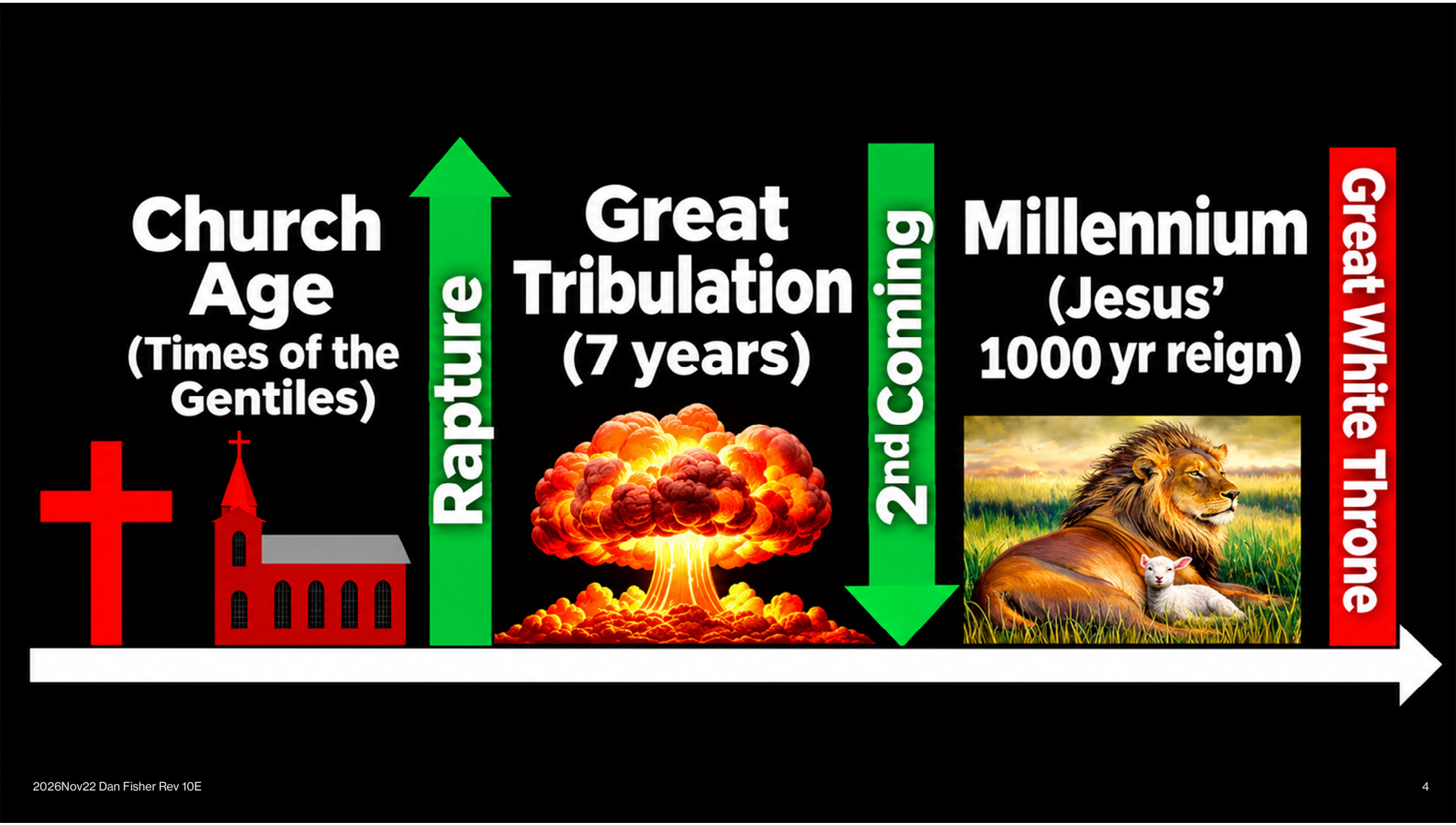

REVELATION
THE STORY OF THE LAST DAYS
Part 10E: All about the Rapture

“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

Two key phrases we're analyzing in Rev 3:10

- "keep you from"
- "hour of temptation which shall come upon the whole world"


