



THE CORNERSTONE

December 2015

The first step toward attaining a higher standard of holiness is to realize more fully the gravity of sin. *Daily Walk Page 26*



SLBC Families will be Building Gingerbread Houses
Wednesday Night, December 16th

**FAMILIES WILL COMPETE FOR THE BEST CREATIVE
MOST BEAUTIFUL
JUDGING WILL BE BY AGE GROUP
OR FAMILY GROUP**

**MATERIAL FOR HOUSES WILL
BE SUPPLIED, IF YOU WANT
ADDITIONAL DECORATIONS
YOU MUST BRING YOUR
OWN.**

**COME FOR DINNER AT
6:00 PM**





Missionaries of the Month



The Spanish on air staff: (left to right) Keven Diaz, Dolly Monroe and Miguel A. Jacinto

KHCB's Spanish ministry

KHCB's Spanish ministry called Radio Amistad (Friendship Radio) began in 1966 when KHCB introduced Spanish language programming on 105.7FM from midnight to 1 a.m. six days a week. The program was very successful with Hispanics working at night, and many Hispanics came to know the Lord Jesus as Savior through these Bible studies.

1400 AM

In 1990, due to the growing number of Hispanics coming to the city of Houston, the Board of Directors decided to buy a radio station on the AM frequency to transmit the word of God 24 hours a day Monday through Friday in Spanish and Chinese and Vietnamese on weekends. KHCB purchased AM 1400, a 1,000 watt station in the city of Galveston for a sum of \$125,000 and went on the air in Spanish on February 11, 1991. Dolly Monroe, who had been a volunteer for the ministry as a teenager and later graduated from Houston Baptist University with a BA in Mass Media and Speech, was hired as the Spanish Program Director. Six months later broadcasts began in Chinese and Vietnamese between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekends. The name Radio Amistad (Friendship Radio) was chosen because the goal of the ministry is to introduce Latinos to the best friend, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Construction of New Towers

AM 1400's coverage area was extended to most of city of Houston in 2008 with the construction of a new site in League City. The Lord provided a vacant lot and the engineers worked hard for a year to build two new directional towers and a building for the transmitter. KHCB completed and moved to the new site just days before Hurricane Ike struck Galveston and completely destroyed the transmitter site on the Island. The Lord in his mercy allowed the new site in League City to be completed in time so that Friendship Radio was not off the air for a single day. In fact, many Latinos were comforted by the word of God broadcast on the station during the storm and during the days following.

The Expansion to Other Cities and States

As satellite technology became affordable, the Board of Trustees began to search for other cities in Texas in need of a Spanish language Christian radio station like Friendship Radio. A second station was built in Huntsville, Texas, at 1410 AM in 1997. In the following years other stations in Texas were built in Kerr



Pastor's Corner



Andy Woods—Pastor

The Rapture (Part 33)

My previous articles commenced a series on the rapture of the church. We began with the question, "What is the Rapture?" This question can best be answered by noting ten truths about the rapture from [1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#) and [1 Corinthians 15:50-58](#). We then moved to a second main question, namely, when will the rapture take place relative to the coming seven-year Tribulation period? We offered the contention that believers can develop certainty that they will be raptured before the Tribulation period occurs for at least seven reasons. After dealing with these two questions, we began to explore some of the weaknesses associated with the other competing views that seek to answer the question, "When Will the Rapture Take Place Relative to the Coming Tribulation Period?" At least five differing perspectives exist. We noted at the onset that it is important to understand that all of the non-pretribulation positions have a difficult time handling the seven arguments favoring **pre-tribulationism** previously discussed in this series. We have already noted the problems associated with **mid-tribulationism** and **post-tribulationism**. In the last and this article, we briefly explain and analyze **partial rapturism**.

PARTIAL RAPTURISM

Partial rapture theory contends that only the spiritually prepared and alert Christian will be taken in the rapture, while the carnal Christian will be left behind. According to this view, the purpose of the Tribulation period will be to practically sanctify the backslidden believer. As each is "straightened out" in this manner through the events of the Tribulation period, they will then be individually raptured to heaven at different times depending upon when they are brought into an appropriate state of progressive sanctification.

