

Foundations of Faith
End Times Questions

Chapters from Calvary Distinctives

- The Rapture of the Church

Questions

The Rapture of the Church

1. To what is the rapture referring?

2. According to John 14:1-3, what promise did Jesus make?

3. A mystery in the New Testament means _____

4. Briefly explain what it means to be changed.

5. What can every believer expect when Jesus Christ comes for His Church?

6. In light of His return, how are we to live?

7. Give a brief explanation of 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18.

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8. What is the meaning of the Greek word *harpazo*?

9. Why is the Rapture distinct from the Second Coming of Jesus Christ?

10. Explain the difference between these two events. The Rapture and Second Coming of Jesus.

11. What are some of the signs Jesus spoke of concerning these events?

12. What is the emphasis of Matthew 25:2?

13. Where will the Church be during the period of Tribulation upon earth?

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14. What is holding back the force and power of Antichrist in the world today?

15. "God will deliver the _____ and He'll also
reserve the _____ for the day of judgment."

16. Why would it be inconsistent for God to judge the righteous with the wicked?

17. To whom is the judgment targeted?

18. List the four reasons we are to maintain the blessed hope of His coming and bring it to all people.

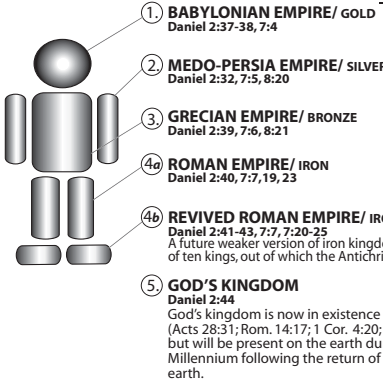
A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM OF COMING KINGDOMS THAT WOULD PRECEDE THE ESTABLISHING OF GOD'S KINGDOM ON EARTH
 God gave the interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream to Daniel in Daniel chapter 2. The interpretation includes the prophecy that God would set up an everlasting kingdom during the time of the ten kings of the revived Roman Empire (see 4b below). Daniel said, "And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." (Daniel 2:44) This will happen when Jesus returns to earth immediately after the Tribulation.



"THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES"
 (Luke 21:24, Rev. 11:1-2) "the fullness of the Gentiles" (Rom. 11:25) will be complete after the last Gentile is saved in the Tribulation. Then "the Deliverer [Jesus] will come" (Rom. 11:26).

JESUS CHRIST'S FIRST COMING TO EARTH
 (Isa. 7:14, Micah 5:2, Mtt. 1:21-23)

Christ's resurrection (Ps. 16:10, Acts 2:27-31, John 20) followed forty days later by His ascension into heaven. (Acts 1:9-10)

YOU ARE HERE.
 THE EUROPEAN UNION, with its single currency, and its united military, perhaps the beginning of a Revived Roman Empire (4b) Dan. 2:41-43

ISRAEL DECLARED A NATION after 1,878 years w/out a homeland May 14, 1948.

RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH
 "Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up ["harpazo"-Greek, "rapturo"-Latin] together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord." (1 Thess. 4:17) The coming of Christ for His Church is discussed in Jn. 14:3, 1 Thess. 4:16-18, 2 Thess. 2:1, 1 Cor. 15:50-53, Phil. 3:20-21. **The Rapture, being prior to Tribulation wrath, is supported by** 1 Thess. 1:10, 5:9-11, 2 Thess. 2:3-8, Nah. 1:2, Rev. 6:16-17, Luke 21:35-36

"THE DAY OF THE LORD" (2 Ptr. 3:10, Isa. 13:6-9; 1 Thess. 5:2-4)
 The entire period beginning with the rapture and terminating at the end of the millennium.

