

10/26/24

Rapture, Pre-Trib, Pre-Millennial

1Thess. 4:15-18

The study of eschatology is the study of prophecy and end things, the events that will transpire such as the rapture, the Tribulation, the Second Coming, the Millennium and eternal order.

* The Second Coming of Christ is one of the greatest doctrines of the church, Jesus spoke about constantly. Matt. 24; Mk. 13; Lk. 21

The evidence of the Second Coming in the Scriptures is overwhelming, 1/5 of Scripture is prophecy, 1/3 of that 1/5 is concerned with the Second Coming. # 5457

1. There are 1, 845 references to the Second Coming of Jesus in the Old Testament and a total of seventeen Old Testament books give it prominence.
2. For every prophecy on the First Coming of Christ, there are 8 on Second Coming of Christ Jesus.
3. The Second Coming is a promise and warning; a promise to all having the tendency to become weary in well doing waiting for His coming, a warning to those who would mock it or make light of it!

Jesus told His disciples He would come back to remove His church from the earth prior to pouring out of His wrath on the earth seven years before His Second Coming, called the “Rapture” the “catching away of the saints”.

* We have learned all the specifics of the rapture in our last two studies. 1Thess. 4:13-18

1. The rapture is the greatest incentive for holy living.

* “And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.” 1Jn. 3:3

2. The rapture is the source of perseverance through difficult times.

* “That you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ’s appearing.”

1Tim. 6:14

3. The rapture is the heartbeat of spiritual passion that awaits to see Jesus face to face.

* “Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” 2Tim. 4:8

In view of all this we want to look at the rapture in view of three things.

- I. The various dispensations revealed in the Scriptures.
- II. The four different views of the rapture.
- III. The evidence for Pre-Tribulation rapture, Pre-Millennial.

I. The various dispensations revealed in the Scriptures.

A. There is the Old Testament economy.

1. The time period is from Genesis to the prophet Malachi of 4,000 years.

- a. Adam and Eve lived in a probationary period till the fall, then God gave them the hope of redemption through the Messiah. Gen. 3:15
 - b. God made a covenant with the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, He promised to make a nation of them, Israel. Gen. 12:1-3
 - 2. The covenant was a covenant of an earthly Kingdom. Gen. 12:1-3, 7
 - a. The time from Adam to Abraham was two-thousand years.
 - b. The time from Abraham to Jesus was two-thousand years also.
 - * Only Gentiles who proselyted into the nation of Israel could enter the covenant, such as Rahab, Ruth, etc.!
- B.** There is an inter-testamental period of silence.
- 1. There was no prophet speaking for God under Inspiration during the 400 years of silence.
 - a. There was much apocalyptic writings about the doom and gloom of judgment, written in pseudo-pigraphic authorship.
 - b. This means they wrote in the name of some past prophet, instead of their own.
 - c. But none of these men wrote under the Inspiration of the Spirit as the Major and Minor prophets of the Old Testament.

- 2. The period of silence was broken by John the Baptist.
 - a. John was the transitinal bridge from the Old Testament to the New according to the words of Jesus, “All did prophesied untill John the Baptist.” Matt. 11:13
 - b. John was the fulfillment of the short-term prophecy of Malachi, the forunner to prepare the way of the Lord, the Messiah, Jesus. Mal. 3:1
 - c. Jesus confirmed John came in the spirit and power of Elijah, the short-term fulfillment. Lk. 1:17
 - d. John’s message picked up where Malachi left off.
 - 1) To repent in view of their present sinful lifestyle.
 - 2) To repent in view of their Lord’s coming to judge sin.
 - e. The long-term fulfilment of Elijah will be literal, as one of the two witnesses the last three years of the day of the LORD to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers. Mal. 4:5-6: Rev. 11
- C.** There is the New Testament economy.
- 1. The time period is from the birth of Christ till the rapture of the church.

2. The covenant with the church is a heavenly Kingdom in contrast to the earthly Kingdom promised to Israel, Jews.
3. The period is called the age of grace, the calling of Jew and Gentile makes up the body of Christ, His church.

