

Terror in the Night

What do you do if you're Left Behind?

1 Corinthians 15:51-53 (NIV)

(Ronda, make sure you have this bottom verse together)

For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

VIDEO – KEEP THIS LAST SLIDE SHOWING UNTIL PRAYER

A. The words "perishable and "mortal" mean that people are earthly beings.

1. They age, deteriorate, die, decay. Every person, no matter who they are will return to the earth unless Jesus returns while they are living.

B. The "imperishable" and "immortal" nature means this: Christ followers will be made heavenly; they will be transformed and given a perfect body that will never age or deteriorate.

1. They will be given a body that is perfect forever to live with God in the new heavens and earth.

C. The words "must clothe" shows the absolute necessity for the change.

1. If Christ followers are to live with God, their body must be changed.

PRAY (Because of the nature of this presentation no moving around)

**LIGHTS – HOUSE LIGHTS FADE TO BLACK
CUE – DURING PRAYER**

**SPOT – PASTOR – CENTER STAGE
CUE – LIGHTS FADE**

In this 8 week series I'd like to speak to you on the subject of WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE LEFT BEHIND." I'm sure that many of you came to the service with a question. Why in the world are you doing a series with such a strange title?

Many of you have never heard a message like this. I bet 99 percent of the churches in America never tell people, “WHAT TO DO IF YOU’RE LEFT BEHIND.”

THERE ARE TWO BASIC REASONS WHY I’M PRESENTING THIS 8 WEEK SERIES.

FIRST – I’m sure of the absolute conviction that the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for his believers could take place any minute.

Can you imagine what would take place when Christ comes back? It’ll be a story of missing babies. It’ll be a story of missing persons in America.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 (NIV)

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God

We refer to this as the RAPTURE which means “taken out”.

Christ followers are going to be a TAKEN OUT PEOPLE.

But something is going to happen before the Christ followers are taken out. This scripture says,

1 Thessalonians 4:16b (NIV)

Those that have gone on before in Christ will rise.

You see they are catching up with their spirit.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 (NIV)

The Scripture I read to you earlier 1 Cor. 15 says that it will take place in a twinkling of an eye.

When you BLINK it's less than a second that's how quick this will happen.

In a twinkling of an eye Jesus Christ is going to come. I believe it is important that I give information to those who ARE READY for this and also to give information to those who ARE NOT ready for this event.

SECOND REASON – I'm presenting this 8 week series is to show you some of the things that are going to take place after the rapture.

THE BIBLE CALLS IT THE TRIBULATION PERIOD, A TIME WHEN JUDGMENT WILL BE Poured OUT LIKE NEVER BEFORE.

A time of suffering, pain and disease. There will be hail stones, the Bible says, that will fall from heaven 100 POUNDS IN SIZE. The Bible speaks that when God's presence leaves the earth, there will be destruction like the world has never known.

I HAVE A PASTORS HEART. This means I'm concerned for each and everyone. There are those who hear my voice today, who are connected with a church or you know of Jesus Christ. But your heart doesn't belong to HIM.

And that is a very important reason why I need to bring this message to you.

Matthew 25:1 (MSG)

That there were TEN VIRGINS. They all had oil in their lamps, and they went out to meet the BRIDEGROOM.

FIVE of them were WISE, and FIVE were FOOLISH.

FIVE let their lamps go out and they had no oil, and when the Bridegroom came they were left behind.

BUT FIVE were ready. I ask you, "Are you ready for Jesus Christ to come.

TERROR IN THE NIGHT

Or would you be some that would be LEFT BEHIND?

I've got the feeling that if Jesus were to come today that there are some in this building who would not be ready for HIS COMING.

The Bible says that TWO WILL BE GRINDING IN THE MILL ONE WILL BE TAKEN AND ONE WILL BE LEFT BEHIND.

TWO WILL BE WORKING IN THE FIELD ONE WILL BE TAKEN AND THE OTHER LEFT BEHIND.

TWO WILL BE ASLEEP IN BED ONE WILL BE TAKEN AND THE OTHER LEFT BEHIND.

LET'S BRING IT DOWN TO WHERE WE ARE TODAY.

TWO SHALL BE DRIVING ON THE FREEWAY.

**VIDEO – Father and son in car
CUE – “FREEWAY”**

**SPOT – OFF PASTOR
CUE – “FREEWAY”**

**SPOT – ON PASTOR – STAGE LEFT
CUE – VIDEO ENDS**

Can you imagine what it's going to be like for the CHRIST FOLLOWER. We'll be able to walk on streets of gold; we'll be able to see parents or loved ones that have gone ON IN HIM before.

But all that's going to have to wait, because we'll be able to see Jesus face to face.

But there will be something going on while we're looking into His face.

Something that's more tragic to the SINNER THAN HELL AND THAT IS THE DAY AFTER THE RAPTURE.

TERROR IN THE NIGHT

TERROR IN THE NIGHT

There will be cries heard throughout the streets of Lapeer County.

CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE WHEN JESUS COMES.

The SCREAMS that will be heard throughout the city.