Church Age
(Times of the Gentiles)
Rapture
Great Tribulation
(7 years)
2nd Coming
Millennium
(Jesus' 1000 yr reign)
Great White Throne



“keep you from”

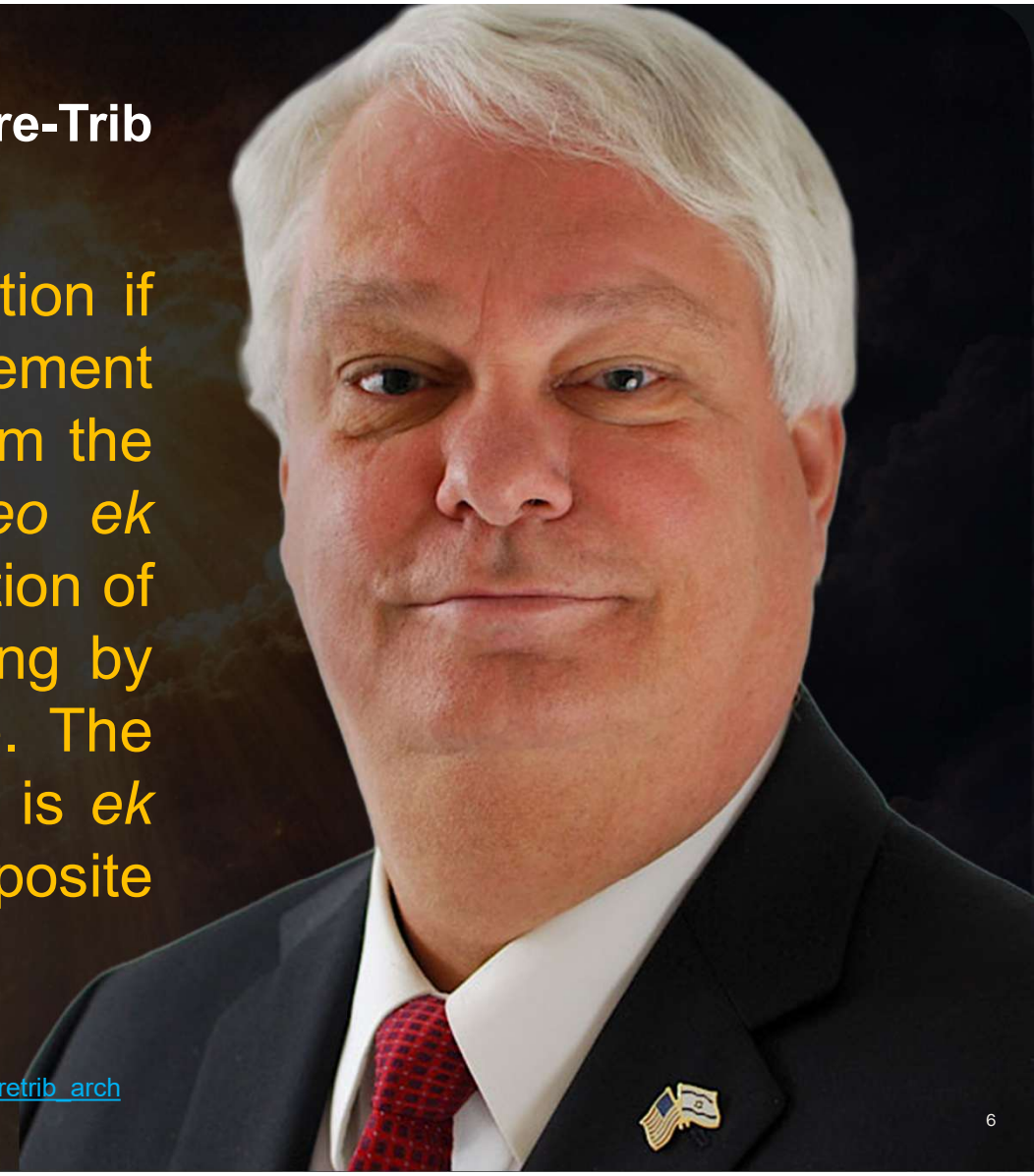
Greek = *tereo ek*

tereo = preservation

ek = out/removal from

Dr. Thomas D. Ice, Exec Dir, Pre-Trib Research Ctr:

"*Tereo ek* is the best possible option if our Lord wanted to make a statement that would exclude the church from the tribulation. Only the phrase *tereo ek* would convey the absolute protection of the church from the hour of testing by keeping them 'out from' this time. The preposition teaming up with *tereo* is *ek* (out of), which produces the composite thought, 'keep out'."

