**Revelation, the Rapture Study**

**¼ of Americans believe that Jesus could return within their lifetimes.**

***John 14:2-3, “Jesus said, “I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you,* I will come again *and receive you unto Myself that where I am, you may be also.”***

***Matthew 25:13, “Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh.”***

1. **What does the Bible say about a whole generation of believers who will be taken unto God or “snatched away?”**
   1. **Read 2 Thessalonians 2:6-8, “And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. 7For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way. 8And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.”** 
      1. **Who is the lawless one?**
      2. **Who is the restrainer? Notice, the “He” is capitalized. Since God and Jesus are currently in heaven, the “He” must be the Holy Spirit. The “He” must be the Holy Spirit that is “mysteriously” operating through the Church, as promised at Pentecost. Read Acts 2:1-6.**
   2. **Read I Corinthians 15:51-53, emphasis added, “Behold I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep (die), 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. **What does “mystery” mean, in Verse 51? Read Amos 3:7. The word “mystery” is mentioned 22 times in the N. T. Every time it is mentioned, it is then revealed. 11/100 of a second—twinkling of an eye. I believe that the Rapture is a “mystery” from God and that it is “hidden” from Satan in the mentioned verses. God does not want the unbelievers to have full access to this mystery.**
         1. **Paul speaks of the Rapture as a “mystery.” Read I Corinthians 15:51-54**
         2. **This was not revealed until its disclosure by the apostles. Read Colossians 1:26**
         3. **Read Revelation 3:10. “Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwelt on the earth.” Is this referring to the same event?**
         4. **What about Luke 21:36,”Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass and to stand before the Son of Man.” Is this the same event?**
         5. **Read I Thess. 1:10, “….and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.” Is this the same event?**
         6. **Read I Thess. 5:9, “For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Does this one apply to the Rapture?**
         7. **In I Thessalonians 5:2-6 we are not among those “thief in the night” people, but rather, “You yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. BUT you brethren, are NOT IN DARKNESS, THAT THE DAY SHOULD OVERTAKE YOU LIKE A THIEF. For you are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of night or darkness, so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober.” Comment.**
         8. **This is contrasted to the Second coming which was predicted in the O.T. in Daniel 12:1-3; Zechariah 12:10, 14:40. The oldest prophecy uttered by a prophet was given before the flood of Noah was about the second coming of Christ, uttered by Enoch, and quoted in Jude 14-15.**
         9. **What are the “mysteries of the kingdom? Read Daniel 2:28, Matthew 13:11, Mark4:11, Luke 8:10, Romans 16:25.**
         10. **Read Ephesians 5:30-32. Is Paul speaking of “the church?” “For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. 31“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”**
      2. **Read Matthew 25:1-5 ”Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2Now five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish. 3Those who *were* foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, 4but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.”…..read also, verses 10-13. Explain this parable.**
      3. **Read Ephesians 1:9-10—KEY WORDS “GATHER TOGETHER IN ONE”—to sum up together in one location or place. All assembled together…..gather together in one—to sum up and gather together in one place.**
      4. **2 Thess. 2:1—KEY WORDS: “GATHERING TOGETHER UNTO CHRIST”—getting pieces together and collecting them in one place. All assembled together—gathering together unto Him, assembling together.**
      5. **Hebrews 12!22-24—KEY WORDS: “GENERAL ASSEMBLY”—all are assembled together in one. All assembled together—a complete collecting of the living and the dead in one location……the great assembly. General Assembly of “just men made perfect”—living people caught up, dead people raised, “to assemble all.” THE GATHERING OF ALL O.T.—called this the ‘great assembly.’**
   3. **Read John 14: 1-6. Does this scripture speak of the rapture? Defend your answer. “Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house (heaven), are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”** 4And where I go you know, and the way you know.”5Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?”6Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”
   4. **Read I Thessalonians 4: 13-18, KEY WORDS—“Caught up together”—to seize or to “pluck up by force.”This is actually the letter that the Apostle Paul wrote, after spending two years at Mt. Sinai where Moses was “taken up” by God for the law. “But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.15For 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. 16For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. ,v. This is not Revelation 19, when Christ comes down to the earth. Rev. 19:11, “And I saw heaven open (there are no clouds), behold a white horse…. (the second coming to earth).” People in the Thessalonians’ church were beginning to die, and worried that they had missed Jesus. The early church expected Jesus to come very soon. Paul wrote this to explain that when Jesus comes, He will bring with Him the souls of the departed and re-unite them with their dead bodies which will be resurrected as new, immortal bodies. LORD HIMSELF, Jesus, descends to the clouds. Those alive will be “caught up” in the clouds, in new bodies with them all.**