LET'S CATCH A GLIMPSE OF WHAT IT MIGHT BE LIKE THE DAY OF THE RAPTURE.

SPOT – OFF PASTOR

**STAGE LIGHTS – RIGHT CENTER – MOTHER AND CHILD
CUE – “DAY OF THE RAPTURE”**

PASTOR- It will be a scene of a mother who tenderly cares for her child. Oh, she loves that child so very, very much. All her dreams and hopes and expectations are wrapped up in that little baby.

That mother went through the valley of the shadow of death to bring that little one into this world. She's nurtured her, she's fed her, she's loved her. The mother even took out an insurance policy for the child's education already.

This baby has everything her mother could possibly give her . . . EXCEPT ONE THING.

IN THAT DAY, IN A TWINKLING OF AN EYE.

STAGE LIGHTS – OFF (Wait until baby is gone about 3 seconds)

STAGE LIGHTS – ON

SCENE –

Mother – “My baby, my baby, she’s gone!”
(In a panic, she runs to the crib looking for her baby and cries)
“Where’s my baby? Where is she?”
(Taking the babies blanket she walks in front of crib towards audience as she continues to scream and cry)
“My baby where’s my baby?”

STAGE LIGHTS – OFF

CUE – “my baby”

SPOT – ON PASTOR

CUE – “my baby”

Pastor - What a day that will be. It will be the greatest missing baby story in the history of the world.

THE SCENE CHANGES AGAIN

STAGE LIGHTS – ON STAGE RIGHT

CUE – WHEN ACTORS READY

SPOT – OFF PASTOR

CUE – STAGE LIGHT ON ACTOR

PASTOR -

You see, the Reverend stood before his congregation many times.

He taught some wonderful lessons. He told them they should live by the be-attitudes and love their neighbors as themselves.

But he never spoke of repentance or ever uttered one word about the rapture.

There were people in his church who desired to know about the rapture. But he assured them, “IT’S JUST A FAIRY TALE; IT’S NOT EVEN TRUE.”

When others in his church questioned and pressured him to preach about the rapture, he grew angry.

He would yell out “that’s a bunch of fundamental hearsay those kind of people are fanatics.”

SPOT – ON PASTOR

CUE – “fanatics”

Reverend – (Puts hands over face shaking his head no)

Pastor - But those Jesus people he used to think were fanatics can’t be found. Could it be that there is a rapture? Could it be that he’s been LEFT BEHIND?

STAGE LIGHT – OFF

CUE – “LEFT BEHIND”

SPOT – OFF PASTOR

CUE – “LEFT BEHIND”

Pastor - The scene changes to a father spending time with his son.

STAGE LIGHT – ON CENTER RIGHT

CUE – “SCENE CHANGES”

SCENE – Father and son watching the football game

Pastor - His wife many times said, “Honey, why don’t you go to church with me and raise our son to serve Jesus? I don’t want you to be lost. You need to know Jesus Christ.

Oh, he loved her and he was glad he had a Christian wife, but he figured that Christianity was just for women and children.

Father/Son

(Boy starts talking about how great it is staying home with dad to watch the game. Father talks about how a dad needs to bond with his son.)

Son “Thanks dad, I want to be just like you.”

Pastor - She used to say to him, “Some day I may never come home from church. The rapture could take place and you’d be left behind. If he didn’t laugh, he wanted to. But he’s not laughing now. Because what he’s seeing on television is shaking him to the core.

Father/Son

Father looks amazed, stands to turn the volume up.
Son says, “Whats wrong, dad?”

Pastor The ball games canceled. People have disappeared right in the stands. And he’s hearing of babies missing all over the world. Women are not returning to their husbands. Planes are crashing. It’s the biggest missing person story ever in the history of man. Suddenly, the words of his wife begin to ring in his ears. “I may not return home, honey.” He looks at his watch, it’s 1:30. She’s always home by 1:30 from church. He reaches for the phone to call the church.

**VIDEO – ANSWERING MACHINE
CUE – PICKS UP THE PHONE**

Father/Son

Father after phone call drops the phone and screams out “my God no, no please don’t leave me”. Son panics and holds on to dad yelling, “Dad what’s wrong”

**STAGE LIGHTS – OFF
CUE – “WRONG”**

Pastor The scene switches again

**VIDEO – NEWS ROOM
CUE – “AGAIN”**

TERROR IN THE NIGHT

To the news room. It's Julia Walker, all her life she's been waiting for the big story. And today she has it, but she doesn't know how to handle it.

CROWD - At the doors screaming (hitting doors) "let me in God don't leave me"

After about 10 seconds of screaming and hitting the door they run to the altar and start screaming out. "Jesus don't leave me, come back"

CROWD STARTS TO LEAVE AS PASTOR STARTS TO TALK

SPOT – ON PASTOR

CUE – PASTOR STARTS TALKING

PASTOR (WALKS OVER TO FATHER/SON AND TALK ABOUT THE REALITY OF THAT DAY)

CONCLUSION:

THERE'S COMING A DAY LIKE THIS WORLD HAS NEVER SEEN.