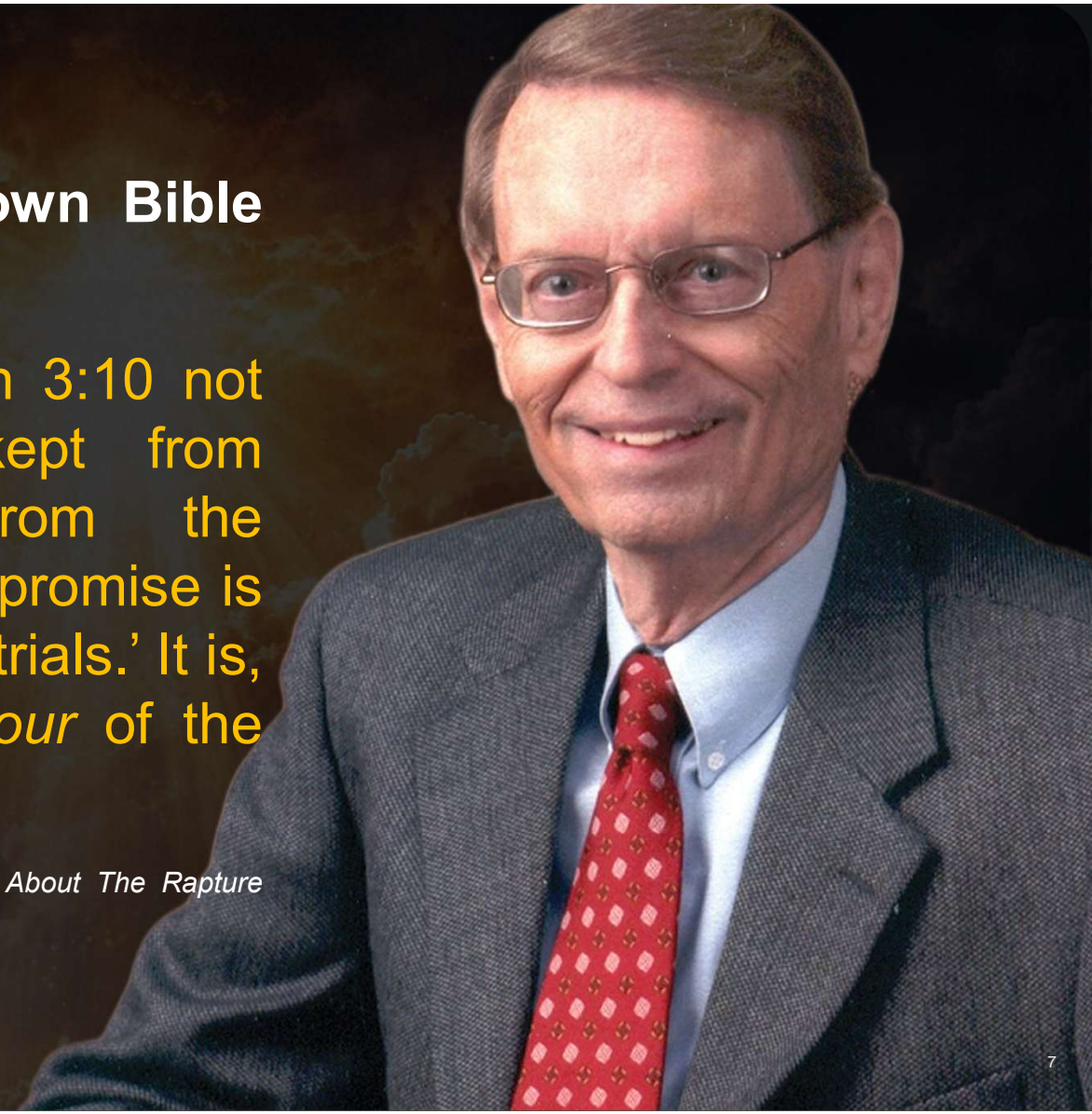


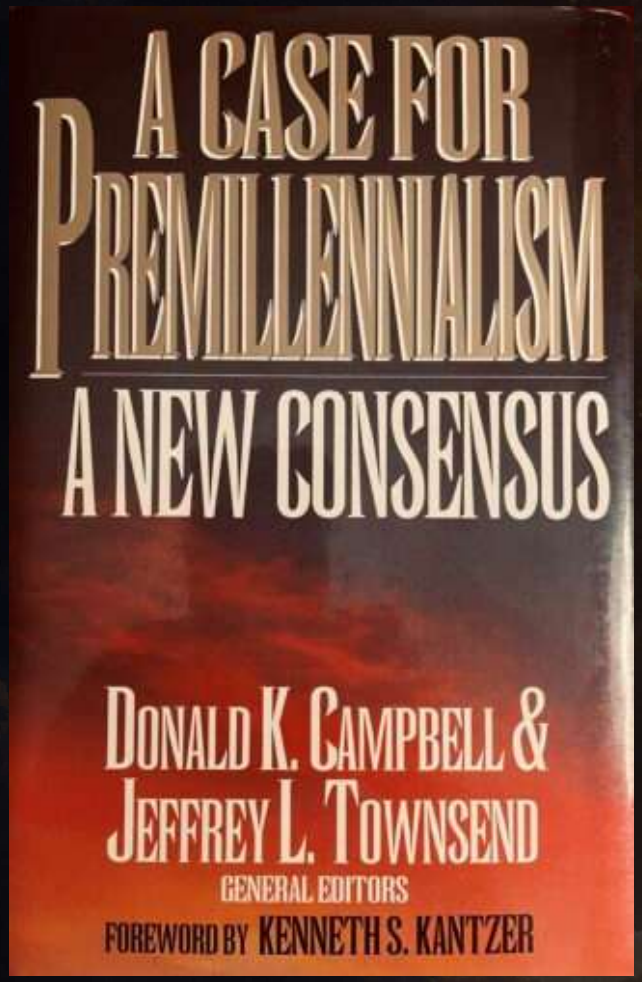
"Kept From the Hour," May 2009, Liberty University
https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1014&context=pretrib_arch

Dr. Charles C. Ryrie, renown Bible scholar:

"[T]he promise of Revelation 3:10 not only guarantees being kept from Tribulation trials but from the Tribulation period itself. The promise is not, 'I will keep you from the trials.' It is, 'I will keep you from the *hour* of the trials.'"

Come Quickly, Lord Jesus: What You Need To Know About The Rapture (Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1996), p. 135.





Dr. Jeffrey Townsend, studied extensively the use of *ek* in the New Testament & concluded:

"This study of *ek* throughout its linguistic history, & especially its usage in the New Testament, … establishes the pretribulational position as a bona fide grammatical possibility. To understand *tereo ek* as indicating preservation in an outside position is well within the bounds of its linguistic history & usage. Rev 3:10 may be paraphrased, 'Because you have held fast the word which tells of My perseverance, I also will preserve you in a position outside the hour of testing.'"