D. There is the time of Tribulation and Great-Tribulation.

1. The time is from the rapture of the church to the Second Coming of Christ to the earth for the purpose of establishing His Kingdom.
2. The period is divided into two halves by three increments, so that there can not be any mistake as to the literalness of it.
 - a. The increment of 1260 days. Rev. 11:3
 - b. The increment of forty-two months. Rev. 11:2
 - c. The increment of three and a half years. Rev. 12:14
3. The period is also divided by the phrases Tribulation and Great-Tribulation.
 - a. The first three and a half years of Tribulation will be a false peace and deception by the Antichrist.
 - b. The last three and a half years of Great-Tribulation will be the absolute rule of the Antichrist, as a tyrant from hell with Satan's authority.
4. The period is also called the "Day of God's Wrath". Rev. 6-19

- a. The 7 seals will be opened. Rev. 5-8
- b. The 7 trumpets will be sounded. Rev. 8-10
- c. The 7 bowls will be poured out. Rev. 16
5. The Lord will return with His church at the end of the Great-Tribulation to wage war against those gathered at Armageddon to stop Jesus from setting up His Kingdom and then judge the nations.
 - a. We the church will return on horses with Jesus and Jesus will destroy all with the sharp sword coming out of His mouth. Rev. 19:11-16
 - b. Jesus will judge the nations, as sheep from the goats. Math. 25:31-46
- E. There is the Millennium period.**
 1. The thousand year reign of Christ on the earth. Rev. 20:2, 3, 5, 7
 - a. There are those who say we are in the Millennium now, which is ludicrous.
 - b. There are others who say it is symbolic and not literal, yet the repetition of the phrase is literal.
 2. Satan will be bound for a thousand years. Rev. 20:2-3, 7
 - a. The bottomless pit will be his prison for this set time.
 - b. The bottomless pit is the abyss, pit or shaft in the earth.

- c. The Devil is placed there so he cannot deceive the nations any longer, till the end of the thousand years.
 - 3. The rule of Jesus will be characterized by a “rode of iron”. Rev. 2:27; 12:5; 19:5
 - 4. The church will rule and reign with Christ for a thousand years on the earth. Rev. 1:6-7
 - a. Over all those who did not take the mark of the Beast. Rev. 13:8-10
 - b. Over Israel who will occupy all the land promised to them. Matt. 25:31-34
 - 5. The nation of Israel will occupy all the land promised in the Old Testament in the Kingdom Age. Is. , Jer. , Ezk. , etc.
 - a. Israel has never occupied all the land promised to them to this day.
 - b. God will fulfill His promises to Israel in the Kingdom Age.
 - 6. The White Throne judgment will take place after the thousand years. Rev. 20:11-15
 - a. All who have rejected Christ will be judged according to their works, this is the judgment of unbelievers. Rev. 20:13
 - b. All will be cast into the Lake of Fire or Gehenna, the ultimate abode made for Satan and his angels. Matt. 25:41
- F.** There is the new heaven and new earth for all eternity with the Lord. Rev. 21-22
- 1. There will be a new heaven and earth, no more sea, those coming out of the Kingdom

- Age will live on the new earth in the eternal order. Rev. 21:1
- 2. The Holy City, the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven and from God for His bride the church. Rev. 21:2
 - 3. There will be no more tears, death or sorrow, tears or pain. Rev. 21:4
 - * This is all we know about the eternal state, speculation is worthless!

The various dispensations cannot be denied revealed in the Scriptures!

II. The four different views of the rapture.

- A.** There is the teaching called “mid-tribulation”, that teaches the church will be removed from the earth three and a half years after the seven year tribulation begins.
 - 1. The first problem is that the 70th Week of Daniel’s prophecy is interpreted literal, but the first 3 ½ years are spiritualized to put the church in the tribulation. Dan. 9:27
 - * You either interpret all the 70th Week literal or symbolic, you must be consistent in your interpretation!
 - 2. The second problem is that the teaching gives a 3 ½ year mark for the removal of the church is an obvious red light indicating it is wrong, for Jesus repeatedly proclaimed no man knows “the day or the hour” of the

rapture or the Day of the LORD that take place at the same time. Lk. 21:36; Dan. 9:27

