



### I. INTRO/REVIEW

- A. It's not time to panic

**Matthew 24:4-6 (NLT)** Jesus told them, “Don’t let anyone mislead you, for many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah.’ They will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and threats of wars, but don’t panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won’t follow immediately.

**Matthew 24:8 (NLT)** But all this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come.

- B. Birth pains don’t bring sorrow – they bring great joy.

### II. WHAT TIME IS IT?

- A. God has designed the time zones for specific purposes

**Hebrews 11:3 (NKJV)** By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

“When the word ‘ages’ is used, it isn’t just time, or the expanse of time, nor does it refer to the vast magnificence of the physical universe. It is the time and ages through which the purpose and plan of God are gradually unfolding.” – **Kenneth Wuest**

- B. The bible speaks of 7 dispensations, or segments, of time
- We’re living in the 6<sup>th</sup> dispensation, the age of grace or the church age
- C. Daniel’s 70 weeks - Daniel 9:25-27
- 70 weeks, or 490 years
  - 7 weeks & 62 weeks
  - 70<sup>th</sup> week or the final 7 years is still yet to happen
- D. We are living in the time of the gentiles

**Luke 21:24b (NIRV)** ... Jerusalem will be taken over by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles come to an end.

**Romans 11:25 (NIRV)** Brothers and sisters, here is a mystery I want you to understand. It will keep you from being proud. Part of Israel has refused to obey God. That will continue until the full number of Gentiles has entered God’s kingdom.

### III. WHEN DOES “GENTILE” TIME END?

- A. The rapture of the church
- The word Rapture comes from a Latin word, meaning “to catch, or snatch away”



**1 Corinthians 15:51-53 (NIV)** Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

- We will all be changed – changed into what?

B. What kind of body did Jesus have after the resurrection?

**Philippians 3:20-21 (NIV)** But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

C. We are to encourage one another

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NIV)** Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 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, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

D. Gentile time is almost over

**Romans 12:11 and 13:11 (NLT)** Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically ... This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.