"The Rapture in Revelation 3:10" in Thomas Ice and Timothy Demy, editors, *When The Trumpet Sounds: Today's Foremost Authorities Speak Out on End-Time Controversies* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1995), p. 373, 375.

John A. Sproule, New Testament scholar:

"The phrase *tereo ek* is used one other place in John's New Testament writings, Jn 17:15 – "I do not ask Thee to take them out of the world, but to *keep them from* the evil one." Even though the first half of the verse says that Christ will not take believers out of the world, the second half says that they will be totally protected from the evil one (Satan). The meaning of *tereo ek* is that Christ is praying that His disciples would be kept *away from* and *out of* the power of the evil one and it is *not* implying that 'the evil once had power over them (which is a self-evident truth).'"



In Defense of Pre-Tribulationism: A Review of Robert Gundry's "The Church and the Tribulation" (Winona Lake, IN: BMH Books, 1980), p. 27.

- **Believers have been delivered from the power of Satan**

"to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God" Acts 26:18

"He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love," Col 1:13

- **Unbelievers are captive to Satan's power**

"The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers" 2 Cor 4:4

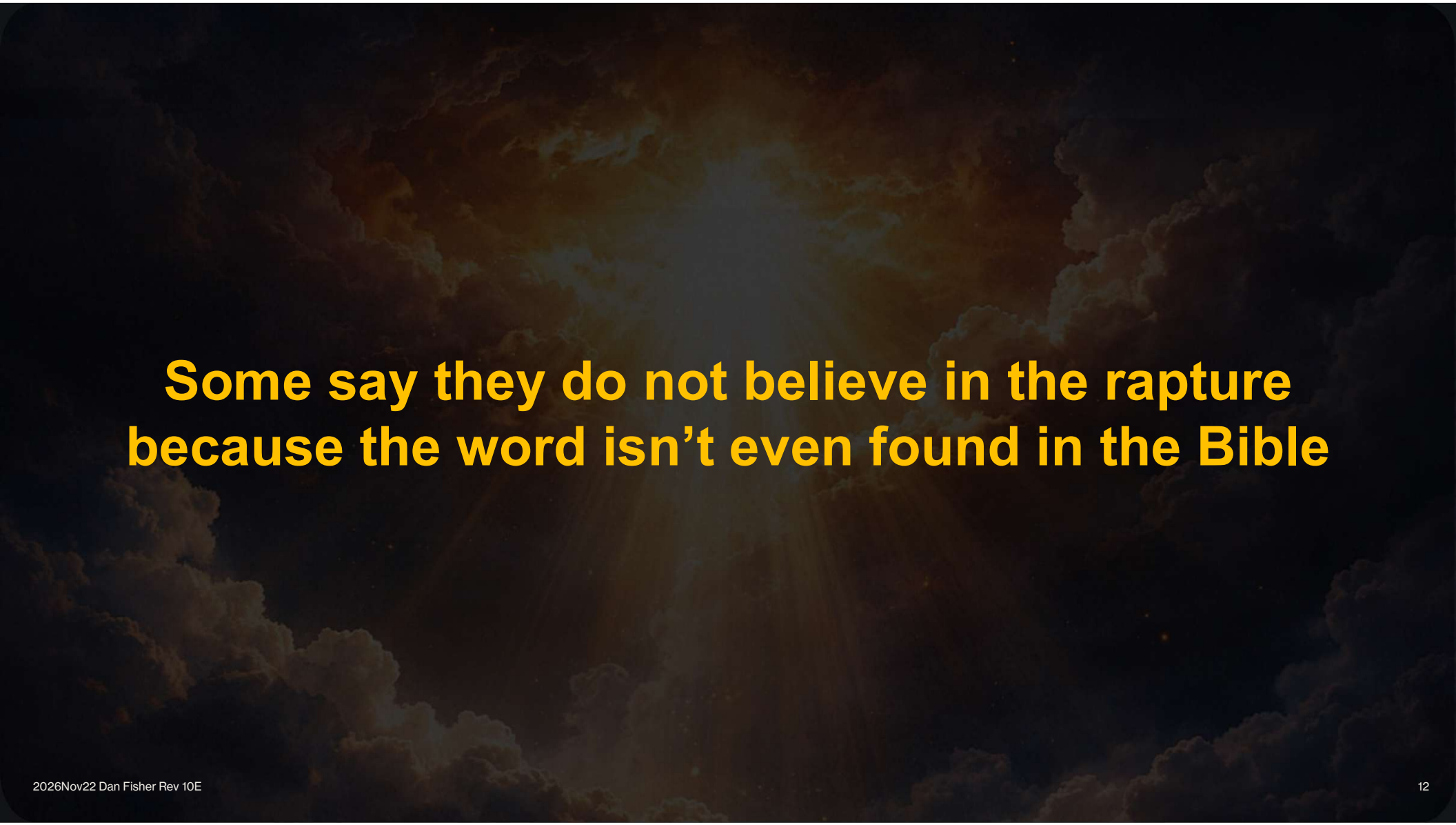
"in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience," Eph 2:2