Those adhering to the partial rapture view typically rely on at least one of the following verses to support their position: Hebrews 9:28 says: "so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without *reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.*" Luke 21:34-36 similarly says, "Be on guard, so that your hearts will not be weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap; for it will come upon all those who dwell on the face of all the earth. *But keep on the alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.*" First Thessalonians 5:6 says, "So then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober." First John 2:28 also teaches, "Now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming." Second Timothy 4:8 also says, "In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also *to all who have loved His appearing*" (italics added).

At first glance these verses seem to teach that only those Christians who are eagerly waiting for Christ and who are spiritually sober, watchful and prayerful will be taken in the rapture. Thus, the carnal Christian, or those "backslidden" Christians who do not share these spiritual qualities, will be left behind to experience the Tribulation period. However, there are at least *ten* problems with the partial rapture point of view. In the last installment we noted the first five of these ten problems: 1. Every blessing that the Christian receives from God is given on the basis of His grace as opposed to human effort. 2. Symbolic parallels mandate that carnal as well as sanctified Christians will be taken up in the rapture. 3. The promise of the rapture is mentioned in Paul's letter to the carnal Corinthian church. 4. A partial rapture would sever Christ's body. 5. The partial rapture view subjects believers to God's wrath. Let's now examine the remaining *five* problems with partial rapturism.

6. *Partial rapturism makes the Bema Seat Judgment unnecessary.* The purpose of the judgment seat of rewards following the rapture is to reward faithful believers as well as not reward those believers who were unfaithful upon the earth following their spiritual birth (1 Cor. 3:10-15). Yet, partial rapturism makes participation in the rapture the reward for faithfulness. If faithful believers have already been rewarded by being included in the rapture, what then would be the purpose for the judgment seat of rewards or Bema seat Judgment? Faithfulness and unfaithfulness will have already been rewarded based upon participation in the rapture, or lack thereof, making the Bema Seat Judgment of rewards unnecessary.

7. *Partial rapturists never objectively quantify the exact degree of faithfulness or spiritual maturity that is necessary to participate in the rapture.* For example, how long and intense does your prayer life have to be in order to be considered



worthy of the rapture? How much of your thought life must be under divine control? What if a person has two unspiritual thoughts per day? Would that amount disqualify him from participation in the rapture? Hitchcock notes, "If the timing of our translation to heaven depends on our own spiritual maturity or readiness, how ready do we have to be? What degree of maturity or readiness is required to make it in the first group? The Bible never says."

8. *Partial rapturists appear individually biased.* Hitchcock observes:

Every person I've ever met who believes in the partial Rapture view believes that he or she will be included in the first group that goes before the Tribulation. They always believe in the pre-Tribulationist view for themselves. It's those other unfortunate believers who will have to go through varying degrees of tribulation before they can be caught up to heaven. But why believe that you are worthy for this special reward while other believers are not? It is inconsistent.

9. *Partial rapturists dispensationally misapply Bible passages.* Partial rapturists frequently quote from passages from the Olivet Discourse (Matt. 24–25), such as the Parable of the Wise Slave (Matt. 24:45-51) or the Parable of the Ten Virgins (Matt. 25:1-13), where it appears that Christ is only coming back for those who are faithful. However, since the Olivet Discourse exclusively concerns God's future plans for Israel rather than the church (Matt. 24:20), partial rapturists indiscriminately apply these passages to Christ's church when in actuality their context concerns God's future plans for Israel rather than the church. Concerning the partial rapturists appeal to the Parable of the Wise Slave (Matt. 24:45-51), Walvoord explains:

Following the strict rules of exegesis, the context indicates that the subject is the second coming of Christ to the earth not the rapture of the church. Although many expositors have attempted to make this whole discourse apply to the church, or at least from Matthew 24:45 make an application of the general truth of Christ's coming to the rapture of the church, as seen in previous study the evidence is quite insufficient. There is no clear distinction between the illustrations before Matthew 24:45 and those which follow. Neither the church nor the rapture are in view. Inasmuch as the rapture (John 14:1–3) had not yet been revealed, it is questionable whether Christ would have tried to teach His disciples using an illustration of a truth that was not even known to them at this time. Interpretation, therefore, must relate this passage to the context, namely, the doctrine of the second coming of Christ to establish His earthly kingdom.