   5. **Read Acts 1:9-11; Jesus ascended in clouds and will return, the first time/Rapture, the same way. Read 2 Cor. 13:1. Comment on the similarities. “**Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, 11who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.” Also, read 2 Cor. 13:1—mouth of two witnesses. This matches I Cor. 15:51-52 and I Thess. 4:17.
   6. **Read 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10.… “What is the purpose of the tribulation? What is the status of the saints? “That you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; 6since *it is* a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, 7and to *give* you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe,[**[**a**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Thess+1&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-29660a)**] because our testimony among you was believed.”**
   7. **Were there other people that left this earth without dying? Others “snatched away?”**
      1. **What is Bible Typology?—foreshadowing—“God declares the end from the beginning,” Isaiah 46:10; Solomon said, Eccl. 1:9, “There is nothing new under the son.”**
         1. **Noah’s flood. Read Genesis 7. Enoch was raptured first, like the church; Noah’s family were preserved in a hiding place like Israel.**
         2. **Sodom and Gomorrah. Read Gen. 19:22. Lot and his daughters were rescued prior to judgment like the church, and the angels could not destroy the rest until they were removed.**
         3. **The “morning star” allusion to the overcomers in the church of Thyatira, Rev. 2:28. The “morning star,” Jesus (Rev. 22:16); the morning start always appears near the end of the long night (church age) and before the dawn (Millennium). So, this implies that Christ will appear as the Church Age ends, and before the tribulation starts.**
      2. **“Caught up” is the reference for rapture. Where else does this concept appear in the Bible? Name the eight raptures in the scripture.**
         1. **Enoch—Gen. 5:42, Heb. 11:5 Read Genesis 5:21, Enoch is the 7th from Adam; Jude says he was a preacher of righteousness. “God took him.” Hebrews 11: 5, “By faith, Enoch was translated that he should not see death.”**
         2. **Elijah—2 Kings 2:1, 11 Read 2 Kings 2:1-9, “And it came to pass when the Lord would take up Elijah into heaven in a whirlwind.”—Elijah taken into heaven; Elisha left. Gentile nation raptured; Jews going through the tribulation.**
         3. **Jesus—Marl 16:19, Acts 1:9-11, Rev. 12:5 (Israel portrayed as the woman; pregnant with Jesus, and she is “caught up”)**
         4. **Philip—Acts 8:39**
         5. **Paul—2 Cor. 12:2-4**
         6. **Body of Christ—I Thess.4:17**
         7. **John –Rev. 4:1**
         8. **The Two Witnesses in Revelation—Rev. 11:1**
   8. **Are there references to the rapture in the O.T.?**
      1. **Read Amos 3:7—God doesn’t do anything unless He reveals it to the prophets.**
      2. **Read Zech. 9:9—prophecy of the Lord; 14, “and the Lord shall be seen over them….blow the trumpet and shall go with whirlwinds (Elijah’s rapture).**
      3. **Read Amos 1:13-14, “For three transgressions…..they have ripped up the women with child….. shouting” (and God names the day, “The day of the whirlwind.”) “Shouted” when they marched around Jericho. Is this a typology of the Rapture?**
      4. **Read Is. 66:14-16. “When you see *this,* your heart shall rejoice, And your bones shall flourish like grass; The hand of the Lord shall be known to His servants, And *His* indignation to His enemies.15For behold, the Lord will come with fire And with His chariots, like a whirlwind, To render His anger with fury,  
         And His rebuke with flames of fire.16For by fire and by His sword  
         The Lord will judge all flesh; And the slain of the Lord shall be many.”**
      5. **Read Jeremiah 23:19-21, “Behold, a whirlwind of the Lord has gone forth in fury.”**
      6. **Read Proverbs 1:20-24, “Wisdom cryeth out….scorners, fools, (God is pleading with the church)…give heed to My Word…because I have called and you refused……God said I will laugh at your calamity….and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind…..they shall not find me.” There will come a time when God will not answer.**
      7. **Read Psalm 50:5-6 “Gather My saints together to Me, Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”6Let the heavens declare His righteousness,   
         For God Himself *is* Judge. Selah.”**
      8. **Read Genesis 49:10, “The scepter shall not depart from Judah until Shiloh comes.” Read Numbers 24:17…..scepter shall arise from Israel. (Kingship will arise in Israel). (Shiloh is a title for the Messiah). Daniel 9:28….Messiah is mentioned, the anointed one. “Christ” is “Christos” in Greek, means the “anointed one,” or “Messiah.” His revelation is found clear back to Jacob. Jews were taught that the Messiah would set up a kingdom; they looked for an earthly kingdom, but the kingdom of heaven they did not understand—revealed in N.T. who believed that the believers would go to heaven first, before the Messiah came back to set up an earthly kingdom. The rapture is not a blessing for salvation, but a blessing for faithfulness/overcomer…According to the Revelation Churches, the seven blessings for the overcomer are “heavenly blessings”—1. You will eat of the Tree of life in the paradise of God, 2. You will not be overcome by the second death, 3. You will receive a white stone and a new name, 3. You will get hidden manna, the morning star, a white robes and confess before angels, be a pillar, sit on His throne.—blessings all occur in heaven, not earth.**

