



Scriptures and Doctrine :: The End of the Rapture or the Rapture at the end

The End of the Rapture or the Rapture at the end - posted by Onesimus4God (), on: 2007/9/17 11:08

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

Opinions are as varied as there are people to ask them of. Left behind books made a couple men an awful lot of money. From the best that I can find through research, the "rapture" doctrine was invented by a Jesuit who had a Jewish pen name. When I learned this, I was amazed that in all my years of catholic school, not a word can I remember being mentioned about "rapture".

The word rapture is not in the bible. It means, "catching away". That principle is mentioned by Paul in the bible.

1 Thessalonians 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

But when does it occur? Paul gives us some clues. He says there will be a shout from heaven, a voice of the archangel, and the trumpet of God will sound. Paul says that the dead in Christ shall rise first. So, in order for there to be a rapture, there must also be a "resurrection".

If you read the last half of chapter 19 in the book of Revelation, you will see that in time, we are at the end of the 7 year tribulation. Satan is bound for a thousand years. Then as chapter 20 opens, we find that those who are alive at His coming, which is at the end of the tribulation period, and those who were slain for their faith during the tribulation, will rule with Christ for 1000 years.

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

This is not difficult to understand. Those who were slain for their faith will rise from the dead. Then John makes this statement, "this is the first resurrection".

Now, surely there can't be more than one "first resurrection". The first resurrection mentioned in the bible is clearly at the end of the trib at the second coming of Jesus. The logical conclusion then is that there can be no pre-trib resurrection, since there can only be one first resurrection and it occurs clearly at the end of the trib.

To me, this was a great discovery and revelation. It finally settled the issue in my spirit and I have a real peace about it. This, to me, is just another reason why reading the bible is so important. It is the one of the blessings of the Holy Spirit living in us, to lead us and guide us into all truth.

Now, a sudden removal of all true Biblical believers in a rapture would certainly be a most spectacular event (sign) to both those departing and those who remain on the earth. Therefore, we would expect Jesus to include such an event (sign) in his prophetic answers to the questions about the "end of this age" and "His coming." There would certainly be no point in His disguising or hiding such an important thing, after all, why would Christians have to know much about the end of time and the "great tribulation" if we are not going to be here?

Jesus chose specifically to not pray for a rapture:

John 17:15 "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

Examples of Jesus telling about the wicked being taken and the righteous left:

a) Matt 24:37-40 "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.³⁸ "For as in the days before the flood, they (the wicked) were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark (Noah and family entered the ark 7 days before the flood), ³⁹ "and (they — the wicked) did not know until the flood came and took them (the wicked) all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.⁴⁰ "Then two men will be in the field: one (wicked) will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ "Two women will be grinding at the mill: one (wicked) will be taken and the other left.⁴² "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. (NKJ)

b) Luke 17:26-27 "And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:

²⁷ "They (the wicked) ate, they (the wicked) drank, they (the wicked) married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them (the wicked) all.

Luke 17:34-37 "I tell you, in that night there will be two men in one bed: the one will be taken and the other will be left.³⁵ "Two women will be grinding together: the one (the wicked) will be taken (destroyed) and the other left.³⁶ "Two men will be in the field: the one will be taken (destroyed) and the other left."³⁷ And they answered and said to Him, "Where, Lord?" So He said to them, "Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together." (NKJ)

c) 2 Pet 2:4-9 For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; ⁶ and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; ⁷ and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked⁸ (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)--⁹ then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, (NKJ)

Examples of Jesus saying that the taken ones are devoured :

a) Luke 17:37 And they answered and said to Him, "Where, Lord?" So He said to them, "Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together." (NKJ) (eagles = vultures = large bird that lives chiefly on decaying flesh of a dead body)

b) Rev 19:17-18 ¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, ¹⁸ "that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great." (NKJ)

c) The taken ones cannot be Christians because they are to be "alive and remain" 1 Thess 4:15-17

Four Examples of wicked taken 'out' of the earth and destroyed and righteous 'remain':

1) Matt 13:37-43 He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ "The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. ³⁹ "The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. ⁴⁰ "Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. ⁴¹ "The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, ⁴² "and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ "Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear! (NKJ)

2) Luke 17:28-30 ²⁸ Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; ²⁹ "but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. ³⁰ "Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed. (NKJ)

3) Matt 13:47-50 ⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea ("multitudes of people" Rev 17:15) and gathered some of every kind, ⁴⁸ "which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away.⁴⁹ "So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, ⁵⁰ "and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth." (NKJ)

4) 1Thes 5:2-4 ² For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. ³ For when they (the wicked) say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. ⁴ But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. (NKJ) (If we were not going to be "here" this passage makes no sense at all.)

The Elect (believers) are in the Tribulation because the days must be shortened for them:

1) Mark 13:19-20 "For in those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. ²⁰ "And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days. (also Matt 24:21) (NKJ)

2) Luke 18:7 "And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with the m? (NKJ)

3) Rom 8:33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. (NKJ)

4) Col 3:12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, long suffering NKJ)

5) Titus 1:1 Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, (NKJ)

6) The elect are not Jewish evangelists but all believers

Why shorten the Tribulation days for the 'elect' if the believers are raptured away from it? The believers are in the tribulation, that is why it must be shortened for them.

Many people believe that the bible teaches that Israel signing a peace accord with the arabs starts the 7 year tribulation period. Read your newspaper. Watch Communist News Network (CNN). What if this happens and there is no rapture. What will this do to your "faith"? Most who argue for a pre-trib rapture agree there will be a tribulation period like no other as described above by Jesus Himself. Is your faith strong enough to go through it?

Some argue that the word church does not appear in Revelation after chapter 3:17, so it must be raptured. Oh? Who, pray tell are the saints, but the church itself? If the church is raptured, who are all these saints mentioned in Revelation? Please read the verses below and key in on the word "saints".

Rev 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odors, which are the prayers of saints.

Rev 8:3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. Rev 8:4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

Rev 11:18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

Rev 13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

Rev 13:10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Rev 15:3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true thy ways, thou King of saints.

Rev 16:6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.

Rev 17:6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Rev 18:24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

Rev 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

Now, ask yourself, more, ask God, where are the saints during the tribulation?

I hope this helps answer some of your questions. When people try to read into the bible what it does not actually say, trouble and false doctrine are sure to follow. So be careful about your resources of information. Ask God to show you His truth found in His Word. If it does not line up with His Word, it probably is not "His Word".

Friends, I know there are many well known ministers today who preach and believe in the Pre-Trib rapture of the church. I dare not question their sincerity or their good intentions. I believe they are teaching and preaching what they have been taught as honestly as they can. But are they following the whole counsel of God's Word, or the traditions of men? Jesus said that when we follow after the traditions of men, we are like the blind leading the blind, they both fall into a ditch. Are you sure you know what is going to happen when the trib begins? Are you ready? Am I? Lord helps us be ready and walking in the Light. Amen.

....the least of all since Paul,

"O"

Re: The End of the Rapture or the Rapture at the end, on: 2007/9/17 14:53

Brother "O", you are a God send.

Not to puff you up - but this message is "the greatest need of the hour". Undeniably. Never has a "word" been more necessary than this - truthfully - never.

Please see what Tim LaHaye and company are doing with their money and with this pre-trib lie that only came about around 1826 and fit the puzzle pieces together.

<http://www.google.com/search?q=council+of+national+policy&rls=com.microsoft:en-us&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&startIndex=&startPage=1>

Please forgive the size of this URL.

This is a very powerful group that has met with the President not that long ago and when the 18 of them, that were there came out, they were all whooping it up about attacking Iran and sending us into WW3 and having Russia then to attack US.

Excuse me - but why do I not see that as something to "whoop" about and why do I see it all as LaHaye and Company trying to self-fulfill prophecy?

Yes, this CNP has the Christians by the nose and is extremely influential in exactly what they are titled to be - The Council of NATIONAL POLICY.

Jesus warns us to be as wise as Serpents but as Harmless as Doves.

Thank you.

Re: - posted by ccchhrrriiisss (), on: 2007/9/17 15:22

Hi HE_Reigns...

Quote:
-----Please see what Tim LaHaye and company are doing with their money and with **this pre-trib lie** that only came about around 1826 and fit the puzzle pieces together.

Do you really feel the need to call the belief and preaching of a pre-trib "rapture" a "lie?" You certainly don't have to agree with the notion of a "pre-trib rapture." But do you feel so spiritually pretentious as to disrespect the view held by many others by using such a strong word? How would you feel if they called your belief in a post-trib "rapture" a "lie?"

I am both amazed and perplexed by this sort of nonsense! We are not talking about a doctrinal view that is universally clear from the Scriptures. Even the most ardent pre-trib or post-trib believers would have to admit that it takes some sort of honest and scholarly assumption to decide upon a belief (either way) about the "rapture." These sort of beliefs about prophecy are certainly not "foundational" in the sense that they are not necessary to enter the Kingdom of God. Yet we sometimes feel so inclined to label believers or preachers who profess such a belief (either way) as "heretics," "infidels" or, in this case, LIARS.

When I am asked what I believe about something as irrelevant (in terms of eternal salvation) as the timing of the "rapture," I usually confess that I don't know what to believe. I am somewhat persuaded that a "rapture" might take place BEFORE the time of great tribulation. I am also persuaded that a "rapture" might simply be our transformation AFTER the time of tribulation (at the Lord's return). Do we honestly believe (as some have insisted in the past) that true believers with a relationship with the Lord will be lost because they are waiting on a pre-trib rapture (or vice versa)? I thought that our relationship with the Lord was made of "sterner stuff" than that.

Regardless, I am familiar with both sides of this doctrinal argument. I tend to hold to Keith Green's "pray for pre-trib but prepare for post-trib" viewpoint. In fact, all that I am CERTAIN of is that the Lord is coming. He will one day return to this Earth and gather His people unto Himself. Whether or not that means that Christ will appear in the clouds and gather us BEFORE or AFTER the tribulation is of no matter. What matters is that we remain intimately dedicated to Him at all times.

Of course, I don't believe that we should be "preaching" about the timing of the "rapture" (pre or post) unless we are quick to mention the alternate views of the Church -- including the Scriptural rationale for those beliefs. But we should ALWAYS be extremely careful when using the "L" words (lie, lies, lying, liar, etc...) in regards to sincere and inconsequential

matters of doctrine.

:~)

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/17 16:54

ccchhhrrriiss,

Good post! The pre- post discussion could be much more fruitfull if the post trib crowd could simply debate with out character assassination. according to them ALL "pre" believers got their doctrine from tim lahaye and are somehow connected with some little girls dream in 1826.

I personally never knew this untill I was told by them that my biblical view was connected and thus tainted by 2 things I never heard of before.

Jesus WILL come for his bride. This is the rapture.

Jesus takes his bride to heaven

Jesus and the bride attend the marriage supper of the lamb

Jesus comes back with the saints on white horses to defeat the antichrist on the earth.

OK now look at the parable of the 10 virgins and the marriage supper of the lamb and the army on white horses.

this is powerfull stuff!

.....David

Re:, on: 2007/9/17 17:02

Sorry to have upset you brother, but I haven't much else to say except that after reading the ECF, the "origin" of the belief and every verse in the Bible on the last days - yes, it is a lie.

And I feel no harm done to myself whatsoever if others would consider what we believe to be a lie. I don't take offense or take it personal when anything I believe is called a lie. No, not at all Sir.

The Lord wrote enough about the last days for us to 'know' and we're told 'to know'.

Sorry if we disagree, but yes I am adamant on this, because unless one is holding "the testimony of Jesus which is the spirit of prophecy" - they're going to have a very rough time discerning the times they are living in and I would be willing to wager a major bet - that if Keith Green should not have been killed in that plane crash, that he'd have come right out and taught eschatology differently by now.

I've known more men to change their view just within this last year alone, then I'd seen in over 40 years in the Church and since I've dug into this - I 'was' pre-trib many years ago.

Something's happening out there - to cause this polar shift in men's eschatology.

Again, sorry that you are upset.

I'll leave this one link to explain a little more, but you are still free to believe as you choose.

http://www.geocities.com/lasttrumpet_2000/timeline/index.html

I cannot apologize for calling it a lie but I can say, that I feel badly that you are so upset.

Eschatology is not "irrelevant". Jesus, Paul, Peter, Jude and John and our O.T. Prophets certainly didn't think so in the slightest. Very far from it.

A least you ended it with a :~).

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/17 17:40

he reigns,

How do you reconcile 1 thess with the white horses in revelation. Do the saints rise up in the air to mount riderless horses and immediately return to earth?

thanks,...David

Re:, on: 2007/9/17 18:13

Dear Brother Onesimus4God.

Thank you for your post.

You have written down really good texts to support your understanding of this matter. And you raised some interesting points..

Some people here might not agree, but I think that there is no other way to confront something as important as this any other way.

Some people say that it is not important if we meet Jesus before or after the Tribulation, but I totally disagree.

firstly: As you said before, You believe all your life that at some point something should happen and it doesn't you might start questioning your faith. What else have I believed that isn't the truth?

Secondly: As Jesus mentioned before, this will be times that will be very difficult for the believer.

Matthew 24:22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

When Jesus said this I cannot but think how the disciples must have reacted. Here is Jesus, The loving saviour that always said comforting words to those around him. and now he is talking about terrible times. Times never seen before or after.

Matthew 24:7-13 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 "All these are the beginning of sorrows. 9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 "And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 "But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

But here is the promise:

He who endures to the End shall be saved..

It clearly tells me that at least some will be here until the very last moment.

And that is why it is very important for us to be prepared for this. For those who are preparing themselves to be part of this great tribulation is already going to be very difficult, I cannot imagine for the believer that thought he would be in heaven during all that, but instead find themselves facing something that they have never contemplated.

So, yes, I think it is very important to study the word of God and ask the guidance of the Holy Spirit for this will be times that if wasn't for God's mercy to the Elects no flesh would survive. We are not talking about a man made war here, this is war Between God and Satan and Satan knows he has lost already. So if you a believer, if you gave your life to Christ, he is going to be after you like a angry lion for he knows his time is short.

Thank you Brother for voicing something that will make us go to the Book in prayer to find what God is trying to Tell us now, so we can prepare for those terrible days.

And do not forget.

He who endures to the End shall be saved.

A real pleasure to have you here.....

Pre-Trib Rapture? i think not... - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/17 18:15

dear saints Greetings in Jesus' Name by WHose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

that there is a rapture, a catching away for me is a foregone conclusion, it will happen. The matter of the placement of this is what is in question. i never bought into the pre-trib rapture in spite of seeing many proponents of it in t.v., reading the left behind series and so on. Something about it always bothered me. Why was the book of Revelation given to the Church if the Church didn't have any part in the days it speaks of? Why did those days have to be shortened for the Elect if the Elect aren't there? When did Jesus say He would come in secret for the Church and then again in triumph? i thought there was only 1 second coming. also Paul said that in the twinkling of an eye we will change, that's enough time to be caught up to heaven and get dressed for the descent to Jerusalem, give antichrist the boot and celebrate this Victory. if Jesus suffered so, dare we think we can avoid suffering especially since we are called to fellowship with Him in His suffering so that we can share with His Glorification? Noah was a righteous man, but he wasn't saved out of the flood but rather THROUGH it. Daniel a righteous man, whose Righteousness is spoken of by God Himself to Ezekiel, wasn't spared the captivity of Babylon but was preserved through it. Ezekiel also, a priest and a righteous man was too carried to exile...but God preserved him THROUGH it. Even in the letter to the Church at Smyrna which was to be saved from the hour of trial, it is not a saving out of, but a saving THROUGH the time of trial. i know we are not appointed to Wrath, but surely God in His Infinite Wisdom and Power even in the midst of Him pouring out His Wrath remains able to preseve His Saints through this and keep Himself from harming them. Now the enemy on the other hand will rage against us but even so, is God unable to keep us even through this. i thought if God was for us, who could be against us? What about nothing being able to separate us from the Love of God in Jesus...hunger, persecution, death, life, angel, demon, height depth etc...all are rendered impotent...or do we not trust God enough that He will pull us through? bro Psalm do you trust God enough to bring you through the trib? how about you bro Chris? bro O? bro He_Reigns? i belive He can and will. i think bro O brought up some pertinent things for consideration for the pre-trib camp which are quite compelling...May God make it plain to us all.

Now about the MArrriage feast of the Lamb, bro Psalm1, we were there, we are there now and will be there. We are saved from before the foundations of the world and this is the security of our Salvation, God has Saved us and we are hidden in Him now and with Him now in Heavenly Places like Paul said. We also await the return of the Messiah to take us Home. Heaven is not a place where things happen in a linear fashion as we are accustomed to here on earth. in Heaven past present and future occur simultaneously. The marriage feast of the lamb doesn't require time as we know it to pass and then those who are there get up and come back so to say that we have to be there first and then come back so there must be a rapture is a wrong conclusion. The truth is, if we see ourselves as always awaiting Heaven, we've not grasped what it is Heaven is about, it is about being with God and unless you are with God on this side now, there is no point of looking forward to it because Heaven is a continuation of something which we must step into and already be walking in NOW.

let us consider Reveleation 7:

9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

who are these people?

**10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.
11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, 12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.**

now the answer:

13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? 14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. 17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

now these are all the saints, washed in the blood of Jesus from the very first, to the very last. This includes those who come through the trib, the whole lot including those who are Judged at the end of the Millenium and are found in the Book of Life. How come all of them are here in Heaven while the trib is raging? Heaven isn't so much a place we await but a place which clearly we must ever be in as Paul says we are seated in Heavenly Places with Jesus. clearly people will be Saved during the Trib and yet they are counted here already...

Paul talks of the rapture happening when Christ returns which is after the man of sin is revealed and many have fallen away. i think that the idea that many people await the rapture is speaking to this great falling away. More people expect to escape that be here during it all and so when that hope evaporates, many saints will jump ship...some will not return and will become betrayers and give up the Elect to persecution.

i'm a post tribber, perhaps because i know i own rapturing will be in a violent death, perhaps i'm thinking "ya'll had better be with me... :-P " all the same though, if i am wrong we have nothing to worry about as we will be caught away...but if God has spoken to us post-tribbers and we have heard rightly what He has said, then we're all in for a rough ride. Bless God though that He is more than able to preserve His Elect! That's good enough for me pre-mid-or-post trib!

Grace and Peace are ours in Him.AMEN.

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/17 18:22

He reigns,

The link "last trumpet" in my opinion is very disengenuous. It is actually the anti pre-trib website. 90% of the reading there is attacking the pre trib believers.

read the butcher job he does on the marriage supper of the lamb, Then ask yourself why does he do this? Just the marriage supper item alone blows a hole in his doctrine big enough to sail a ship through.

...David

Re: Pre-Trib Rapture? i think not... - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/17 18:36

ironman,rev 19 refers to the wedding supper and it says HIS WIFE . now keep reading and you will find the white horses after the wedding supper. the reason for the rapture is specifically for the wedding supper. His bride becomes his wife in heaven.

...David

Re:, on: 2007/9/17 18:41

Hi David - yes, it is an anti-pre-trib site. He debates with the head of Tim LaHayes Pre-Trib Org..

About your first question up there - Yes, we "meet Him in the "air" and the dead in Christ rise first and we do not precede them - but they precede us in the "resurrection" and we all meet "in the air" as HE is Coming in the clouds, just like He left.

He only comes back once, with the clouds and the angels and the Glory and like a thief in the night - but only like a thief in the night to those who aren't "awake and watching" and with sufficient oil in their lamps. You don't need oil lamps "at" - "the brightness of His appearing" - only to see your way through the darkness that precedes His Coming.

As far as the marriage supper - could you give me the Scriptures that teach you about "it".

Thank you David.

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/17 19:03

he reigns, rev 19, also the parable of 10 virgins. Also if you go to last trumpet" you will see tims attempt to explain it away.

you never addressed the white horses.

Thanks,David

Re: - posted by TimmyJoe, on: 2007/9/17 19:32

The jews thought the messiah was coming to restore Israel and become king. When Jesus died they thought he couldn't be the messiah because he didn't do what the messiah was to do. They confused prophecies and didn't accept the true messiah. I believe that alot of folks do that with the rapture and second coming.

For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth , until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 2Th. 2:7,8

Something or someone has to be taken out of the way so the wickedness can be revealed. My bet is the bride of Christ. Are you looking for Christ or Anti-Christ?

-with love, Timmyjoe

Re: - posted by Eli_Barnabas (), on: 2007/9/17 20:29

Quote:

-----The link "last trumpet" in my opinion is very disengenuous. It is actually the anti pre-trib website. 90% of the reading there is attacking the pre trib believers.

read the butcher job he does on the marriage supper of the lamb, Then ask yourself why does he do this? Just the marriage supper item alone blows a hole in his doctrine big enough to sail a ship through.

The Last Trumpet website hosted by Tim Warner is an excellent website with top quality scholarship. I strongly disagree with you David. Tim Warner has done his homework, and for someone who has studied the pre-trib post-trib debate for many years, I have never seen any such good scholarship come from the pre-tribulational camp that even compares. I'm sorry you are getting upset, but I challenge you to check the Scriptures to see if what you believe is Biblical, or if it something you have been taught and hold onto emotionally. I've seen this happen in hundreds of cases.

Amen to this thread and amen to He_reigns.

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/17 21:54

Eli barnabas,You dont know me but you judge me to be upset and emotional.Tim warner has a anti pre trib website that attacks a segment of christianity that stands on solid scriptural ground.It is my utmost desire to be accurate and true to the truth as possible.

I could show him where he is wrong but guess what ? he is in too deep to listen.

people have Legitimate positions and the debate should be open.Too bad you have to resort to your tactics, I am sure we could learn from one another but when you call people names it destroys lively debate.

but then again i guess i can summarize that my questions do put the post trib position on shaky ground.

again I would say Look at his {Tim warner} mishandling of scripture and ask yourself. What is going on here?

