why does God do all of this, why does He tell us and warn us for 6,000 years? Because, ***It is not God's desire that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9).***

There will come a day at the end of the Tribulation... there will be a day when Jesus' feet will stand upon the Mount of Olives.

***Zechariah 14:4 AMPC***

*4 And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from the east to the west by a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north and half of it toward the south.*

This is when Satan will be bound....

Now, get this, David killed the natural seed of the serpent who were the giants.

**1 Samuel 17:50 AMPC**

*50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck down the Philistine and slew him. But no sword was in David's hand.*

But Jesus is going to kill the spiritual seed....

When people in the church try and tell you there's no such thing as the Rapture or who cares about the signs....

**Romans 1:22 KJV**

*Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools*

You and I are told in God's Word...

**Ecclesiastes 8:4 KJV**

*4 Where the word of a king is, there is power*

We know that when we study, speak and learn about the Revelation of Jesus and His coming that we are blessed!

**Revelation 1:1-3 AMPC**

*1 [This is] the revelation of Jesus Christ [His unveiling of the divine mysteries]. God gave it to Him to disclose and make known to His bond servants certain things which must shortly and speedily come to pass in their entirety. And He sent and communicated it through His angel (messenger) to His bond servant John,*

*2 Who has testified to and vouched for all that he saw [in his visions], the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

**3 Blessed (happy, to be envied) is the man who reads aloud [in the assemblies] the word of this prophecy; and blessed (happy, to be envied) are those who hear [it read] and who keep themselves true to the things which are written in it [heeding them and laying them to heart], for the time [for them to be fulfilled] is near.**

You and I have been commanded to live and speak about the time that we are living in! We need to know God's Word about the day and times we are living in....

### **Esther 4:14 AMPC**

*14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance shall arise for the Jews from elsewhere, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows but that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this and for this very occasion?*

### **2 Peter 3 AMPC**

*1 Beloved, I am now writing you this second letter. In [both of] them I have stirred up your unsullied (sincere) mind by way of remembrance,*

*2 That you should recall the predictions of the holy (consecrated, dedicated) prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior [given] through your apostles (His special messengers).*

*3 To begin with, you must know and understand this, that scoffers (mockers) will come in the last days with scoffing, [people who] walk after their own fleshly desires*

4 And say, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the forefathers fell asleep, all things have continued exactly as they did from the beginning of creation.

5 For they willfully overlook and forget this [fact], that the heavens [came into] existence long ago by the word of God, and the earth also which was formed out of water and by means of water,

6 Through which the world that then [existed] was deluged with water and perished.

7 But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been stored up (reserved) for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly people.

8 Nevertheless, do not let this one fact escape you, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord does not delay and is not tardy or slow about what He promises, according to some people's conception of slowness, but He is long-suffering (extraordinarily patient) toward you, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will vanish (pass away) with a thunderous crash, and the [material] elements [of the universe] will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up.

11 Since all these things are thus in the process of being dissolved, what kind of person ought [each of] you to be [in the meanwhile] in consecrated and holy behavior and devout and godly qualities,

*12 While you wait and earnestly long for (expect and hasten) the coming of the day of God by reason of which the flaming heavens will be dissolved, and the [material] elements [of the universe] will flare and melt with fire?*

*13 But we look for new heavens and a new earth according to His promise, in which righteousness (uprightness, freedom from sin, and right standing with God) is to abide.*

*14 So, beloved, since you are expecting these things, be eager to be found by Him [at His coming] without spot or blemish and at peace [in serene confidence, free from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts].*