3. The problem with this interpretation is to confuse the 3 ½ year mark that identifies the Antichrist to identify it with the removal of the bride of Christ. Matt. 24:15
 - a. The increment of 1260 days is given for the time of the two witnesses. Rev. 11:3
 - b. The increment of 42 months is given for treading down the city of Jerusalem and the blasphemies by the Antichrist. Rev. 11:2; 13:5
 - c. The increment of 3 ½ years is given, “for a time and times and half a time” to protect Israel in the wilderness. Rev. 12:14; Is. 16:1

- B.** There is the teaching called “post-tribulation”, which teaches that the church will be removed from the earth at the end of the seven years of the tribulation and great tribulation.
1. The book of Revelations is interpreted as historical and fulfilled, which spiritualizes the literalness of the events in order to harmonize with their interpretation.
 2. The set time of the removal is again inconsistent with the words of Jesus.
 - * No man knows the day or the hour, the Second Coming we do know by the three-fold increments for those on earth!

3. The second obvious problem is that the removal of the church at the end of the seven years would remove all believers from the earth, who then would occupy the thousand year reign besides Israel?
 4. The removal ththirdly would not allow time for the judgment of the believers at the Bema-Seat of Christ, the presentation of the bride to Christ and marriage of the Lamb.
 5. The removal would also make no sense, being raptured only to immediately return with Christ to the earth.
- C.** There is the teaching that appeared in the nineties called “pre-wrath rapture” by Marvin Rosenthal that has only added to the confusion, teaching the church will be removed 3/4 through the seven year tribulation.
- * Very few still teach this view in our day!
1. The first things is the set time for removable would once again refute the reaching.
 - * Jesus said No man knows the day or the hour!
 2. The second thins is the starting point of “The Day Of The Lord” is misunderstood.
 - a. The “Day Of The Lord” takes place the same day and time the church is raptured.
 - b. The appearance of the Antichrist is the deception people are given over to by God for rejection of the gospel during the age of Grace. 2Thess. 2:9-12; Rev. 6:1

3. The teaching is inconsistent with the 70th week of Daniel for the Jews. Dan. 9:27
 - a. Israel confirms the covenant with the Antichrist for seven years.
 - b. Israel expects the Antichrist as their Messiah until the middle the seven years when he enters the temple declaring himself to be God, the abomination of desolation spoken by Daniel and the Rement of Israel flees to the wilderness. Is. 16:1-5; 2Thess. 2:4; Rev. 12:5

D. There is the teaching called “Pre-Tribulation”, that teaches the church will be removed from the earth prior to the seven year tribulation, this is what Calvary Chapel Pasadena teaches.

1. The teaching is consistent with the 70 weeks of Daniel’s prophecy, when God starts His prophetic clock again to deal with Israel.
2. The teaching treats the book of Revelation as literal, historical and figurative or symbolic according to the context.
3. The imminent return of Christ for his church means that He can come back at any day or minute, no man knows the day or the hour.
4. The exhortation repeated in the Scriptures is that we are to watch and pray to be accounted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass and to stand before the Son of Man. Lk. 21:36

- * This is what Calvary Chapel of Pasadena believes and teaches, as did Pastor Chuck Smith of Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa!

The four different views of the rapture must be examined to the Scriptures!

III. The evidence for Pre-Tribulation rapture, Pre-Millennial.

- * This means that the Lord Jesus will come back for His church before the seven year of God’s wrath of the Tribulation and Great-Tribulation and the thousand year reign!
- A. The nature of the church is presented as a constant contrast to Israel.
 1. The church is comprised of Jew and Gentile, having excepted Jesus as Lord and Savior, while Israel was made up of Jews and some proselytes. Eph. 2:14-15; Col. 3:11
 2. The church was a mystery concealed in the Old Testament, revealed in the New, Jew and Gentile one in Christ, the body of Christ, blessed in salvation. Gen. 12:3; Rom. 16:25-27; Eph. 3:1-7; Col. 1:26-29
 3. The church is called the virgin bride of Christ, Israel the wife of God and put way through divorce. Jer. 3:1; Rev. 22:17