* 1. **The Time of Jacob’s Trouble, Jeremiah 30:7 and Daniel 9:24 (thy people) explain that the tribulation is meant to be a time for testing the Jews. Does the Bible ever imply that is for testing the Church? Explain Rev. 7:2-8 and the importance of the 144,000 Jewish missionaries.**

1. **Where does the word, “rapture” come from? Greek word, “harpazo”—to catch up, to seize, to snatch. Latin translated “harpazo” as “rapto.” English translated ”rapto” to “rapture.”**
2. **Who does the rapture happen for? Read Romans 10:13.** “For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”
3. **What happens on the World Stage after the Rapture? Read 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12, “**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:9Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,10And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.11**And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion**, that **they should believe a lie**:12That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”
4. **Re-read Ezekiel 38-39, Rev. 4-22.**
5. **Imminency--What is the blessed hope? Titus 2: 11-13. “**For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13**looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ**,”
   1. **Read Matthew 24:30-31, “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.”**
   2. **Read Ephesians 1:9-10, “having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both[**[**a**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+1%3A9-10&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-29217a)**] which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.” Compare “the dispensation of the fullness of time” to Galatians 4:4, “But when the fullness of time was come….in the law.”**
   3. **Read Luke 12:40 “**Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”
   4. **Read Matthew 24:44** ”Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”
   5. **Read I John 3:2-3.**  “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. AND EVERY MAN THAT HATH THIS HOPE IN HIM PURIFIEH HIMSELF, even as He is pure.”
   6. **Read Matthew 24:48-29**  ”But and if that **evil servant** shall say in his heart, My Lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin o smite his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken;”
   7. **Read Philippians 3:20-21**“For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also WE LOOK FOR THE SAVIOUR, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even o subdue all things unto Himself.”
   8. **Read Luke12:37-38. “**Blessed *are* those servants whom the master, **when he comes**, **will find watching**. Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down *to eat,* and will come and serve them. 38And if he should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find *them* so, blessed are those servants.”
      1. **Read Matthew 14:25, “**Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. 26And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out for fear.27But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.”The fourth watch is the ending, His return…..the end of the tribulation. **Read Mark 6:48.**
   9. **What is the promise? Read John 14:1-3. Where are the “raptured” saints going? To the Father’s house, with many mansions. Once “caught up” in the rapture, Jesus takes those raptured believers to His Father’s house to “forever and always” be with Him. Notice the use of the words “you or ye” in this scripture.**
   10. **What does the ancient Jewish wedding mimic here? In Luke 12:36, the Word states that when Christ returns, He will be returning from a wedding. Read the Luke passage. In the Jewish culture, the marriage supper takes place before the marriage. First the betrothal, then the covenant, then the bridegroom paid, the bride set aside, exclusively for the groom, a contract, a commitment. As a symbol, they would both drink wine. Then, the bridegroom would depart to His Father’s house, and He would prepare a place. She would wait for His imminent return. She does not know when He would return. Usually he would surprise her, and return for her, usually at midnight. He would then take his bride with him. Usually the bridegroom would give a shout, a surprise gathering (Matthew 25—parable of the 10 virgins). Marriage supper lasted typically seven days.** 
