

Book of Revelation, part 42

The Activity Between Chapters 3 & 4

I. The essential role of the Pretribulation Rapture:

1. In *defeating* the sin nature (Rom. 6:1-13).
 - 1) **Know** (Rom. 6:3-5).
 - 2) **Believe** (Rom. 6:8).
 - 3) **Reckon** in like manner, knowledge based (Rom. 6:11).
 - 4) **Yield** (Rom. 6:13).
2. In *withstanding* Satan (Eph. 6:10).
3. In *overcoming* the world system (Jn. 16:33; 1 Tim. 6:7; 1 Cor. 7:31; Tit. 2:12-13).

II. Those who “sleep”.

1. A figure of speech to describe the dead bodies of saints waiting resurrection (1 Cor. 11:30; 15:6, 20, 51; 1 Thes. 4:13, 14, 15).
2. The body dies, not the person (Jam. 2:26).
 - 1) Mankind = body, soul and spirit (1 Thes. 5:23).
 - 2) Body is dead when the spirit departs (Jam. 2:26).
 - 3) Body is dead when the soul departs (Acts 5:5, 10).
3. They will come back with Jesus (1 Thes. 4:14).
4. At the Rapture, He will bring only New Testament saints.
 - 1) Slept through Jesus (1 Thes. 4:14).
 - 2) Dead in Christ (1 Thes. 4:16).
 - 3) Christ with the keys (Rev. 1:18).

III. The order/rank of resurrections (1 Cor. 15:23).

1. Two kinds of resurrections (Dan. 12:2; Jn. 5:29).
 - 1) One kind to reward.
 - 2) Another kind to punishment.
2. The rank of the resurrections—*out from among dead ones*.
 - 1) Christ—the first-fruit (1 Cor. 15:20; 1 Tim. 6:16).
 - 2) The church—*out from among dead ones*, reward (1 Cor. 15:51).
 - 3) Old Testament saints—*out from among dead ones*, reward (1 Cor. 15:23)
 - i. Those belonging to Christ—*out from among dead ones* (Rom. 3:25).
 - ii. At His coming—Second Coming.
 - 4) The end of the rank—no dead in the graves left, punishment (1 Cor. 15:24).