The Tribulation

Mathew 24 verses 10-12. “And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many will wax cold.”

In case you have not read any of my past books, I’ll summarize what my world had become.

The world had split into two, there were the believers, and the non-believers. The two sides fighting against each other became the norm. Light and darkness. Demons and angels. The very core of life had split in two.

With the believers trying to survive in a world that had the Anti-Christ and his demons in control - in a world where most people believed that the Anti-Christ was God. They were trying to persuade everyone to take a mark on their right hand or forehead, to prove that they were worshiping this beast. Everyone was trying to please him now, or they would be imprisoned.

We, the believers will never take that mark of this beast. We belong to the one and only true God. We worship Him and Him alone. The most high God. The I AM

You can imagine how bad life had been for us – being unable to get the basic of things like food and water unless we had the mark. And people who believed were being hunted down and killed for their beliefs. Anyone who refused to follow the Anti-Christ had to be in hiding or be killed. The ones who willingly followed the Anti-Christ stood against everything that was good.

CHAPTER 1

If people asked me a year ago, if I see myself making it past the seven years, I would have said no.
Why?

Everything started to go haywire when a trusted friend had betrayed us and gave away our secret location. She caused the death of many believers who were friends – ultimately forcing us to fight even harder in order to stay alive. Her betrayal caused pain, death, and hunger.

After the shooting at our secret place in the woods, we had all scattered like a mirror that was hit forcefully by a stone. No one had information about the whereabouts of other people. Everyone had simply disappeared, and gone into hiding.

Thankfully, Mark, Randy, Jackson and I had found each other. We tried going back home, but thanks to his long sight, Randy had seen our house being ransacked by gang members, perhaps in order to find us.

So, instead, we went back into the woods we came from, and made our new home near there. It was so dense with trees and brush, that we felt fifty shades of loneliness. But we had no choice. Truth be told, there was really no other place we could find to stay hidden.

CHAPTER 2

In the last part of the seven years, the nonbelievers had disappeared into the underground. It was like a force forced them out. We had no idea what they were up to. And with their disappearance came the appearance of the believers. People came out of hiding.

Although it wasn't what it used to be, we became a sort of a community again. A community of believers. If I didn't say a part of me cared about those lost people underground, that would be me not being truthful. I was scared of them, and also, I pitied them. I knew where they would most likely be spending all eternity.

As for Lori, stories circulated town about what had become of her. From what I heard, she became a leader in the Anti-Christ circle.

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8:50 am.

I woke up on a Saturday morning to the sound of knocking on our door.
"Who could it be?"

I was unsure and I was reluctant to find out. Usually, that’s what happens when the place you are in, during your dream, is so amazing you’d prefer not leaving it. In the dream, I was at peace, in paradise, in heaven. But then, like every time since the rapture happened, I got jolted back to the world of living. Either by gunshots, rapid knocks, cries of help or cries to run.

When I say cries to run, I mean - over the past years, the One-way Bikers gang had figured out where we were, what we were up to, with the help of a friend - Lori. She had willingly betrayed us and our faith. We had been trying to seek God every way we could. To read His word and study it.

On that Saturday morning that I woke up to the sound of knocking on our door and I didn’t feel the urge to answer it. I heard footsteps an instant later. Steps that could only mean one thing - one of my sons was going to get the door.

Huge relief, I thought, as I laid back in bed, cuddled up to Mark and prepared to close my eyes and make sleep my friend once more. Then, I heard a scream.

It was one of those screams that you would find hard to decipher if it bore good news or bad news, but I would later come to realize what the purpose of that scream was.

In a frenzy, Mark and I had rushed out of bed, got dressed and rushed out the door, in a speed that was unusual for a human, but a norm for someone that had just gotten struck by lightning.

As we ran to the door, I had only one thought, "Had they come back?"

By they, I meant the non-believers, the darkness and evil. It scared me, but I had to protect my son. Instead as I approached the door, I came to realize that someone had come to tell us that something was happening outside.

Quickly, we joined the crowd that had already gathered on the streets looking at the sky. It was then I saw it; Jesus was making His return to earth.

I had a lot of questions and a lot of happiness swelling up within me. I was going to see my mom again. And many other people as well.
Jesus’ return cannot be described in words. All you need to know is that, sunshine, peace and happy days followed. Nothing could go wrong again.

I scanned through the crowd, trying to find my mom. Then I saw her.

She was in her resurrected body that was both bright and beautiful. She radiated like she was birthed in the sun.