Thanks ,David

Re:, on: 2007/9/18 3:52

Brother David, I think you took offense where Eli meant none at all. He's never called anyone "names" and he was only encouraging you to be open to an exchange of the Scriptures.

David, we all must be open to examining ALL of the Scriptures from the O.T. to the new and not just a few here and there.

That is what I for one have done and others here.

How can you say you could win a debate with a man who has posted pages that you haven't read - such as the one posted on page one about the accurate "origin" of the pre-trib teaching?

The Early Church and Early Church Fathers did not teach a pre-trib rapture.

Over 40 years of researching just this so-called Mystery and where it came from and yet, folks are too afraid to really look at the Biblical and Historical proofs.

Misunderstanding Eli has only closed off all communications on this thread that "O" started.

I don't think anyone truly read his post.

All doctrines must be backed up with every Scripture in the Bible that mentions that particular subject - in this case, the Last days and His Coming.

You have been "taught" pre-trib, just as I had been and I believed it and taught it in my Ministry. But then I began to find the verses that contradict a pre-trib doctrine and that is when I focused on this doctrine from cover to cover of my Bible. I was trying to 'prove' pre-trib and instead found out that I had been taught a teaching compiled by men based upon a very few of the Scriptures that speak about the last days. I found that the verses I was taught, were taken out of context and most were not taken literally, but "meanings" were being placed on them - such as Rev. 4 - that they claim is the rapture.

If you are not open to comparing Scripture for Scripture, but just insist that you could debate Tim Warner - then, it is no use to even try to answer any further questions, because you've admitted that your mind is settled on this issue and you are not open to compare Scripture with Scripture.

Read Eli's post again, at the least, and see that he did not call you names and that if you knew him at all, you'd find he is one of the most polite posters on this Forum.

That's all I can say.

I'd just like to post to the topic of this thread now and not to anyone but to the topic.

Commentary on -

MATTHEW 24:29-35 J.C. Ryle

But immediately after the oppression of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken; and then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky. Then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. He will send out his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together his elect ones from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

"Now from the fig tree learn this parable. When its branch has now become tender, and puts forth its leaves, you know that the summer is near. Even so you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Most certainly I tell you, this generation will not pass away, until all these things are accomplished. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

In this part of our Lord's prophecy, He describes His own second coming, to judge the world. This, at all events, seems to be the natural meaning of the passage. To take any lower view appears to be a violent straining of Scripture language. If the solemn words here used mean nothing more than the coming of the Roman armies to Jerusalem, we may explain away anything in the Bible. The event here described is one of far greater moment than the march of any earthly army. It is nothing less than the closing act of this dispensation, the second personal advent of Jesus Christ.

These verses teach us, in the first place, that when the Lord Jesus returns to this world, He shall come with peculiar glory and majesty. He shall come "in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." Before His presence the very sun, moon, and stars shall be darkened, and "the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

The SECOND personal coming of Christ shall be as different as possible from the FIRST. He came the first time as a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He was born in the manger of Bethlehem, in lowliness and humiliation. He took on him the form of a servant, and was despised and rejected of men. He was betrayed into the hands of wicked men, condemned by an unjust judgment, mocked, scourged, crowned with thorns, and at last crucified between two thieves. He

shall come the second time as the King of all the earth, with all royal majesty. The princes and great men of this world shall themselves stand before His throne to receive an eternal sentence. Before him every mouth shall be stopped, and every knee bow, and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. May we all remember this. Whatever ungodly men may do now, there will be no scoffing, no jesting at Christ, no infidelity at the last day. The servants of Jesus may well wait patiently. Their master shall one day be acknowledged King of kings by all the world.

These verses teach us, in the second place, that when Christ returns to this world, He will first take care of His believing people. He shall "send his angels," and "gather together his elect."

<https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/articles/index.php?view=article&aid=3593>

Re: - posted by hisremnant, on: 2007/9/18 8:03

Praise Jesus!! Lion of Judah!!

i think i will throw in my 2 cents.

In the Bible i never see God removing people from trials and tribulations. When we look at historical Christianity we never see that either.

Daniel, Meschak, Abednego, Schadrak, Mordecai, David, Paul, Peter, John, Anabaptists, puritans the list could go on and on.

My question to all those believing in a pre-trib Catching Away. What makes you so special????

And i will say this i am convicted that it is not a minor deception. i fear that many are expecting to avoid hardship etc. and will not be prepared for the fury of Satan. This will be their undoing. Yes-- Keep your lamps full and serve God with all the strength HE gives you. Prepare your hearts to cleave unto HIM so that you may endure to the end.

i will finish by saying that if there is going to be a pre-trib removal of the church. It better be coming REAL SOON.

Hisservant rich

Matthew 4:17

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/18 11:57

he reigns, I should not have taken the bait . but if I for example called you emotional and upset at your last post you would ask yourself {as i did} why is he doing this? It is a rabbit trail. It leads nowhere .

But what it does do is avoids answering my question.

I believe this is where the debate should be kept.

I would gladly with the post tribbers if my questions could be answered.

I would be happy to answer any questions about what i believe.

Is this a forum or a club of Like minded christians.

You like eli dont know me and yet you say I have been taught pre- trib.

I got saved in 1977 and I attended a church that TAUGHT A millennialism. I believe you call it something else. I think i was the only one in the church that believed diff. from them. I stuck my nose in the word and began to seek GOD for answers.

I dont need a little girls dream Mr lahye Mr warner or ANY man to tell me what i need to believe. I WILL listen to them and even ponder what they say. AND I WILL change or adjust my position GLADLY.

I personally cant believe that a group of christians so readily jumps on a band wagon that trumpets error based on accusations of dreams and church history to try and validate their position.

Look, I dont need to discredit the post tribbers to fortify my position.

To me post trib is a impossibility But i welcome anyone Justt the word. to open discussion.

THanks, David

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/18 12:21

his remnant, Jesus said pray that you would be counted worthy to escape the things that are about to come upon the earth.

You left out Noah. The ark represents heaven.

It looks like Jesus had an escapist mentality.

If you have trouble believing some are more special than others consider those that don't get any crowns to cast to the LORD.

YES HIS BRIDE IS SPECIAL.

Ask yourself a question.... If Jesus has a bride and he is to be united with his bride. Would not this possibly be the next event?

If it is, maybe the focus is not the tribulation period but JESUS AND HIS BRIDE.

I am a man but I am also the bride of CHRIST.

The 5 foolish virgins were not allowed in.

The 5 foolish were definitely NOT saying COME LORD JESUS.

Now doesn't it seem foolish to you to not look for the bridegrooms coming?

Thanks, David

Re: - posted by ccchhhrrriiisss (), on: 2007/9/18 13:06

Hi HE_Reigns...

Quote:

HE_Reigns wrote:

Sorry to have upset you brother, but I haven't much else to say except that after reading the ECF, the "origin" of the belief and every verse in the Bible on the last days - yes, it is a lie.

And I feel no harm done to myself whatsoever if others would consider what we believe to be a lie. I don't take offense or take it personal when anything I believe is called a lie. No, not at all Sir.

The Lord wrote enough about the last days for us to 'know' and we're told 'to know'.

Sorry if we disagree, but yes I am adamant on this, because unless one is holding "the testimony of Jesus which is the spirit of prophecy" - they're going to have a very rough time discerning the times they are living in and I would be willing to wager a major bet - that if Keith Green should not have been killed in that plane crash, that he'd have come right out and taught eschatology differently by now.

I've known more men to change their view just within this last year alone, then I'd seen in over 40 years in the Church and since I've dug into this - I 'was' pre-trib many years ago.

Something's happening out there - to cause this polar shift in men's eschatology.

Again, sorry that you are upset.

I'll leave this one link to explain a little more, but you are still free to believe as you choose.

http://www.geocities.com/lasttrumpet_2000/timeline/index.html

I cannot apologize for calling it a lie but I can say, that I feel badly that you are so upset.

Eschatology is not "irrelevant". Jesus, Paul, Peter, Jude and John and our O.T. Prophets certainly didn't think so in the slightest. Very far from it.

At least you ended it with a :-).

ccchhhrrriiisss wrote:

Do you really feel the need to call the belief and preaching of a pre-trib "rapture" a "lie?" You certainly don't have to agree with the notion of a "pre-trib rapture." But do you feel so spiritually pretentious as to disrespect the view held by many others by using such a strong word? How would you feel if they called your belief in a post-trib "rapture" a "lie?"

I am both amazed and perplexed by this sort of nonsense! We are not talking about a doctrinal view that is universally clear from the Scriptures. Even the most ardent pre-trib or post-trib believers would have to admit that it takes some sort of honest and scholarly assumption to decide upon a belief (either way) about the "rapture." These sort of beliefs about prophecy are certainly not "foundational" in the sense that they are not necessary to enter the Kingdom of God. Yet we sometimes feel so inclined to label believers or preachers who profess such a belief (either way) as "heretics," "infidels" or, in this case, LIARS.

When I am asked what I believe about something as irrelevant (in terms of eternal salvation) as the timing of the "rapture," I usually confess that I don't know what to believe. I am somewhat persuaded that a "rapture" might take place BEFORE the time of great tribulation. I am also persuaded that a "rapture" might simply be our transformation AFTER the time of tribulation (at the Lord's return). Do we honestly believe (as some have insisted in the past) that true believers with a relationship with the Lord will be lost because they are waiting on a pre-trib rapture (or vice versa)? I thought that our relationship with the Lord was made of "sterner stuff" than that.

Regardless, I am familiar with both sides of this doctrinal argument. I tend to hold to Keith Green's "pray for pre-trib but prepare for post-trib" viewpoint. In fact, all that I am CERTAIN of is that the Lord is coming. He will one day return to this Earth and gather His people unto Himself. Whether or not that means that Christ will appear in the clouds and gather us BEFORE or AFTER the tribulation is of no matter. What matters is that we remain intimately dedicated to Him at all times.

Of course, I don't believe that we should be "preaching" about the timing of the "rapture" (pre or post) unless we are quick to mention the alternate views of the Church -- including the Scriptural rationale for those beliefs. But we should ALWAYS be extremely careful when using the "L" words (lie, lies, lying, liar, etc...) in regards to sincere and inconsequential matters of doctrine.

I am not "offended" by your post. Rather, I felt frustrated by your choice of wording. The problem with your post was not that you *believe* that the teaching of a "pre-trib rapture" is a *lie*." The problem that I see is that you refrained from distinguishing your belief (or assumption) from truth. You have left no room for error. It seems that you feel 100% certain of something that, with our limited eschatology, cannot be completely determined by Scripture.

Do you see the problem with this? You have willfully criticized a sincere doctrinal belief that is accepted by many believers around the globe. You not only described the belief as "incorrect," but you have labeled it a "LIE." This makes the people that preach it "LIARS," and those who believe it "FOOLS."

Why is such a statement wrong? This goes far beyond the limited scope of the Scriptural or historical "defense" that you give for a "post-trib" rapture (or others give for a "pre-trib" rapture). The problem is that you are using the same bipolar argument that serves to separate the Body of Christ. You seem to feel so incredibly secure about your belief that you feel the liberty to slander all other doctrinal views pertaining to this issue.

Why is such bipolar rhetoric wrong? Because you leave no room for personal error. You have stated that you come from a "pre-trib" background. How certain were you about your "pre-trib" beliefs? Would you have felt the liberty to publicly state that post-trib Christians were "*believing a lie*?" Yet that is what you have done now that you have "seen the light" about the timing of the rapture.

It seems to me that "no man knows the day or the hour" -- including the Son of God (Matthew 24:36). If the "rapture" were to take place only after the beginning of the time of great tribulation (usually agreed upon as either 3 1/2 or 7 years -- by both pre and post believers alike), then don't you think that Jesus might have a good idea when He will return? In fact, it seems like ALL believers would be expecting Christ's return following the commencement of the time of tribulation (instead of "*an hour when we thinketh not*"). How about the Scripture in Revelation, where the Lord stated that He would "*keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth*" (Revelation 3:10). Your historical account states that the idea of a "pre-trib" rapture comes from a "vision" (or dream) of a young girl in 1826 (or 1830). Yet we have accounts of Ephraem the Syrian, an early Church deacon, spoke about a "pre-trib" rapture in his work *Hymns Against Heresies* (C. 373 A.D.). He stated, "*For all the saints and Elect of God are gathered, prior to the tribulation that is to come, and are taken to the Lord lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins.*"

"Post-trib" believers usually attribute the "last trumpet" of Revelation 11 with the trumpet mentioned by Paul in I Corinthians 15. Yet we have received no indication that these are the same trumpets or trumpet sounds. It is also interesting to note that I Corinthians was written many years before John's revelation on the Isle of Patmos. Some "post-trib" believers attribute their belief to the "Day of the Lord" argument (that the "thief in the night" rapture will occur on that great and dreadful day of the Lord (Armageddon). Yet Peter wrote about the Day of the Lord in which the Heavens and the Earth will be destroyed, which is almost universally accepted as following the 1000 year reign of Christ on Earth (II Peter 3:10-13). Is it possible that there is more than one "day of the Lord?" Or is it possible that the "day of the Lord" is longer than a single Earth day? Remember that Paul, in the same context that he preached about the "day of the Lord" also told us that "*God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ*" (I Thessalonians 5:1-9).

Why am I saying this? You are preaching something as FACT that, in my opinion, is not 100% completely clear from Scripture. However, you may in fact be correct. The rapture might take place AFTER the time of tribulation. But is there ANY DOUBT whatsoever that the rapture could possibly take place BEFORE the tribulation? If there is any doubt whatsoever, then you have done a disservice by labeling a belief in the pre-trib rapture a "LIE."

Currently, I am somewhat persuaded that the rapture MIGHT take place BEFORE the tribulation (which will take place either 3 1/2 or 7 years), at which point the Lord will return to the Earth, gathering those who died and remain during the tribulation to meet Him as He descends (at Megiddo). Following this, there will be a 1000 year time of peace (as believers reign with Christ over those who survived on the Earth). But regardless of what I believe, or whether or not I am right or wrong, I am quick to point out that this is merely my own persuasion and that I am well aware of possible flaws in such a belief. I should NEVER proclaim as FACT what is merely my own persuasion. In my opinion, the teaching of the rapture can only be taught from a perspective of deduction, assumption or persuasion. To teach otherwise would render one in danger of proclaiming something to be TRUTH that might not be, or to proclaim something as a LIE that might not be. Can we ever feel so secure about something that isn't completely clear from Scripture?

:-)

Re:, on: 2007/9/18 14:47

Quote:

-----I am not "offended" by your post. Rather, I felt frustrated by your choice of wording. The problem with your post was not that you believe that the teaching of a "pre-trib rapture" is a lie." The problem that I see is that you refrained from distinguishing your belief (or assumption) from truth. You have left no room for error. It seems that you feel 100% certain of something that, with our limited eschatology, cannot be completely determined by Scripture.

Do you see the problem with this? You have willfully criticized a sincere doctrinal belief that is accepted by many believers around the globe. You not only described the belief as "incorrect," but you have labeled it a "LIE." This makes the people that preach it "LIARS," and those who believe it "FOOLS."

CCChhhrrriiss, I've watched many of the debates on this forum and being a "News and Current Events" type - have watched you all debate issues, not just political. On every thread, I've seen strong disagreements being exchanged and on most all - even those that you were involved in - there were the "this is not true - this is 'fiction' - this is falsehood" type replies. I've noticed where each person has very strong feelings on certain topics, including yourself.

If I say that a doctrine is not true - I am saying what is being said on most threads here.

To say that something is not true - is to say it is a lie.

Even on "political" threads, I've read these "that's not true" replies.

HAVE I called anyone a "LIAR or FOOL" ??

You are baiting and bringing in antagonism and riling this subject up by straining over one three lettered word that defines a false belief - that the N.T. Authors themselves used.

1Jn 2:21 "I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth." Rom 1:25 "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshiped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen." 1Jn

2Th 2:11 "And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie" 1Jn 1:6 "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth"

If one believes OSAS is a lie, a falsehood, fiction, false doctrine, that is their right here. Or vice versa.

Until I call someone a LIAR OR FOOL - you should not insinuate and take a potentially good thread off into these "personal" problems.

If one believes that is doctrine is "NOT TRUE" - what is a synonym for "Not True" ?

You have said some things about post-trib that can be interpreted that the belief is "not true" in some of your paragraphs above. "Not true" = a lie in God's Word.

The thread had just begun and we haven't had the chance to post the Scripture we believe sheds light on when HE said HE would "gather" His Elect, but off it went into the - personal and splitting hairs on how some term "fiction - falsehood - not correct teaching - not Scriptural doctrines" when my old Webster's says that I can use a three lettered word for all of the above - 'lie'.

God's Word is either taught in Truth or it is a lie. No gray areas. Paul said, "I would not have you ignorant".

In the Spiritual - there are no Gray areas. It is either Truth or a lie. That is N.T. language.

I do not nick-pick with much brother -- but when it comes to people believing they won't be here when Antichrist is revealed nor go through the greatest calamities this world has ever seen - then Yes, out of LOVE alone - I get nick-picky, to save people from that Delusion Paul mentions above.

When I and whomever else is freed up from all of these "personals" - we will be freed to post Scripture.

Mid-Trib or Pre-Wrath don't bother me - because at the least, they know that the Lord told us to "watch - and count the number of the beast" and so on - but Pre-Trib is the only belief that does not believe we need to do so. They do not feel that they will have to avoid the mark. They believe they will be Gone when antichrist rules.

You betcha I worry about that for their sakes - and not to just prove I'm "right" on an "irrelevant" or non-consequential tea ching.

Re: Some ECFs, on: 2007/9/18 15:13

Justin Martyr (A.D. 110-165)

"Two advents of Christ have been announced: the one, in which He is set forth as suffering, inglorious, dishonored, and crucified; but the other, **in which He shall come from heaven with glory, when the man of apostasy, who speaks strange things against the Most High, shall venture to do unlawful deeds on the earth against us the Christians, ...** Now it is evident that no one can terrify or subdue us who have believed in Jesus over all the world. For it is plain that, though beheaded, and crucified, and thrown to wild beasts, and chains, and fire, and all other kinds of torture, we do not give up our confession; but the more such things happen, the more do others and in larger numbers become faithful, and worshippers of God through the name of Jesus."

Irenaeus: Discipled by Polycarp who was discipled by John. (AD. 120-202)

"Moreover, another danger, by no means trifling, shall overtake those who falsely presume that they know the name of Antichrist. For if these men assume one, **when this shall come having another, they will be easily led away by him, as supposing him not to be the expected one, who must be guarded against.** These men, therefore, ought to learn, and go back to the true number of the name, that they be not reckoned among false prophets. But, knowing the sure number declared by Scripture, that is, six hundred sixty and six, **let them await, in the first place, the division of the kingdom into ten; then, in the next place, when these kings are reigning, and beginning to set their affairs in order, and advance their kingdom, to acknowledge that he who shall come claiming the kingdom for himself, and shall terrify those men of whom we have been speaking, having a name containing the aforesaid number, is truly the abomination of desolation. ... It is therefore more certain, and less hazardous, to await the fulfillment of the prophecy, than to be making surmises,** and casting about for any names that may present themselves, inasmuch as many names can be found possessing the number mentioned; and the same question will, after all, remain unsolved. ... But he indicates the number of the name now, that **when this "man" comes we may avoid him, being aware who he is: ... But when this Antichrist shall have devastated all things in this world, HE will reign for three years and six months, and sit in the temple at Jerusalem; and then the Lord will come from heaven in the clouds, in the glory of the Father, sending this "man" and those who follow "him" into the lake of fire; but bringing in for the righteous the times of the kingdom, that is, the rest, the hallowed seventh day; and restoring to Abraham the promised inheritance, in which kingdom the Lord declared, that many coming from the east and from the west should sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.**"

"an apostate and a robber, is anxious to be adored as God; and that, although a mere slave, he wishes himself to be proclaimed as a king. For he being endued with all the power of the devil, shall come, not as a righteous king, nor a legitimate king in subjection to God, but an impious, unjust, and lawless 'one'; as an apostate, iniquitous, and murderous, as a robber, concentrating in himself satanic apostasy, and seeking aside idols to persuade that he himself is God raising up himself as the only idol, having in himself the multifarious errors of the other idols. This he does, in order that they who do worship the devil by means of many abominations, may serve himself by this one idol, of whom the apostle thus speaks in the second Epistle to the Thessalonians."

"And there is therefore in this beast, when **"HE" In a still clearer light has John, in the Apocalypse, indicated to the Lord's disciples what shall happen in the last times,** and concerning the ten kings who shall then arise...These have one mind, and give their strength and power to the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them, because He is the Lord of lords, and King of kings...And they (Ten Kings) shall lay Babylon waste, and burn her with fire, and shall give their kingdom to the beast, and put the church to flight. After that they shall be destroyed by the coming of our Lord."

"But he indicates the number of the name now, that when this man comes 'we' may avoid him, being aware of who he is:...But when this Antichrist shall have devastated all things in this world, **he will reign for three years and six months, and sit in the temple in Jerusalem; and then the Lord will come from heaven in the clouds, in the glory of the Father, sending this man and those who follow him into the lake of fire; but bringing in for the righteous the times of the kingdom, that is, the rest, the hallowed seventh day; and restoring to Abraham the promised inheritance, in which kingdom the Lord declared, that "many coming from the east and from the west should sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."**

"For all these and other words were unquestionably spoken in reference to the resurrection of the just, which takes

place after the coming of the Antichrist, and the destruction of nations under his rule; in (the times of) which (resurrection) the righteous shall reign on the earth...and those whom the Lord shall find in the flesh, awaiting Him from heaven, and who have suffered tribulation, as well as escaped the hands of the Wicked 'one' (Antichrist)."