THE "MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB" (Jesus) TO THE BRIDE (the Church).
 (Rev. 19:7)

BELIEVER'S IN HEAVEN, WHERE WORKS ARE JUDGED & REWARDED AT THE "BEMA" [Gk.] SEAT
 (2 Cor. 5:10, Rom. 14:10-12, 1 Cor. 3:13-15)

"THE DAY OF CHRIST JESUS"
 (Phil. 1:6, 10, 2:16; 1 Thess. 5:2; 1 Cor. 1:8, 2 Cor. 1:14)

Satan thrown down to earth. (Rev. 12:9-13)

THE ANTI-CHRIST DECLARES HIMSELF TO BE GOD.
 (Dan. 7:20-21, 11:36, 2 Thess. 2:3-4, Rev. 13:6) puts an end to regular sacrifice and sets up the abomination that causes desolation. (Dan. 9:27; 12:11, Mtt. 24:15)

SECOND COMING OF CHRIST TO EARTH
 (Dan. 2:44, Matt. 24:27-31, Zech. 14:4, Rev. 1:7, Acts 1:11) with the saints (1 Thess. 3:13, Rev. 19:8, 14) ending the rule of the Antichrist (2 Thess. 2:8, Dan. 8:25b, 23:4-35, 44).

THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST (1,000 YEARS)
 Jesus will rule (Isa. 9:6) the world from Jerusalem (Micah 4:1-2) for a 1,000 years (Rev. 20:1-6, Zech. 1:4-9, v.16; Isa. 2:1-4, 11:1-10, 35:1-10) where the nations will come to worship (Zech. 14:16) and learn of God's ways (Micah 4:2, Zech. 8:3). The Millennium will start off with believers only (John 3:3, Mtt. 25:31-34, 41, 46) and will be marked by a unified government (Hos. 1:11) where church age believers and Tribulation martyrs will co-reign with Christ (Rev. 20:6, 2 Tim. 2:12). David will be the prince of Israel (Ezek. 34:22-24), the twelve apostles will judge the twelve tribes of Israel (Mtt. 19:28, Lk. 22:29-30), all weapons of war will be destroyed (Isa. 2:4), there will be no wars (Micah 4:3), there will be a worldwide knowledge of God (Isa. 11:9), peace (Isa. 9:6-7), justice (Isa. 11:3-5), obedience (Dan. 7:27), holiness (Ezek. 36:24-31, 37:23-24), the fullness of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-29) and an increase in joy (Isa. 9:3-4, 14:7). Children will be born (Isa. 11:6, 65:20, 23, Jer. 30:20) by those in their natural bodies (i.e., survivors of the Tribulation and their offspring). There will also be a prolonged life expectancy for those in their natural bodies. There will be comfort for those who would sorrow (Isa. 12:1, 35:10, 65:19), a removal of sickness (Isa. 33:24, Jer. 30:17), healing of the deformed (Isa. 35:6), fruitful, enjoyable labor (Isa. 62:8-9, 65:21-23), one language (Zeph. 3:9), a change in the nature of ferocious animals (Isa. 11:6-9, Ezek. 34:25, Isa. 65:25), great changes in the environment (Isa. 35:1-2, 6b-7, 55:13) and a Millennial temple in Jerusalem where sacrifices will be made in remembrance to Christ's death (Ezk. 40-46). This period is also known as "THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF LAMB" (Rev. 19:9). This glorious time of celebration takes place on the earth and will include the Jews saved during the Tribulation period (the bridesmaids of Mtt. 25:1-13) who are ready to go into the "wedding feast" when the bridegroom comes (Mtt. 25:10). Mtt. 22:1-14 pictures those not in wedding garments, being ushered out of the feast. This will take place at the Judgment of the Nations (Mtt. 25:31-46). See Dr. John F. Walvoord's *Prophecy Knowledge Handbook*, 1990, p. 617-618.

THE RESURRECTION OF THE WICKED DEAD
 (Rev. 20:12-13, Jn. 5:28, 29b)

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT, where every unsaved person (Rev. 20:11-13) will stand before Jesus (Jn. 5:22) to be judged for their works.

THOSE NOT FOUND IN THE BOOK OF LIFE are thrown into the lake of fire to be tormented forever (Rev. 20:10, 15).

1 CORINTHIANS 15:24-28

NEW HEAVENS NEW EARTH & NEW JERUSALEM
 (Isa. 65:17, 66:22, Rev. 21:1-2, 2 Ptr. 3:10-13), believers forever with the Lord (Jn. 14:3, 1 Thess. 4:17). No more curse, death, mourning, crying, or pain (Rev. 21:3-5, 22:3).



