

Statements Jesus made in the Gospels Concerning the End of Days and the Rapture of the Church

Many times when we think of scriptures concerning the end of days or the rapture, Matthew chapter 24 and the book of Revelation comes to mind, and rightfully so. We also tend to very much lean on the majority point of view concerning the end of days being a seven year period of tribulation where the Church is caught away or raptured just prior to this taking place. This is the most popular point of view of the Christian world today. But is it correct?

Let's begin by taking a look at "Statements Jesus made in the Gospels Concerning the End of Days and the Rapture of the Church".

Matthew 13:36-50

36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, **Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.**

37 He answered and said unto them, **He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;**

38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

What did Jesus say was the interpretation of the parable of the tares of the field?

1) He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man 2) The field is the world 3) But the tares are the children of the wicked one; The enemy that sowed them is the devil 4) The harvest is the end of the world 5) The reapers are the angels.

Forget all of the different teachings you have heard concerning the end of days and the rapture of the saints of God and look again at what Jesus said. **Jesus said the harvest is the end of the world and the reapers are the angels.** You may first think this only applies to the tares, **but not so.** Verse 49 clears that up for us "**So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just**".

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

When? So shall it be **in the end of this world.**

41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

Still not sure? The parable that is being interpreted here says "Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, **The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:**

But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn." (Matthew 13:24-30)

What did verses 28 through 30 say again? "He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn." (Matthew 13:28-30)

Who was gathered first? The tares or the wheat? When was the harvest? The answer was given in verse 39 4) The harvest is the end of the world 5) The reapers are the angels. And the tares were gathered before the wheat!

(Continuing from Matthew 13)

44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:

46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:

48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, **and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.**

49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,

50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

There it is again. When shall it be? So shall it be **at the end of the world:** the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,

According to Jesus the rapture or gathering together of the saints of God **is during the harvest of which is clearly written that it will be at the end of the world!**

Let's take another look at what Jesus says concerning the rapture or the gathering together of the saints. It might surprise you.

John 6:39-54

39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, **but should raise it up again at the last day.**

When should he raise up all which the Father give him? At the last day!

40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: **and I will raise him up at the last day.**

So every one which sees the Son, and believes on him, may have everlasting life will be raised up when and by whom? I will raise him up at the last day!

41 The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven.

42 And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, **I came down from heaven?**

43 Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, **Murmur not among yourselves.**

44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: **and I will raise him up at the last day.**

You mean he said it again? I will raise him up at the last day.

45 It is written in the prophets, **And they shall be all taught of God.** Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

46 Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father.

47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

48 I am that bread of life.

49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.

50 This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

52 The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat?

53 Then Jesus said unto them, **Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.**

54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; **and I will raise him up at the last day.**

What did Jesus say? Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life and when will he raise them up? At the last day!

John 11:21-26

21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

22 But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.

23 Jesus saith unto her, **Thy brother shall rise again.**

What was Martha's response?

24 Martha saith unto him, **I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.**

That was pretty plain. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. So she understood the teaching of Jesus concerning the resurrection or the rapture of the Church and she quoted back to Jesus what he had been teaching which was “And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: **and I will raise him up at the last day.**”

25 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?

Now you may begin trying to reason out why this does not agree with the majority view of the Christian world today in regards to the end of days and the rapture of the Church? You may say well this is the last day before the day of the Lord. And the day of the Lord is the final seven years. This is a major belief of many people. However, the scriptures identify to us when the Day of the Lord begins and it is not during the seven years of Daniel's seventieth week. **Look what Jesus tells us in Matthew 24:29-31.**

Matthew 24:29-31

29 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:

Look closely here. Immediately after the tribulation these signs the sun is 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.

30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Now look closely at what is said here:

Acts 2:19-21

19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

These same signs are shown to take place **before** that great and notable day of the Lord comes whereas it was **immediately after the tribulation** of those days in Matthew 24:29 above.

This conclusively reveals to us that the Day of the Lord begins after the tribulation of those days! So it is not true that the Day of the Lord is a seven year period of time. So this once again shows us that the last day the Lord spoke of was exactly what he said in Matthew 13:38-43, 49

Matthew 13:36-43, 49

36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, **Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.**

37 He answered and said unto them, **He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;**

38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

1) The field is the world 2) The harvest is the end of the world 3) The reapers are the angels.

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

When? So shall it be **in the end of this world.** Or as Jesus said throughout the book of John “And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: **and I will raise him up at the last day.**”

41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,

Now that you can see that the harvest is the end of the world, and Jesus said, I will raise him up at the last day, and the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, now compare verses 40-43 with what was revealed to Daniel the Prophet concerning what the Angel of the Lord revealed to him. (Daniel 10:21)

Daniel 12:1-3

1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: **and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.**

{MT 13:40-41 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; }

2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

{Mt 13:42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. }

3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

{MT 13:43 **Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.**}

Michael is the Archangel of God and as you can see this is depicting the same time that Jesus revealed to us of which was **the harvest is the end of the world**, and Jesus said, **I will raise him up at the last day, and the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just.**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 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.

The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the who? The archangel which is Michael. **When does this take place according to Jesus?** **The end of the world, I will raise him up at the last day, and the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just!**

This should bring forth new understanding to you when you read Matthew chapter 24. You will notice after reading most of Matthew 24 the Lord gives a parable to help us to better understand what he had just spoken and what does the parable reveal to us? **The same thing that Jesus had already told us previously concerning the end of days and the rapture of the Church!**

Matthew 24:40-51

40 **Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.**

41 **Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.**

42 **Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.**

43 **But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.**

44 **Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.**

45 **Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?**

46 **Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.**

47 **Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.**

48 **But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming;**

49 **And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken;**

50 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of,

51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

We also must remember that it was man that added chapters and verses to our Bible. Though verse 51 was the end of Chapter 24 of Matthew according to those who inserted the chapter breaks, keep reading what Jesus says concerning the end of days and the rapture of the Church as Jesus continues to give us another parable to help us to better understand what was written in the earlier portion of Matthew chapter 24.

Matthew 25:1-13

1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

8 And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

9 But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.

11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

As you can see Jesus reveals to us 1) the harvest is the end of the world; 2) and the reapers are the angels, 3) the tares will be gathered together before the wheat, 4) And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

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.

Daniel 12:1-3

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{MT 13:43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.}