Hippolytus: Bishop of Portus, was a disciple of Irenaeus who was discipled by Polycarp who was discipled from John.(AD. 170-236)

"As these things, then, are in the future, and as the ten toes of the image are equivalent to (so many) democracies, and the ten horns of the fourth beast are distributed over ten kingdoms, let us look at the subject a little more closely, and consider these matters as in the clear light of a personal survey. The golden head of the image and the lioness denoted the Babylonians; the shoulders and arms of silver, and the bear, represented the Persians and Medes; the belly and thighs of brass, and the leopard, meant the Greeks, who held the sovereignty from Alexander's time; the legs of iron, and the beast dreadful and terrible, expressed the Romans, who hold the sovereignty at present; the toes of the feet which were part clay and part iron, and the ten horns, were emblems of the kingdoms that are yet to rise; the other little horn that grows up among them meant the Antichrist in their midst; the stone that smites the earth and brings judgment upon the world was Christ."

It is proper that we take the Holy Scriptures themselves in hand, and find out from them what, and of what manner, the coming of Antichrist is; on what occasion and at what time that impious one shall be revealed; and whence and from what tribe (he shall come); and what his name is, which is indicated by the number in Scripture; and how he shall work error among the people, gathering them from the ends of the earth; and (how) he shall stir up tribulation and persecution against the saints; and how he shall glorify himself as God; and what his end shall be; and how the sudden appearing of the Lord shall be revealed from heaven; and what the conflagration of the whole world shall be; and what the glorious and heavenly kingdom of the saints is to be, when they reign together with Christ; and what the punishment of the wicked by fire...With respect to his name, it is not in our power to explain it exactly, as the blessed John understood it and was instructed about it, but only to give a conjectural account of it; for when he appears, the blessed one will show us what we seek to know... Wherefore we ought neither to give it out as if this were certainly his name, nor again ignore the fact that he may not otherwise be designated. But having the mystery of God in our heart, we ought in fear to keep faithfully what has been told us by blessed prophets, in order that when those things come to pass, we may be prepared for them, and not be deceived. For when the times advance, he too, of whom these things are said, will be manifest...Now concerning the tribulation of the persecution which is to fall upon the Church from the adversary, John also speaks thus, "And I saw a great and wondrous sign in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, ... And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent..."That refers to the one thousand two hundred and threescore days (the half of the week) during which the tyrant is to reign and persecute the Church.... These things then, being come to pass, beloved, and the one week being divided into two parts, and the abomination of desolation being manifested then, and the two prophets and forerunners of the Lord having finished their course, and the whole world finally approaching the consummation, what remains but the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ from heaven, for whom we have looked in hope."

"on account of his tyranny and violence. For the deceiver seeks to liken himself in all things to the Son of God. Christ is a lion, so Antichrist is also a lion; Christ is a king, so Antichrist is also a king. The Savior was manifested as a lamb; so he too in like manner, will appear as a lamb, though within he is a wolf. The Savior came into the world in the circumcision, and he will come in the same manner. The Lord sent apostles among all the nations, and he in like manner will send false apostles. The Savior gathered together the sheep that were scattered abroad, and he in like manner will bring together a people that is scattered abroad. The Lord gave a seal to those who believed on Him; and he will give one in like manner. The Savior appeared in the form of man, and he too will come in the form of a man. The Savior raised up and showed His holy flesh like a temple, and he will raise a temple of stone in Jerusalem."

"He (Antichrist)will be harsh, severe, passionate, wrathful, terrible, inconstant, dread, morose, hateful, abominable, savage, vengeful, iniquitous. And, bent on casting the whole race of men into the pit of perdition, he will multiply false signs."

“When the times are fulfilled, and the ten horns spring from the beast in the last (times), then Antichrist will appear among them. When he makes war against the saints, and persecutes them, then may we expect the manifestation of the Lord from heaven.

"shall be sent through every city and country to destroy the faithful; and the saints shall travel from the west to the east, and shall be driven in persecution from the east to the south, while others shall conceal themselves in the mountains and caves; and the abomination shall war against them everywhere, and shall cut them off by the sea and by land by his decree, and shall endeavor by every means to destroy them out of the world; and they shall not be able any longer to sell their own property, nor to buy from strangers, unless one keeps and carries with him the name of the beast, or bears its mark upon his forehead. For then they shall all be driven out from place to place, and dragged from their own homes and haled into prison, and punished with all manner of punishment, and cast out from the whole world." These shall awake to everlasting life."

Lactantius (260-330)

"He (Antichrist) shall harass the word with an intolerable rule; shall mingle things divine and human; shall contrive things impious to relate, and detestable; shall meditate new designs in his breast, that he may establish the government for himself; he will change the laws, and appoint his own; he (Antichrist) will contaminate, plunder, spoil, and put to death."

Tertullian (c. 160 - 225)

“...that the city of fornication may receive from the ten kings its deserved doom, and **that the beast Antichrist, with his false prophet may wage war on the Church of God...**Since, then, the Scriptures both indicate the stages of the last times, and concentrate on **the harvest of the Christian hope in the very end of the world ...Now the privilege of this favor (the resurrection) awaits those who shall at the coming of the Lord be found in the flesh, and who shall, owing to the oppressions of the time of Antichrist, deserve by an instantaneous death, which is accomplished by a sudden change, to become qualified to join the rising saints...**”

Polycarp-Pupil of John the Apostle (AD. 70-156)

THE EPISTLE OF POLYCARP TO THE PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER VI.--THE DUTIES OF PRESBYTERS AND OTHERS

"we must all appear at the judgment-seat of Christ, and must every one give an account of himself." Let us then serve Him in fear, and with all reverence, even as He Himself HAS COMMANDED US, AND AS THE APOSTLES WHO PREACHED THE GOSPEL UNTO US, and the prophets who proclaimed beforehand the coming of the Lord ."

CHAPTER II.--AN EXHORTATION TO VIRTUE

"But He who raised Him up from the dead WILL raise up us also"

PAPIAS-Pupil of John the Apostle (AD. 70-155)

FRAGMENTS OF PAPIAS FROM THE EXPOSITION OF THE ORACLES OF THE LORD. V.

"those who are deemed worthy of an abode in heaven SHALL go there, others SHALL enjoy the delights of Paradise, and others SHALL possess the splendour of the city; for everywhere the Saviour WILL BE seen, according as they SHALL BE worthy who see Him."

VI.

"there WILL BE a millennium AFTER the resurrection from the dead, when the personal reign of Christ WILL BE established on this earth"

IGNATIUS-Pupil of John the Apostle (AD. 67-110)

THE EPISTLE OF IGNATIUS TO THE TRALLIANS CHAPTER IX

"He was also truly raised from the dead, His Father quickening Him, even as after the same manner His Father WILL SO raise up us who believe in Him by Christ Jesus"

CHAPTER I.--DESIRE OF IGNATIUS FOR MARTYRDOM.

"Ignatius, the disciple of John the apostle, a man in all respects of an apostolic character, governed the Church of the Antiochians with great care, having with difficulty escaped the former storms of the many persecutions under Domitian"

Irenaeus-Student of John the Apostles's pupil Polycarp (AD. 120-202)

AGAINST HERESIES, BOOK V, XXX

"But he indicates the number of the name now, that WHEN this man comes we may avoid him, being aware who he is: .. But when this Antichrist SHALL HAVE devastated all things in this world, he will reign for three years and six months, and sit in the temple at Jerusalem; and then the Lord WILL COME from heaven in the clouds, in the glory of the Father, sending this man and those who follow him into the lake of fire; but bringing in for the righteous the times of the kingdom"

AGAINST HERESIES, BOOK V, XXVI, 1

"In a still clearer light has John, in the Apocalypse, indicated to the Lord's disciples what SHALL HAPPEN IN THE LAST TIMES, and concerning the ten kings WHO SHALL THEN arise, ... These have one mind, and give their strength and power to the beast. THESE SHALL make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb SHALL OVERCOME them, because He is the Lord of lords, and King of kings. ... And THEY SHALL lay Babylon waste, and burn her with fire, and SHALL GIVE their kingdom to the beast, and put the church to flight. AFTER THAT THEY SHALL be destroyed by the coming of our Lord."

AGAINST HERESIES, BOOK V, XXXV, 1

"For ALL these and other words were UNQUESTIONABLY SPOKEN IN REFERENCE TO THE RESURRECTION OF THE JUST, WHICH TAKES PLACE AFTER the coming of Antichrist, AND the destruction of all nations under his rule; IN WHICH THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL reign on the earth, waxing stronger by the sight of the Lord: and through Him they SHALL become accustomed to partake in the glory of God the Father, and SHALL enjoy in the kingdom intercourse and communion with the holy angels, and union with spiritual beings; and those whom the Lord SHALL FIND IN THE FLESH, AWAITING HIM from heaven, and WHO HAVE suffered tribulation, as well as escaped the hands of the Wicked one."

Hippolytus-Student of Irenaeus of the direct teaching lineage of John (AD. 170-236)

TREATISE ON CHRIST AND ANTICHRIST, 5

"It is proper that we take the Holy Scriptures themselves in hand, and find out from them what, and of what manner, THE COMING of Antichrist is; ON WHAT OCCASION AND AT WHAT TIME that impious one shall be revealed; and whence and from what tribe (he shall come); and what his name is, which is indicated by the number in Scripture; and how he SHALL WORK error among the people, gathering them from the ends of the earth; and (how) he SHALL stir up tribulation and persecution against the saints; and how he SHALL glorify himself as God; and what his end SHALL BE; and how the sudden appearing of the Lord SHALL BE revealed from heaven; and what the conflagration of the whole world SHALL BE; and what the glorious and heavenly kingdom of the saints IS TO BE, when they reign together with Christ; and what the punishment of the wicked by fire."

TREATISE ON CHRIST AND ANTICHRIST, 27,28

"As THESE THINGS, then, ARE IN THE FUTURE, and as the ten toes of the image are equivalent to (so many) democracies, and the ten horns of the fourth beast are distributed over ten kingdoms, let us look at the subject a little more closely, and consider these matters as in the clear light of a personal survey. The golden head of the image and the lioness denoted the Babylonians; the shoulders and arms of silver, and the bear, represented the Persians and Medes; the belly and thighs of brass, and the leopard, meant the Greeks, who held the sovereignty from Alexander's time; the legs of iron, and the beast dreadful and terrible, expressed the Romans, who hold the sovereignty at present; the toes of the feet which were part clay and part iron, and the ten horns, were emblems of the kingdoms that are yet to rise; the other little horn that grows up among them meant the Antichrist in their midst"

TREATISE ON CHRIST AND ANTICHRIST, 27,28

"With respect to his name, it is not in our power to explain it exactly, as the blessed John understood it and was instructed about it, but only to give a conjectural account of it; for when he appears, the blessed one will show us what we seek to

o know. ... Wherefore we ought neither to give it out as if this were certainly his name, nor again ignore the fact that he may not otherwise be designated. But having the mystery of God in our heart, we ought in fear to keep faithfully what has been told us by blessed prophets, in order that WHEN THOSE THINGS COME TO PASS, we may be prepared for them, and not be deceived. FOR WHEN THE TIMES ADVANCE, he too, of whom these things are said, will be manifest."

TREATISE ON CHRIST AND ANTICHRIST, 60, 61, 64

"Now concerning the tribulation of the persecution WHICH IS to fall upon the Church from the adversary, John also speaks thus, "And I saw a great and wondrous sign in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, ... And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent." That refers to the one thousand two hundred and threescore days (the half of the week) during which the tyrant is to reign and persecute the Church.... These things then, being come to pass, beloved, and the one week being divided into two parts, and the abomination of desolation being manifested then, and the two prophets and forerunners of the Lord having finished their course, and the whole world finally approaching the consummation, what remains but the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ from heaven, for whom we have looked in hope."

FRAGMENTS FROM COMMENTARIES, II, 7

"WHEN THE TIMES ARE FULFILLED, and the ten horns spring from the beast in the last (times), then Antichrist WILL APPEAR among them. WHEN HE MAKES war against the saints, and persecutes them, THEN MAY WE EXPECT the manifestation of the Lord from heaven."

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/18 15:21

bro David

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

but bro David i have no qualms with the need for the bride to be at the marriage feast. however Heaven is not a place like earth where time as we know it elapses. The marriage feast doesn't require us to have been in heaven for a period of time and then return, all that can be done in the twinkling of an eye...as He returns.

at the end of the day bro, if you're right, we have nothing to worry about and i can get raptured too, if you're wrong however, then we're in for an interesting time here...have you ever wondered what you would do if you found yourself here in those days? would you fall away from the faith? you haven't addressed how it could be that the multitude in heaven which John saw, which is all the saints from the first to the last is in heaven already while the trib is going on...

bro Rahman put up this thread which i think is worth considering if you are a pre-tribber. being a post tribber is to me a safe bet since we won't be surprised if we find ourselves in the teeth of persecution but if you're a pre-tribber, that may bring some problems....

(https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id18758&forum36&3) what if you are found in the tribulation?

either way God's Grace is sufficient in our out of the trib.AMEN.

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Noah and the Ark - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/18 15:31

bro David

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

the example of Noah is one in which man was preserved through Judgment. Noah was in the Ark not whisked away somewhere where he didn't hear the screams of those who were drowning. Noah wasn't caught up to Heaven during the flood, i believe if he had, that would have been a more apt prefiguring of the pre-trib rapture. Jesus also prayed that we would not be taken out of the world but kept from the evil one, that He said also that we pray we be counted worthy to escape the suffering isn't a reference to being saved from suffering. The fire is coming for those who are against Christ and so to be counted worthy of escaping that is to remain in Christ.

the bride is special, but remember the Groom endured much suffering for her and in order to share in His Glorification, we are called to share in His Sufferings also. We too look for His return, desperately so and strive to be clean for when He comes back so don't assume (if you have thought this) that we who are pre-tribbers aren't waiting or looking for His return.

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by ccchhhrrriiss () , on: 2007/9/18 16:00

Hi HE_Reigns...

Quote:

-----You are baiting and bringing in antagonism and riling this subject up by straining over one three lettered word that defines a false belief - that the N.T. Authors themselves used.

1Jn 2:21 "I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth." Rom 1:25 "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshiped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen." 1Jn

2Th 2:11 "And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie" 1Jn 1:6 "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth"

If one believes OSAS is a lie, a falsehood, fiction, false doctrine, that is their right here. Or vice versa.

Until I call someone a LIAR OR FOOL - you should not Insinuate and take a potentially good thread off into these "personal" problems.

If one believes that is doctrine is "NOT TRUE" - what is a synonym for "Not True" ?

The problem with your post is that you have not used the words "I BELIEVE," "IT IS MY OPINION," or even "BECAUSE THE SCRIPTURES SAY THIS, I AM INCLINED TO BELIEVE..." Instead, you simply referred to the beliefs of many people as "**A LIE**." Yes, the connotation of that "*three letter word*" means the world of difference. You chose that word (which in itself implies "*a deliberate intention to deceive*") instead of stating the more accurate belief that the message is merely *incorrect* (according to what you believe the Word says about this matter). As believers, we need to be extremely careful (and prayerful) about what we say (or write). We are being watched of all men. What an awesome responsibility befalls us!

Do we really need to have thread after thread of unproductive arguments about matters of little spiritual consequence? I am not saying that this topic (or thread) is inconsequential. But, using your own anecdote, do we need to have post after post of "*Your belief is a LIE... and No, YOUR belief is a LIE...etc...*"?!? Why can't we simply discuss the issue without raising the issue of deception? Why can't we peacefully understand that there are many well-meaning, earnest believers who simply disagree with our own conclusion? Still, we feel the need to "warn" such believers of the dire consequences of believing a "lie." If someone is going to fall away because of their beliefs regarding the timing of the Lord's return -- they probably have a problem far more problematic than whether or not they are correct in regards to the timing.

In regards to my posts (including those of a spiritual, historical, political or governmental nature), I am aware that I typically call into question assumptions, opinions and conclusions that are expressed as concrete fact. By failing to distinguish between what is indisputable fact from what is merely speculation or conclusion, our credibility suffers. This is the problem with many Christians who loudly proclaim "*the truth*." We often stray from proclaiming pure *truth* by integrating it with our own *opinions* or *conclusions*. The world often takes note of this. Christians are not only mocked for their *ignorance* -- but for the *imbecile* cognitive mannerisms that we often display. Remember those fallacies of reason? We often claim *God told me...* when it is merely the result of our *figuring something out* or arriving to a *conclusion* on a matter based upon the evidence that we've seen.

I don't mean to *offend* you (or anyone) in regards to their posts. I actually don't believe that you MEANT to claim that the teaching of a "pre-trib" rapture is a "LIE." I believe that you meant to say that you believe that the concept is incorrect or inaccurate -- and that most adherents of such views are sincerely *incorrect* (without deceptive intent).

As for the belief in a pre-trib rapture, I don't base my faith on the timing of the Lord's return. My faith is based upon the relationship that I have with the Lord. All that I am certain about concerning the Lord's return, from the Scriptures, is that He will return. As for the timing, "*It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power*" (Acts 1:7). While I will continuously look for the Lord's return, I can faithfully walk with Him until (and throughout) those events. If the Lord chooses to "rapture" us before He pours out His wrath -- Hallelujah! If the Lord chooses to "protect us" while He pours out His wrath -- Hallelujah! And if the Lord allows us to suffer as His wrath is poured out upon the entire Earth -- Hallelujah! Either way -- WE WIN IN CHRIST!

:-)

Re: 2Th 2:2-4, on: 2007/9/18 16:24

2Th 2:2-4 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

Is The Pretribber In Danger Of Accepting A New Age Christ?

In "Jerome's Apology In Answer To Rufinus--Book III" (AD 402) from the writings of the early Church fathers, Jerome wrote,

"Yet it behoves us to know that the enemy is wont to counterfeit this salutary advent of Christ with cunning fraud in order to deceive the faithful, and in the place of the Son of Man, Who is looked for as coming in the majesty of His Father, to prepare the Son of Perdition with prodigies and lying signs, that instead of Christ he may introduce Antichrist into the world; of whom the Lord Himself warned the Jews beforehand in the Gospels, "Because I am come in My Father's Name, and ye received Me not, another will come in his own name, and him ye will receive." And again, "When ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the Prophet, standing in the holy place, let him that readeth understand." Daniel, therefore, in his visions speaks very fully and amply of the coming of that delusion: but it is not worth while to cite instances, for we have enlarged enough already; we therefore refer any one who may wish to know more concerning these matters to the visions themselves. The Apostle also himself says, "Let no man deceive you by any means, for that day shall not come except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the Son of Perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above everything that is called God, or that is worshipped, so that he sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself as though himself were God." And soon afterwards, "Then shall that wicked one be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus shall slay with the breath of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming: whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders." And again, shortly afterwards, "And therefore the Lord shall send unto them strong delusion, that they may believe a lie, that all may be judged who have not believed the truth." For this reason, therefore, is this "delusion" foretold unto us by the words of Prophets, Evangelists, and Apostles, lest any one should mistake the coming of Antichrist for the coming of Christ. But as the Lord Himself says, "When they shall say unto you, lo, here is Christ, or lo, He is there, believe it not. For many false Christs and false prophets shall come and shall seduce many." But let us see how He hath pointed out the judgment of the true Christ: "As the lightning shineth from the east unto the west, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be."

Jerome warned of a coming of the antichrist being mistaken for the coming of Christ. Today many debate whether the Pretribulation doctrine is dangerous, that whether or not Christians could be deceived into following this false Christ. I believe it is, because

It tells Christians to look for Christ to come at a time when He will not come, opening the door to a false "Christ" to be followed

It tells Christians that when this "Christ" comes, he will take them somewhere by means of a spiritual experience. The Pretrib belief in immanency - that there is nothing else to be fulfilled before Jesus comes - opens the door for this deception because He can now come at any time, even today or tomorrow. In Posttribulationism, Christ can only be immanent when we reach the end of the tribulation period when the events of the sixth seal will take place.

Some Pretribbers show the uncertainty of their belief in the doctrine by saying that if Jesus does not come just before or at the inception of the Tribulation, they wouldn't be deceived. But, I say, some do not know the power of deception. They've already fallen for a false doctrine, the seeds of which came from spirits not of God. Many in the Church today have fallen for the current apostasy after centuries of being warned that such an event will definitely happen. Deception is a very possible thing in the Church, especially in this day and age. Is there such a strong deception ahead that Christians will fall for a false "Christ" coming at a different time? I believe the strong possibility is there. In spite of the tremendous amount of evidence coming forth regarding Ribera, Lacunza, Macdonald, Irving, Kelly and Darby, not to mention the Pretribbers being presented excellent Scriptural evidence there is no Pretrib rapture, the vast majority of Pretribulationists refuse to turn from their error. In fact, it seems any debate only hardens their heart all the more.

In Jesus' own description of His overwhelmingly visible parousia that occurs "immediately after the tribulation," He warned of deceit several times:

Matthew 24:4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.
5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Matthew 24:10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.
11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Matthew 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

25 Behold, I have told you before.

26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not.

27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Note - these are warnings from the Lord Himself against DECEIT: "Take heed," "shall deceive many," and "if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect . . . Behold, I have told you before . . . believe it not." Jesus wasn't just blowing off steam. He was the Son delivering a message of warning and danger from His heavenly Father concerning the culmination of all that God had been doing since time began.

Of special interest is Jesus' statement concerning false prophets in verses 10 and 11, where the prophets instigate an apparently successful apostasy, turning many from the faith. As a result, love among God's people grows cold, and is replaced by hate. Whenever true and deceptive messages are mixed, there is division resulting in visible apostasy and a change in ultimate vision. All that is needed to start this process is one small change in the truth. From then on, it is just a matter of letting the weed grow to fruition.

The devil's goal is unity in the world and apostasy in the Church, for the purpose of leading the Church into that world through spiritual deception to a false Christ. How deep can such deception go? We believe it is this deep: the devil has most likely set up the coming of a false Christ to mimic the parousia anticipated in pretribulationism (and other isms, except posttribulationism - I will deal only with pretribulationism here). Heirs to the belief that only Christians will see Jesus' coming for the Church before the tribulation, either visibly or invisibly, pretribbers are most likely one of the targets for the New Age occult (meaning "secret") "leap into the heavens" I will now describe.

