

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2012

RAPTURE OF ANIMALS

For years, we have taught that land animals will go in the Rapture.

This teaching blesses and comforts many people who have beloved pets and were frightened about them staying behind when the Rapture happens.

It's also comforting to those who have lost dear pets due to old age, illness or some mishap, and **who miss them and want to see them again.**

Leave it to some opportunistic minds to exploit this fear and offer to "take care of your pets" after the Rapture.

There's a **self-professed atheist** who hawks his services on the internet "assuring" Christians that he'll still be here and he'll take care of them, FOR A FEE, of course.

Needless to say such fee is to be paid **IN ADVANCE.**

It would be funny, if it weren't for the fact that - EVEN IF YOUR PETS DIDN'T GO - **the atheist would NOT be able to guarantee their care or their safety, NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU PAY him,** for the simple reason that **he won't be able to guarantee HIS OWN survival during the tribulation.**

But you can't really blame the guy. If he's watched 10 minutes of Kristian TV, **HE KNOWS how gullible Christians are and that THEY'LL BELIEVE - AND THROW MONEY AT -- ANYTHING** (and I do mean, **ANY** THING) they see on TV or the internet.

After all, **if that slick preacher, who claims to believe in Jesus, is taking advantage of them, why **SHOULDN'T HE** -- who DOESN'T believe in God - join the gravy train?**

I'm also surprised at the number of "Christians" who think it's their lofty mission in life to "correct" our teaching.

Suppose for a minute that it were wrong, **SO WHAT?**

Such teaching **DOES NOT CONTRADICT Scripture** and **has NOTHING to do with one's Salvation:**

IT DOES PROVIDE COMFORT AND QUELLS FEAR.

I mean, really, even if I held a different view, **I wouldn't waste ANY time arguing with someone about THAT.**

Objections range from "animals have no spirit" to "there are NO ANIMALS in heaven" (with **NO SCRIPTURE** to back these up, of course) to (in the reader's prejudiced mind) "it doesn't sound logical".

Those **ARE LIES**: the Bible says **animals do HAVE SPIRITS** (Ecclesiastes 3:21).

God's Word also says **THERE ARE animals in heaven**, since Jesus and ALL OF US (the armies of heaven) **RETURN with Him ON WHITE HORSES** (Revelation 19:11-14).

And if we applied **human logic ALONE**, **then the Rapture itself SHOULD NEVER HAPPEN**, since **IT IS completely illogical to the NATURAL human mind**.

So much for those FALSE – and DUMB – “arguments”:

1) When Noah and his family were taken into the ark, **WHERE THEY WERE SAVED, WHILE EVERYONE ON EARTH PERISHED**—and which is **A TYPE OF** the Rapture, **there were ONLY 8 humans inside, but THOUSANDS of animals**, either in pairs or groups of 7. (Genesis 7:1-4; 1 Peter 3:20).

2) Romans 8:21, which we quote on the site, is VERY CLEAR:

“...the creature itself ALSO shall be delivered FROM THE BONDAGE OF CORRUPTION into the glorious liberty of the children of God”.

The next two verses say that we (and THEY) await “the REDEMPTION OF our bodies”:

“For we know **THAT THE WHOLE CREATION GROANS AND TRAVAILS** in pain together until now: And **NOT ONLY THEY**, but ourselves also, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **WAITING FOR THE ADOPTION, THAT IS, THE REDEMPTION OF OUR BODY.**” (Romans 8:22-23)

3) Psalm 50:5-15 says:

“GATHER MY SAINTS TOGETHER UNTO ME (Rapture): those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.

And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself. Selah.

... **EVERY BEAST OF THE FOREST IS MINE**, AND THE CATTLE UPON A THOUSAND HILLS.

I know all the fowls of the mountains: and THE WILD BEASTS OF THE FIELD ARE MINE...

...**call upon me IN THE DAY OF TROUBLE: I WILL DELIVER YOU**, and you shall glorify me”.

4) Hosea 4:1-3 says:

“Hear the word of the Lord, you Israelites, because the Lord has a charge to bring against you who live in the land:

“There is NO FAITHFULNESS, NO LOVE, no acknowledgment of God in the land.

THERE IS ONLY CURSING, LYING, MURDER, STEALING AND ADULTERY: THEY BREAK ALL BOUNDS, AND BLOODSHED FOLLOWS BLOODSHED. (sure sounds like OUR time)

Because of this the land dries up, and all who live in it waste away; **THE BEASTS OF THE FIELD,** the birds in the sky and the fish in the sea **ARE TAKEN AWAY.**”

5) Zephaniah 1:3 says:

"I will REMOVE MAN AND BEAST; I will remove the birds of the sky and the fish of the sea, and the wicked will have nothing but rubble; **WHEN I WILL CUT OFF MAN FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH,"** declares the LORD.