Also, note Ron Rhodes' criticism regarding how partial rapturists misapply Christ's Parable of the Ten Virgins:

This view is based on the parable of the 10 virgins – depicting five virgins being prepared and five unprepared (Matthew 25:1–13). This is interpreted to mean that only faithful, and watchful Christians will be raptured...Pre-tribulationists respond that Matthew 25:1–13 has nothing to do with the rapture. Those virgins who are "unprepared" apparently represent people living during the tribulation period who are unprepared for Christ's second coming (seven years after the rapture).

Garland also observes how partial rapturist Peters dispensationally misapplies numerous passages:

I believe that Peters is mistaken in confounding various thief passages with the coming of the Lord for the church (e.g., [Mat. 24:37-44](#), [Luke 17:26-37](#)). Where these passage speak of "one taken . . . another left," Peters falls into the common mistake of misinterpreting Second Coming judgment passages as Rapture passages...If we consider various passages where people fail to watch or perform, we find that some very serious consequences result: Left as dead for birds of prey ([Mat. 24:28](#), [37-43](#); [Luke 17:37](#)). Being cut in two with the hypocrites, weeping and gnashing of teeth ([Mat. 24:51](#)). Being shut out from the wedding feast with the Master proclaiming, *I do not know you* ([Mat. 25:12](#) cf. [Mat. 7:23](#)). Being cast into outer darkness, weeping and gnashing of teeth ([Mat. 25:30](#)). Although some teach that "outer darkness" is a place where under-performing believers may suffer during the Millennial Kingdom, this seems most unlikely. Jesus clearly states that those Jews who did not believe in Him—the faithless "sons of the Kingdom"—were bound for outer darkness ([Mat. 8:12](#))...While not focusing specifically on Rapture-related warning passages here, I hope you can see that the way in which a person interprets various readiness warning passages—whether they can have in view believers who are securely saved—will have a lot to do with whether a teacher believes that the body of Christ will be sliced into two companies, either at the Rapture or at the entry to the Millennial Kingdom to follow. Peters, while having much to offer concerning the coming Kingdom and eschatology in general, appears to be comfortable with the idea that it is our performance rather than identity that determines our destiny in relation to the Rapture. I take the opposite view: that those who are *in Christ* are joined to Christ in a way which cannot (and will not) be broken.

Pentecost also notes how partial rapturists dispensationally misapply Luke 21:36, which says, "But keep on the alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand be-



Ladies Christmas Dinner



Ladies You are invited to attend a
Pot Luck Soup and Salad
Christmas Dinner
December 13, 2015
At 5:00 pm
Sign- up Sheets will be in the Foyer.

See Jodie Reichardt for more information



Bible Character Night

Children in the Wednesday Night Kids of the Heavenly Kingdom dressed up as their favorite Bible Character October 28th.

The Children are learning the Scripture from Genesis Chapter 1.

Scripture for the Month: 2 Corinthians 5:17-19

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.



fore the Son of Man." He notes:

It will be observed that the primary reference in this chapter is to the nation of Israel, who was already in the tribulation period, and therefore this is not applicable to the church. The things to be escaped are judgments associated with "that day" (vs. 34), that is, the Day of the Lord. Watchfulness is enjoined upon the church (1 Thessalonians 5:6; Titus 2:13) apart from being found worthy to participate in the translation.

Pentecost also explains how partial rapturists similarly misapply Matthew 24:41-42, which says, "Two women *will be* grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming." He observes, "Again, this passage is in that discourse in which the Lord outlined His program for Israel, who was already in the tribulation period. The one taken is taken to judgment and the one left is left for the millennial blessing. Such is not the prospect for the church." In sum, by not properly distinguishing which verses apply to Israel and which ones apply to the church, partial rapturists end up applying inappropriate passages to the rapture concept.

10. *Partial rapturists misapply passages promising a reward to faithful believers.* While faithfulness is of consequence in order for Christians to experience a reward at the Bema Seat Judgment of Christ (1 Cor. 3:15; 2 John 8; Rev. 3:11), faithfulness is of no consequence in order to participate in the rapture. Partial rapturists confuse the two concepts. Notice Pentecost's critique of the partial rapturists' use of 2 Timothy 4:8, which says, "In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, *but also to all who have loved His appearing*" (italics added). Pentecost observes:

This is used by the adherents of this position to show that the rapture must be a partial one. However, it is to be noticed that the subject of the translation is not in view in this passage, but rather the question of reward. The Second Advent was intended by God to be a purifying hope (1 John 3:3). Because of such purifying a new life is produced because of the expectancy of the Lord's return. Therefore those that truly "love his appearing" will experience a new kind of life which will bring a reward.