In the prologue of his book, "Inside The New Age Nightmare" (pp.89-91), Randall Baer writes that he was involved in Eastern mysticism since his teenage years, eventually becoming an international New Age teacher on the national teaching circuit. The reason he wrote this book was because he became a Christian. He said "I want you to know exactly what the New Age Movement is about."

Baer discusses two major schools of New Age thought concerning humanity:

The first is transformational, in which all men reach a state of consciousness that enables them to see that heaven has been here on earth all the time, and they finally reach a point where they can see it.

Edit: Please read: <http://www.lighthouse trailsresearch.com/leonardsweet.htm>

The second school of thought, labeled the "Quantum Leap of Consciousness," has a strong similarity to Pretribulationism. This Quantum Leap into the heavens is typified in Baer's quote from a New Age Center's literature:

"We are on the brink of a new age, a whole new world. In the twinkling of an eye, mankind's awareness, our collective consciousness, is going to make an instantaneous quantum leap into the heavens. Everything will change in a flash of divine Light. Get ready. Your heavenly heritage awaits. Come on in; the water's fine . . . He who hesitates is lost . . . He who chooses life is found" (From promotional material from "The Center for New Age Light.")

Terminology borrowed from scripture, no doubt. Baer sums up the above quote with the statement that some factions of

the New Age believe that "Earth and humanity will literally leap in a flash of light into the heavens above."

He goes on to say that this Quantum Leap model "is directly tied to some form of divine intervention. Though there are a rich variety of concepts about the nature and form of this divine intervention, essentially a sovereign and omnipotent celestial force is said to deliver Earth into the heavens above. Various groups attribute this intervention to various sources."

Baer closes this section with the statement that the Quantum Leap view contains within itself predominant themes that "lie much more towards mediumship, spiritism, witchcraft, psychic powers, and sorceries in myriad shapes and forms." He attributes increased levels of demonic forces in the world today to this branch of the New Age belief system.

The New Age has long expected such an experience of change, promoted through New Age philosophers such as Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (Omega Point) and Matthew Fox's Creation Spirituality (Quantum Leap).

Could Christians be deceived to the point of accepting the coming of "a sovereign and omnipotent celestial force" masquerading as Christ? I believe the seeds of such an acceptance are viable. Hints of the "mediumship, spiritism, witchcraft, psychic powers, and sorceries in myriad shapes and forms" are evident in the origins of the pretribulation doctrine. For instance, we've already looked at Margaret Macdonald's spiritistic vision concerning the second coming which was delivered by a spirit not of God, and it draws very close to what some New Agers describe as "The Second Coming."

So, is there a hint of evidence that Christians can be deceived? Look at the apostasy. Look at the phenomena from New Age spirits that invaded the Church that were "transformed" into "Christian" experiences. Look at the appearances of "Jesus" in meetings, even in fire at times. People are seeing "Him" in visions, and also "angels" that actually minister to people. We know the visions and promises of Benny Hinn regarding "Christ" appearing in meetings. We are already hearing of "mediumship, spiritism, witchcraft, psychic powers, and sorceries in myriad shapes and forms" being taken as Christian practices and events on which the whole agenda of the modern day "Church" hinges. Put these together with seeing "Jesus" and "angels" in the spirit in so many forms and fashions, and see the strong possibility that the stage is being set for a deceptive "Second Coming of Christ" at a time foreign to Scripture, i.e., the Pretribulation doctrine. Even the language of the "revival" is basic Barbara Marx Hubbard doctrine, who also believes in a Quantum Leap where man changes from Homo Sapiens to Homo Universalis (corporate, universal human). If you don't believe me, look at the comparisons I have done between New Age and the "revival" at PART IV: Laughing: Deeper Realities and Part Five: The Preparation Of The Corporate Child. If Irving brought into Macdonald's vision to use the idea of it in his "secret coming" and brought that spirit into the Church, why do we believe Pretribblers when they say they won't be deceived if there is a false "rapture"? If the "revival" brought the New Age agenda into the Church - lock, stock and barrel - as described in the two files I referenced above, why do we think Pretribblers won't buy into a false New Age experience of a "rapture"? These are two major deceptions that have deeply deceived people who responded to the gospel at one time. What in heaven's name do we think will stop the deception short of a fake rapture before the tribulation?

I don't know how the devil will work his deceitful "leap into the heavens" in a counterfeit coming of "Christ" as far as the Christian is concerned, but we know he will. Deceptions are rampant now, and it is not even logical to think that the adversary would ignore the premier event of our time and work his deceptions around it. I am basically saying "let the buyer beware" because there is already a false "Christ" appearing in the "Church" with signs and wonders, and some Christians have fallen and are falling for it. We've drained our energies warning people about Pretribulationism and a false revival, but to what avail? And yet we give the Pretribulationist the benefit of the doubt that he won't be deceived when the culmination of its promised rapture arrives. We call the "revival" and the apostasy the delusion God has sent, and I am believing more and more that pretribulationism is a part of that.

<http://www.velocity.net/~edju/Pretrib8.htm>

Re: Noah and the Ark - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/18 16:30

ironman, have you read in revelation where it says there was silence in heaven for about 30 min.? time can be described as one moment to the next.

Also I believe the picture of Noah and the ark does resemble the rapture picture. Noah calls in those that belong to him and it says the door was shut. Just like the 10 virgins the door also was shut. Maybe the clawing you refer to is similar to the 5 foolish virgins being shut out. In any case the two pictures coincide dramatically. Noah and his family safe in the ark and Jesus and his raptured family safe in heaven. Noah and his family above the wrath of God and Jesus and his family above the wrath of God.

I can assure you there will be a pretrib rapture the scripture bears witness to it.

Consider the scorpions that only sting the ones NOT marked in their foreheads. The marked ones are Jews not christians. That means God releases torment and agony on his own!

Also if I believe in a pre trib rapture why would I have a problem with the multitude in heaven? The 5 foolish virgins do not go with the bride and groom remember they stay behind.

Almost all christians are martyred by antichrist. Where else would they be but heaven? Also there is no point in a post trib rapture, The saints are almost all martyred and already in heaven and the wimpy ones that hole up in caves and such probably did a peter and denied him to save their own necks. Read heb. 11 it says some refused freedom and were also killed so to have a better resurrection. Post trib has Jesus rapturing almost nobody ,jumping on riderless horses ,missing the marriage supper and doing a u turn back to earth

Thanks, David

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/18 17:00

He reigns, by virtue of the brides devotion to her groom, even in the natural a bride could not be fooled by a substitute. The first kiss would find him out. The bride Cannot be fooled.

There is one coming on a white horse But he is against christ. Only nominal christians with NO discernment will be dupped.

Look at the cults today. They can talk nonstop but if you ask them about Jesus they are exposed.

You speak of pre- trib as dangerous and yet it was the 5 foolish virgins that were left behind. Not those that were ready for their Lord.

I will say Jesus come quickly and look for him. It is those left behind that must have some other prayer.They await the appearing of antichrist.

Look at watctower cult they knock on my door and i do a bible study with them. they are dupped. They play follow the leader. You can show them that they have a changed and perverted bible. It makes no diff. to them. many are ex-christians ...go figure. The point is antichrist does not need post or pre doctrine to suck you in

....Just gullable,ignorant,naieve,people will follow the leader.....to their demise

when you say quantum leap are you also referring to the post trib handling of the marriage supper the 10 virgins, and the white horses?.....Sorry just couldnt resist...I repent

thanks,David

HALF AN HOUR IN HEAVEN...AND A BETTER RESURRECTION! - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/18 19:44

bro David

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

i'm glad you brought up that scripture, i figured you would. Where else is there a description of time elapsing in this way in Heaven in the scriptures? by the way, antichrist is in opposition to Christ yes however in the sense that he is a false parallel.

Quote:

-----Also I believe the picture of noah and the ark does resemble the rapture picture.noah calls in those that belong to him and it says the door was shut. Just like the 10 virgins the door also was shut. maybe the clawing you refer to is similar to the 5 foolish virgins being shut out. In any case The two pictures coincide dramatically noah and his family safe in the ark and Jesus and his raptured family safe in heaven. Noah and his family above the wrath of God and Jesus and his family above the wrath of God.

i don't know bro...it just doesn't seem to sit right in my spirit for some reason, it never has...

Quote:

-----Consider the scorpions that only sting the ones NOT marked in their foreheads. The marked ones are Jews not christians.

actually, there are 2 groups of 144000 which are marked, some from the 12 tribes of Israel(Rev 7) and the other group from among men (rev 14), that is gentiles...These ones in Rev 14 follow the LAMB, the Lamb we know is Jesus and so if one follows Jesus, then he is a Christian. so these are Christians in the tribulation. that Jews are sealed in Rev 7 speak

of them coming to Salvation in Jesus. insamuch as Salvation goes, all must become Christian or perish, one can't be saved because he/she is a Jew. also if God didn't spare Israel which is the apple of His eye, what makes you think we will be spared suffering? also Peter says that Judgment begins at the house of the Lord so if the tribulation comes upon those who have rejected Him, we will have to be the first ones to suffer Judgment because we are the ones who bear the standard before the rest of the world can be Judged. so either way Judgment is coming at us trib or not.

Quote:

-----Also if I believe in a pre trib rapture why would I have a problem with the multitude in heaven?

well the multitude is every saint from the first to the last including the ones from the tribulation, Jews, Gentiles, the whole lot in heaven in the Midst of the trib...if the rapture is pre-trib, then that excludes the ones from the trib...there will be saints martyred in the trib, clearly since Paul speaks of those who will be alive at His Return will be caught up with Him in the air. that's a rapture of some sort right! :-P .

Quote:

-----Read heb. 11 it says some refused freedom and were also killed so to have a better resurrection.

well i like that you brought this verse up...if i have a choice, i'll stay through the trib because i will have a better resurrection clearly and here's why:

from Rev 20

1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

this is at the return of Jesus and it continues:

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a F107 thousand years.

if your view holds true, then the ones who rule with Christ are Jews here and/or the Christians who missed the rapture...interestingly for those who come through the trib, this guarantee is made for them:

5 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.

these ones automatically rule with Jesus and are in no danger of being cast into the lake of fire...a small price to pay to sit and rule with Him...Also it is important to note that these people here have to be Christians, some of them died during the trib, others lived to see Christ return. that everyone who didn't take the mark of the beast is marked for death doesn't mean that these all died. yes antichrist is granted power to kill them all but that doesn't mean that he succeeds at it as is commonly taught. even if there is one person who is standing at the end of it all, God wouldn't consider that a waste and he would be raptured then, God isn't looking for quantity, He's concerned with quality...God spared 8 out of a world of millions...

Quote:

-----Post trib has Jesus rapturing almost nobody ,jumping on riderless horses ,missing the marriage supper and doing a u turn back to earth

arth

bro David, have you forgotten what Paul said that all would be changed in the twinkling of an eye? that's quite a lot of people, some alive and some dead being changed in an instant, which to me is in time to be at the marriage feast and ride back to beat antichrist. do you think God can do that? let's say that the number which returns is a billion people...many of whom are dead, they all have to rise first, get dressed, get on the horses, get in marching order...all this happens in an instant, that to me is plenty of time to catch the marriage feast, change and get back all while Jesus is coming through the clouds.

so this which you said:

Quote:
-----Post trib has Jesus rapturing almost nobody ,jumping on riderless horses ,missing the marriage supper and doing a u turn back to earth

isn't necessarily true...

like i said bro, if what you believe is true, then we're all good, but if you are wrong...

then i want the best resurrection possible, if it means the trib...then it's the trib.
Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: HALF AN HOUR IN HEAVEN...AND A BETTER RESURRECTION! - posted by TimmyJoe, on: 2007/9/18 19:56
KEEP YOUR LAMPS FULL!

Remember they were ALL virgins, but only 5 were expecting the Lord.

-Timmyjoe

Re: 2 Timothy 2:15, on: 2007/9/18 20:22
2Tim 2:15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

The Marriage Supper (see Rev 19:7-10)(see Rev 19:11ff).

ANSWER:

The words "is come" (v.7) (most translations say "has come") could be understood to mean "is upon us" or "is immediately coming up" to take place shortly after Christ's descent. We often use the words to indicate an event that has not yet occurred, but whose time "has come."

In Revelation 6:17, for example, the men cry out that the great day of His wrath "is come" (same Greek word as in 19:7) The implication is not that the wrath has already occurred, but that it will happen very soon.

In John 17:1 Jesus uses the same Greek word ("is come"). The Greek is past tense. Yet the clear meaning is that Jesus is referring to an event that is soon to occur--not one that has already occurred.

For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? (Revelation 6:17)
These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: (John 17:1)

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony

of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. (Revelation 19:7-21)

The Armies in White (Rev 19) Imply Pretribulationism ?

The armies clothed in white linen who come with Christ (Rev 19:11ff.) imply a previous rapture?

ANSWER:

These may be the deceased Christians coming with Christ to receive new bodies at the soon coming resurrection. We can read about obviously not-yet-resurrected Christians with white robes in Rev 6:9-11 (the tribulational martyrs), so why not also in Rev 19?

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. (Revelation 19:11-14)

And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled. (Revelation 6:9-11)

<http://www.aboundingjoy.com/posttrib-fs.html>

Strange Sounds from the Pretribulation Camp

by Eli Brayley

For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?" -1 Corinthians 14:8

It never ceases to amaze me the way the pretribulation rapture teaching can make such fantastic conclusions out of such straightforward Bible passages. As one commits to an honest and objective study of the interpretations presented by pretribulation advocates, one cannot help but notice the gross discrepancies which inescapably arise between the supposed doctrine and the inspired Scriptures. A prominent German theologian put it rather bluntly: "Pretribulationism must be refuted as a dangerous distortion of New Testament eschatology."

It is my object in this article to cover a few of the most obvious Scriptural discrepancies that arise from holding to a pretribulation position, in the hopes that those who read the following few words would consider the strangeness and error of this 19th century doctrine.

A SECOND COMING BEFORE THE SECOND COMING

"So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." (Hebrews 9:28)

The term "Second Coming" is actually never found in the Bible, although the concept most certainly is, just like the word "trinity" is not found in the Bible but the concept is unmistakably there. Though the verse above is the only mention of the word "second" in connection with the future coming of the Lord, the belief that Jesus would once again return to earth a second time saturates the Old and New Testaments. Jesus announced to His disciples the night before He was crucified, "I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (John 14:3) Likewise the angel announced to them also on the Mount of Olives just after Christ ascended, that "this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11) The expectation of the apostles was that Jesus would return a second time to earth in the same manner that He ascended. This is shown by their continual unanimous testimony concerning Christ's coming:

Paul - "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

Peter - "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?" (2 Peter 3:10-12)

John - "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." (Revelation 1:7)

Notice the apostolic expectation is simply the full and glorious appearing of the Lord Jesus and that no dual distinctions are made. The reason why there are no distinctions ever made between the "second coming" and a "secret pretribulational coming" is because no duality of "comings" existed in their doctrine. The apostles purely preached that Jesus Christ would come again, plain and simple.

On the other hand, pretribulationists, if they are to remain consistent with their theology, must believe in three comings of Christ, a notion utterly foreign to the teaching of the New Testament. Neither Jesus, nor the apostles, ever taught such a thing. To save themselves the embarrassment of such a conclusion, pretribulationists attempt to maintain the expression "the Second Coming of Christ" while at the same time believe in a coming prior to it. They cannot have it both ways. If they say the "secret rapture" is NOT a "coming", then they disqualify all the verses they have since used to support a pretribulational rapture which utilize the word "coming" (see 1 Corinthians 15:23, 1 Thessalonians 4:15, for instance). If they say then that the "secret rapture" IS a "coming", then they must believe in three comings, and therefore maintaining the expression "the Second Coming of Christ" as the final glorious appearing of Christ makes no logical sense.

A LAST TRUMPET BEFORE THE LAST TRUMPET

"Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." (1 Corinthians 15:51-52)

One of the most popular pretribulational verses in the Bible is 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, quoted above, and yet this Scripture is in fact one of the most strongest arguments AGAINST pretribulationism!

The context of this verse is speaking about the resurrection of the dead when Jesus comes. Paul says in verse 22 and 23, "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming." (Notice again that there is no distinction between a second coming and a pretribulational coming... just "His coming"). The key to interpreting when this transformation occurs (if it wasn't already obvious) is the pronouncement, "at the last trump." But what is the last trump and where is it found in Scripture?

It is not difficult to discover that the final trumpet spoken of in the Bible occurs at the very end of the age when Jesus ret

urns to earth in great power and glory with all His holy angels. In our Lord's own words spoken to the apostles in the Olivet Discourse, it is stated: "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." (Matthew 24:29-31) The last trumpet and the gathering of the saints are synonymous. When the trumpet is blown, it signals the reapers to go and separate the wheat from the tares. A simple comparison of Matthew 24:29-31, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 clearly reveals the timing and nature of the last trumpet: it's timing is when Christ comes at the end of the great tribulation; it's nature is that it instigates the rapture, or gathering, of the saints. After the event described in Matthew 24:29-31, there is never another trumpet prophesied to come.

Therefore, if the pretribulationists are using 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 to support a rapture prior to the glorious appearing of Matthew 24:29-31, they run into an irreconcilable dilemma. How can an earlier rapture feature the last trumpet if there is yet another trumpet to be sounded at the end of the great tribulation? How could 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 be speaking of anything else but the final coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, as its context clearly shows? Either verse 52 is truly talking about the last trumpet, or Paul was terribly mistaken.

A FIRST RESURRECTION BEFORE THE FIRST RESURRECTION

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshiped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." (Revelation 20:4-6)

The last discrepancy we will examine involves the resurrection of the dead, which doctrine is an elementary principle according to Hebrews 6:1-2. Our text above clearly reveals that the first resurrection takes place at the end of the great tribulation when Jesus returns in glory. Christ returns to earth and destroys antichrist at the end of chapter 19 and those who are resurrected suffered greatly under the wrath of the beast. But notice also that the first resurrection is not exclusive to only those who passed through the great tribulation; no, it includes all the saints of God from all generations. John sees all those who had suffered for the Word's sake, and states in verse 6, "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." This is written for all believers, for we are all "kings and priests unto God" because He "loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood." (Revelation 1:5-6) "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed men to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made them unto our God kings and priests: and they shall reign on the earth." (Revelation 5:9-10) The requirement for the second death to have no power over you is for you to take part in the first resurrection. To this all believers will attain by the grace of God.

Throughout the Bible there is only this one resurrection that Christians are promised to receive. We have already looked at 1 Corinthians 15:23. Jesus said in John 6:54, "Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day." He repeats this expression, "on the last day" four times in chapter 6 so that no one would be confused as to when the resurrection will occur. If we are to believe in a secret resurrection that takes place before the last day then we are not following the plain teaching of Jesus Christ, our Cornerstone.

Either John was correct in saying this is the first resurrection or the pretribulationists are right in saying it is not, and that there is a prior resurrection at the secret coming before the tribulation. What folly! Not one Scripture supports such an idea.

TRUTH OR CONJECTURE: YOU DECIDE

In this cursory article we have briefly examined how the pretribulation theory requires 1) a coming, 2) a rapture and 3) a resurrection all prior to the prescribed time clearly set forth in the Holy Scriptures. It is up to pretribulationists to decide whether or not they are going to continue attempting to squeeze the Word of God through the filter of prejudicial conjecture.

or simply believe the Bible for what it says. In the words of the late W.J. Erdman, the third pastor of Moody Church in Chicago who was once a pretribulationist and an editor of the Scofield Reference Bible before a "further searching of the Scriptures" convinced him otherwise: "Better the disappointment of truth than the fair but false promises of error."

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."
(2 Timothy 2:15)

from: <http://www.timothyministry.com/>

<https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/articles/index.php?view=category&cid=741>

the Parable of the 10 Virgins... - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/18 20:27

bro Psalm1

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

i went and took a look at the parable of the 10 virgins and found it rather intersting in light of your pre-trib view. a couple of things jumped out which i would like your take on if you would be so kind bro. anyhow here is the parable in full and i will pick out what sticks out so i can ask of you.:

from Matt 25:

1 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. 6 And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' 7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. 11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' 12 But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' 13 Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

ok, now we don't know the day nor the hour but we know the Son of Man will come again after the trib to vanquish antichrist and i believe this is what is being talked about in vs 13. i don't know of there being another Second Coming apart from the one which all shall see when the Son of Man shall descend as He ascended to heaven after the resurrection.

also there is this which struck me:

5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

it says the bridegroom was delayed and they all slept, 5 slept ready, 5 were not ready. if the Bridegroom was delayed, then that says to me that the virgins all had an idea of when He was to show up, when that time passed, they slept. What if it is that the expected time of His return is speaking of before the tribulation and it is then that He is delayed? those who slept prepared with oil still expected Him to come that night while the others thought He'd show up much later, perhaps in the next day or not at all. what if these ones are pre-tribbers? having not seen Him come at the time he was expected (before the trib) they give up and think He'll not come? see i figure the wise virgins are the post-tribbers since they are prepared to stay as long as need be, hence they have a bunch of oil just in case the Groom doesn't come at the expected time (before the trib) and they need to keep the lamps burning all night if need be. i don't see how the wise virgins could be pre-tribbers, could you explain how you reason that?