My whole family rushed to her side and embraced her. In that moment we were all embracing - I swear, I caught the sniff of what heaven smelled like.

Other families were also being reunited with their resurrected loved one who had passed away before - who had been alive when the trumpet sounded, or were believers left behind then died during the 7 years - were all coming back to earth all over the world, and they were as radiant and beautiful as ever.

For a brief second, I thought of the non-believers, if they would be given yet another chance. However, something within me countered that thought. I knew there was no chance of that happening. God cannot lie and He tells us that unbelievers will awake to everlasting eternity in hell.

Now I was focused on what was right in front of me – Jesus was here! The earth had been changed! And my family and loved ones were here!

If you’ve ever seen happiness on people’s faces, now multiply it by a number that you wouldn’t even bother to find what it was equaled to because it would be too much. That was the amount of happiness on the faces of each and everyone present that day.

The crowd dissipated soon after, with a promise that we’ll all come back for a mighty feast when we’ve all settled in. I hadn’t gotten time alone with my mom ever since she came back, and I was really looking forward to it. I thought I’d finally have the chance to, as the last person left. Little did I know that the last person isn’t indeed the last person. My gaze had caught a man who I had felt had been studying me, but my mind hadn’t registered it, until that man’s hand turned me around.

"James????"
"James?!!" I exclaimed.

It was James, my boss from back in the day, before the rapture happened.

"James!" I said again as I looked at the grinning man in front of me with awe.

"Wow, Lucy, you've changed a lot." He said before he enveloped me in a hug.

"And you - you look AMAZING." I concluded.

"Thank you. It's all the Almighty's doing."

"Indeed it is."

We both took a seat after I waved to my family that I'd catch up with them.

"You've done a great thing here. You've lived a better life. Helped a lot of people. And led some of them to know Jesus," he finished.

Our conversation was brief after that moment. I began to see other people I had known. After all, there was so much to live for now, and in a world that any kind of pain had been eradicated, life was surely worth living.

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I got home later that night. Finally, me and my mom could have the time to talk. The only time we've ever truly talked was on that fateful day she died. Our lack of conversation before that time was completely my fault. As you might know, I wasn’t who I am now back in the days before the rapture, I really did not have much care for anything. I’m thankful all that’s changed now.

As I walked into our house, I smelled the familiar scent of food that I grew up to love - the smell of the food that I usually referred to as my favorite food. My mom was cooking her spaghetti. The best spicy spaghetti anyone could ever taste. In fact, everyone should taste it.

My family was all around the table having a Bible reading. Here in this new earth we need to teach the kids born here about our Lord and Savior.

"Mom." I called out as I walked into the kitchen. She turned around and smiled at me.
I joined her in cooking while she talked. I asked what she saw, where she was it and what it was like. All she said was that they sang songs of wonder, astonishment, and happiness and how heaven was the most beautiful place she's ever been, that any of us could ever see. The most peaceful place. And now here it is right here on earth!

"Did you see Jesus?" I asked carefully.

She smiled, "Yes, we all gathered in the presence of the Father"

My eyes flew open, "So, you mean you mean, you saw God?"

"I wouldn't exactly call it saw. There were angels all around and in front us were two seats, one for Jesus and the other was for God - but we couldn't see him. When we tried to look at him, the light was so bright. You know, God is a Spirit and Jesus is the visible form of God,” my mom said.

Tears begin to swell up in my eyes again, because I was so happy. So full of joy at the wonders of the Lord, and so happy for my mom for having experienced this wonders firsthand.

“Now that the rapture had happened, everyone who had passed away in Jesus had returned. We can all do everything Jesus did when he came back to earth in his resurrected body. We can walk through walls and travel at the speed of light. All of us who had passed away on earth, as a believer before the rapture, will be in our resurrected bodies forever.” My mom concluded.

"So that means no death?" I confirmed.

“No. But people who came into the millennium as humans will stay in human form until the millennium is over, and then, they will get their resurrected bodies,” she explained.

"And no worries. And no pain. In fact, all the bad feelings, ideas, disasters in the world have been erased from the earth," I concluded.

We hugged once more before we returned to the rest of our family, and sat down to eat.

It tasted like heaven.

CHAPTER 4
The realization and the resurrection of past friends and families awoken feelings in people that were so blessed to be here. A feeling of responsibility - which was why everyone was trying to set up places for everyone that had come back, places they could call home. Jesus is in control now.

