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Scriptures and Doctrine :: Post-Trib Rapture

Post-Trib Rapture - posted by Mattie, on: 2008/7/30 12:38

sermon index

Post-Tribulation or Pre-Tribulation? I know this is a debate centuries old, but it's still a topic worth discussing (but not a t opic to divide over). So if any believe contrary to the other, I still think the Lord knows each heart and what matters is di scussing things in a humble and loving manner.

Personally, I feel the Scriptures are pretty clear that the believers will be present on the earth during the tribulation. Ther e are a couple verses that pre-trib theory holds to (1 Thess 4:17 - the Lord descending with a shout) as well as one plowi ng in the field and the other being taken. But the majority of Scripture tends to see all taking place in light of the Day of t he Lord.

2 Peter 3 seems to be pretty clear that the "thief in the night" passage Jesus used is in context with the "new heavens an d the new earth" and the old heavens and earth being burned with fire. So it appears it is used to speak of the Post-Trib Coming rather than a Pre-Trib. Jesus also said in Matthew 24 that when the gospel of the kingdom is preached to all th e nations, THEN the end will come. He also said "after the tribulation, THEN the Son of Man will appear in the skies and all the earth will mourn."

As far as thinking God "would never" keep believers here during 7 years of tribulation, I think that is a difficult argument. Did God spare believers in Sudan from their tribulations? Did God spare China? Why would He spare the end-times ch urch from 7 years of it? I think God doesn't "spare" believers from persecution, but has His very purposes ordained withi n tribulation and suffering, that we might be tested and refined and know the very heart of God in the midst of it.

But wasn't Noah spared from the flood? Wasn't Israel kept from the plagues of Egypt? Yes, that is speaking of the judg ments of God. Believers will not face wrath from God, but they will face opposition from the world.

Anyway, I'd love to hear thoughts on this topic. Yes, it's an old one hear at sermonindex...

Re: Post-Trib Rapture - posted by sojourner7 (), on: 2008/7/30 12:47

When they asked Jesus about the end times, He said he that endures to the end shall be saved. God's influence and His presence will be with us through the tribulation. He is more than able to deliver and keep us through the perilous days to come!!

Re: Post-Trib Rapture - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2008/7/30 17:47

What is odd is that many evangelicals believe in the pre-tribulation rapture, even though there is no real eschatological p urpose for them doing so. Many do not realize that the doctrine of the pre-trib rapture is just over a century old, and com es from John Darby's dispensational theology. At least within his system of theology, a pre-trib rapture makes sense. B ut when stripped from that system, a pre-trib rapture theory has no legs to stand on besides empty reasonings like "God doesn't want us to suffer." This doctrine as emraced by many evangelicals is simply the theological leftovers from a syst em of theology that most of them reject. And rightly so... dispensationalism makes sharp and artificial divisions of the Sc riptures, resulting in a God who has two peoples with two entirely different purposes. It is a heresy that leads to overt an tinomianism and cheap grace.

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2008/7/30 19:02

Question: "When is the Rapture going to occur in relation to the Tribulation?"

Answer: The timing of the Rapture in relation to the Tribulation is one of the most controversial issues in the church toda y. The three primary views are Pretribulational (the Rapture occurs before the Tribulation), Midtribulational (the Rapture occurs at the mid-point of the Tribulation), and Posttribulational (the Rapture occurs at the end of the Tribulation). A 4th view, commonly known as Pre-wrath, is a slight modification of the Midtribulational position.

First, it is important to recognize the purpose of the Tribulation. According to Daniel 9:27, there is a seventieth "week" (7 years) that is still yet to come. DanielÂ's entire prophecy of the seventy weeks (Daniel 9:20-27) is speaking of the nati on of Israel. It is a time period in which God focuses His attention especially on Israel. The seventieth week, the Tribulati on, must also be a time when God deals specifically with Israel. While this does not necessarily indicate that the church could not also be present, it does bring into question why the church would need to be on the earth during that time.

The primary Scripture passage on the Rapture is 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. It states that all living believers, along with all believers who have died, will meet the Lord Jesus in the air and will be with Him forever. The Rapture is God removing His people from the earth. A few verses later in 5:9 Paul says, Â"For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receiv e salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.Â" The Book of Revelation, which deals primarily with the time period of the Tri bulation, is a prophetic message of how God will pour out His wrath upon the earth during the Tribulation. It would seem inconsistent for God to promise believers that they will not suffer wrath and then leave them on the earth during the Trib ulation. The fact that God promises to deliver Christians from wrath shortly after promising to remove His people from th e earth seems to link those two events together.