Quote:
-----He reigns, by virtue of the brides devotion to her groom, even in the natural a bride could not be fooled by a substitute. The first kiss

would find him out. The bride Cannot be fooled.

ah but bro David, why should the bride even go so far as to kiss the imposter? she should be able to spot the fraud a mile off...to let him come that close is bad business...now again about antichrist, he is a false parallel which means he is as close to the real thing as possible. The devil doesn't catch many people off guard with obvious lies...he likes the ones which are 99.9999999% truth, those are the ones which catch most people. bro David i would be careful of saying this:

Quote:

-----The bride Cannot be fooled

because even Peter was fooled into thinking that Jews still needed circumcision after coming to Christ and Paul had to set him straight. Even Peter was fooled into thinking that Jesus ought not to be crucified and what did Jesus say to him in response? even Peter was fooled into thinking he wouldn't deny Christ 3 times before the sun rose...we know how that ended...the say that the bride can't be fooled is a statement which i believe one can only make when one has arrived at the fullness of the stature of Christ, that is when one is made Perfect in Him so unless you are there now, there is room to be fooled yet...

Quote:

-----You speak of pre- trib as dangerous and yet it was the 5 foolish virgins that were left behind. Not those that were ready for their Lord.

yes and the ones who were ready for the Lord were the ones who were ready to stay up all night and keep the lamps burning if need be and so had enough oil. The ones who were expecting Him to come sooner were the ones who got left behind since they didn't have any oil to light the way...this is why i believe the safe bet is post-trib because while you hope to get out pre, you're ready (you have oil) to stay through the trib if need be.

i am curious to hear how you view the parable of the 10 virgins and the questions i had for you concerning it.
Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: HALF AN HOUR IN HEAVEN...AND A BETTER RESURRECTION! - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/18 20:59

ironman, i hope i am not being tedious here but I dont get from rev. 14 what you are saying. All i see are 144000 that as far as i can tell are the same 144000 of the earlier chap. I went back and read rev 14 and it appears to me that most all the christians are martyred. So again this bears witness to a pre trib rapture in that those left behind are martyred. which in itself makes a post trib rapture almost all but impossible.

the concept of raptured saints meeting Jesus in the air to jump on horses and a sketchy wedding feast . And on top of that so few in number....well i think my post trib bros. have painted themselves in a corner

And yes i do agree those martyred do receive the absolute top reward of heaven.

I think it is so awesome that NO CHRISTIAN LOSES WE ALL MAKE IT. both those that make the rapture and those left behind. Thank you Jesus

...David

Re: the Parable of the 10 Virgins... - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/18 21:36

ironman, i too believe that the bride would know the imposter before she ever kissed him.

as far as the parable, I think i would keep it simple. Some times a parable or analogy or typeology can be analyzed into oblivion.

in some cases Jesus said what the parable meant. I dont think that is true of this one. I have never heard this interpretation on the 10virgins.

you seem to love the Lord and i do too. may we both keep our lamps full.!

I dont think you or i would be fooled by an imposter jesus. I know Jesus is not abstract to me. I talk WITH him and to him. He talks to me.And i am sure most people here have the same testimony

So i am looking for his coming and I believe I am 100% scriptural.

But like you say if he delays and nasty antichrist comes. I would love ever so much to talk to him face to face. Because i do with all my heart want to see the look on that demons face when i tell him my friend Jesus will soon plunge his sword right through your head. And by the way He happens to be the king of glory and that makes you a LOOOOSER.!!!

Thanks, David

144000 AND 1440000 - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/18 22:00

Bro David:

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

from Rev 7:

4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:

and then the word goes on to list the 12000 from each tribe. now let us look at rev 14:

1 Then I looked, and behold, a* Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having+ His Father's name written on their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. 3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth. 4 These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. 5 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

this description isn't given with the 144000 from Rev 7. Additionally, the 144000 in rev 7 is said to be from the 12 tribes of Judah and are Sealed for the Father while the 144000 from Rev 14 is sealed for the Lamb Himself out of men which speaks of gentiles as opposed to Israel which is Jewry.

you said this:

Quote:

-----I went back and read rev 14 and it appears to me that most all the christians are martyred.

where do you get that idea?

if it's from vs 13, it says those who die in the Lord which doesn't necessarily mean martyrdom, some saints will die of sickness, old age, accidents etc and not necessarily at the hands of the agents of the enemy. When Paul says that the dead in Christ will rise first, he is talking of all the ones who died in Him martyred or not. these are part of the raptured ones.

Quote:

-----So again this bears witness to a pre trib rapture in that those left behind are martyred. which in itself makes a post trib rapture almost all but impossible.

ok, but is anything impossible for God?

Quote:

-----And on top of that so few in number

where do you get that idea? :-? especially given that John saw thrones and those on them were the ones who came through the trib, i think he saw more than 10-15...

Quote:

-----And yes i do agree those martered do recieve the absolute top reward of heaven

now you see why i am counted in that number.

:-D

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: 144000 AND 1440000 - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/18 22:26

Ironman, read rev.14 12-13 the saints are martered.....David

Details.... - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/18 22:40

bro David, Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

Quote:

-----I think i would keep it simple. Some ttimes a parable or analogy or typeology can be analized into oblivion.

true, but the detail i brought up about the Groom being delayed though, i don't know how that could be overnalyzed and i don't think it's something we can ignore. If He is expected at a certain time, is delayed and comes later, what does that mean but that? the only question then becomes, when do we expect Him to come? if it is pre-trib, then what happens if He is delayed? will you have enough oil? if it is post trib, then there won't be too much more to endure after that...

Quote:

----- may we both keep our lamps full.!

AMEN. which is why i maintain that if you're right, then we're all good, if i'm right though, you'll go through some changes but it'll be all good because God's Grace is sufficient.

Quote:

-----But like you say if he delays and nasty antichrist comes. I would love ever so much to talk to him face to face. Because i do with all my heart want to see the look on that demons face when i tell him my friend Jesus will soon plunge his sword right through your head. And by the way He happens to be the king of glory and that makes you a LOOOOSER.!!!

You just might get that too... ;-) this reminds me of a vision i had a while back...which upon the unravelling of the meaning over a few years left me convinced of the rapture being post-trib...or should i say for me it would be in death.

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/18 22:46

Quote:

psalm1 wrote:
Ironman, read rev.14 12-13 the saints are martered.....David

yeah they are...not all of them though, clearly not because Paul says that there would be some who would be alive at His coming...which we know to be at the end of the tribulation...and even if you look at Rev 20 when Christ returns in a manner which all will see, even if He first comes in secret, clearly there are some saints who are alive then. those who rule, it lists the dead first and the ones who are listed after are alive. the dead ones in Christ rise first and then those which are alive get caught up. it seems plain to me...but what do i know? :-?

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus. AMEN.

Only One Set of 144,000 ... - posted by Rahman, on: 2007/9/19 12:43

i think there's only one set of 144,000 ...

Bro Ironman ...

i just saw your post ...

"144000 AND 1440000 "...

i wrote you an e-mail awhile back when you posted something similar to sis Dorcas, asking you if you meant the Great Crowd as the second set of people (144,000) you mentioned and you never answered back ... i thought that odd, but decided not to pursue it ... Now i'm led to this thread and lo and behold you do actually think there are two sets of 144,000 ...

You wrote;

"this description isn't given with the 144000 from Rev 7. Additionally, the 144000 in rev 7 is said to be from the 12 tribes of Judah and are Sealed for the Father while the 144000 from Rev 14 is sealed for the Lamb Himself out of men which speaks of gentiles as opposed to Israel which is Jewry."

Rev.7

And I saw another angel ascending from the east, **having the seal of the living God:** and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, **Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.** And I heard the number of those who were sealed. **One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:**

Rev. 14:

1 Then I looked, and **behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.** 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. 3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth. 4 These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. **These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.** 5 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

i think you're mistaken in thinking there are two sets of 144,000, as Rev. 14 makes no indication of the 144,000 being "sealed to the Lamb" as you stated, but more as an "addition to the Lamb" as it says ((("and with Him))) one hundred and forty-four thousand", also being firstfruits to God (the Father) (((and to the Lamb))), and also their having the same "seal" of Rev. 7 (God in their foreheads) as of Rev. 14 (having His (the Lamb's) Father's name written on their foreheads) ...

These 144,000 first-fruit Israelites sealed unto God the Father "follow" the Lamb (Son), and while yet Rev. 7 designates them as being chosen out of the 12 tribes, Rev. 14's saying they came out of men i think is a bit of a stretch that this therefore designates the term "men" as meaning there has to be a second set taken only out of Gentiles ... Men, mankind are general terms ... Jews are men too, so in essence they were in general taken out of men/mankind, and specifically from amongst all the rest of their Jewish brethren/men who weren't ...

Martyrs & Top heavenly Rewards??? ... - posted by Rahman, on: 2007/9/19 16:40

Psalms1 you wrote;

" And yes i do agree those martyred do receive the absolute top reward of heaven."

And bro Ironman you replied;

"now you see why i am counted in that number."

Bro Ironman we had a similar discussion over on the thread ...

"Revelation Chapter 7 Destroys Man-Centered Election ..."

https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?mode=viewtopic&topic_id=18009&forum=36&start=110&viewmode=flat&order=0

... under the headings: "No Special Rank or Privilege for Losing Ones Head" & "Glorified Together With and In Our Jesus", at which point i thought we'd come to the conclusion that "martyrdom" especially in light of what Jesus said here ...

Luke.7

For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist (martyred): but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.

... didn't scripturally give "martyrs" top rewards in heaven ...

i've been re-searching scripture again before i posted this and still can't find any verses to sustain what you and bro David subscribe to ... All i keep getting is this one of a general co-ruling and co-reigning as joint-heirs ...

Rev.20

And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

... but i can't find anywhere that specifically says martyrs will get top rewards (the Apostle John was the only Apostle not martyred and it's widely believed he's one of the 12 elders sitting on the thrones) ...

So can you guys show me what i'm missing? ... :-?

Re: Only One Set of 144,000 ... - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/19 17:11

Greetings Dear saints in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

bro Rahman

Quote:
-----i wrote you an e-mail awhile back when you posted something similar to sis Dorcas, asking you if you meant the Great Crowd as the second set of people (144,000) you mentioned and you never answered back ... i thought that odd, but decided not to pursue it ... Now i'm led to this thread and lo and behold you do actually think there are two sets of 144,000 ...

i apologize for not responding to that part of the email. i am indeed open to correction on this (and indeed all matters) coz Lord knows i'm not trying to be deceived in anyway.

it struck me as interesting that the 144000 in Rev 7 was called out of Israel and to me it seemed that they came out of Jewry.Perhaps Israel here is referring to the Collective of saints from all tribes/peoples of the earth rather than Israel?i hadn't thought of that. the following verse then speaks of the multitude in which each people/tribe is represented which is made up of all the saints and that's kinda what got me thinking the way i do on this. it seems as though the 144000 are from that multitude and that John says he heard the number to me makes me think the number to be literal rather than a representation of the multitude. Either way this 144000 follows our Lord.

Then the description of the 144000 in Rev 14 to me seemed quite different to that in Rev 7 in that certain things are said of this group which were not said of the group in Rev 7. so i did a quick browsing of a few commentaries. a couple of them allude to the 144000 as being just 1 group. one alluded to them being 2 different ones but some of them make no definitive statement of them being 1 or 2. anyhow i hadn't considered what you have said here that Rev 14 could be a more in depth description of the Rev 7 group and it may well be so.

i pray God it is made perfectly clear for us all.

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: Martyrs & Top heavenly Rewards??? ...remember front and centre? - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/19 17:37

bro Rahman Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

Quote:
-----under the headings: "No Special Rank or Privilege for Losing Ones Head" & "Glorified Together With and In Our Jesus", at which point i thought we'd come to the conclusion that "martyrdom" especially in light of what Jesus said here

Quote:
-----i've been re-searching scripture again before i posted this and still can't find any verses to sustain what you and bro David subscribe to ... All i keep getting is this one of a general co-ruling and co-reigning as joint-heirs ...

yes indeed of this we can be sure. i was thinking more in terms of the rule of 1000 yrs per rev 20 which seems to list a hierarchy/rank and file. Yes we will all rule but as we so do from the spaces vacated by the fallen angels, there is a rank and file there.world governments have hierarchy because there is hierarchy in the Heavenly Government. There are the Cherubs which are the chief angels, then seraphs and so forth each with differing responsibilities and so on. With the fallen angels though that brings with it strife and envy and wrangling but for the Saints it is not so. we know also that each man will be rewarded according to his/her works so the more works which are done, the bigger the reward. from 1 Corintians 3:

7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. 8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. 9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, F8 ye are God's building.

so it's not that anyone better in all this but if one saint works harder, he is rewarded more according to his/her labour. it's like we said, if God has in mind for you to be front and centre, press to do the work that'll get you front and centre, that is yield all the more to Him that He can work that out since it's Him who gives the increase.

so yes we are co-rulers and joint-heirs but the responsibilities of the Kingdom are varied. John wasn't martyred but he was of the original 12, that to me means he has special rank. Paul wasn't of the original 12 but God worked through him mightily and so part of his reward is that his name is on one of the foundation levels of New Jerusalem along with the other 11.

one of the things which kinda made it hard for me to get this is that on earth and as men we tend to deal treacherously with those beneath us and in my mind i feared that sort of thing in the Millennial Kingdom and jealousy at the handing out of rewards. yet it is not so with the saints...that seems abstract when the only reality is the opposite...also on earth if we work hard and the person next to us slacks off, we may get paid the same and that may lead some of us to work a little less...maybe that may have more influence on our view of rewards in heaven than we think? something to consider?

John the baptist may be less than the least of the people in Heaven but it's not going to be of any consequence to anyone because nobody is going to think any less of him though they may be greater. that for sure is a hard thing to live by on this side...

i hope that makes some sense bro

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Remember: It won't Matter When We Get There ... - posted by Rahman, on: 2007/9/19 18:42

Bro Ironman you wrote;

"i hope that makes some sense bro ..."

--- Not really bro :-D , because my specific question is "where can you and brother Dave show me from scripture that "martyrs" receive the top rewards in heaven? ...

Yes i know that we'll ALL be rewarded, and receive all kinds of crowns, stones, etc. ... But isn't that God's call, since He's not given us any clue as to who gets what in this area other than we who overcome? ... For instance is an imprisoned "martyr" who our Lord may have brought few to Himself thru more worthy of more rewards in heaven just because they were called to martyrdom, than say an "evangelist" who our Lord used to bring tens of thousands to Himself but lived long and died of old age? ---

Bro Ironman you wrote;

"so it's not that anyone better in all this but if one saint works harder, he is rewarded more according to his/her labour. it's like we said, if God has in mind for you to be front and centre, press to do the work that'll get you front and centre, that is yield all the more to Him that He can work that out since it's Him who gives the increase. "

---Amen, precisely, it's Him who gives the increase, so to me that's God's call, when we get there, as to where we'll stand around His throne, what mansion we'll get, and what rewards (but also remember that i said i don't think if one was in the 1 millionth row away from God - where we were in His presence wouldn't matter just as long as we're there), but in the meanwhile i think it's dangerous to make statements that certain folk WILL GET certain things, specifically martyrs, and even more specifically (since you've already made this public) if one believes one has been called to martyrdom when such a specific reward structure can't be found in scripture ... In doing so that brings to mind, at least to my mind, that there is another agenda, like an attempt to make your self feel much better about such a perceived calling ... If i'm wrong then i apologize up front, but i thought that initially over on the other thread about the conclusions you'd come to about special rewards for those beheaded ... Somehow even if that was the case and you knew it for sure that such greater r

wards we're due, it doesn't seem like Christ to trot 'em out amongst the other saints ... i think it's alway better/safer to remember "the first shall be last, and the last first" and always think oneself in the kingdom as "last" ... i'm always reminded of how Christ said not to sit ourselves at the head of the Masters table and then have to be embarrassed by our being told to move to a lesser seat, but to go sit as far back as one can and then feel the joy of the Master bidding one to come on up front ... i think that was the main point Christ was making about John the Baptist, and also when He hired all the workers for the same pay whether we began at the beginning of the day, or at the very end ...

i praise God that i don't percieve a call to "martyrdom" as yourself, He knows what i can bear and as of yet He hasn't placed such on me ... But of someone like yourself, i do believe there can be a real danger in attempting to make one self feel better, superior even, in what i'm sure He'd just call your reasonable service ... As i said, if i'm wrong please forgive me, and i apologize up front, but knowing you your new line of thinking makes me wonder ...

Also as regards the 144,000 ... i know as you've said you've been thinking on some deep things/scriptures, but i noticed that you stated what you thought about there being two sets of 144,000 as more of a statement, than a thought, or an "i believe" ...

You wrote;

"actually, there are 2 groups of 144000 which are marked, some from the 12 tribes of Israel(Rev 7) and the other group from among men (rev 14)" ...

You know i'm a stickler for putting in "i believe" or "i think" on certain things, to keep other folk like myself from going, "W hhhhhh-at"??? ...

That's something i exclusively learned to do on SI ... :-D

Something To Concider ... - posted by Rahman, on: 2007/9/20 7:59

Bro Ironman you wrote;

"one of the things which kinda made it hard for me to get this is that on earth and as men we tend to deal treacherously with those beneath us and in my mind i feared that sort of thing in the Millenial Kingdom and jealousy at the handing out of rewards. yet it is not so with the saints...that seems abstract when the only reality is the opposite...also on earth if we work hard and the person next to us slacks off, we may get paid the same and that may lead some of us to work a little less...maybe that may have more influence on our view of rewards in heaven than we think? **something to consider?**"

--- Amen ... On earth we're like Linus' little sister on the Charlie Brown Christmas special, "I only want what's coming to me, I only want my fair share" ... :-P

You and i have talked about "storing up treasures in heaven", and that "we'd like to do all down here for Christ in attaining all that He wants us to have up there" ... But i get concerned when any kind of receiving of rewards gets attached to our output of love (work) towards Him ... My way of thinking might be way to pointed on this subject, but to me it's only what one does for Christ that will last, and it's Christ who judges what's precious and dross, and rewards accordingly ... Christ said that the two greatest commandments of all are "To love God with our ALL, and to love our neighbor as ourselves" ... i think any other motivational attachments, even the pursuit of heavenly rewards, to the pure motivation of doing all that we do for God out of love alone, and subsequently to the benefit of our fellow saint/man, adulterates that pure motivation and taints our energy with that little dab of leaven called "self" ...

Love for God to me is the only pure motivator that will not allow a saint to slack, and will bring all that Christ has in store for us in the heavenlies---

Bro Ironman you wrote;

"John the baptist may be less than the least of the people in Heaven but it's not going to be of any consequence to anyone because nobody is going to think any less of him though they may be greater. that for sure is a hard thing to live by on this side..."

--- Amen ... It's easy to imagine (ego trip just a tad) one standing around the throne of God in a front row position, all loaded down with heavenly rewards, fat heavenly mansion, shining ... But again, up there, where there will be no envy, jealousy, strife, or contention, nobody's gonna care what we've got (like we can selfishly imagine it down here on earth) - including ourselves, all standing in the all encompassing presence and glory of God ...

Man what a blessing it will be to be finally free of that type satanically inspired self awareness! :-D ---

Re: Something To Consider ... - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 8:51

rahman, I could be wrong about saying "the absolute reward" do you agree they receive reward? To what degree do you place this.....Just asking.... Thanks, David

Re: Something To Consider ... - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 9:10

Rahmman, I was referring to hebrews where it says "and some refused freedom that they might obtain a better resurrection" I believe this is chapt. 11 But it is somewhere in heb. It is so moving to read heb 11. It talks about all the martyrs. And you, I am sure, will see the martyrs in a diff. light.

It also says "That they without us should not be made perfect"

That is so awesome to me

....David

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 9:26

Ironman, how are you? I have a question. If the rapture is post trib. How is it that the dead are raptured first and then those that are alive. But we see the martyrs in heaven during the trib. period? If it is a post trib. rapture Then the martyrs would be asleep with the others.

I just noticed this.

The whole of scripture is needed in my position I take. Is it not?

Also the 10 virgins and the bride groom fit absolutely perfect with the pre trib. position.

What you point out as delay is simply what we are now in. We can all say his delay is what we are experiencing.

Thanks, David

Re: Something To Consider ... - posted by Rahman, on: 2007/9/20 10:25

Psalms 1 you wrote;

"rahman, I could be wrong about saying "the absolute reward" do you agree they receive reward? To what degree do you place this.....Just asking.... Thanks, David"

--- Bro Dave ...

Yes i certainly agree the martyrs get rewards ... All of us get rewards who according to Rev. 2 & 3 are "overcoming" and "repenting" ... My point is that there are no scriptures that say martyrs get "the top, or absolute" reward, or for that matter even any special type award for this type death ...

i'm really kinda wary of focusing on any added spiritual rewards, earthly or heavenly, past my ultimate award of being saved (pre-destined and called) ... I subscribe that "salvation" to me, if God doesn't do another blessed thing for me, is "grace sufficient" that i will not spend an eternity in hell ... My motivation to do/live for God, thru Christ Jesus, stems from this "first" love, also the fact that He's faithful to me even when i haven't been to Him in my walk, and so that love increases ever the more as my understanding and appreciation of the brevity of being one of His chosen impact me ... It's His "now" love for me, His "then" choice of me before the setting of the foundation of the world, that keeps my fire alit back at Him

when i want to quit, not what i might get when i get there ... Even in my wildest imagination (and i've got a vivid one) i can't grasp what my heavenly rewards will be, but down here i can fully grasp the meaning of the treasure of what my initial, and undeserved, award of "salvation" is ... That my ticket destination is stamped: HEAVEN! (Where being in God's presence is the ultimate reward that everyone there gets a joint heirs share in) ...

Blessings in Christ Jesus who should be ALL the motivation we need :knockedout: ---

Re: Remember: It won't Matter When We Get There ... - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 10:29

bro R

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

Quote:

-----Not really bro , because my specific question is "where can you and brother Dave show me from scripture that "martyrs" receive the top rewards in heaven?

my initial statement about that was baseless as far as scripture is concerned and so i retract that and repent before you all and our Lord and ask forgiveness.