Thus, the partial rapturist errs by inappropriately applying verses pertaining to rewards for faithfulness to the rapture concept.

In sum, in this series, having previously answered the question, "What is the Rapture?" we noted at least *seven* reasons that affirm the pre-tribulation rapture view. We then began interacting with the other positions on the timing of the rapture. In prior articles, we have answered **mid-tribulationism** and **post-tribulationism**. In the last two articles we have explained the **partial rapture** theory as well as the various reasons why it is deficient and therefore should be rejected.

(To Be Continued...)

Mark Hitchcock, *Could the Rapture Happen Today?* (Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 2005), 68.

Ibid.

John F. Walvoord, "Christ's Olivet Discourse on the End of the Age Part V: The Parable of the Ten Virgins," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 129, no. 514 (April 1972): 101.

Ron Rhodes, *The Big Book of Bible Answers: A Guide to Understanding the Most Challenging Questions* (Eugene, OR: Harvest, 2013), 278.

Anthony Garland, "Q181 : George Peters and the Partial Rapture View," online: www.spiritandtruth.org, accessed 13 August 2015.

J. Dwight Pentecost, *Things to Come: A Study in Biblical Eschatology* (Findlay, OH: Dunham, 1958; reprint, Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 1964), 161-62.

Ibid., 162.

Ibid., 163.

For more information on the partial rapture theory and its various problems, see *ibid.*, 158-63.

The Cornerstone Newsletter deadline for News articles is the 19th of each month. You can e-mail Patricia Chandler at:

earlbudc@att.net or send information to Carol Henry at Carol@SLBC.org

Missions-Continued from Page 2

ville (April 1998) and Victoria (2006). In 2005, the Good News Network based in Atlanta, Georgia, began to downlink the satellite programming of Friendship Radio to their local stations in Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina. We thank God for this opportunity to bring programming outside the State of Texas. Radio Amistad vision is to provide Christian stations in the United States and Mexico with free programming via satellite.

Programming

Friendship Radio's slogan is "Proclaiming the Truth" so a large percentage of the programming consists of Bible teaching programs. There also a couple of live talk shows that have become favorites among listeners because they address issues such as health, finances, family, and sports. Since there is not a syndicated Christian news service, Friendship Radio also has a team of reporters that prepare six daily newscasts.

Financial Provision

KHCB's non-commercial Spanish ministry is financed by listeners, the same as the English ministry. The Lord provides funds for daily operations through offerings of interested people and churches. Thanks to the Lord's provision, the network has remained completely debt-free since 1969.



Pastor Andy Woods to Teach Wednesday Evenings!



Beginning in January 2016 Pastor Andy Woods will be teaching Wednesday night Bible study at Sugar Land Bible Church for the Spring quarter.

The focus of this class will be on "Soteriology," which otherwise known as the "Doctrine of Salvation." Of all of the topics discussed in the Bible, this subject is perhaps the most paramount from the human viewpoint since a correct understanding of its contents determines where we spend eternity (Gal. 1:6-9). The material for this teaching will be taken from a class that Pastor Andy regularly teaches at the College Of Biblical Studies entitled "Man, Sin, Salvation." The material covered in this class will include the definition of salvation, election versus free will, the atonement, salvation words, God's one condition of salvation, eternal security, the results of salvation, and the false views of salvation. Many subtopics will be explored under each of these major headings such as Lordship Salvation, Calvinism versus Arminianism, Inclusivism and Universalism, the possibility of carnal Christianity, the doctrine of rewards, and the three tenses of salvation, etc... The format will proceed a little differently than what folks may be used to. First, we will be doing our teaching in the sanctuary. Second, the sessions will be videotaped and archived for the benefit of our missionaries who sometimes need theological guidance in certain areas. Third, the basic format will include prayer from 6:45 to 7 PM, teaching from 7 to 8 PM, and questions and answers from 8 to 8:15 PM. We understand that some will have to leave at 8 pm sharp to collect their children and so they may not be able to stick around for the question and answer session. We are excited to be offering this new class for the benefit of the saints at Sugar Land Bible Church. We hope and pray that many will take advantage of it. We are looking forward to what God will do through these sessions of study in "His Word."