Another crucial passage on the timing of the Rapture is Revelation 3:10. There, Christ promises to deliver believers from the "hour of trial" that is going to come upon the earth. This could mean two things: (1) Christ will protect believers in t he midst of the trials, or (2) Christ will deliver believers out of the trials. Both are valid meanings of the Greek word transl ated "from." However, it is important to recognize what believers are promised to be kept "from." It is not just the tri al, but the "hour" of trial. Christ is promising to keep believers from the very time period that contains the trials, namel y the Tribulation. The purpose of the Tribulation, the purpose of the Rapture, the meaning of 1 Thessalonians 5:9, and th e interpretation of Revelation 3:10 all give clear support to the Pretribulational position. If the Bible is interpreted literally and consistently, the Pretribulational position is the most Biblically consistent interpretation.

My other question is; why would a husband put His bride through tribulation when He has already given His life for Her t hat He might present to Himself His own beloved Body, His Bride, His Church. Ephesians 5:25-27 Husbands, love you r wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the wash ing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such th ing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Washing of living water, by the Word Himself, not by tribulation.

The Word Himself: John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. Th e same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Chosen in Him before the foundation of the world.

Ephesians 1:3-14 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessin gs in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we shoul d be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us acce pted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of h is grace; Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fulness of time s he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were s ealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased poss

ession, unto the praise of his glory.

I don't see any tribulation of the end times for Israel in the Body of Christ His Bride.

In Christ: Phillip

Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2008/7/30 19:52

Luke 21:36 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.

Some believe there will be a bride taken from among the church. The bride of Christ will be delivered from the hour of tri al coming upon the earth to try them.

The pre-trib rapture is for the bride, every one else will go through the tribulation.

Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2008/7/30 20:08

There are examples in scripture concerning the bride to be taken out from the church.

1. AbrahamÂ's servant getting a bride for Isaac from among his kinsman.

- 2. The 10 Virgins –5 were wise & 5 were foolish
- 3. The marriage of the Lamb has come and his wife hath made herself ready

4. EtcÂ...

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2008/7/30 20:28

If the church is taken, who will be left provoke Israel unto jealousy as Paul decribes in Romans 11?

Re: - posted by Miccah (), on: 2008/7/30 20:42

rbanks wrote: Quote: ------There are examples in scripture concerning the bride to be taken out from the church.

Yep, and there are examples in scripture that has believers not being taken out as well.

When ever the Lord is ready to take me, I'm ok with it. :-)

Re: Post-Trib Rapture - posted by Smokey (), on: 2008/7/30 20:51

I have always had a problem with the position taken by the vast majority of "Evangelical" denominations of a Pre-trib rapt ure of the church. Last fall, I woke at 3 am with the following scripture that completely and clearly tells us when the raptu re will happen. Oddly enough it is the very scripture that most clearly tells us that it is going to happen.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the tr ump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in t he air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

And then:

1Co 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall b e raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1 Th.4:16 clearly states: "the dead in Christ shall be raised FIRST, THEN we which are alive and remain shall be caught up"

1Co. clearly states "and the dead will be raised incorrruptible, and WE shall be CHANGED."

There can be no question that the event that PROCEEDS the "rapture" is the Resurrection of the Saints. The question t hen is not When is the rapture, but must be When does the Resurrection of the Saints occure?

Hint: Check out what Jesus had to say about the Resurrection in John chapter 6.

Blessings Greg

Re: - posted by sojourner7 (), on: 2008/7/30 20:55

I like Keith Green's thinking on this: When it comes to believing in either pre-tribulation or post-tribulation, my motto has alway been: pray for "pre" but prepare for "post". That way we'll be ready for truly anything--which is exactly the way God wants us to be!! The thing that matters most to God is that His people be found ready to rule as the bride of Jesus when He returns.

Re: - posted by ccchhhrrriiisss (), on: 2008/7/31 0:33

Hello...

I currently lean toward a belief in a "pre-wrath" gathering of Christ's bride (the Church). There are several reasons for thi s belief...and I approach it only after much study (with prayer, of course). However, this inclination is by no means final. I am certainly aware that the coming of the Lord might happen after the period of "great tribulation" in which God's wrath is poured out upon the entire Earth. Tribulation has always been around -- but there is a huge difference between the u nspeakable torture experienced by believers through the ages (as illustrated in Hebrews 11:35-40) and the wrath of God that will be poured down upon the entire Earth (killing and destroying entire portions in an instant).