Quote:

-----Yes i know that we'll ALL be rewarded, and receive all kinds of crowns, stones, etc. ... But isn't that God's call, since He's not given us any clue as to who gets what in this area other than we who overcome? ... For instance is an imprisoned "martyr" who our Lord may have brought few to Himself thru more worthy of more rewards in heaven just because they we're called to martyrdom, than say an "evangelist" who our Lord used to bring tens of thousands to Himself but lived long and died of old age? ---

indeed it is God's call and i ran ahead of Him there.Forgive me brethren.

Quote:

-----Amen, precisely, it's Him who gives the increase, so to me that's God's call, when we get there, as to where we'll stand around His throne, what mansion we'll get, and what rewards (but also remember that i said i don't think if one was in the 1 millionth row away from God - where we were in His presence wouldn't matter just as long as we're there),

indeed that's the long and short, there will be no envy whether one has a large mansion or not. at the same time, if our Lord has in mind for us to have large mansions, we ought to shoot for that.

Quote:

-----but in the meanwhile i think it's dangerous to make statements that certain folk WILL GET certain things, specifically martyrs, and even more specifically (since you've already made this public) if one believes one has been called to martyrdom when such a specific reward structure can't be found in scripture ...

in my initial statement i blurred Rev 20 1-5 about the hierarchy of those who rule with Christ then with the rewards of those in Heaven.in those who Rule with Him in that 1000 yrs, there is a hierarchy and i don't think (any more) that it is maintained into the Kingdom. there are yet different rewards for work which He knows.

Quote:

-----In doing so that brings to mind, at least to my mind, that there is another agenda, like an attempt to make your self feel much better

about such a perceived calling ... If i'm wrong then i apologize up front, but i thought that initially over on the other thread about the conclusions you'd come to about special rewards for those beheaded ... Somehow even if that was the case and you knew it for sure that such greater rewards we're due, it doesn't seem like Christ to trot 'em out amongst the other saints ...

indeed it may very well seem as though i have another agenda but really i'm seeking to testify to God's Grace shown me . if i had a choice bro, martyrdom would not be it but to have come from that to a point where i'm ok with it is really God's Grace at work, if there is anything for me to boast about, it is His Grace. however in zeal, there is always the danger of running ahead and for which the antidote is God working through brethren like yourself to keep our heads on straight if needed be.

bro no apology needed, as bro Mike oft says of you, your heart comes through. it is i who ought to apologize for running ahead in this crucial hour.

as for the 144000, to me it seemed quite plain that there were 2 since the descriptions of them were different. i am reexamining that notion in light of what you said and if i'm wrong that i see rightly coz as you know, i'm not trying to be deceived in anywise. better to be proven wrong publically and set straight than any alternative. at the end of it all im striving to be right by God no matter the cost.

Grace and Peace are ours in JEsus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 11:03

greetings bro David in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

Quote:
-----Ironman, how are you? I have a question.If the rapture is post trib.How is it that the dead are raptured first and then those that are alive.

because they are dead...when one dies he goes to heaven so those who die are the first ones to be transformed in that sense. Also the rapture is a gathering of all the saints dead and those which remain alive at Christ's return which are part of the first resurrection, this is why i believe it must be post trib because the tribulation saints are counted in that first resurrection.

yes we do see the martyrs of the trib and every martyr in Heaven at this time also but that brings out a very interesting attribute of this book of Revelation and it's Author which it seems most people haven't picked up on or taken into account. The book of Revelation speaks of the great multitude in Rev 7 which is all the saints, past present and future. Also the martyrs are in Heaven already asking God for redress. Now the thing is we view time as linear, God isn't bound by that view because He is Omnipresent, so for Him, everything that we consider past present and future is before Him simultaneously so He sees every saint before Him in Heaven at a time when things are still going haywire on earth...He sees every martyr before Him asking for redress even though to us, their number isn't yet full. This explains why some things in that book sometimes look out of place to us because we're not looking at the book from God's point of view from which all things are before Him.

Quote:
-----If it is a post trib. rapture Then the martyrs would be asleep with the others.

that the dead are asleep speaks more to them being in a place/state where we can't communicate with them as we did here. However they have been transformed in Heaven already so that they rise first speaks more to them being manifested in their glorified bodies and being seen as alive.Then the ones who are alive are transformed and given their like bodies.

Quote:

-----Also the 10 virgins and the bride groom fit absolutely perfect with the pre trib. position.

ok, how? to me like i said earlier, it seems the expectation of most people is pre-trib which i believe is the time the virgins expected the Groom to come. They knew it was going to be a while but they expected Him say at 9.p.m. This is why some of them had oil enough to last about that long or a little longer but not the entire night if they had to. The expectation for a pre-trib rapture for some i believe leaves these saints ill-prepared for the possibility of suffering tremendously if need be, that is, not expecting the Groom to be late and thus not having enough oil for the long haul.

could you explain a little further your view?

but you haven't answered my question yet, curiously so, if you find yourself here in those days, what will you do? for me i'm preparing for both but as i read what Paul says in thessalonians, it seems it is post trib. the coming of our Lord, whether secret or not, Paul says of it that it will be AFTER the revelation of the man of sin who will sit himself in the temple for being worshipped. this is at the midpoint of the trib. Also the Revelation does say the return of Him will be at the end of the trib.

also if the return of Christ is secret, why did He never mention that there would be 2 comings...why did He say He prayed not for us to be taken out of the world but kept from the evil one?

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: Something To Consider ...our fare share... - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 11:16

bro R

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

Quote:
-----You and i have talked about "storing up treasures in heaven", and that "we'd like to do all down here for Christ in attaining all that He wants us to have up there" ... But i get concerned when any kind of receiving of rewards gets attached to our output of love (work) towards Him

well our reward is based on what work we do, but the work we do is based on the amount of Grace given to each of us according to His Mercy to the end that His Manifold Wisdom be revealed through us. so if one has more glory, one has done more work, but that one has done more work is only because God gave Grace enough to fulfill that purpose through that person. so in the end it rests on God who gives work and then rewards as HE sees fit as you alluded to here:

Quote:
-----i think any other motivational attachments, even the pursuit of heavenly rewards, to the pure motivation of doing all that we do for God out of love alone, and subsequently to the benefit of our fellow saint/man, adulterates that pure motivation and taints our energy with that little dab of heaven called "self" ...

Quote:
-----Love for God to me is the only pure motivator that will not allow a saint to slack, and will bring all that Christ has in store for us in the heavenlies-

exactly, which is God's Grace given each man/woman/child to do what He sees fit for us to do.

Quote:
----- Amen ... It's easy to imagine (ego trip just a tad) one standing around the throne of God in a front row position, all loaded down with

heavenly rewards, fat heavenly mansion, shining ... But again, up there, where there will be no envy, jealousy, strife, or contention, nobody's gonna care what we've got (like we can selfishly imagine it down here on earth) - including ourselves, all standing in the all encompassing presence and glory of God ...

indeed our only frame of reference is how differing positions/ranks affect us here and how we can abuse them and so on ...but you said:

Quote:

-----Man what a blessing it will be to be finally free of that type satanically inspired self awareness!

to which i say AMEN! Lord knows i've had enough of such to let me know i don't like that self awareness at all...

:knockedout:

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re:, on: 2007/9/20 11:49

Taken and Left - Tarkowski

MATTHEW 24:39-41: TOOK (AIRO) AND TAKEN (PARALAMBANO)

I was reading a new book titled "Of The Last Days: Listen, I tell You A Mystery" by Richard H. Perry and liked the distinction he made between the words "took" and "taken" in Matthew 24:39,40 describing the Lord coming in judgement. He wrote,

"There is another message in this passage for which we need to look to the Greek. English translations alone do not provide a clear interpretation. Two very different Greek words are translated into a form of the English verb 'to take.' In verse 39, airo is translated as 'took.' Then in verses 40 and 41, paralambano is translated as 'taken.'

"As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left (Matthew 24:37-41).'

"The difference between these Greek words is important.

"• Airo means 'to take away, put away, loose, and remove.'

• Paralambano means "to receive near, i.e., associate with oneself (in any familiar or intimate act or relation); receive, take unto, take with."

"These two Greek words actually have opposite meanings! . . .

"Therefore, when the Lord returns, one man in the field will be received unto the Lord and the other will be put away from Him. One woman will be gathered unto the Lord in the air and the other will be left to the judgment and wrath of God" (Perry, pp. 72-74).

Robert Gundry in "The Church and The Tribulation" makes the same point:

"Then there shall be two men in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left (Matt. 24:40, 41, paralleled in Luke 17:34, 35 with omission of the two in the field and addition of two in one bed).' . . .

"The argument is put forward that the context requires us to regard 'one will be taken' as judgmental. The preceding verses do, indeed, draw upon the Deluge: 'the flood came and took them all away' (v. 39). Notably, however, two different words appear for the action of taking, *airo* (v. 39) and *paralambano* (vv. 40, 41). The same word could easily have been employed had an exact parallel between the two takings been intended. Instead, we have the employment of another word which only two days later describes the rapture (John 14:3). The example of the Deluge illustrates not so much the judgmental character of the Parousia as its unexpectedness so far as the wicked are concerned. But granting that the context indicates judgment, we are not forced to conclude that 'one will be taken' in judgment and 'one will be left' in safety. The reverse may just as easily be understood: 'one will be taken' in rapture and 'one will be left' for judgment."

"As mentioned, two days later the same word for taking appears in description of the rapture: 'I will come again, and receive (*paralambano*) you to Myself' (John 14:3). The apostles would naturally have associated the two expressions. Jesus probably so intended, else He would have drawn a distinction. The thought underlying *paralambano* militates against our treating the word as descriptive of judgment. The prefix *para* (alongside) denotes accompaniment and association (though not always of a friendly or joyous sort—cf. John 19:17) following the action of taking: "take (to oneself), take with or along" (BAG). Subsequent association and accompaniment with the one who takes or receives admirably suits the rapture but clashes with the sudden stroke of judgment at Armageddon, where a terrible, eternal separation follows. In this light, the change from *airo* to *paralambano* indicates a change in topic and connotation: the former term refers to judgment similar in unexpectedness to the Flood, the latter to reception of the saints at the rapture to be forever with their Lord (cf. 1 Thess. 4:17; John 14:3) (Gundry, p. 138)."

The phrase "one will be left" would support this. According to Strong's, word "left" means:

G863 From G575 and *hiemi* (to send; an intensive form of *eimi* (to go)); to send forth, in various applications: - cry, forgive, forsake, lay aside, leave, let (alone, be, go, have), omit, put (send) away, remit, suffer, yield up.

Thayer's definition of "left" makes the case even stronger that those left are left because of Christ's rejecting them:

- "1) to send away
 - 1a) to bid going away or depart
 - 1a1) of a husband divorcing his wife
 - 1b) to send forth, yield up, to expire
 - 1c) to let go, let alone, let be
 - 1c1) to disregard
 - 1c2) to leave, not to discuss now, (a topic)
 - 1c2a) of teachers, writers and speakers
 - 1c3) to omit, neglect
 - 1d) to let go, give up a debt, forgive, to remit
 - 1e) to give up, keep no longer
- 2) to permit, allow, not to hinder, to give up a thing to a person
- 3) to leave, go way from one
 - 3a) in order to go to another place
 - 3b) to depart from any one
 - 3c) to depart from one and leave him to himself so that all mutual claims are abandoned
 - 3d) to desert wrongfully
 - 3e) to go away leaving something behind
 - 3f) to leave one by not taking him as a companion
 - 3g) to leave on dying, leave behind one
 - 3h) to leave so that what is left may remain, leave remaining
 - 3i) abandon, leave destitute"

All of these definitions show a separation of the believer from the unbeliever at the time of the Lord's one return, not a separation of the believer from the unbeliever separated by a seven year period. The context of this parable was based on what happened to the righteous and unrighteous of Noah's time. When the flood came, it took the unbeliever away in judgment, while the righteous were lifted above the flood. There was no time period in between this event that brought separation and distinction.

Gundry's point in the first paragraph I quoted from him is important to understanding these verses in their right context. Some believe that those taken are the unbeliever and they are taken in judgement because the unrighteous in Noah's time

e were taken away, but the meaning of the words "took" and "taken" shows that cannot be true. As Gundry says,

"The preceding verses do, indeed, draw upon the Deluge: 'the flood came and took them all away' (v. 39). Notably, however, two different words appear for the action of taking, *airo* (v. 39) and *paralambano* (vv. 40, 41). The same word could easily have been employed had an exact parallel between the two takings been intended. Instead, we have the employment of another word which only two days later describes the rapture (John 14:3)."

ARE THERE TWO PHASES TO CHRIST'S SECOND ADVENT?

Dr. Vic Reasoner

In order to be orthodox there are several fundamental doctrines relating to eschatology which we must accept. We must believe in the literal second coming of Christ, the judgment, and eternal life in heaven or eternal death in hell. If we are not careful we will lose sight of these great truths and spend our time speculating on questions of lesser importance. Good men have not always agreed on the details, but they have agreed on these fundamental truths. We must never forget the religious leaders of Israel when Christ came the first time and how far they missed Him. Our loyalty must be to Him and not to our personal theories about His coming. It is sad that theories with little biblical support have often been made a test of faith. We are often the most dogmatic about theories we have not carefully studied. It would take a book to answer the question posed as the title. The author does not offer his conclusions as the last word on the subject, but in order to challenge our thinking.

Our Lord's disciples asked Him, "What will be the sign of your coming and the end of the age?" (Matthew 24:3). The disciples clearly put these two great events together in their thinking. In His answer Jesus does not make a distinction in time between His coming and the end or conclusion. He warns against growing cold spiritually and assures us that we will be tested. He tells us not to be overly alarmed about wars, famine, and earthquakes for this has been the pattern of history. Then He gives the sign that the disciples had asked for. "But he who stands firm to the END will be saved and this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations and then the END will come." "The final and proper coming of the Lord cannot take place until the whole world has been in the New Testament sense of the word, evangelized," writes W. B. Pope. (1) He promised no secret rapture before the end came. The sign of His return is to be the worldwide proclamation of the gospel. It is absurd to teach that this great revival will occur after the Church has been raptured, after the Holy Spirit has departed, and that people left will be justified by a different method. But to the dispensationalist who divides Israel from the Church, it is necessary to dispose of the Church so that God can deal with Israel. Dr. John Walvoord, a leading dispensational spokesman admits, "It is therefore not too much to say that the rapture question is determined more by ecclesiology than eschatology." (2) In other words the theory that God has two peoples - the Church and the nation of Israel leads to the logical necessity of a second and a third coming of Christ. We are assured that Christ will come "the second time without sin unto salvation," but there is no clear teaching scripturally that He will come more than that.

Those who make a distinction between the "rapture" and the "revelation" also base their teaching on the use of three Greek words. *Parousia* is said to refer to the rapture and *apokalupsis* and *epiphaneia* are said to refer to the revelation. However, in 2 Thessalonians 2:8 both *parousia* and *epiphaneia* are used in the same verse to describe the same event. The blessed hope promised in Titus 2:13-14 would not be the rapture since the word *epiphaneia* is used. This is also true of 2 Timothy 4:8.

Some also say Christ must first come FOR His saints in the rapture and then after a disputed length of time come WITH His saints in revelation. 1 Thessalonians 3:13 is a proof text since it uses the word "with." However, the Greek word used is *parousia* and by their definition this word refers to the rapture.

1 Thessalonians 4:15-17 is the most commonly used passage to support the idea of a secret rapture. It does compare His coming to a thief who comes unexpectedly, but nothing about this coming is secret. On the contrary it will be loud enough to raise the dead!

Not only do the experts disagree as to whether this rapture is to be pre-trib, mid-trib, or post-trib, but we also have partial rapturists who hold to several raptures. Only those members of their elect group will miss the tribulation period.

After surveying the major passages used to prove two phases to Christ's return, George Eldon Ladd summarized his findings:

The vocabulary used of our Lord's return leads no support for the idea of two coming of Christ or of two aspects of his coming. On the contrary it substantiates the view that the return of Christ will be a single, indivisible, glorious event. (3) Christ declared that "the wheat and the tares are to remain together in the field until the harvest" or end of the age. The secret rapture theory teaches that all the wheat is removed and the tares left standing before the end. (4)

In addition to the weak biblical basis for the doctrine of two separate comings of Christ, it is interesting to consider the historical background of the theory. Dave MacPherson has written more than one book on the historical origin of this theory and concludes that all Christian before 1830 believed in a single unified coming of Christ. He says the secret rapture was so secret it was never heard of before a follower of Edward Irving prophesied it through the "gift of tongues." (5) In Background to Dispensationalism we read:

Even dispensationalists admit the late development of this doctrine. Walvoord admits, "This teaching was espoused of Darby and the Plymouth Brethren and popularized by the famous Scofield Bible." Ironside, in writing about the Powerscourt Prophetic conferences (of which Darby was the leader) states, "It was in these meetings that the precious truth of the rapture of the Church was brought to light. (6)

It was Edward Irving that first became convinced that the world was not moving toward better conditions, but worse. He believed that directly before man there lay a period of terrible suffering. By the year 1824 he concluded that almost all biblical prophecies had been fulfilled and the coming of the Lord could not be over a few years away. Finally his movement set the date of June 27, 1835. (7)

It was in 1830 that Margaret MacDonald, a follower of Irving, received her revelation. Darby tells about his visit to the MacDonald home in his book, The Irrationalism of Infidelity. (8) He too then began teaching a pre-trib rapture.

Re: cont. [because of the days we're in], on: 2007/9/20 11:55

**WHEN IS JESUS COMING AGAIN,
ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES?** by Chaplain Billy

There has been much confusion over the past years on this question. Is there an answer? Must we all continue to guess? Aside from our relationship with Jesus Christ, this is perhaps the most important question we could ask today, When is Jesus returning?

One minister says one thing, another, something else. There are theories, doctrines, and teachings galore. Are they all, right? Which Preacher, or, denomination is telling the truth? They all, say they are! While looking at the March 28th 2000 issue, of the "Pentecostal Evangel" an Assembly of God publication, I was almost awestruck at the title of The conversation with Tim LaHaye, on page 6. Titled:

LAHAYE'S PROPHECY-BASED FICTION

Quite a title for an interview, especially in the Assembly magazine. As I read the article about three times, I thought, A very appropriate name for the "secret rapture" that is supposed to take place at any second. "Prophecy-based fiction." Our Brother, had also written another rapture thriller, called "Left Behind." LaHaye, has written, "Tribulation Force" "Soul Harvest" "Apollyon, and Assassins." As Brother LaHaye was being interviewed, he was asked this question: Evangel: Where did the idea for the "Left behind series" originate? LaHaye: While I was on an airplane flight in the 1980s, I got the idea for a novel about the Rapture. The idea percolated for years. I needed a novelist. My agent put me in touch with Jerry Jenkins, whose more than one hundred books, include, biographies of Hank Aaron, Meadowlark, Lemon, Nolan Ryan, and Billy Graham. I gave Jerry the outline of the scripture for each book, and he hangs the story on the outline. Evangel: The books have stayed on Christian best seller charts, and have climbed to the tops of lists kept by the New York times, USA today, Wall Street Journal etc. Why do you think this series has been so successful? LaHaye: Left behind is the first fictional portrait of events that is true to the literal interpretation of Bible prophecy. They are written for anyone who loves gripping fiction! On page 7, we have the scenario, of "people being raptured, or, snatched away on an Airplane," and, the explanation of the "Blessed Hope" at the bottom of the page, which states: The "Left behind series," is a fictional account of events after the rapture of the Church.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

The point being dear ones, that this "fictional book" along with thousands of videos, and movies, is being received by the majority of Christians today as the TRUTH, not fiction! The secret "snatching away" of the Christians, while all the world suffers untold persecution under the anti-god, and, anti-Christ system, is a teaching as false and full of fiction, as the LEFT BEHIND SERIES of our dear Brother, LaHaye. Incidentally, this "Left Behind" will be at the movies in the near future, further confusing Millions of Christians who will not study their Bible for themselves.

I am going to show you, "according to the scriptures" when our Lord is going to return. He will return THEN, and not before. One of the reasons these "gripping fiction" books, and films are so "hazardous" is, they are exactly as LaHaye describes them: FICTION! I fear for the poor misguided souls, who will not read their Bible today, but trust these "off the wall movies" like, "Omega Code," (I read the entire book) which is as fictitious as a three dollar bill. Is it any wonder, Paul Crouch of TBN, is proclaiming "Hollywood's" great approval of "The Omega Code"? For it is as phony as Hollywood itself! I could name numerous Ministries, who have made absolutely "millions" of dollars, on these phony books, and videos. Good plots, and fictitious stories, do NOT THE TRUTH MAKE! A little leaven, leaveneth the whole lump! A partial truth, is more dangerous than a complete lie!

BUY YOUR VIDEO TODAY!

We are told by leading TV Ministers, that when the "Church is raptured" if, you or, a loved one do not make the rapture, because of backsliding, lukewarmness, or refusing Christ as Savior, just pop in one of the latest "Left Behind" videos, and, then be true to God, don't take the mark of the beast, be faithful until death, accept the persecution coming, and then you will be saved! Beloved, are we so blind? Can a man, or woman, who will not attempt to live for Christ now, with no persecution, no trials, no mark of the beast, or, any pressure from any quarter, still have all the strength and courage, to face the persecution of the anti-Christ? Many can't make it to Church if it rains, they are too stubborn to give their heart to God now, how in the name of Heaven, can they (all at once) after watching Hagee's, Van Impe's, and, other pre-trib rapture videos, suddenly be the giants of faith, to go through the kind of tribulation that is coming upon this whole world? Dear one I say this to you, and, to your loved ones: If you won't, or can't, live for Christ now, you sure won't stand in the time of persecution, regardless of all of your "The Day After" videos. Many of these Ministers know, that these Videos are worthless, but they keep churning them out, as long as the gullible Christians keep buying them. The sleeping giant (The Church) is still looking for an easy out, and, someone who will lie to them and tell them what they want to hear. Some of the stories being pushed by TV Evangelists today, put "Star Trek" to shame. Satan, wants you to believe, that IF you should miss the "first coming of Christ" just wait for the second! The devil is smarter than most Christians in that respect. If he can have some "well meaning minister," preach the doctrine of the second pickup, or, the second return of Christ, (after the secret rapture) he will have millions in his grasp. Satan, only wants to fool you ONCE! The next time, it is his move!