* Those that interpret the woman in the Revelation to be the church have a bigger

problem, she is pregnant and the church is a virgin. Rev. 12:4; 2Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:27

4. The church is being built by Jesus, He rejected Israel until the church age is closed.
 - a. After Peter's confession that Jesus was the Son of the Living God, Jesus said, "I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt. 16:18
 - b. Paul says the Gentiles would be grafted in as a wild olive tree and Israel rejected because of unbelief. Rom. 11:11-24
 - c. The Lord at His Triumphal Entry to Jerusalem, wept over the city saying, "If you had known, even you, especially **in this your day**, the things that make for your peace! **But now they ate hidden from your eyes**", and He pronounced judgment over her. Lk. 19:42-44
 * Fulfilling the prophecy to the day of the first 69 Weeks of Daniel, 483 years or 173,880 days, from March 14, 445 B. C. , to April 6, 32 A. D., based on a 360 day year of Genesis and Babylonian calendar. Dan. 9:24-26; Zech. 9:9 (Sir Robert Anderson, The Coming Prince)
 - d. Jesus wept over Jerusalem as He rejected Israel till His Second Coming, "Your house is left to you desolate, you shall see Me no more till you say blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord". Matt. 23:38-39

- e. The apostles in the First church counsel recognized this basic and simple truth by the mouth of James. Acts 15:13-17

- 1) Luke tells us, "Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a **people for His name**. And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written. **After this I will return And will rebuild the tabernacle of David**, which has fallen down; I will **rebuild its ruins, And I will set it up**; So that the rest of mankind may seek the LORD, Even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, Says the LORD who does all these things."
- 2) The contrast and distinctions between Israel and the church are many from the type of covenant to the promises of inheritance! (Chafer has listed 24!)

- B. The nature of the church age is presented as a contrast to the nature of the tribulation time.
 1. The church age is characterized by grace through the atoning work of Jesus on the cross for the sins of all the world, in contrast the tribulation period characterized by God's wrath from His throne. Jn. 3:16; 2Cor. 5:21; 1Jn. 2:2; Rev. 11:18; 14:8, 10, 19; 15:1, 7; 16:1, 19

* The Old Testament calls it a time of distress, indignation, affliction, Jacob's trouble. Jer. 30:7

2. The wrath of God fell on Christ for those who would make up His bride the church, therefore not appointed to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, in contrast to those who reject His death for them. Rom. 5:9; 1Thess. 5:9
3. The church is to pray for their enemies and forgive them, in contrast to the martyres under the fifth seal pray, "How long oh Lord, till You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth." Matt. 5:44; Rev. 6:10
4. The Lord Jesus said to His disciples and church that in the world we will have tribulation, but this is distinct and in contrast to the specific hour that will try all "earth dwellers", the church is promised to be kept from it. Jn. 16:33; Rev. 3:10; 1Thess. 1:10
 - a. The word from "ek" means to guard and cause one to escape in safety **out of** whatever is the subject.
 - 1) If the word "en" had been used then it would mean to cause to persevere or stand firm in a thing. (Thayer)
 - 2) Some will teach that the word can mean "through", but the context and the nature of the Philadelphian church

is a contrast to those who will fall under God's judgment!

- b. The hope of the believer is Jesus, not simply heaven or any other place, we are longing to be with Him where ever He be and be just like Him. Phil. 3:20-21; Col. 2:3; 1Thess. 4:13; 1Tim. 1:1; Tit. 2:13; Heb. 4:18; 1Pet. 1:3-4; 1Jn. 3:1-4

C. The nature of the removal of the church is presented as a contrast to the return of the Second Coming.

1. The removal of the church is in order for God to deal with Israel once again.
 - a. Paul taught, "Blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentile has come in", this is the complete number of people to be saved which comprises the church. Rom. 11:25
 - b. Jerusalem will be trampled by the Gentiles "till the times of the Gentiles" are fulfilled, which is not the same as the "fullness of the Gentiles. Rom. 11:25

* The "Times of the Gentiles" began with Babylon, the head of gold and will end with the ten toes of the image of Nebuchadnezzar, a confederacy of ten nations to rule the world through the Antichrist. Lk. 21:24; Dan. 2, 7
 - c. The removal of the church is to judge Israel and to prepare her for her Messiah.