I just believe that "God hath not appointed us to wrath" (I Thessalonians 5:9). I believe that He can certainly keep us FR OM the "hour of temptation, that will come upon all the world, to try them that live upon the Earth" (Revelation 3:10). Thi s is illustrated via anecdotes throughout the Bible. God spared his people often by removing them from (or protecting th em through) the dispersion of His wrath. Noah and his family were rescued from God's wrath, angels helped Lot escape God's judgment of fire and brimstone upon Sodom, and the Israelites escaped the plagues God poured out upon the Eg yptians. In fact, I can't find a single instance in Scripture in which an undeniably righteous person received the wrath of God. While every believer in the pages of God's Word endured periods of earthly (and even satanic) tribulation, there se ems to be a vast distinction between God's wrath and mere tribulation or persecution.

I've always viewed the coming of the Lord to be much like the traditional wedding customs of the people of God. After th e betrothal, the groom departs to "prepare a place" for his bride. The bride waits for her groom -- where she must remain n prepared for his arrival at all times. Once the groom's father approves of that place, he permits the groom to go and g ather his bride. This is reflective of the Parable of the Virgins in Matthew chapter 25 (uttered by the Christ within the sa me context as Matthew chapter 24).

The Scriptures tell us many things about the coming of the Lord. In some passages, we seemingly read about the days preceding His coming as being like "the days of Noah." Why? It wasn't because all of the people were destroying one a nother in violent, terrifying ways. Rather, Jesus said in Matthew 24:36-44 that the people were marrying, divorcing, eatin g and drinking -- all until the day of the flood (God's wrath).

The Word of God says that only the Father knows the day or hour of the Son's coming (Matthew 24:36). I also find it int eresting that the "Great Tribulation" (I prefer to call it the time of "God's Wrath") is generally accepted as 7 years (althou gh some argue for a 3 1/2 period). If the Son of God -- who knows all things -- can count the days of this "hour of trial" a s spelled out in the Word of God as He sees it from Heaven, doesn't it seem odd that Christ would not know the timing of His arrival?

Anyway, I don't pretend to have all of the answers for these things. This is merely a perspective that I hold. I am acutely aware that the Lord could come before, during or after the time of His wrath. However, I do have a problem with rebuke s and warnings from the brethren who almost "fear for my soul" (as one brother put it) simply because I lean toward a ga thering by the Son before God pours His wrath upon the Earth. When it all comes down to it, I think that the important th ing is that we remain close to Jesus. We can be aware of the various interpretations about the timing and manner in whi ch the Lord will come. We should be prepared for ANYTHING -- including the most terrible tribulation imaginable. As lo ng as we truly know and fellowship with Christ Jesus, we should be secure.

I know that some people argue that those who believe in a "pre-trib rapture" could fall prey to the deception of the Anti-C hrist. But if we truly know and walk with the Lord, wouldn't it be easy to spot a counterfeit? The argument goes that thos e who are waiting for the "rapture" during the "great tribulation" might be prone to believe the lies of the Anti-Christ simpl y because they are still waiting around for a "rapture." Since the "rapture" hasn't happened yet, these believers might thi nk that they are okay. However, the same argument about the dangers of believing in a "rapture" that may never happe n could be said of those who don't believe in a "rapture" that does. What if a "rapture" (or "gathering") does happen? Th ose who are "left" might be those who were assuming that they would "get right" when things got bad. I've actually spok en with a backslider who uses such rationale. He argues that he will rededicate his life to Christ once he sees evidence of the "great tribulation."

I like Keith Green's take on the "rapture" (pray for "pre" but prepare for "post"). I also like David Wilkerson's idea in "pantrib" (everything will "pan" out in the end). I just don't like it when believers on either side of the end-times aisle begin to point the finger of heresy at those with whom they simply have a doctrinal disagreement. I have had people point their fi ngers at me and tell me that I Â"believe a lie" simply because I can't say that I believe in a "post-trib rapture." And, of co urse, there are quite a few "visionaries" who receive supernatural visions, dreams and prophecies of a mandate that we shall live through the period of God's wrath. I suppose that it is hard to argue against someone who receives such "indis putable" evidence from God (*cough cough).

