

# Indonesia Tsunami 2018

By T.W. Tramm

THE DEATH TOLL from the massive 7.5 earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia has risen to 832, with officials warning it could easily rise into the thousands.

Due to an apparent failure in the tsunami warning system, hundreds gathered for a festival on the beach in the city of Palu on Friday were caught unaware when a 20-foot wave smashed onshore, sweeping many to their deaths.

In footage on social media, a man on the upper floor of a building could be heard shouting warnings of the approaching tsunami to people on the street below, moments before the wave crashed ashore.

A disaster official said the tsunami traveled across the open sea at speeds of 500 mph before striking land.

The tragedy in Indonesia is prophetically significant in two ways. First, the massive earthquake is a “birth pain” pointing to the imminent Day of the Lord (Matt. 24:9). Second, the tsunami foreshadows the onset of this terrible time, which Scripture compares to the days of Noah:

“When the Son of Man returns, it will be like it was in Noah’s day. In the days before the flood, people were enjoying banquets and parties and weddings, [... they ...] didn’t realize what was going to happen until the flood came and swept them all away” (Matt. 24: 37-39).

Most of the world is like the crowd gathered on the beach at Palu: eating and drinking—oblivious to the fact that a deadly wave is headed their way at breakneck speed. Some see disaster approaching and are shouting warnings, but most are not hearing the cries and are about to be swept away.

Unlike those who had no hope of outrunning the tsunami, however, there is a way to escape what is coming upon the earth—the Rapture, or catching up of believers into the clouds at Jesus’ coming:

“For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us” (1 Thess. 5:9).

To be taken in the Rapture one must be indwelt by God’s Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:13, 14; Matt. 25:1-12). To be indwelt by the Holy Spirit, simply ask:

“Ask [for the Spirit] and it will be given to you ... For everyone who asks receives” (Luke 11:9-11).

And believe:

“Declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, [and] you will be saved” (Rom. 10:9).

If you haven’t yet asked the Lord into your heart, do it today. No one can predict the moment the wave will hit.

LINKS:

<https://www.jpost.com/International/At-least-384-killed-in-Indonesia-after-giant-tsunami-and-earthquake-hit-568308>