- 1) Zechariah says the Jews will ask Jesus in that day, "Where did You receive these wounds? Then He will say in the house of My friends." Zech. 13:6
 - 2) Zechariah says 2 of 3 Jews will perish by the Antichrist and 1/3 refined through the fire. Zech. 13:8-9
2. The Second Coming is to judge the ungodly and set up the Kingdom Age.
- a. Paul reminded believers of the vengeance of God at His Second Coming with His church in flaming fire. 2Thess. 1:7-10
 - b. Jude says Enoch prophesied about the Second Coming of Jesus to execute judgment on the ungodly with ten-thousands of His saints. Jude 14
 - c. Jesus said He would judge the nations as sheep from the goats. Matt. 25:31-34
 - d. John gives a sneak preview of the battle of Armageddon, as Jesus returns with His Bride to strike the nations with the sword that goes forth from His mouth at the Second Coming. Rev. 19:11-16; Ps. 2
- D. The nature of the language for the removal of the church as we pointed out in our last two studies is presented unmistakably.
1. The privilege is to escape physical death and be caught up with "them" the bodies of the departed saints in the clouds, their dead loved ones were not going to miss out on

anything for they would be returning with Jesus for His church, both receiving their glorified bodies. 1Thess. 4:13-18

* Paul spent only 3 weeks at Thessalonica, but taught them the rapture! Acts 17:1-9

a. The word caught up "harpazo" means to seize violently, carry off by force, claim for one's self eagerly with "them", the dead bodies of the saints. vs. 17a

b. As we have stated of the thirteen times the word "harpazo" appears in the New Testament, the meaning of a sudden and jolting removal and translocation appears consistently. Matt. 13:19; Acts 8:39; 2Cor. 12:2; Rev. 12:5

* The Latin word "rapare" gives us our word rapture, "harpazo" means the same.

2. The purpose is to meet the Lord in the air. 1Thess. 1:17a

a. The word meet "apanteesis", means to encounter and used of a formal reception for a royal magistrates by going out to meet them and accompanying them back on the final part of the journey.

b. The word appears three other times in the New Testament, once for Paul arriving at his port entry at Rome and twice for those who out to meet the bridegroom to attend the marriage supper. Acts. 28:15; Matt. 25

- * The Parable of the wise and foolish virgins is used by some to teach the rapture of the church, but the context is the Second Coming and refers to Israel at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb on earth at the Second Coming.
- c. Chapter 25 is a continuation of the Olivet Discourse that began in 24.
 - 1) Jesus was talking about the signs of His Second Coming and the end of the age.
 - 2) Jesus had just mentioned the faithful and evil servant and how they will be dealt with at His return.
 - 3) The first word of chapter twenty-five is “Then” a time word, the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins. Matt. 25:1
 - 4) The context of Matt. 25 is still the Second Coming; it is Jewish ground.
 - 5) The people involved are Jews who will accept Jesus in the tribulation and Great Tribulation, **not** the church.
 - 6) Often clouds refer to theophanies of Divine glory. Ex 16:10; 19:16; 1Kings 8; Dan. 7:13; Matt. 24:30; Acts 1:9
 - 7) Enoch and Elijah are parallels of raptured. Gen. 5:24; 2Kings 2:11
 - * As the days of Noah and Lot’s!

- d. We ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. Rom. 8:23
 - 1) “I heard a voice like a trumpet, “Come up here and I will show you the things that must take place after this, the church age.” Rev 4:1
 - 2) After the church is removed to heaven the first seal is opened, the man of sin appears on a white horse, having a bow, but no arrows, conquering through diplomacy, false peace in the first three and a half years. Rev. 6:1-2
 - 3) The early church fathers believed and taught the rapture of the church prior the Tribulation and Millennium!
 - 4) From Papias in 70 A.D. to Lactanius about 285 A. D. , including Tertullian and Origin, the doctrine of the church fathers was Pre-Millennialism, till the fourth century, when they began to teach Amillennialism, named “Schism of Nepos”. (Dr. Johnson:24-25)
- e. The restrainer holding back the full manifestation of evil will be taken out when the Antichrist appears is the church, not the Holy Spirit, for people will be saved by the Holy Spirit during the tribulation. 2Thess. 2:1-12
 - 1) The phrase “falling away” can mean from the faith or removal of the

