



Bible Q&A

Greentown Baptist Church

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

1. Some believe the rapture will happen at a designated time. Others believe it's when a certain amount of people are saved. Which one is correct?

- a. God has revealed his prophetic _____ to us. Dan. 9:24-27
 - We are currently in a parenthesis of time and the rapture will start this final prophetic week (70th week - known as the Tribulation period).
- b. The rapture will take place when the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. Rom. 11:25
- c. God has appointed times for major prophetic events. Ecc. 3:1
 - God knows the times and the seasons. Acts 1:7
- d. Only God knows the day and the hour. Matt. 24:36
- e. Nowhere in the Bible do we see God wait for salvations before pouring out judgement.
- f. Where does this argument come from? _____
 - They believe that God has a fixed number of souls he will save, and once that quota is met, the rapture of the church will take place, especially Post-millennialists.
 - They will use 2 Peter 3:9 as a proof verse.
 - They take Matthew 24:14 out of context.

2. What do you think happens to believers that die for minutes or seconds and then are resuscitated? What do they see and what do they experience?

- a. Personal experiences of death and Heaven must be tested against _____, as the Bible, not subjective accounts, is the ultimate authority on such matters. 2 Pet. 1:16-19
 - Nobody in the bible that died and came back wrote about their experience, except maybe Paul. It's possible that Paul died and went to the third Heaven, but he could not talk about it. Acts 14:19-20; 2 Cor. 12:1-5
- b. Death is biblically defined as when someone's _____ leaves their body. Gen. 35:18
- c. God knows when someone is truly dead. (Mk. 5:35-39). He has the keys to death and hell. (Rev. 1:18). Man can be wrong!
- d. The biggest problem with stories of people that "died" and saw Heaven is that their experiences do not line up with the bible.
 - Some have claimed to have seen angels with wings, some have claimed to have wings themselves, some have claimed all people that have ever died are in Heaven, one claimed to have gone sliding on rainbows, and another to have seen Jesus in jeans.
- e. If a believer "dies" for a few minutes, they could be in a state similar to sleep.
 - The bible often likens death to sleep. Jn. 11:11; Mat. 9:24; Acts 7:60

- f. The stories of those who claimed to have seen heaven, if they don't line up with scripture, could possibly be dreams, or made-up stories.

3. Is the tribulation 3.5 years or 7 years?

- a. We know that Daniel's 70th week is a week of _____, which is split into two 3.5 year sections. Dan. 9:24-27

- The church age is a parenthesis in time before the final week plays out in the tribulation.

Some would argue that the Tribulation only has 3.5 years left and not 7 years since the timetable shown outside of Daniel 9 is 42 months (Rev. 11:2-3); 1,260 days (Rev. 12:6), a time, times, and half a time (Rev. 12:14); a time, times, and the dividing of a time (Dan. 7:25).

- b. The 4 seals of Revelation 6:1-8 line up with the beginning of sorrows in Matthew 24:4-8 before the Great Tribulation kicks off.
- c. It seems that the 2 prophets in Revelation are preaching for the first 3.5 years and then are killed at the midway point. Rev. 11:3, 7
- d. The antichrist comes in _____ and with flatteries (Dan. 11:24) which is not how the abomination of desolation is described. Mat. 24:15-21
- e. While I wouldn't say this is an impossibility, there are many problems that I see with this particular belief.
 - In order to believe this, you must say "the Messiah the prince" is talking about Jesus' baptism. Dan. 9:25
 - There is no covenant confirmed by Judas. Dan. 9:27
 - There was no sacrifice or oblation ceased when Christ was killed. Dan. 9:27
 - We know that the abomination of desolation is the midway point of Daniel's 70th week (Dan. 9:27). This would mean that the temple would be up and ready for the antichrist to sit in at the rapture.