In the end, I think that we should be aware of all of the possible scenarios regarding the Lord's return. We should refrain from casting judgment upon those who might not see "eye to eye" with where we might currently lean. And it may be ad visable to NOT come to a final or ultimate conclusion about a matter that is certainly open to further analysis or debate. Until we are certain -- beyond any hint of doubt -- it might be helpful to remain open to further review. Meanwhile, we sh ould keep our eyes upon Jesus. We should focus upon intimate prayer, worship, service and a love for God's Word. On e day, this mystery will be revealed (ready or not). We should remain ready for the Lord's return -- no matter how or whe n it will happen.

:-)

Re: Post-Trib Rapture - posted by learn (), on: 2008/7/31 5:29

I believe in post-trib rapture.

Endtimepilgrim.org has some very good articles on all these. (there's some mistakes but overall the articles there are ver y good).

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2008/7/31 7:12

If the church is taken, who will be left provoke Israel unto jealousy as Paul describes in Romans 11?

Re: Post-Trib Rapture - posted by rowdy2 (), on: 2008/7/31 7:52

Reply to Mattie

Mattie you said "(but not a topic to divide over) I respectfully believe this topic can only be understood by rightly dividin g The Word of God.

God sent His Son to take GodÂ's harlot bride off the auction block and to purchase Her with His blood on the cross and r aise Her and all of them and Her children that had been dead until His coming. All those that were children of Abraham a coording to the flesh that were alive at the coming of Christ passed through the great tribulation and have gone. The law and the prophets were until John The Baptist.

Since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presses into it. The Bread Of Live lives in us that are th e spiritual children of Abraham. He will never leave me nor forsake me, thus, the filling of the promised blessing God pro mised to the world of faith through our faith in His Son..

Jesus along has The Words of Life that gives life eternal, not life after the Messiah the Anointed One comes or after the judgment, but eternal life today. Not life that the manna from heaven gave. Not the show bread, but The Daily Bread, Th e Anointed One, The Savior of all that believe by faith, not just The Liberator of the Jewish nation prophesied in the Hebr ew Bible.

God judged the world, we are all gentiles, guilty until we accept our Savior. I live by the words of our Savior to the gentile nations, we that have been judged to be sinners, not Saints..

Eddie

Re: - posted by Mattie, on: 2008/7/31 8:58

I agree with the brother who mentioned Romans 11. The church has a calling to Israel. This is a big part of the very pur pose of the church's existence and the sovereign purposes of God.

The pre-trib theory negates the fact that it is the Gentile nations that will provoke the Jewish people to their Messiah, and much of that will occur during "the time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30) and the great tribulation.

Also, when Daniel spoke of the coming Antichrist system, he didn't use language that talks of saints leaving the earth du ring this time. The language he uses tends to be more in the direction of remaining and enduring the persecutions to co me for the glory of God.

Re: - posted by ccchhhrrriiisss (), on: 2008/7/31 11:57

Hi KingJimmy...

I can't say for certain that this particular passage found in Romans 11:11 is referring to a jealousy that will be aroused DURING the time of trial that will come upon the entire world. In fact, verses 7-10 of this same chapter refers to a set of passages from Deuteronomy, Isaiah and Psalms. This could be speaking of a jealousy that already exists -- and existed from the first days in which Gentile believers were "engrafted into the vine" (Romans 11:11-24). In fact, this entire chapter doesn't seem to reference an event-prophetic view until verse 25.

------If the church is taken, who will be left provoke Israel unto jealousy as Paul describes in Romans 11?

If the Bride of Christ is gathered away before God pours down His wrath, who will be left provoke Israel unto jealousy a s Paul describes in Romans 11:11? If this passage referred to in verse 11 does describe the events during the time of G od's wrath, is it possible that it could refer to other Gentile believers who are saved during that time?

Is it possible that this could refer to those who believe DURING the period of God's wrath? There will certainly be multit udes of people -- mostly Gentile -- who will come to the Lord during that terrible time. Is it possible that the "fullness of G entiles" will not take place until during the time of God's wrath? Could it be this that provokes Israel unto jealousy?

Anyway, this is just something to consider. Like I said, I certainly don't have all of the answers in this matter. In fact, I c

an't speak with any certainty regarding the exact nature, manner and timing of Christ's return. However, I also shy away from those who claim that they have "rightly divided the Word of Truth" in such matters as these. I have been rejected a s a believer at times simply because I did not adhere to a particular doctrinal view (at least, with enough certainty to say "I believe") regarding certain matters (with even some matters that are almost trivial).