- church, one being the effect of the other! vs. 3
- 2) The man of sin will sit in the temple of God, declaring he is God in the middle of the seven years. vs. 4
 * Known as the “Abomination of Desolation”. Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15
 - 3) Some are given over to the lie having rejected the truth ongoing! vs. 11
3. The promise is that we shall always be with the Lord. 1Thess. 1:17c
- a. The believer will return to heaven with Jesus for seven years and then return with Christ to set up the Kingdom.
 - b. Jesus promised this distinguishing His coming for His saints from His coming with His saints. Jn. 14:1-3
 - 1) At the rapture, all go to heaven, at the Second Coming, all come to earth with Christ.
 - 2) At the rapture, Jesus receives us to Himself, at the Second Coming Jesus receives the survivors of the Great-Tribulation into the Kingdom not receiving the mark of the Antichrist.
 * That is why it was so difficult for His disciples to except Jesus was going back to heaven, they thought He was going to set up the Kingdom!
 - c. Paul declared, “For you died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When

- Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory”, at His Second Coming with His saints. Col. 3:3-4
- d. John says, “Beloved, now are we children of God; though it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in them purifies himself, just as He is pure.” 1Jn. 2:2-3
- E. The nature of His coming for His church is presented as imminent, at any time.
1. Jesus gave many Parables of the evil steward who did not know the time of his masters return and was found drinking and mistreating the servants.
 2. Jesus said, “no man knows the day or the hour”, referring directly to the Day of the LORD, indirectly to the rapture. Matt. 24:36
 3. Our bodies will be changed in a moment in a twinkling of the eye, at the last trump, the trump in Thessalonians, not to be confuse with the 7th trump of Revelation. 1Cor. 15:51-52; Phil. 3:20; Col. 3:4; 1Thess. 4:16
 4. Every chapter of the First epistle of Thessalonians mentions the imminent return of Jesus. 1Thess. 1:10; 2:19; 3:13; 4:17; 5:9

5. The early church, church fathers and the reformers all believed in the imminent return of Jesus.
6. John clearly shows that after the church age is over in Revelations 2-3, then the church is present in heaven in chapters 4-5, singing the song which only the church can sing, right before the tribulation begins and the man of sin is revealed. Rev. 5:9-10
7. The day of the Second Coming is given to Daniel, 1290 days from the abomination that causes desolation. Dan. 12:11; Matt. 24:15
8. The day of the rapture no man knows, therefore Jesus said we are to watch and pray always that we may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass and to stand before the Son of Man, implying immemence. Lk. 21:36
 - a. Only Luke's gospel tells us to pray that we be worthy to escape all the things to come in the tribulation!
* Have you ever asked yourself why?
 - b. Matthew wrote to the Jews, who will go through the Tribulation.
 - c. Mark wrote to the Romans, who for the most denied and crucified Jesus.
 - d. Luke wrote to the Gentiles that God would call out to Himself as His bride.
 - e. The disciples still asked Jesus aftr His resurrection about setting the Kingdom

up, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" Acts 16d-e

The evidence for Pre-Tribulation rapture, Pre-Millennial is overwhelmingly favored by the Scriptures!

Conclusion

Listen to Paul's words as he describes the rapture of the church as, "The blessed hope and appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you." Tit. 3:13-15

1. The promise to the church Thyatira was, "And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into **great tribulation**, unless they repent of their deeds. Rev. 2:21-22

* This is the only part of the church that will go through the Tribulation!

2. The promise to the church of Philadelphia is," Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth." Rev. 3:10

* This is the part of the church that will not go through the Tribulation!

3. The promise to the church of Laodicea was, “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth”. Rev. 3:15-16

* This is the warning to all who are lukewarm!

I hope you aren't looking for Antichrist, but Jesus Christ, watch and pray always that you be accounted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man. Lk. 21:36

* “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.” Phil. 3:20-21