Why is the return of Christ so important? For many reasons, but one reason is, if you know what to expect, you know what to prepare for. One of the false teachings by the Catholic Church, is the doctrine of Purgatory. The doctrine of Purgatory, is the doctrine of the second chance. Another false teaching is: Jesus, is coming in the clouds, to rapture all of His children, just before the anti-Christ steps on the scene! We will then all be in Heaven, while every one else will be going through tribulation on earth. The scripture used to support this teaching is: "We are not appointed to wrath"! The tribulation, is not the wrath of God, but the wrath of the anti-Christ. He goes all out, to try and destroy the true Church for the last time. More about this later. God, is behind the WRATH of God, but, it is two distinct happenings, the WRATH of God, and, the tribulation.

LISTEN UP CHRISTIANS!

Christian friend pay close attention: There have been more persecutions, and more martyrs, IN THIS CENTURY, (than in all the years since Christ's return to the Father)! Fourteen hundred prisons in China alone, (and growing) full of believers! Pastors, Christians in home churches, (Bible smugglers), and any other type of Christianity. It is not like Christian Television tells us! The Christian, is on the open market in many parts of Africa, especially in the Sudan! Churches are being burned, Pastors slaughtered, Christians are being killed, and the carnage goes on and on. In Indonesia, every week, Christians are being killed, and Churches burned, NOW, RIGHT NOW! As supposedly intelligent, and as Christians, (why do you think in many parts of the world today, such as India, Pakistan, Arabia, and many, many more countries), that we Christians in America will escape persecution?

Do you think in Rwanda, Africa, where they had almost total genocide, as men, women and children were decapitated, and slaughtered beyond human description, do you think, that they believe a tribulation is coming in the future? In Indonesia, Christians are killed daily. With the hundreds of thousands losing their lives in other parts of the world for Christ, do you think that they might believe that: Tribulation is coming in the future?

CAN WE BE HONEST?

Do you think God has two Bibles? One for THEM, and one for US! In our bible it reads: That before anything bad happens to us, God will "rapture us" away to Heaven, while the rest of the World, goes through absolute Hell on earth! Is that what it says Christian? Tel-evangelists, are robbing many people blind, as well as many Pastors, by telling the people WHAT THEY WANT TO HEAR, instead of what the Word of God teaches, and declares! Although I am white, God has assured me that He cares for me no more, than the Ethiopian of Phillips day. When Jesus said: Go into all the world and preach the gospel, Jesus was not just referring to the good old USA, because, He was not IN the good old USA. You, and I, will have the same future problems, as our Brothers and Sisters across the waters who are suffering for their faith right now. How did this "secret rapture" get started in the first place? Does the Bible teach such a doctrine? If so, WHERE? We will attempt to piece together this tangled web of misquotations, so it will make some sense. Let us begin, in the much preached, and talked about passage of scripture in the Bible, MATTHEW 24.

GODS WORD!

Matthew 24:3 and as He, (that is Jesus) sat upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately saying, tell us, WHEN shall these things be? Å..... and, WHAT shall be the SIGN of thy coming, AND the end of the world? The disciples asked, three distinct questions, we will then look at each one to see how Jesus answered them. If we will then be honest with ourselves, we can see the absurdity today of this teaching of the "secret rapture" theory! The disciples asked simple questions, and received simple answers. Jesus first stated, before answering their questions directly. TAKE HEED THAT NO MAN DECEIVE YOU. If it were not possible to be deceived on this all important issue, Jesus would not have said so!

DECEPTION!

Jesus said: many shall come in my name, AND SHALL DECEIVE MANY! Not just a few, but MANY! They are doing it to day on television beyond belief. And, to supposedly Bible believing Christians! Jesus did not want his disciples to be deceived, as to His return! We must not misinterpret the teaching on the Second coming of Christ. I have been in Churches lately, where the prophecies come forth like rain! One Pastor gave this prophecy often, in the last few months: I'M COMING SOON! I'M COMING SOON, the Pastor would say, with head bowed low in apparent great reverence. Assuming that it was Jesus, that was (supposed to be speaking), through the Pastor, there was this great scriptural problem to deal with. Jesus said in Mark 13: 32 that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in Heaven, NEITHER THE SON, but the Father.

So, it could not have been Jesus speaking, for He said: The SON DIDN'T EVEN KNOW OF HIS RETURN! Why did he prophecy? It certainly wasn't Jesus, or, the Holy Spirit, since the Spirit and the Word agree. Nor was it God! Take heed, let no man deceive you, Jesus said so! In this Church, the Pastor was never challenged, (although he was going against the very teaching of Jesus Himself). A Pastor, that will prophecy lies, will do anything else to build his, or, her kingdom! Our Churches are going on a "prophecy rampage." It is sad to say, but most of the prophecy I hear from the Pulpit today, is complete nonsense. Can man deceive? You bet he can. File this message away somewhere, and read it again, and again. It is that important! Beloved, this is more than just some doctrine that we can agree, or, disagree with. A momentous situation is about to break on this old world, and you need to be informed of every thing that Jesus said would take place (before His return)!

TELL US!

Matt. 24:6 Å...and ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: See that ye be not troubled: For all these things must come to pass, but, the end is not yet. One of the questions asked Jesus was: when is the end of the world? Jesus didn't say: Men, you have it all wrong, all you need to be concerned about, is the "rapture," for you certainly won't be here near the end of the world! (7) and Nation shall rise against Nation, and Kingdom against Kingdom, and there shall be famines and pestilences, and earth quakes in divers places. (8) All these are the beginnings of sorrows. Just the beginning friend! Sorrow, is so rampant in our land today, I hesitate to mention it. The world around us, is as it were in it's death throes. No ah's day, was like a picnic in comparison. Even the, God said: The world was filled with violence! What would He say today?

TROUBLED TIMES!

Russia, has continued her war games. Our Leadership (if you call it that) is at an all time low. Satan is setting America u

p! We have little, or, no defenses. Our President has decided (on his own) that we will first absorb a first strike nuclear attack, before we retaliate! God help such total insanity! Reader's Digest, and some of our News Stations, tell us that we are more vulnerable now from an attack from the enemy, than anytime in the last 25 years! Many of our Pulpits, which should be "flaming torches," are frozen zombies. Telling the congregation, don't worry, you are about to be raptured! **READ MY LIPS PASTOR!**

God Almighty, is going to hold you responsible, for your misleading of God's people! Sleep on my little ones, give those titles, bring them in to the "storehouse." Listen to Pastor, I wouldn't tell you wrong. Would I? One Radio Minister in Texas, describes it like this: There will be a Nuclear war he said, and, just as the Missiles hit the earth, **THE CHURCH IS RAPTURED!** I must say, I haven't read anything that even remotely resembles such a scripture.

THE DAKE BIBLE!

Dake, states, that in Matthew 24: 9-14, that these scriptures deal only with Israel. Look closely now: When they deliver you up to be afflicted, and kill you, and you are hated of all nations (10) And many shall be offended and betray one another (11) many false prophets shall rise and deceive many, (is this only Israel?) (12) and, because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. (is this only Israel?) Dear one, when 250,000 Christians are killed each year, (and it is climbing), is this only Israel? I have heard hundreds of times thundered from the pulpit, (because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold)? Is this only Israel? If it is, why are we always quoting it as the present day Church? You can't have it both ways. Many Preachers are telling the flock, that "they must endure until the end." Why should we endure until the end, **WHEN WE WON'T BE HERE ANYWAY?** Why should we be faithful till death, if we won't be here to die? In most of the 24th Chapter of Matthew, Dake inter-changes Israel with the Church at will. If it's a bad situation It is Israel! If it's a rapture, It is the Church! **VERY CONVENIENT!** (14) And the gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come. Does **ALL** the world, mean only Israel? If so, why are we preaching today? We will try one more of Dake's explanations. Watch closely, how Dake handles this. The next 5 verses are called:

THE SECOND ADVENT!

The Second coming of Christ! He is absolutely correct in saying so, but, we must remember, that somewhere, between verse 3 and 21, Some how, some way, and some place, a rapture took place! How, or where, they do not know, but as one good Baptist told me: You have to read between the lines! I said: That is the reason the (lines) are there, there is nothing between them! How could you take a doctrine as important as the coming of Christ, and just say: Well, He came somewhere, between verse 3 and verse 21? It is almost unbelievable, that the doctrine of the "silent, secret, snatching away Rapture" is taught today, and you can't even find it? Many Ministers, use verse 27, for their rapture. What does it say? As the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. Beloved, that says absolutely nothing, about a "secret rapture," it only states that when He does return, He will return swiftly! We are about to see for the first time clearly, when **JESUS IS COMING BACK!** Let us read verse 29. Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in Heaven: And then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of Heaven with power and great glory.

IS IT NOT PLAIN?

The Disciple's, asked (3) questions. Here, two are answered if you accept the Word of God! What is the sign of your coming, and of the end of the world? Jesus said: (29) immediately after the tribulation of those days **Â...Â....** (30) And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man from Heaven: And then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn. And they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. Dear child of God, you need not be a bible scholar, a bible teacher, or Preacher, to understand what Jesus was saying. He said: He would return "in the clouds of Heaven" just like your Pastor teaches, with the exception of the truth that Jesus states: I will come immediately after the tribulation of those days.. To teach other wise, is to make Jesus a liar. When are you coming back Jesus, the disciples asked? He just told them! He told you also, if you will accept His Word over the teachings of man, and denominations today. I must say, **ALL THE TRIBES OF THE EARTH**, do not just pertain to Israel! Jesus said also: immediately after the tribulation, you will also see the sign of the Son of man, following the shocking display of the stars, moon and Sun. Some teach, this pertains to Israel only. If so, why do we teach here in America, that He is coming back in the clouds? I will tell you this my friends, with all the love I can: You will not leave this earth by a rapture, **UNTIL AFTER THE TRIBULATION.** You may go by the grave, old age, nuclear blast, war, or a hundred other ways, but you will not be raptured into the Heavens on the clouds, until you ride the same clouds Jesus spoke of, and that one comes only, **AFTER** the tribulation, not before!

If your church, or denomination teaches otherwise, it is false! And you won't find one Scripture to back up your theory. Some Ministers tell their flock: There are some folks that want to go through a tribulation! Friend, I haven't found anyone yet! A man would have to be a fool, to WANT to go through a tribulation. I sure don't want to. But what I want, and what the Word of God says, is many times "poles" apart. You will never hear anyone, that believes in a Post-trib return of Christ, that wants to go through a tribulation. I want to settle that thought right now!

MAY I ASK A QUESTION?

If all power was given to Jesus by the Father, as (Jesus said it had been given), I have all power in Heaven and, in earth Jesus said "Â...Â.... May I ask, why, does Jesus have to sneak back to this earth, (morning, noon, or night as we sing) and steal away His children from the devil? May I ask another question? If He is going to sneak back with a quiet rapture, why in the name of Heaven, is He going to return in 1st thess. 4:16 with a Shout, the voice of an Archangel, and the trumpet of God? If you believe this is a silent rapture, I would like to sell you some "ocean front property" here in West Virginia. Even if there were a secret rapture, what would be the purpose? There are many good books on the market today, that tell of the origin of the "rapture teaching" but I will not speak of them at this time. I want to mention something also that is very important, especially to those of you WHO ARE NOT MINISTERS! Remember, child of God, in the church where you go, there are bylaws, rules, and teachings of that particular organization, should it be the Church of God, the Assemblies of God, and many others. THEY MUST STICK STEADFAST TO THEIR BYLAWS, AND THEIR TEACHINGS! To not do so, they say, they would not be in "unity." For a Minister to deviate in any of these main doctrines, is cause to lose their ministerial license immediately! I have talked to Ministers in both of the groups I have just mentioned, some have told me: Brother, I don't believe this secret rapture teaching, but, if I say anything, I am out of the organization in a hurry! Some Ministers, have been in the organization's for years, and, they wait for their pension. So the rest of their ministerial life, they continue to teach a lie, or, repress what they really believe to be the truth. That is the power and Organization can hold on a minister. So, I must teach what the organizations books say teach, Ministers tell me.

WHEN IS HE RETURNING?

Jesus said in verse 33. When ye see all these things, know that it is near, even at the door. What was He talking about? He was saying, that when the signs of verses (29) and (30) take place, that His coming was near. Notice again: This takes place AFTER the tribulation. Then, Jesus went on to give another example of the times in which we live today. He told His disciples in (33) when ye shall see "Â... (it is rather obvious that the disciples will not see these things come to pass), but our generation will! If we would not be here, how could we see anything? There is a major misunderstanding among many ministers, on verse (37). Here is another example of teaching what you want to teach, and leaving the rest alone. In this passage of scripture, we are told by modern day preachers, of the many millions getting saved after the rapture. Here is how they handle it: Just as it was in the days of No'e, so shall it be in the coming of the Son of Man. They say: We are living in the days of No'e, (or Noah) but they don't tell you all that happened in the days of Noah! Right now, things are all set for the rapture, they teach. "Let's see what the Bible really says! What Jesus said would take place, is THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF WHAT IS BEING TAUGHT TODAY! But as the days of No'e were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. (38) for as the days that were before the flood they were eating drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that No'e entered the ark, (39) and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away: So shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. Now let us do a little study: What did Jesus really say?

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED IN NOAH'S DAY?

Jesus said: If I may paraphrase a little. It will be just like the days of Noah, when I return. They were eating drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that No'e entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. Can you see this yet friend? NO ONE WAS SAVED like the preachers are teaching today! My what a contradiction of the Word! Jesus said: IT TOOK THEM ALL AWAY! If it took them ALL away, who was left to get saved? Where will you're Van Impe videos be then? These Video's, are a curse on our generation, giving people second hope, on a total impossibility. Someone is going to be responsible "big time" for all the finance made on these poor lost souls. Notice also; it wasn't seven years after the rapture took place, Jesus said: THE SAME DAY NO'E ENTERED THE ARK, THE FLOOD CAME AND TOOK THEM ALL AWAY. REMEMBER THAT PREACHER, THE NEXT TIME YOU ARE EXPOUNDING THE WORD!

To late for the videos then, to late for the cassettes from your favorite preacher. If you have been reading God's Word, you can be prepared for the days ahead. Let me say this. You don't have to be "raptured" to be saved! God can save you, (if that is His plan), "in" your problem, He does not have to deliver you from it. Daniel was not saved "from" the Lions den, he was saved in it! The three Hebrew children, were not saved "from" the fiery furnace, God saved them "while still in it" to show His power! Noah was not saved from the flood, he was saved while in it! Dear friend, the same water that destr

oyed the world, kept Noah afloat, and safe!

WHAT DOES LUKE SAY?

Luke 18:28 likewise also as it was in the days of Lot, they did eat, they drank, they bought they sold, they planted, they built, (29) but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from Heaven, and destroyed them all. (30) even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed. If we will remember who is teaching here, It is the Son Of God. Jesus said again: THAT THE SAME DAY, that Lot came out of Sodom, fire came down from Heaven and destroyed them all. Jesus said: it would be like that again when He comes. Just like the days of the Sodomites, (and we are there)! If it is like that time, WHO GETS SAVED? Who, watches the videos, to tell them what to do "the day after"? It will be too late to play their LEFT BEHIND tape by Tim LaHaye. It will be burned up. Friend, this is no fun and games, your soul is at stake, who do you believe, the Word of God, or your favorite TV Evangelist? For the many of you who go by the teachings of your Church, and, who lean heavy on the DAKE ANNOTATED BIBLE, let us see how Rev. Dake handles this, in Luke 21:36 On page 86 in your Dake Bible Rev. Dake tells us how to interpret the Bible: When it is a literal saying, it should be taken literally. Dake, first makes (his own prediction) at the heading of the verse, by stating: Promise of a rapture before the second advent. Notice that it is Brother Dake's heading. (36) Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man. Dake's main purpose for his own heading is: to escape all these things! The things of Matthew 24 Mark 13th Chapter, and, Luke 21: ch. They all have the same context.

HOW DO WE ESCAPE?

It is very important to notice, Dake's own statement in the right column of verse 36. Dake says: This is the "first" plain reference in "all the scripture", to the rapture! Notice! Dake himself states: THAT THIS IS THE FIRST PLAIN REFERENCE, IN ALL THE SCRIPTURE, TO A RAPTURE. He did not say (one more), but, "the first" plain reference. How they were to escape, if they met conditions was: To stand before the Son of Man! Now Dake asks this question: How could all worthy ones go before Him, (if not by rapture), as stated in John 4:1-3 Friends, the fact is, Jesus is not saying anything about a rapture, He is simply stating, that: In His Father's house are many mansions, and. He will return again! To stretch the point beyond that, as some secret rapture, is implying something that the scripture does not say. Dake says also: 1st Thess. 4: 13-18 pertains to the rapture. We mentioned before, that this is an impossible "silent secret rapture" using these scriptures, due to the Lord's shout, the voice of Archangel, and the blowing of the trumpet. SECRET RAPTURE? I think not. Remember, anytime you ask your own questions, and give your own answers, you will ALWAYS get the desired answer. Could I add something? Since the "secret rapture teaching" is so prevalent today, why did Jesus try to hide it somewhere in His Word? Why did He try to keep it secret? He didn't, He told us clearly when He would return again! Immediately "after the tribulation of those days," and not before!

BELOVED, PAY ATTENTION!

Dear child of God, on the false teaching on the "secret rapture," it is so important for you to know the truth! It is a teaching of the "second chance." The devil knows, that if you miss the second coming of Christ, that He is NOT coming back again like all the Evangelists are telling you. If you miss the Next coming of Christ, there will BE NO MORE RETURNS! You will be lost for all eternity, regardless of what any Minister tells you. I have already shown you, that NO ONE, was saved in Noah's time, once he went into the ark. Likewise, NO ONE was saved in Lot's time, the day he left Sodom, the rest were destroyed. Jesus said, it would be the same way when He returns, Do you believe that? Beloved, I have studied the Coming of Christ, and the rapture teaching, for a good 28 years. I didn't just hear about it yesterday. Through God's mercy, I found out what I was being taught, was as false as a "snow storm" in July, on this "secret rapture" theory. It is taught today by some very large Ministries, and, denominations, that the Lord is going to return "in phases"! One Church of God, (Cleveland Tenn.) District Overseer, in Illinois, told me that Jesus is actually coming back 4 times. In phases he said. I said: The bible teaches no such thing as a return in phases! Jesus said: He would return again. He didn't say, He would return again, again, and again.

HALF SCRIPTURES USED!

Preachers make much of the "falling away" today, but they only read part of the scripture! In the book of 2nd Thessalonians, 2:1-4 Now we beseech you brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto Him, (2) That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as the day of Christ is at hand. (3) Let no man deceive you by any means; (AS MANY ARE DOING TODAY) emphasis mine, for that day shall not come, except there be a falling away first. I left off reading that for a purpose. That is where most

st preachers stop reading. Why? Because the rest of the verse, tears down their rapture teaching, Many preachers like to teach, that the Church is raptured BEFORE the anti-Christ comes on the scene. But, that is a false teaching! Preacher, read all of the verse to your flock! Shall we continue with the rest of the verse now? And that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; (4) Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. My friends, these scriptures all go together. You will not get away from the anti-Christ, unless God sees fit to take you home sooner. Even now, he is working full time, in the United States Of America among our ungodly leadership today! You hear nothing from the pulpits today on the anti-Christ, because it completely destroys the teachings of the church being raptured before he appears. You might ask about now, why don't our spiritual leaders tell us these things? There are many reasons, but here are a few. (1) If it is in their denominational minutes, or, bylaws, THEY MUST TEACH IT, or get fired from their Pastorate, and that is the truth! (2) Some ministers, could care less. They don't read the Word of God, so, they just teach what they hear the next preacher preach, be it right, or wrong! (3) The "secret rapture teaching" IS A MONEY MAKER! Not many people in America, want the real truth! So, the preacher gives them what they want, and, he gets what he wants, and they are both happy.

ANOTHER IMPOSSIBLE RAPTURE SCRIPTURE!

While continuing to talk to my District Overseer friend, I asked him: Do you want to make the first resurrection? He said: Of course! I said let me hear you clearly now, you do want to make the "first resurrection" correct? He again said: Yes! I said my dear Brother, do you know who made it in the first resurrection? I said let's read the Bible and see. I then showed him Revelation, Ch. 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgement was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands, and they lived a reign with Christ a thousand years. (5) but the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. THIS IS THE FIRST RESURRECTION. (6) Blessed and holy is he that hath part in THE FIRST RESURRECTION, on such the second death hath no power. but they shall be priests of God, and of Christ and shall reign with Him a thousand years. I said Brother, if these tribulation Saints made it in the FIRST RESURRECTION, which was stated "twice," how can there be another resurrection, before the FIRST RESURRECTION? Nothing, comes before the first, or, it wouldn't be the first! The only way to make the first resurrection, was to do the same thing the tribulation Saints did, refuse the mark, refuse to worship the Image, or the beast. Then, and only then, do you qualify. I want to share another scripture with you. In the book of John. Lazarus had been dead for 4 days. When Jesus came on the scene, in 11th Ch., V. (23). Jesus saith to her, thy Brother shall rise again. (24) Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again, at the resurrection at the last day. Would he not be raised dear friend, at the "same resurrection" as with the tribulation saints? Remember, they made it in the FIRST RESURRECTION! Dear Christian, try as you may, and believe what you want, the days ahead will be trying days for ALL OF US! None of us will be exempt from what lies ahead. We need to pray, and hold each other up in prayer, rather than to try to believe, and hide behind some doctrine that is not true. Believing it will not make it so!