Verses 14-18 of the same chapter say:

"The great day of the LORD is near - NEAR and COMING QUICKLY.

Listen! The cry on the day of the LORD will be bitter...

That day will be **a day of wrath,**

a day of **distress and anguish,**

a day of **trouble and ruin,**

a day of **darkness and gloom,**

a day of **clouds and blackness,**

a day of **trumpet and battle cry...**

I will bring **distress on the people**

and they will walk like blind men,

because they have sinned against the LORD.

In context, this REMOVAL OF ANIMALS CLEARLY takes place during the Day of the Lord, which begins with the signs given in Revelation 6:12-16, followed by the Rapture.

Every instance above where you read that God will “remove” or, in some Bibles, “sweep away” men, animals, birds and fish, the Hebrew verb is *asaph* which means **TO GATHER and TO REMOVE.**

That's PRECISELY what happens at the Rapture: believers and animals **are GATHERED and REMOVED** from this earth realm (Matthew 24:31; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

6) Jeremiah 33:7-16:

"I will bring Judah and Israel back from captivity (this ONLY happens at the start of the Millennium, RIGHT AFTER the tribulation ENDS, Ezekiel chapter 37) and will rebuild them as they were before. I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against me... This is what the Lord says: 'You say about this place, "It is a desolate waste, **WITHOUT PEOPLE OR ANIMALS.**" Yet in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are deserted, inhabited by **NEITHER PEOPLE NOR ANIMALS,** there will be heard once more the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank offerings to the house of the Lord, saying,

"Give thanks to the Lord Almighty, for the Lord is good; his love endures forever."

For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were before,' says the Lord.

12" This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'In this place, **DESOLATE AND WITHOUT PEOPLE OR ANIMALS**—in all its towns **THERE WILL AGAIN BE PASTURES FOR SHEPHERDS TO REST THEIR FLOCKS.** In the towns of the hill country, of the western foothills and of the Negev, in the territory of Benjamin, in the villages around Jerusalem and in the towns of Judah, **FLOCKS WILL AGAIN PASS** under the hand of the one who counts them,' says the Lord.

14" 'The days are coming,' declares the Lord, 'when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

15" 'In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land.

16 In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety.

This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord **OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**"

7) The Book of Revelation, which describes the tribulation, speaks often and REPEATEDLY about **vegetation, birds, and marine life** (Revelation 7:1,3; 8:7-9; 9:4; 16:2-4; 19:17,21) BUT **DOES NOT MENTION ANY land animals, UNTIL** the very end of the tribulation (chapter 19) where it mentions **ONLY horses.**

Doesn't that seem a bit odd? Does God care more about GRASS and TREES than about dogs, cats, cows, chickens, etc.?

Isaiah 31:3 suggests that those horses that participate in the Battle of Armageddon may be artificially CLONED: "but the Egyptians are mere mortals and not God; **THEIR HORSES** are flesh and **NOT SPIRIT.**"

Regular horses DO HAVE SPIRITS, as Ecclesiastes 3:21 plainly says.

That this passage refers to Armageddon and the Second Coming is evident from THE VERY NEXT VERSE:

“When the Lord stretches out his hand, those who help will stumble, those who are helped will fall; **ALL WILL PERISH TOGETHER.**

...so the Lord Almighty **WILL COME DOWN TO DO BATTLE** on Mount Zion and on its heights.” (Isaiah 31:4)

8) **Land animals were created on DAY SIX, just like man** (Genesis 1:24-31). So, they rank **JUST BELOW MAN** in the Creation chain.

Therefore, **it's TOTALLY IN LINE with Scripture** that THEY BE RAPTURED on the 6th **PROPHETIC DAY** (the 6th millennium from Creation) **JUST LIKE HUMANS.** (2 Peter 3:8)

We posted this teaching **mainly to COMFORT** those who worry about what's to become of their pets once they leave.

Since this teaching **has NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO DO with** one's Salvation, **we're NOT INTERESTED in arguing or splitting theological hairs about it.**

People can TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT.

All I can do is present **the BIBLICAL evidence.**

If anyone – **DESPITE what GOD** says – chooses to believe land animals will still be here, that's their prerogative.

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