You Have Been Given a Second Chance – Introduction

The focus of this piece is to communicate that if you have missed the Rapture, it is not too late to have your sins forgiven, to become a Christian, to have the hope of heaven when you die, and to experience the love and peace of God as long as you live.

The fact that you are reading this file is evidence of God's grace. He wants you to be forgiven and renewed – changed by receiving His Spirit and given a new purpose in life - to live for Him.

Living for Christ is not about going to church or memorizing Scripture. Being a faithful Christian is more about how you live than what you know.

God's Word, the Bible, will teach you how to serve and how to live. Model Jesus in all you do. If you are unfamiliar with the Bible and the teachings of Jesus, begin by reading the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) and the book of Acts. A book, *The Story of Jesus*, is included in the Rapture Kit Books Folder. It itemizes most of the things Jesus said and did in an easy-to-read single book.

The good news is, God loves you. You may be late in seeking God, but it is not too late. Bible Prophecy notes that there will be a great revival during the Tribulation Period – the seven years of history profiled in the book of Revelation chapters 6-19. You are already part of that revival.

The Church - true believers in Christ - were removed from Earth during the Rapture. You can read more about the Rapture in the video titled, What Happened? What is the Rapture? The Rapture is also detailed in the Bible Prophecy book. The good news is, a new church will be born, and you can be part of it.

We believe the new church – call it Church 2.0 – will be similar to the First-Century church in Acts chapter 2. The post-rapture church will not be TV ministries, megachurches, or grand cathedrals. There will come a time, likely soon, when Christians will not be able to meet openly. You may already be experiencing this.

Persecution will follow. The Church will be forced underground – with small groups of believers meeting in homes and secret places for Bible study and worship. New believers will quickly become teachers, preachers, and evangelists proclaiming the truth with boldness. God will be looking for new leaders in the new church. You can be one of those leaders.

We encourage individuals to use the materials in this Rapture Kit Expansion Pack as a Rapid Leader Development curriculum.

Could it be that God is calling <u>you</u> to not only be saved but also to be a leader for Him in the emerging new Church? This "second chance" God is offering is much more than you could have imagined. It is a new life!

There is no time to attend seminary. Faithful and spiritually mature Pastors, Teachers, and Professors were taken in the Rapture. A new global religion will arise, but it will not be Christian. Jesus said, *"Do not be deceived."* The god they worship is not the God of the Bible. Those who believe in Christ and worship the One True God will not be welcome in this one-world religion. True Christians will be forced underground and out of sight.

The Tribulation will begin when a new world leader, whom the Bible calls the Antichrist, brokers a peace agreement with Israel. The deal will impact much of the Middle East. The moment that document is confirmed, a seven-year countdown begins. These seven years are referred to as the Tribulation Period or "Time of Jacob's Trouble." Tribulation events are described in detail in the book of Revelation chapters 6-19.

Dark days are coming, but you can find meaning and purpose by being a witness and Watchman for Christ. You may have reservations. You may think you are not wise enough or even worthy. Guess what – you may be right, but you <u>can</u> do this. The smallest light shines bright in the darkness.

God has heard all the excuses. He knows you; He loves you, and He chose you for this moment. Some of the greats in the Bible had doubts and reservations: Jeremiah told God he was too young. Amos told God he was just a shepherd and sycamore tree farmer. Peter told Jesus, *"Depart from me for I am a sinful man."* God accepted none of their excuses. All were chosen and helped by God to accomplish a great work in their time. Now it's your turn.

Friend, believe that God's grace is greater than your sin. Do not focus on your past; focus on what God can do through you in the future. When you confess your sins to Jesus, they are not only forgiven, they are <u>forgotten</u>.

Are you ready or prepared to mightily serve God? Probably not yet, but remember, it's not about <u>you</u>. It's about God working through you.

You will need to study, pray, and prepare, but you can trust that God will supernaturally magnify your efforts. He will anoint and equip you to do what He calls you to do.

You have been given a second chance. You may have some regrets about the past, but in Christ, you are forgiven. You have been given an opportunity to finish well.

Be ALL-IN for God in these last days. Do as much as you can for Jesus for as long as you can. A great reward awaits the faithful.

In case you have not yet done so, the first step is to formally commit your life to Jesus – become a Christian. If you have already become a Christian, praise the Lord! If not, let me walk you through a simple three-step process. Use this simple model when you witness to others. There are three things one must do to become a Christian. We call them the ABC's of Salvation.

Are you ready to believe in Jesus? You can be forgiven and saved right now. You do not need a Pastor or anyone to pray with you; this is between you and God. Just follow the ABC's.

<u>ADMIT</u> you need God's forgiveness. We are all sinners and have done wrong. Every person needs God's forgiveness to be made right with God.

<u>B</u>ELIEVE in Jesus as God's Son who rose from the dead. *Only Jesus can forgive you and provide eternal life.*

<u>C</u>OMMIT your life to Jesus. Believing in Jesus indicates you are willing to begin following Him. The early followers of Jesus changed their lives at great cost to follow Him each day. The same is true for believers today. In fact, Tribulation-era believers will face even greater hardships than the 1st Century Church, but God promised to be with you, and promises a reward to those who are faithful to the end (Rev. 3:12, 21).

God's offer of eternal life is a gift. We do not earn it; we only accept it: *"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

You can believe in and begin following Jesus right now, right where you are. You can accept Him as your Savior and Lord by praying in your own words, a prayer like this:

"God, I admit I have done wrong and need you. Please forgive me. I believe in Jesus as Lord. I believe Jesus rose from the dead. I receive your gift of eternal life. Help me live for you from this moment forward. Amen."

If you sincerely prayed, you can know God has forgiven you, and given you eternal life. The Bible says, *"I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, <u>that you may</u> <u>know that you have eternal life</u>" (1 John 5:13).*

Congratulations on your new life in Christ!