       1. **Covenant Established—act of faith when we ask Jesus as Savior. I Cor. 11:25**
       2. **Purchase Price—dowry paid—Jesus’ life. I Cor. 6:19-20**
       3. **Bride Set Apart—Eph 5:25-27; I Cor. 1:2, 8:11, Heb. 10:10, 13:12**
       4. **Reminded of the Covenant—I Cor. 11:25-26**
       5. **Bridegroom left for the Father’s House—John 14:1-3.**
       6. **Escort to accompany Him upon His return to gather His bride, unannounced—this is the pre-Trib rapture. I Thess. 4:16-17, Rev. 19:11-16**
       7. **Following the wedding supper, the bride and groom are presented to the world as man and wife. This corresponds to the time when Jesus returns to earth accompanied by an army “clothed in fine linen, white and clean,” the second coming. Rev. 19:14.**
   11. **The Rapture Process. Read Job 19:25-27. Comment on this reference to end times.**
       1. **Re-read I Thess. 4:17—“And so shall we ever be with the Lord.” What does this mean? The Church Saints will never be separated from Jesus again; we will always be with Him. He brings the spirits of the godly dead with Him.**
       2. **The Word “Rapture, Trinity, Second Coming, Glorified Body, Incarnation, or Bible” are words that are not in the Bible.**
   12. **The Rapture Purpose. Re-read I Corinthians 15:50-53, 54-55. Who shall be changed or made alive? How would that affect the aged or ill saints at that time?** 
       1. **I John 3:2—What does this verse say about the immortal body? Made alive and whole; transformed.**
       2. **2 Cor. 5:1-3—Speak about what kind of house this is? What is the “earthly house of our tabernacle?” “Clothed upon”—new body; Temporary dwellings; “House” in Greek only occurs twice in the Bible, once here and in Jude 1:6, “talking about Gen. 6 occurrences.” The fallen angels left their “habitation or house dwelling” to engage in mischief in Genesis Six…..we aspire to this heavenly body. “If so be we shall not be found naked”—vs. 3**
       3. **Doctrine of Imminence—nothing else needs to happen before this happens. The next event. Read Phil. 3:20, Titus 2:13, Heb. 9:28, I Thess. 1:10, 4:18, 5:6, Rev. 22:20. Believers are taught to expect the Savior from heaven at any moment. Read I Thess. 1:10. Heb.10:37.** 
          1. **“Occupy until I Come.” Read Luke 19:13, 2 Thess. 3:10-12, James 5:8. Why did Jesus remind His friends about this?**
          2. **Read Matthew 24:36, 44. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. And Mark 13:20, 33-37.**
          3. **What does Luke 12:40 say about being ready? Is the imminence implied? Acts 1:7.**
   13. **What is the Second Coming of Christ?**
       1. **Verses about the Second Coming.**
          1. **Daniel 2:44-45, 7:9-14, 12:1-3; Zech 14:1-5, Matt. 13:42, 24:15-31, Mark 13:14-27, 14:62, Luke 21:25-28, Acts 1:9-11, 3:19-21, I Thess. 3:13, 2 Thess. 1:6-10, 2:8, 2 Peter 3:1-14, Jude 14-15, Rev. 1:7, Rev. 19:11-20:6, 22:7, 12, 2**
       2. **Verses about the Rapture**
          1. **John 14:1-3, I Cor. 15: 1-53, I Thess 4:13-18, Rom. 8:19, I Cor 1:7-8, 16:22, Phil. 3:20-21, Col. 3:4, I Thess 1:10, 2:19, 5:9, 5:23, 2 Thess. 2:1, 3, I Tim. 6:14, 2 Tim. 4:1, Titus 2:13, Heb. 9:28, James 5:7-9, I Peter 1: 7, 13, I John 2:18-32, Jude 21, Rev. 2:25, 3:10**
   14. **At Christ’s Second Coming, Zechariah 14:4, “On that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives,” Jesus comes to earth. Where is He at the rapture?**
6. **What are the differences between the Rapture and the Second Coming? List them.**