*Timeline not to scale.

A BIBLICAL TIMELINE OF END TIME EVENTS



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Knowing that Christ could come at any time, the Bible instructs believers to be 1. Evangelizing the world (Colossians 4:3-5, Mark 16:15) 2. Patient and Steadfast (James 5:8) 3. Kind (James 5:9) 4. Prayerful (1 Peter 4:7) 5. Faithful in assembling together and encouraging one another (Hebrews 10:24-25) 6. Conducting themselves in holiness and godliness (2 Peter 3:11, 14 and 1 John 3:2-3) 7. Joyfully confident (Titus 2:11-13)

JESUS CRUCIFIED FOR OUR SINS.
 A.D. 30-33 (Isa. 52:13-53:12; "cut off," Dan. 9:26, Jn. 19:17)

THE CHURCH AGE
 From Pentecost (Acts 2:1) to the Rapture.

JEW'S RETURNING TO HOMELAND
 (Ezek. 38:8, Jer. 30:1-3, 32:37-38, 41)

RESURRECTION OF CHURCH-AGE BELIEVERS
 The Bible teaches that those who have died as believers are "present with the Lord" (2 Cor. 5:8 and Phil. 1:21-24) but their bodies will be resurrected at the time of the rapture when "the dead in Christ will rise." (1 Thes. 4:16)

ROMANS DESTROY THE JEWISH TEMPLE A.D. 70
 (Dan. 9:26, Matt. 24:1-2, Luke 21:20-24). Jews scattered throughout world.

7 YEAR PEACE AGREEMENT made between Antichrist and Israel. (Dan. 9:27) Many commentators believe this is what will allow the Jews to rebuild their temple.

THE TRIBULATION PERIOD, 7 YEARS
 (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:9, Rev. 3:10). Also known as the "Seventieth Year" (or 7 year period) of Daniel" (Dan. 9:24-27).

ARMAGEDDON
 (Literally: the mount of Megiddo) armies from around the world will gather together at Megiddo in N. Israel before launching a massive attack against Jerusalem (Zech. 12:1-3, 14:1-5, Rev. 16:14, 16; 19:19)

PREPARATION TIME BEFORE PEACE TREATY

EZEKIEL 38 & 39 prophesies about a great military invasion against Israel by countries such as Iran, Libya, Sudan, Turkey, and Russia. This battle will most likely happen during the first 3.5 years of the Tribulation when Israel is dwelling in the land securely and at peace (see Ezek. 38:11, 14). See p. 347 in *Things to Come* by Dwight Pentecost where he discusses the problems with the view that this battle occurs prior to, or at the end of, the Tribulation.

THE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS
 (Matt. 25:31-46) also known as "The Judgment of the Sheep (Tribulation believers, v.37) and the Goats (unbelievers)." See Mtt. 13:24-31, 13:47-50, Ps. 96:13, Rev. 20:4. Those who come to faith during the Tribulation will enter the Millennium Kingdom. Unbelievers will ultimately be cast into "eternal fire" (Mtt. 25:41).

SATAN RELEASED, "for a short time" at the end of 1,000 years (Rev. 20:3, 7), deceives many into going to war against the saints and Jerusalem (v.8), where they are immediately consumed by fire from heaven (v.9). Satan is thrown into the lake of fire (v. 10).

PRESENT HEAVENS & EARTH "ARE TO BE DESTROYED."
 (2 Ptr. 3:10-12, Isa. 34:4).

RESURRECTION OF TRIBULATION MARTYRS (Rev. 20:4) & **OLD TESTAMENT SAINTS** (Dan. 12:1-2, Isa. 26:19, Jn. 5:28-29a) This resurrection is only "first" (Rev. 20:5) in the sense that it will be before the resurrection of the wicked (Rev. 20:12-13). The resurrection of martyrs and OT saints will occur after the Second Coming (Rev. 19:11-21) and prior to the Millennium (Rev. 20:2-6). Concerning the timing of the OT saints resurrection, Dan. 12:1 makes it clear that it will happen after the "time of distress."