I hesitate to believe that there is a person alive who has "rightly divided" the Word of God well enough for which there are e no mysteries left. That is one reason that there are so many differences amongst the brethren. Once we are convince d and think that we are right, we set our views as rulers and primers by which to judge the beliefs of others regarding su ch matters (forgetting the grace by which we were afforded before we arrived to some of our conclusions). Some people can be so adamant that their "rightly dividing" is the only acceptable "rightly dividing" that they are willing to separate the mselves and create their own local congregations based upon their own faith in their own "rightly dividing." It makes me wonder just how "rightly" they are "dividing." This is done in views about the "rapture," the gifts of the Spirit, and any nu mber of other things by which men create denominations.

Of course, I know that most of the brethren here at SermonIndex are NOT like that. It always amazes me that this web f ellowship attracts believers from many nations, regions and doctrinal backgrounds. I suppose that we are united in the s ense that we all realize that something is greatly amiss in the organized "Church." Our hearts are incited by the words of men like Leonard Ravenhill, Paris Reidhead, and others. They spur us toward a closer relationship and reverence for th e Lord while challenging us to test everything that we may have held as "truth" for so long.

How will the Lord return? Will it happen before, during or after the "hour of trial" that will come upon the entire Earth? I j ust don't know. That is so secondary compared with my task at hand: Know Christ and introduce Him to others. I'm just excited that Christ is coming -- regardless if this happens before that hour of wrath or after it. I don't care what type of tri bulation or persecution that I will face. I don't care if it happens at the hands of men or from the wrath of God. I just long to see His face.

:-)

Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2008/7/31 14:17

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 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.

The scripture says here that the believers (living and the dead in Christ will rise) will be caught up together with them in t he clouds, to meet the Lord in the air.

It says and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Has anyone found out concerning the meeting in the air? How far above the earth will the meeting be? How long will we be in the air? What timeline have you figured this to be? What will we be doing in the air?

Just a few questions someone may have studied and could be of interest to this thread.

Thanks! -rbanks

Re: Post-Trib Rapture, on: 2008/7/31 15:05

Zac Poonen has recorded the best Revelation series I have ever heard. I listen to it every day, and never fail to glean something. It is brilliant, and addresses this very issue. I always noticed that the unbelievers cried; "hide us from the fac e of the Lamb,,,that sits upon the throne!"

The coming of the lord is instant for the believer, but there is a time that lapses for the unbeliever. Time enough for t hem to hide...in terror...at least, until the dreaded end. Wow. They would rather commit suicide than face Him...but wait t

hey must. Where is their pride now? Poonen proposes that this is the time of wrath, when the Lord Jesus treads upon th e Earth destroying the wicked, as Captain of the Lord of Armies.

There is a justice to this terror that must come upon the rebels. The Lord Jesus could collapse the Universe, or gath er them all in a moment...but because they caused so much destruction on Earth, He feeds them the same; right here u pon the Earth.

Also, Poonen points out that the saints who feared and honor God are not appointed to Wrath, but salvation. Lot was r emoved before Sodom burned, as was Noah before the Earth was flooded. This occurs after the return of Jesus, but bef ore the marriage supper of the Lamb.

For 37 years, I believed in a Post tribulation Parousia, yet something did not quite settle with me; and it was this issu e. I now see how these time line issues are resolved. There is a period of time when Wrath is poured out. No one could survive this...a time of inestimable devastation. Oceans dead, filled with real blood...rivers and streams the same..men drinking blood to quench their thirst....nothing left that is green...An earthquake that levels every mountain...the Himalaya s flattened, and the Hawaii's disappear into the sea foam along with all Islands.....every city destroyed with 100 lb. hailst ones...real odd and mean demon spirits morphed into tangible wasp like creatures that sting with pain as was never felt.

Would God allow his beloved and spotless bride to be so tortured? It is preposterous to think so. This view makes se nse, and I am 95% convinced. One more exquisite point that Poonen declares. Revelation is given for obedience' sake; not curiosity or speculation to be right.

Re: Post-Trib Rapture - posted by learn (), on: 2008/7/31 15:35

http://endtimepilgrim.org/corrie.htm http://endtimepilgrim.org/index.htm

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2008/8/1 0:01

http://www.preservedwords.com/larkin%20sc.htm

In Christ, the Bride waiting for the Husband, no more fasting because Jesus has returned for His Bride the Church, bapti zed into One Spirit.

