

Rapture: The Blessed Hope of Believers

Bible Study #3 – May 20, 2021

Introduction

Q1: Will there be a 3rd World War before Armageddon? (Ezekiel 38-39)

Q2: What about children who have not reached the “age of accountability” at the Rapture?

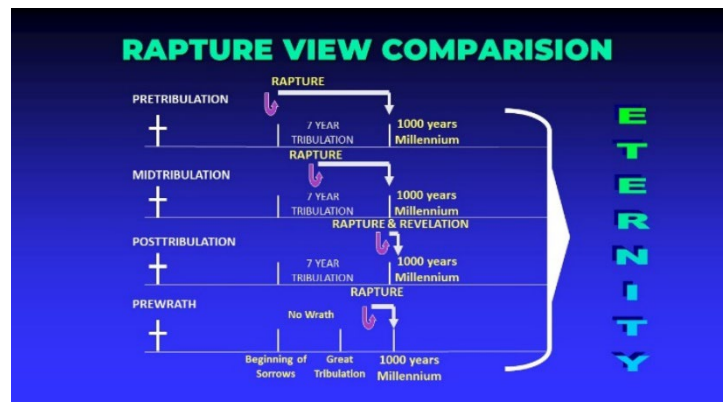
Q3: When do we get our new bodies? (1 Cor. 15:52-54)

Review – The tribulation’s purpose concerns Israel and not the Church

1. God has two distinct programs; one for Israel and another for the church (Dan. 12:7)
2. “The essence of Dispensationalism, then, is the distinction between Israel and the church.” (Charles Ryrie, May/June 2007 article in Israel My Glory magazine)
3. Jeremiah 30:7; Daniel 9:24-27; Ephesians 3:9

When is the Rapture going to take place?

1. Pre-tribulation Rapture view
2. Mid-tribulation Rapture view
3. Post-tribulation Rapture view
4. Partial Rapture view
5. Pre-wrath Rapture view



Reasons to trust in the Pre-Tribulation Rapture of the church

1. The tribulation's purpose concerns Israel (Jer. 30:7; Dan. 9:24)
 2. It best explains the distinctions between the Rapture and the Second Coming
 3. There is no biblical reference to the church on earth during the Tribulation (Rev. 4-22)
 4. The church is _____ from God’s wrath (Rev. 3:10; 6:17; Rom. 5:9; 1 Thess. 1:10; 5:9)
 5. The Rapture is imminent (1 Cor. 15:51; 1 Thess. 4:15)
 6. The Rapture is a comfort (1 Thess. 4:18)
 7. The Antichrist cannot come to power until the restrainer is removed (2 Thess. 2:6-7)
 8. The symbolic parallels (2 Peter 2:5-9)
- ➡ All of these taken together provide a very convincing case!

The church is exempt from God's wrath

1. The Church is promised exemption from God's wrath
 - 1 Thess. 1:10
 - 1 Thess. 5:9
 - Romans 5:9
 - Romans 8:1
 - Rev. 3:10
2. The Tribulation is a time of God's wrath (Rev. 6:17)
3. The Mid-tribulation view – the Rapture occurs at the mid-point of the Tribulation, which is at the 7th Trumpet (Rev. 11:15)
4. The Pre-wrath view of the Rapture – the Rapture occurs at about 5½ years (Rev. 6:17)
5. The wrath of God begins at the start of the Tribulation (Rev. 5:5-7)
6. Other arguments against the Mid-Trib Rapture view
 - The "saints" in Daniel 7:25 are not church age saints
 - The 7th trumpet of Rev. 11:15 is not the same as the last trump in 1 Cor. 15:52
 - Rev. 6:16-17 places God's "wrath" long before the middle of the Tribulation (11:15)
 - The only appearance of "great tribulation" in is Rev. 7:14, which is well before the Mid-Trib
 - The Mid-Trib view denies the doctrine of imminency (Titus 2:13)

Favorite Resources

1. [The End](#); Mark Hitchcock
2. Amir Tsarfati teachings and books; Beholdisrael.org, [Israel and the Church](#)
3. [The Rapture Question](#); John F. Walvoord
4. [The Popular Handbook on the Rapture](#); Tim LaHaye, Thomas Ice, Ed Hindson
5. Gotquestions.org / "What are the strengths and weaknesses of the midtribulational view..."

Discussion questions

1. What are the main arguments for the mid-Trib or Pre-wrath Rapture view?
2. What are the main arguments against this view?
3. What are the key passages that teach the Church will not experience God's wrath?
4. When do you believe God's wrath begins biblically?
5. What questions did our study today raise in your mind?