Eschatology – the doctrinal study of the Biblical end times events

- From the Greek word *eschatos* meaning _____

Five important things to start with:

- (1) How important is eschatology to you? Is it a primary or secondary doctrine?
 - Some become fixated _____
 - While others are indifferent or hesitant _____ (Revelation 1:3)
 - It is primary in that _____
 - It is secondary in that _____
 - Encouragement = _____
- (2) This can be a very divisive topic
 - Encouragement = _____
- (3) The aim of eschatological texts is to reveal God’s plan and his heart, not to confuse or divide us

 - Encouragement = _____
- (4) Look at the text, not what Jonny says in his book or what Jim posts on YouTube
 - Revelation, Daniel, Isaiah and the OT prophets, 1 & 2 Thessalonians and the Olivet Discourse in Matthew 24-25, Luke 21, Mark 13
 - Encouragement = _____
- What’s your eschatology? Two things will shape it!
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
 - Encouragement = _____

Biblical Interpretation: Literal or allegorical?

- (1) Take the Bible literally when it’s literal and allegorical when there is allegory
 - _____ asserts that a biblical text is to be interpreted according to the “plain meaning” conveyed by its grammatical construction and historical context
 - The focus is _____
 - It is _____
 - _____ interprets the biblical narratives as having a second level of reference beyond those persons, things, and events explicitly mentioned in the text
 - The focus is _____
 - It is _____
 - The General Rule: *“When the literal sense makes good sense, seek no other sense, lest it results in nonsense.”*
 - _____ is key!
- (2) Read _____ rather than _____
 - _____ uses things other than the original context of a biblical passage to determine that passage's meaning
 - To read into the text one’s own ideas

- _____ relies on the original context of a biblical passage to determine that passage's meaning
 - To bring out or explain what the text is saying
- (3) Read the Bible without coloured-tinted glasses
- _____
- _____
- _____
- (4) Take the text in its _____

Israel and the Church: Different or the same?

- If we believe in a _____, we have to believe the church and Israel as _____
 - This means that God has a _____ plan for each of them
 - Leads to a _____ view
- If we believe in an _____, we have to believe that the church can be spiritualised as Israel, so _____
 - This means that God uses the _____ plan for both of them
 - Leads to an _____ or _____ view
- _____ = the belief that, regarding Israel and the promises made to Israel in the OT, those promises would not be fulfilled through the literal nation/ state of Israel, but through the church (as the spiritual Israel)
- The implication of one's interpretation of the Abrahamic Covenant:
 - It involved _____ (Genesis 12:2)
 - _____
 - It involved _____ (Genesis 12:3)
 - _____
 - It involved _____ (Genesis 15:18-21)
 - _____
 - The Abrahamic covenant is an _____ promise, dependent upon _____ not _____
 - Thus, the Abrahamic Covenant is to _____, not the _____

The Second Coming of Christ

Definition = _____

The Biblical basis is seen in both the Old and New Testament

- Old Testament Predictions (Genesis 3:15, Job 19:25-26; Psalm 2:8-9; Isaiah 66:15; Daniel 2:44-45; Zechariah 14:4; Malachi 4:5; Jude 14-15)
- New Testament Predictions (Matthew 24:30; 25:31-41; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:6-9; 2 Peter 3-4, 10; Revelation 19:11-16)

The physical nature of Jesus' Second Coming

- Acts 1:9-11 – _____
- Revelation 1:7 – _____

Five reasons why the Second Coming is necessary

- (1) _____
- (2) _____ (1 Corinthians 15:24-26)
- (3) _____ (Hebrews 2:14; Revelation 20:10)

- Comments on Satan: _____

- (4) _____ (Revelation 21:1-2)
 - Comments on the New Heaven, New Earth & New Jerusalem: _____

- (5) _____ (Revelation 20:11-15)
 - Comments on the Great White Throne Judgement: _____

The Millennial Kingdom

Definition = _____

- Described in Revelation 20:1-10 as _____
- Described in Daniel 2:44-45 as _____