Phillip

Re: - posted by learn (), on: 2008/8/1 1:57

The Holy Scriptures in Revelation 20 and John 6 clearly lay out a Post-Tribulation Resurrection.

http://endtimepilgrim.org/posttribrap.htm

THE BIBLE SPEAKS OF A COMBINED RESURRECTION-RAPTURE.

So let us go back to the Bible. Here is question number one. Just how does the Rapture fit in with the sure and blessed hope of the Resurrection of those dear saints who have passed on? Here is what our Apostle Paul had to say.

1Thessalonians 4:15-17

4:15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

4:17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Here in this passage of scripture we can see that Paul is clearly showing us a combined Resurrection-Rapture. The Rapture will "by no means precede" the Resurrection, Paul says. So if we are going to have a Pre-Trib Rapture then it must be accompanied by a preceding Pre-Tribulation Resurrection.

OK, now here we come to a key question.

We must find Biblical proof of a special early Pre-Tribulation Resurrection.

It must be found and time pegged as 3.5 or 7 years before the end of the age.

Does such an animal exist in Holy Scripture?

Of course such an idea is extremely problematical. There is no scripture laying out a special early Resurrection. The Bible, (as we shall discover in the paragraphs below), is telling us a different story. The Holy Scriptures in Revelation 20 and John 6 clearly lay out a Post-Tribulation Resurrection.

A COMBINED RESURRECTION-RAPTURE IS LAID OUT IN THE BIBLE. THEN WE SEE THE MYSTERIOUS CHURCH SPONSORED SMOKESCREEN OVER THE TIMING OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE RIGHTEOUS DEAD. WE THEN GO ON TO ASK THE QUESTION THAT IS RARELY ASKED.

Re: - posted by rowdy2 (), on: 2008/8/1 7:25

Reply

What about?

Matthew 27

50. Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

51. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the ro cks rent;

52. And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

144,000?

Eddie

Re: - posted by ccchhhrrriiisss (), on: 2008/8/1 10:50

Hi learn... Quote:

-----The Holy Scriptures in Revelation 20 and John 6 *clearly* lay out a Post-Tribulation Resurrection.

I just don't know how "clear" this is in either passage -- hence the ongoing discussion.

:-(

Re: - posted by learn (), on: 2008/8/1 12:57

First off--disclaimer. I am no expert at Revelation at this stage.

Revelation 20:5 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the FIRST resurrection.

Other verses--please read the articles in the website

The website I've provided in my earlier posts has many articles in it. I suggest, to read them many times if one is interes ted. (There's 1 glaring mistake there ie they provided when they suspected the end time was ie Yr 2003 which of course we know its not as its Yr 2008). However, this does not negate the other articles quality and also I don't believe that peo ple will know when the end time is as the bible says so).

There's also another website which has more mistakes (example they think that hell is not everlasting--hmm I have to sa y I'm not too sure on this). However, it also has good articles on the post-rap tribulation. See below (I'm just giving the w ebsite)

http://www.realtruth.org/articles/080502-006-utbor.html

I would normally not post in this thread as I'm bad in this and honestly not that interested in this either. The only reason I' m posting is that prior to this thread, I think I suspect God caused me to read Revelation intensely (not all parts) for a per iod of time and I kept coming back to having peace that its post-rap trib and that many people who think that its pre-rap t rib will be unprepared and it does seem 'good for churches' to tell people that its pre-rap trib (people like to hear this).

When people who supported pre-rap trib started to pull out articles etc to support these and the people that supported p ost-rap trib did not post much articles to support their position, I felt that maybe I needed to post some articles on post-ra p trib (especially since I felt that maybe God may want me to --coincidence of thread timing and when I read Revelation etc). A pre-rap trib does not require muuch preparation for believers but a post-rap trib will require believers to strengthe n themselves with the word of God so that they are prepared to face the tribulation.

Whether its really a pre-rap trib or not, I tend to lean to post-rap trib and am happy to leave it as that unless I feel an urg e to look further. I really cannot comment much on this further except to suggest to read those articles and whether one believes its pre or post-rap trib, I think its safer to err on the side of caution to strengthen ourselves and others (now or fu ture generations) with the word of God if we are to face the tribulation

Re: - posted by Smokey (), on: 2008/8/1 17:51

Scripture is also very clear about what the 144,000 are doing, and it is not evangelizing the lost!

Rev 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, havi ng his Father's name written in their foreheads.

Rev 14:2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I hear d the voice of harpers harping with their harps:

Rev 14:3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no ma n could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

Rev 14:4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

Blessings Greg