ANOTHER BLOOPER!

In the Dake Annotated Bible, Dake teaches that in Rev. Ch.4:1 He sees the raptured Saints. Incidentally, the Dake Bible, is to the Pentecostal, Full Gospel groups, as, the C.I. Scofield Bible, is to many of the Baptist groups. If Dake said it, THAT IS GOSPEL! Keep in remembrance, that if you ask yourself the question, You get the answer you desire. After telling John about the 7 churches in Chapter 3, he continues in Chapter 4:1.

After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in Heaven: and the first voice which I heard, was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter (I have just finished watching Jac van Impe Presents) the date being 7-6-2000. Jack gives his big smile and says: I can't wait until I hear Christ say: Come up hither Rev. 4:1, Just as Dake is teaching here. Dake, has this as HIS heading, at the beginning of Ch. 4. THE THINGS WHICH SHALL BE HEREAFTER, AFTER THE CHURCHES, OR, AFTER THE RAPTURE. (4:1 - 22:5)

As Dake speaks of the throne room in V (4) and round about the throne were four and twenty elders, sitting clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crown's of gold. On the left column of the Dake Bible, and, on page 289 (since all Dake bibles are the same), under (a) Dake states: that the word "elders" IS PROOF that they represent the "raptured Saints," or, THE CHURCH. He further states in the same column.

- (1) Elder, is never used of angels.
- (2) They are distinguished from the Angels.
- (3) They have crowns and thrones, which were promised to redeemed men.
- (4) They wear white raiment, which is used only of Christ and the saints.
- (5) It is clear from 1:1 5: 5-7 7: 13-15; 19; 10:22 8-9, that one of these elders is the person showing John the Revelation,

and, that he is a redeemed man.

Dake states: that if one of them is a man, then all 24 are men. Since they are redeemed men and in Heaven on thrones all through the time of the fulfillment of Rev. 4-22 THEN THEY MUST HAVE BEEN RAPTURED BEFORE THAT! I suppose that Rev. Dake would think someone would ask the question: Why do you pick out 24 Elders? So, this is his answer.

WHY 24 ELDERS?

Dake says, the answer is not stated! But 2 things are clear, he states.

- (1) The whole priesthood of old, was represented by 24 elders!
- (2) The names of the twelve tribes of Israel, and the twelve Apostles, are written on the holy city New Jerusalem (21-24).

Are the 24 Elders, the Church? You decide, I have giving you irrefutable proof, of the "first resurrection" and, many other scriptures that were not even completely read.

I have written this message, to show you to what great lengths many will go, to either preserve their special doctrine, or, to perpetuate a new one. One of the most powerful Scriptures in the Word of God, is found in: Rev. 1:3. BLESSED IS HE THAT READETH, AND, THEY THAT HEAR THE WORDS OF THIS PROPHECY, AND KEEP THOSE THINGS THAT ARE WRITTEN THEREIN: FOR THE TIME IS AT HAND. Do you mean to tell me friend, that with this great admonition from the very Son of God Himself, that the majority of this great book is useless, (since the Church is seen in the 4th chapter). If we are raptured, as Dake states, why be concerned about any of the other chapters, especially, since we supposedly will be in Heaven looking down on this world in tribulation? HOW MUCH OF THIS PROPHECY DID JESUS SAY TO KEEP, IN VERSE THREE? I believe, that when Jesus said: TO KEEP THOSE THINGS THAT ARE WRITTEN THEREIN, that He meant all of it! Why, and how, could we READ, HEAR, AND KEEP those things that are written therein, IF WE WON'T BE HERE? Jesus, has placed 18 chapters in Revelation, that is of absolutely no concern to Christians, if what Dake teaches is true! All the important information that God wants you and I to know, is contained within the TWENTY TWO CHAPTERS OF REVELATION! I shudder to think, that a minister of the gospel, (whoever they may be) would try to deceive, (on purpose, or ignorantly) anyone on the ONLY BOOK IN THE BIBLE, THAT GOD HAS PROMISED A BLESSING, IF WE WILL HEAR, READ, AND KEEP IT!

Why, would God in Rev. chapter 2 & 3 warn the Church, REPEATEDLY, they must live an "overcoming life if the Church is not going to be here? Such reasoning is senseless. Jack van Impe, LaLonde, Hal Lindsay, and a host of others, may have "blood dripping from their hands" when the folks that are supposed to be "sneaked away" are not "sneaked away," in one of the biggest frauds ever perpetrated on the Church. In her famous book, Tramp for the Lord, Corrie Tim Boom had these scathing remarks to make, on this teaching of "the secret rapture." She stated: One of the biggest lies ever perpetrated on the Church is: the doctrine of THE SECRET RAPTURE. Corrie stated, having been in Germany's prison death camps, that thousands of Christians put up no resistance, or, tried to get away from the death squads, because their Pastor had told them: (Just like today), DON'T WORRY, YOU WILL BE RAPTURED BEFORE ANYTHING HAPPENS TO YOU! Friend, nearly 6 million people were not raptured, as they marched them off into the ovens, of Dachau, Triblinka, Auswhitz, and more. I don't know how many were Christians, but, the Christians believed they would be saved, (because their Pastor told them so). Listen to me friend! If your Pastor tells you to take a mark, in your forehead, or hand, because he tells you: This can't be the mark of the beast, because Jesus has not come yet. Jesus will rapture you, before you have to take the mark. WILL YOU TAKE IT? This is a warning! Your very soul is at stake!

MY LAST PROOF FOR THE PENTECOSTALS!

Having been a Pentecostal for nearly 32 years now, I know of what I speak. I have heard three times as many "prophecies" as there are books in the Bible. I have heard warning prophecies, blessing prophecies, guidance prophecies, personal prophecies, etc. We Pentecostals are a tough breed. We don't like for anyone to show us where we might be wrong. But what I share with you in this last portion of the message, IS TRUE, and, it can be taken, or left, it's up to you. One night in Chicago, after a good "Church of God" service, I was invited to the Pastors house for a meal. Knowing how I believed about the false rapture teaching, he told me this: Brother Bill, I can't see how you could not believe in a rapture at any moment! I smiled, and then asked: Brother, was that prophecy you gave tonight of the Lord? Of course it was, he stated. I said: do you mean to tell me then, that under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, you were led to give that prophecy? Again he replied in the affirmative. I said, if that being the case, I don't see how Jesus could possibly come back tonight! You prophesied to the whole Church, that God was going to bless the Church, that the Church was going to grow, I said: How can God bless the Church, and the Church begin to grow, if Jesus could come tonight? He looked at me and

said: I hadn't thought about that! I said, you need to think about it, the next time you feel a prophecy coming on. Probably ninety percent of the prophecies given today in Churches, are not of the Lord. They are simply of the flesh.

THE T.B.N. NETWORK!

In the years I have watched the TBN Network, I have heard Paul crouch, speak of waiting for the "rapture" many times. One night, or, on several nights, I heard the Evangelist who was speaking that night on Praise The Lord, call Paul over and gave him a prophecy, that went something like this!

'Paul, God has called you for a work, and He is not through with you yet. There are many things that you must do, and God is going to be with you. He will protect you, and supply what is needed for His work. God is not only going to bless you, but your children, and your grand children!'

I have heard all kinds of prophecies on TBN, but my point is: If this is a real Prophecy, and I do not know if it is, or isn't, If God said those things through a prophecy, (word of knowledge) what ever, HOW IS IT POSSIBLE, FOR JESUS TO COME BACK AT ANY MOMENT, UNTIL THOSE THINGS BE FULFILLED? HOW IS IT POSSIBLE, FOR GOD TO BLESS PAUL'S CHILDREN, AND GRANDCHILDREN, WHEN HE COULD COME AT ANY MOMENT? Those prophecies, and thousands more that are being given in Churches each week, how can they be fulfilled, if the Lord can come back at any moment? The answer is simple: They can't! As I said: THIS IS FOR THE PENTECOSTALS! Many other groups do not believe in the gifts of the Spirit, so this is not for you. How can God say, He is going to do one thing, and then send His Son back to earth any second? It is an impossibility! Will there be a "any moment rapture?" The question is up to you! You may believe what you wish, but only what the Bible teaches will come to pass!

I close with this. If you are not praying, giving, and working in the "Harvest Fields" for Christ, YOU DON'T BELIEVE HE IS COMING EITHER, no matter what your Church doctrine teaches! If you believe there is a literal Hell, where men, women, boys, and girls go that do not know the forgiveness of sins, and you are not making some attempt to warn them, YOU don't believe He is coming back either, regardless of your Church teachings.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?

My job is finished with this message. I am sure it could have been written in a more scholarly manner, and with much more insight, (For there are volumes of information on this, but I have shared with you not only from my heart, (but from the Word of God) what Jesus had to say about His return. I beg you, to read your Bible, and believe what He says, and to forget other teaching's of man! It is only the Word of God, that will stand, not our man made doctrines! Again I ask you. WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE? I pray the God of Heaven, will somehow take the words of this message, and cause you to search the scriptures yourself, (to see if these things be so). If you DO believe, He is coming at any moment, ARE YOU READY?

Are you working for him? Child of God, the days ahead are indeed going to be dark. Know for yourself what the Bible says about His coming. The enemy is preparing an attack on our Nation, even as you read this. China, and Russia, hate the United States of America with a wicked passion! I urge you to forget the videos, cassettes, and books of all the LEFT BEHIND SERIES, which are out there by the millions, to make more millions. See what Jesus has to say about His return, AND BELIEVE IT! The web site you are now watching, wasn't put there by accident. You can get much Spiritual strength, by following every message to it's conclusion. Study them all! Then ask God for great discernment, He will give you all the wisdom necessary to study His Word. May His richest blessings rest upon you, as you believe His word. In His Service, Chaplain Billy

<http://www.evangelicaloutreach.org/jesusreturn.htm>

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 16:11

He reigns, the rapture and the second coming are 2 separate events. I am not being ugly but is there any way you can state your position of post trib without "lahay" or "secret" or "fiction". Almost every single discussion on the trib. you will find the post trib people attacking the pre trib people. the rampant stereotypes is frustrating in light of intelligent discussion. I have only asked a few questions without attacking mr. werner. And i have no desire to do so he can believe what he wants. But nowhere in scripture is there a secret rapture that i know of and yet this is the main crux of the "discredit the opposition" banner. Buffoon tv preachers is another feather in their cap as if they are not confident to establish their position with scripture. The post trib doctrine seems to mock and make light of an entire segment of believers that stand on solid scriptural ground. I am pre trib and don't hold to a secret anything. Have never read a pre trib book and i sure don't want to read a post trib book. Judging from the quotes of diff. books i have seen here I would have to sift through the mocking and name calling to try and get what they are saying.

I believe what I believe from scripture I don't need these men to tell me what I believe. Where I place the rapture is based on the word. I know you are sincere and i don't question that.

I have yet to see anybody lay down their preconceived notions and carefully consider the 10 virgins the white horses a

nd the wedding supper.

Thanks, David

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 16:31

Ironman , I am missing something here. I dont mean to be tedious here but if the 10virgins is a picture of post trib rapture, how do you reconcile those left behind? The door was shut. In your scenerio the bride jumps on riderless horses and makes a u turn to earth. A major major hurdle for a post trib scenerio.Also in a post trib scenerio a cry was made but the groom delayed. Remember this cant happen in a post trib doctrine . When the "cry is made" in post trib doctrine there is NO DELAY JESUS COMES AS A WARRIOR NOT AS A GROOM. Also read in rev the wedding feast proceeds the white horses. All this is off the top of my head. But you will eventually have to look at the 10 virgins with open mind.

Thanks, David

10 Virgins... - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 16:36

bro David

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

you said:

Quote:
-----I have yet to see anybody lay down their pre concieved notions and carefully consider the 10 virgins the white horses and the wedding supper.

including yourself bro Dave, when i wrote to you about this issue, i put forth what i thought was a reasonable explanation for the meaning of that parable, you have yet to do the same. have you considered that perhaps your own pre-conceived notions may have clouded your view of what that parable means?

but like i said if you are right, then i don't have anything to worry about,but if you're wrong...like you said in a previous post that you'd like to be face to face with the son of perdition and let him know he's a loser... 8-) if you're granted that request bro...

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 16:39

There is actually a new thing i just noticed that points to a pretrib rapture. The martirs.

In the rapture the dead rise first. Now look at rev. The martirs are in heaven BEFORE the martirs from the trib. begin to show up. This is a MAJOR MAJOR hurdle for the post trib position. They place the dead being raised in the rapture AFTER both event in heaven. this is impossible.

Thanks David

Re: 10 Virgins... - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 16:49

Ironman, you only "key" off of "delay" and "oil" there is a bigger picture draw here.Remember you take the post trib position so you must stay within the bounds of that view. And see if the parable fits. It doesnt. Look at the second coming {with the white horses} and Jesus as a warring king. Now you have to make the 10 virgins fit that picture

Re: 10 Virgins... - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 16:56

ironman , If i end up being a foolish vigin no doubt i will at least end up facing one of his punks. If they are going to chop off my head maybe they can deliver my message for me. Ha Ha

LOve you.....David

hold up bro David, don't put words in my mouth... - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 17:13

bro David

Greetings in Jesus' NAME by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

you said:

Quote:
-----In your scenerio the bride jumps on riderless horses and makes a u turn to earth. A major major hurdle for a post trib scenerio.Also i
n a post trib scenerio a cry was made but the groom delayed.

show me where i said that bro. what i said was this, the Marriage Feast of the Lamb is not one that is such that it require s 7 yrs for us to be there because in Heaven time doesn't pass in the same way as it does here. As far as God is concer ned, the Marriage feast is before Him not in a future sense but a constant state of being. i never said that the horses wo uld come down with no riders, you assumed that on your own...or show me where i said that. now as for the cry, the cry only comes as He is about to arrive. If the expectation is for Him to come post trib, the cry comes just before He arrives and this may well be the shout of the Archangel Paul talks about. so no there is no delay according to how i believe the picture of the 10 virgins plays out.

explain this to me then bro. i believe that the pre-trib view is like that of the foolish virgins who expected the Groom to co me without delay and hadn't enough oil for the night, which i believe to be a lack of preparation for the long haul through the trib. if these are the ones who get left behind, could it not be that these saints who expected escape and found it not, fell away from the Faith and then had nothing for them BUT to be left behind?something to be considered?

bro, who is the bride of Christ? The Church right? Will there be some people who come to Christ in the trib? Yes. if the r apture is pre-trib, and some saints are left alive when Christ returns, does this make them ineligeable for the MArriage fe ast? also bro Jesus comes to Gather together His Elect and who are these but the Church? if He is Gathering His to Him self, that is ALL the Elect, could it not be that this happens after the trib so as to include all those who come to Salvation in the trib? Something to consider there bro?

you said:

Quote:
-----But you will eventually have to look at the 10 virgins with open mind.

how do you figure i'm not being open minded about this? :-(i've listened to your points and asked questions and put fort h what i believe to be alternatives, isn't that being open?

i found this commentary from Matthew Henry which i bring up for your consideration:

Here, I. That in general which is to be illustrated is, the kingdom of heaven, the state of things under the gospel, the external kingdom of Christ, and the administration and success of it. Some of Christ's parables had shown us what it is like now in the present reception of it, as ch. 13. This tells us what it shall be like, when the mystery of God shall be finished, and that kingdom delivered up to the Father.

if bro Henry is right here in that this is descriptive of when the Kingdom is Delivered to the Father, then that is after the M illenial reign and so perhaps, the ones which are left are the ones who get tossed into the lake of Fire rather than get left behind on earth, the parable never says that the foolish virgins ever made it to the party...something to consider?

also the bride of Christ is only presented to Him in Rev 21...after the enemy and every last one of his minions is dispose d of. if the Church is the bride of Christ, it seems to make sense to me that when every believer is gathered up from the 1st and 2nd resurrections, then the whole bride is presented to Christ.Something to consider?

have you considered that maybe you're not being as open-minded about this than you ought?

Grace and PEace are ours in Jesus.AMEN

Martyrs... - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 17:30

bro Dave Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

you said:

Quote:

psalm1 wrote:
There is actually a new thing i just noticed that points to a pretrib rapture. The martyrs.
In the rapture the dead rise first. Now look at rev. The martyrs are in heaven BEFORE the martyrs from the trib. begin to show up. This is a MAJOR MAJOR hurdle for the post trib position. They place the dead being raised in the rapture AFTER both event in heaven. this is impossible.
Thanks David

actually bro Dave i believe you to be in error in regard to the Martyrs. Rev 6 says this:

9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were 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, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? 11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

however bro if the rapture is post-trib, then every martyr which has died for Christ is revealed at His return. could it be bro, that the dead in Christ who rise first, are those who are already in Heaven and are now being revealed at His Return? included among these are the martyrs.

bro is Christ is coming to rapture us before the trib, then why is His Return at the end of the trib called the second coming? :-?

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 17:36

bro Dave Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

Quote:

psalm1 wrote:
Ironman, you only "key" off of "delay" and "oil" there is a bigger picture draw here. Remember you take the post trib position so you must stay within the bounds of that view. And see if the parable fits. It doesn't. Look at the second coming {with the white horses
Quote:
----- and Jesus as a warring king. Now you have to make the 10 virgins fit that picture

ok, and in that view, the Marriage feast of the lamb doesn't require us to be there throughout the trib because time doesn't pass the same way in Heaven as it does here. Paul says that in an instant we shall ALL be changed right? we don't need 7 yrs to get ready to come back here...Paul says we'll be changed in a moment...

bro so is the rapture a coming of Christ?

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: hold up bro David, don't put words in my mouth... - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 17:44

Ironman, I disagree. But will you at least agree with the pre trib scenerio that the 10 virgins does fit absolutely perfect and the post trib doctrine faces a major if not fatal setback with the introduction of the 10 virgins and the wedding supper and the white horses? it is as if they built a car but now they discvered it wont run because they didnt figure in a gas tank ?

I put in the riderless horses myself...you would have to have riderless horses

still love you....David

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 17:55

ironman, i disagree about the marters. the rapture would have to have happened for the events in heaven to fit. We see marters in "holding" in heaven and then the trib marters added to their numbers. but before that God says to them "your number is not completed" There is no 3rd group. In posttrib sceneerio everybody makes a u turn. So the marters would not fit the posttrib scenerio

David

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/9/20 18:02

Ironman, i forgot the rev 21 question. Actually the bride is in rev19 now she is the wife. BEFORE she comes back to earth! Eliminating any possibility of the groom being on a white horse because the bride and groom thing happened well ahead of the white horses. Which makes the rapture pretrib.

.....David

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 18:26

bro David:

Quote:

psalm1 wrote:

Ironman, I disagree. But will you at least agree with the pre trib scenerio that the 10 virgins does fit absolutely perfect and the post trib doctrine faces a major if not fatal setback with the introduction of the 10 virgins and the wedding supper and the white horses? it is as if they built a car but now they discvered it wont run because they didnt figure in a gas tank?

I put in the riderless horses myself...you would have to have riderless horses

still love you....David

but bro i said that i believe that the marriage feast doesn't need for us to be there 7 yrs. Paul said we'd all be changed in the twinkling of an eye from corruptible to incorruptible. can't the Marriage feast need only an instant as we define an instant because as far as God is concerned, an instant can be as long as He needs it to be? Paul says that we are already in Heavenly Places with Jesus...

i concede that i see how the pre-trib idea can fit in with the parable of the virgins.

i don't think that one would have to have riderless horses in the post-trib scenario. since the whole transformation and so on can occur in an instant...

i still have a question though. how do you reconcile the rapture as being pre-trib with the fact that many people will be saved during the trib, some of which will be alive at Christ's second coming which are also a part of the bride of Christ but didn't get raptured?

Also is the rapture a coming of Christ?

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 18:42

bro David:

Quote:

psalm1 wrote:

ironman, i disagree about the marters. the rapture would have to have happened for the events in heaven to fit. We see marters in "holding" in heaven and then the trib marters added to their numbers. but before that God says to them "your number is not completed" There is no 3rd group. In posttrib scenario everybody makes a u turn. So the marters would not fit the posttrib scenario

David

the martyrs have been in heaven since the resurrection of Jesus, that is those from Abel to John Baptist. from Jesus' resurrection on, the Martyrs go straight to Heaven so those which John sees are as many as have been killed up to that point. That the number isn't complete means that they await for the ones who will die during the trib. what third group are you talking about? :-?

the post trib does have everyone making a u-turn, so does the pre-trib because in both cases, you have saints being caught up to Jesus and then returning with Him. Now in the post trib, like i said, Paul says that in an instant we shall all be changed, not 7 yrs, an instant, so if the changing is to occur as He descends like Paul says here:

from 2 Thessalonians 2

1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, ^{F4} 2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

this seems to imply the coming of Christ isn't a Secret. if all the true believers are taken away, who cares coz only unbelievers remain.

3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

what is the great falling away? why does Paul say that the gathering of us to Him must be preceded by the great falling away and then the revelation of the man of sin? we know this happens at the midpoint of the trib.

5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? 6 And now ye know what withholdeth ^{F5} that he might be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. 8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming

Paul again says the coming of our Lord is going to be quite plain for all to see, do you think the rapture is then not a coming of our Lord because the second coming of Him has to do with His coming in triumph to smash the enemy.

if the rapture is the first resurrection, howcome the first mention of the first resurrection is after the trib in Rev 20? :-?

help me understand bro

Grace and PEace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/9/20 18:43

Quote:

psalm1 wrote:

Ironman, i forgot the rev 21 question. Actually the bride is in rev19 now she is the wife. BEFORE she comes back to earth! Eliminating any possibility of the groom being on a white horse because the bride and groom thing happened well ahead of the white horses. Which makes the rapture pretrib.

.....David

not well ahead...just ahead ;-) hence i believe the transformation of 1 corinthians in the twinkling of an eye... ;-)

Grace and Peace are ours in JEsus.AMEN.