This is promised to

- _____ in 2 Samuel 7:12-17; 23:5
 - Under oath in Psalm 89:34-37
- _____ in Luke 1:32; Micah 5:2; Isaiah 9:6-7; Daniel 2:44
 - Reaffirmed to the _____ in Luke 22:29-30
- Predicted in the _____ and _____
 - Psalm 2; 45; 110; Isaiah 2:1-5; 4:1-6; 11:1-9; 12:1-6; 30:18-26; 35:1-10; 60, 61:3-62; 66; Jeremiah 23:3-8; 32:37-44; Ezekiel 40-48; Daniel 2:44-45; 7:13-14; 12:2-3; Micah 4:1-8; Zechariah 12:10-14:21
- In the _____: “Thy Kingdom Come”
 - Matthew 6:10, 13; Acts 1:6; Psalm 45-48
- This rule is described in _____
 - Rule of a rod of iron in Revelation 12:5; 19:15
 - Every knee will bow in Philippians 2:6-11

Premillennialism = the belief that the Second Coming of Christ occurs before He establishes His kingdom upon the earth; referring to a literal 1,000 year reign of Christ

- _____ premillennialism = the belief that the Second Coming of Christ will precede the Millennium and that the church has replaced Israel as God’s covenant people
- _____ premillennialism = the belief that the Second Coming of Christ will precede the Millennium and that God will still give the nation of Israel the land described in Genesis 15:18
- Why does Calvary Chapel hold a futurist view?
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____

The Great Tribulation (also known as _____) = a seven-year period of tribulation (God’s wrath upon a Christ-rejecting world) on earth culminating in the battle of Armageddon

- Scriptures that address the _____ of the tribulation: Isaiah 24:1-6; 34:1-4; Jeremiah 30:7; Daniel 9:24; Joel 1:15; 2:2; Zephaniah 1:14-18; Revelation 3:10;

11:18; 14:7 15

- This is the time the _____ and great persecution for the _____
 - The antichrist is _____ (Daniel 7-9), _____ (2 Thessalonians 2) and the _____ (Revelation 13)
 - At the beginning of the tribulation, _____
 - At the middle of the week, _____
 - At the end of the tribulation, _____

Postmillennialism = the belief that the Second Coming of Christ will occur after the Millennium; the Millennium isn't a literal 1,000 reign of Christ, but an extended period of time led by the church

Amillennialism = the belief that there will be no Millennium before the end of the world, but the Millennium symbolizes Christ's reign in the lives of His people from the beginning of the church until His Second Coming

The Rapture

Definition = _____

- The phrase, "_____" used in 1 Thessalonians 4:17 is the Greek word *harpazo* which can be literally translated, "to snatch up violently."
- Scriptures on the rapture include John 14:1-3; 1 Corinthians 15:51-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Philippians 3:20-21; 2 Thessalonians 2:1

Three Main Views on the Rapture

- (1) _____ = the church is raptured or taken out of the earth before the tribulation begins
 - This view draws a distinction in the Scriptures between the _____ and the _____ (separated by the 7-year tribulation)
 - In John 14:3, it teaches Jesus taking us to _____

- In 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, identifies the idea of being _____ in the air
- Revelations 19 has the saints _____ from heaven
- Support for this view is found in 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 5:9-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8; Nahum 1:2; Revelation 6:16-17; Luke 21:35-36
- Argument of imminency = _____
 - See Matthew 24:36; Mark 13:32
- Revelation 3:10 – *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.*
 - Promise of _____, of not facing tribulation
 - We are told that the text in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 is designed to bring _____
- (2) _____ or _____ Rapture = the church is raptured or taken out of the earth at the end of the first 3 ½ year of the tribulation

- (3) _____ = the church is raptured or taken out of the earth at the end of the tribulation

Books for Additional Reading

Living by the Book, by Howard G. Hendricks and William D. Hendricks
Things to Come, by J. Dwight Pentecost
The Tribulation and the Church, by Chuck Smith
The Rapture Question, by John Walvoord
The Final Drama, by John Walvoord
Exploring the Major Views On Eschatology with Nick Cady, by Good Lion Podcast
Four Views on the book of Revelation, by C Marvin Pate
Basic Theology, by Charles Ryrie