I had wanted my mom to move in with me, but she said she’d like a place of her own. So, me and Mark had started to look for a place for her nearby. There were not a lot of mortal people yet, but I’m sure there will be.

We are setting up houses. I want to live in the same area as my mom, and we made that happen. I knew from God’s word, that we will multiply fast. And yes, the multiplication will start from within my own home - it’s hard to imagine that Mark and I could have kids, there will be no childbirth pain. I for one, I’m all for that. Having more kids to share God’s word and God’s grace with. And all God’s wonderful blessings.

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Randy and Jackson had decided to move out, and get their own place. If the past seven years had taught them anything, it would be to be good ambassadors of God. I could already see their future - it was indeed a bright one. The house they chose wasn’t that far us, and the house my mom chose wasn’t far either. We were all angles of a triangle, with enough freedom to go around.

As the days continued to phase into each other, we all found things to occupy us.

Randy found a job - he had always loved to work on houses. He was quite the handyman, which was why he quickly grew into the town’s favorite handyman. You have a house problem that needed fixing but you can’t fix it, everyone will chorus, call Randy.

Jackson however, decided to become a farmer. I didn’t know he had a liking for plants, but I did know he’d always had a creative mind. Perhaps that’s what he saw with the plants - there being no weeds at all, it would be pretty easy to make anything happen.

Mark had retired and spent most of his days teaching children about the values of life and the word of God. The main subject being, “Jesus is here to guide us all. He is all I have ever hoped for. We live by His rule and we love doing it.
CHAPTER 5

February 22.

It had been two years after the millennium had begun. Jesus rules here now.

Everyday He rides into town, with a group of angels riding firmly behind him, it was like being in a movie; everything appeared in slow motion.

Jesus is the most beautiful person I’ve ever seen. I’m sure everyone must have felt that way too. I felt this rush of oneness, peace and grace flow through me, electrifying my veins, making the hair on my arms rise as if I had a strong sixth sense. Everything was different - it felt like I’d been blind my whole life, because now I could see things clearly. I could feel the earth move, I could see the ant crawling on the tree in front of Mom’s house. I knew then what was happening, I had enlightened senses, vision and hearing and something else, I felt a stir in my stomach.

My pregnancy was different.

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A year later.

Our house had been remodeled into a big house with lots of room for kids, courtesy of Mark and Randy. The change was done to help the kids with their growing up as they get a little older - they spend time with all of us here teaching them all about our Savior.

Me and Mark had taken over teaching children the word of God because of my two wonderful babies, with the help of my mom and many others. Teaching the kids was a blessing - they will have no Satan to tempt them here, at least not until the end of the thousand years – after which Satan would be loose for a little while. A lot of people even living in a heaven on earth will be lost, once Satan is here to tempt them again. He will try to convince them that they can be God. I don’t even know why they would want to, but they will. He will tempt them with what ever he can. Those already in their resurrected bodies, and the ones who lived through the tribulation, have already made the decision to follow Jesus. The ones born here in this heaven on earth still need to make that choice.
In God’s word, He said many will be lost at this time. Revelation 20 vs 7 and 8 tell about that.
“And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and go out and deceive the nations.

But for now, everyone was happy. The world was happy. Light had spread and it was here to stay…

AUTHOR’S NOTE

This is just some random sample of how it could be after the rapture. The purpose of my book is for people to seek God before that time comes. There will be so much more to it then I can show in a short book. There will be the two witnesses(REV 11), and the 144,000 Jews (Revelation 7) during that time. A lot of things that we don’t really get enough from God's word to write a biblical correct story, and fit it into a book like the books in this series.

The earth did not get here on its own. God created it all. He has given us so many chances to know Him. Before there was the law, people lived as they thought they should live. Evil reined and rained, which was why God had to create that flood to get rid of them and start all over.

He gave Moses the Law for the Jews. They could not follow it. In the end, He sent His own Son Jesus here to suffer so horribly to pay for all of our sins, so that we would live. Next, He sent to be the apostle, Paul, to the gentiles and every on this side of the cross - to tell us the gospel of grace. Just believe and be saved. 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verses 1-4.

I realize that that is so over simplified, but this is what it has come down to. Most people have rejected Him, even though all he ever asked from us is for to look to Him. He offers us the greatest gift but still we refuse.

Ask yourself this, “why are my deliberately condemning myself?” And I hope the answer outs you on the right path.

Thank you. Denisejenkins58@hotmail.com