"the whole world is under the control of the evil one" 1 Jn 5:19

If Rev 3:10 is understood to teach that believers are saved “in” & “through” the Grt Trib, that is a contradiction because other verses in Revelation teach that many Grt Trib believers will be martyred:

“I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. **10** And they cried with a loud voice, saying, ‘How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?’” Rev 6:9-11

“there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. … **14** ‘These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.’” Rev 7:9;14


Some say they do not believe in the rapture
because the word isn’t even found in the Bible

That is correct – technically

- However, "**rapture**" is found in the Latin Vulgate Bible
- It translates the Greek, *harpazo,* in 1 Thess 4:17 with the Latin *rapiemur* or *rapturo* – meaning "carrying off," "transport," or "snatching away"

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord." 1 Thess 4:16-17


Why the rapture?

1. Jesus said that some would miss the great tribulation

"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

"Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." Lk 21:36

2. The great tribulation is for Israel

"Seventy weeks [490 yrs] are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy." Dan 9:24

"Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob's [Israel's] trouble, but he shall be saved out of it." Jer 30:7

3. God will not finish His work with Israel until after He is finished working through the Gentile church

"And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled." Lk 21:24

"blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in." Rom 11:25

"has God cast away His people? Certainly not! … [2] God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. … [26] And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; [27] For this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins."

Rom 11:1,2,26-27

4. The Rapture only involves believers – the return of Jesus involves unbelievers

“we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” 1 Thess 4:15-17

Contrast with Rev 19:11-21

5. Jesus taught that there will be two resurrections

"Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice [29] and come forth – those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation." Jn 5:28-29

"But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. [6] Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years." Rev 20:5-6

6. Christians are not the children of wrath

"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them." Jn 3:36

"Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come." 1 Thess 1:10

"For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ," 1 Thess 5:9

"Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!" Rom 5:9

Examples: Noah, Lot, Israelites in Egypt

7. Paul taught the church would be taken out before the tribulation

“concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of the Lord had come. 3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. 5 Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?” 2 Thess 2:1-5

8. The anti-Christ cannot be revealed until the "hindering force" is removed

"And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming." 2 Thess 2:6-8

9. The imminent return of Christ is a major New Testament teaching

“Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. 8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.” Js 5:7-8

“But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.” 1 Pet 4:7

“Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.” 1 Jn 2:18

10. Believers should be looking for Christ – not the Anti-Christ

"looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ," Titus 2:13

"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, **25** not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." Heb 10:24-25

11. What comes down must first go up

- Believers come down to the earth when Jesus returns – Rev 19:14
- So they had to first go up before they could come down – 1 Thess 4:17