Grocery Items Requested for Thanksgiving & Christmas Holiday Baskets:

Money or Gift Certificates for Turkeys

Stuffing Mix

Chicken Broth

Sweet Potatoes

Evaporated Milk

Box of Instant Mashed Potatoes

Green Beans or Corn

Pie Filling or Cake Mix and Frosting

Bag of Sugar

Bag of Flour

Can of Fruit

Pumpkin

Cranberry Sauce

Turkey or Chicken Gravy Mix



EAST FORT BEND



**HUMAN NEEDS
MINISTRY, INC.**

Fresh Fruit will be provided by the Food Pantry

Ladies Friendship Luncheon

April 30, 2016

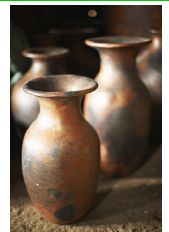
Speaker will be Rachel Norris– Potter

Ladies Mark your calendars now, you

don't want to miss this.

*Rachel will be demonstrating her
talent as she speaks.*

Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause
thee to hear my words. *Jeremiah 18:2*





China Mission Trip

Church Family,

Praise the Lord! We have been invited back to Pinghu, the city in China where we have taught English and taken in the Gospel for nine years. However, this year we will have the opportunity to teach in three public high schools, instead of two. That means we need 20 teachers, rather than the normal 15 that we usually take. At present we have several teachers who are praying about the trip and about 10 who have committed to the trip. Of course, it would be great to have all of the remaining teachers come from Sugar Land Bible Church.

If you love the Lord, have a desire to teach, can be under authority, and feel led to go--you qualify. Naturally, everyone who goes needs good health and stamina. We never know when we will be walking up a mountain or through a city, and we never know is not an exaggeration either. We pay for our airfare, insurance, and a few other incidentals; they take care of almost everything after we get there.

On top of that, as if that weren't enough, we will teach at Wenzhou before we teach in Pinghu. This will increase our time there about a week and a half. For this leg of the trip, we will only need 10 teachers for teaching in a public junior high school. It is a new adventure for us. When we taught in Wenzhou before, we taught private students.

All of the teaching will be done in July. A teacher can either go to Wenzhou only or Pinghu only or to both; however, the greatest need is teachers for Pinghu beginning July 18 and ending July 29, not including travel time.

Tickets might be purchased as early as January; therefore, the team needs to be in place preferably before January 1. Please see Betty Cooke if you have a desire to go or call her at 281-232-1795.

Also, please pray for us to get the remaining teachers and to prepare adequately before we go.

In Him,
Betty Cooke

Kids of the Heavenly Kingdom

Pictures of Children's Activities

Wednesday Evening

6:20-8:00PM



Lessons on Genesis Chapter 1

Group picture of the children that participate in the Wednesday Evening Activities .

Outside Games with Brooks Sellers

Music and Praise with Nadia Cunningham

Memory Verse with Hans Meinardus

Science projects with Pat Chandler

Bible Study & Lessons with Lynn Munstermann and Dolly Munroe

Bible Games with Judy Cunningham.

Team Leaders Anne Woods, Debra Damron, Hannah Bottom and Geraldine Paz



Music and Praise and Worship

Mrs. Nadia leads the Children in Lively Music Praise and Worship. The children enjoy singing and using musical instruments.

Mrs. Nadia goal is teaching the children the meaning of true worship and reverence for the God of the Universe, our Creator.

The ages of the children range from 4



Every Wednesday Evening

Activities begin with a Circle of Prayer!

If you are interested in attending

Dinner is served at 6:00 pm

Adult Bible Study at 7:00 pm

Teens at 7:00 pm

Children's Activities begin at 6:20 pm with Games and Music and Worship Following at 6:40 pm—Science and Memory Verse from 6:55—7:20 pm and Bible Lesson from 7:20—7:50 pm—Bible Games from 7:50—8:00 pm