**Rapture Second Coming**

**Translation of believers No translations involved**

**Translated saints go to heaven Translated saint return to earth**

**Earth not judged Earth judged**

**Imminent, any moment, signless. Follows definite predicted signs**

**Not in O.T. Predicted in O. T.**

**Believers Only Affects all men on the earth**

**Before the day of wrath concludes the day of wrath**

**No reference to Satan Satan will be bound**

**Comes for His own Comes with His own**

**Comes in the air Comes to the earth**

**Claims His Bride Comes with His bride**

**Only His own see Him Every eye shall see Him**

**Great Tribulation Begins Millennium Begins**

**Church Believers Only OT Saved raised later?**

* 1. **There is a difference in the place Christ will meet believers. Explain. Rapture—Christ in the air; Second Coming—Christ on the Mt. of Olives**
  2. **There is a difference in who actually translates the people on earth. Comment. Rapture—the Lord Himself gathers His Own. Second Coming—Christ sends His angels to take the wicked off the earth.**
  3. **There is a difference in those who are taken from earth and those who are left. Distinguish between the two. Rapture—believers are taken; unbelievers are left on the earth. Second Coming—the believers are left on earth to go into Millennium with Jesus and unbelievers are taken to judgment.**
  4. **There is difference when Jesus comes in relationship to the tribulation. Detail the difference. Rapture—Jesus comes to rescue Christians before the hour of trial. At the Second Coming—He comes at the end with His army.**
  5. **There is a difference in the number of signs that are given for each event. Categorize these. There are no signs that have to happen before the Rapture occurs. The Second Coming—many signs in Matthew 24, 19 signs.**
  6. **There is a difference between the two events as to when judgment takes place. What is the differences? Rapture—no judgment mentioned, only promises. Second Coming—judgment of unbelievers**
  7. **There is a difference in the timing of the resurrections which will take place. Note the two distinctions. Rapture—a resurrection of the dead in Christ takes place when Christ meets believers in the air. Second Coming—a resurrection of the righteous who died during the Tribulation takes place after Christ has descended to the earth. Rapture—twinkling of an eye timing, Christ comes with the soul/spirits of the dead believers to be reunited with their new bodies, live Christians will get new bodies. Second Coming—the saved during the tribulation who died, their bodies will be resurrected for the Millennium.**
  8. **There is a difference in the kinds of bodies believers will possess. Rapture—believers are given glorified bodies, a body which will never die. I Cor. 15:52-53; Second Coming—the believers that live until the end of the tribulation, will go immediately into the Millennium with Christ, with mortal bodies. Children will be born; they will be mortals. Post Trib allows no mortals going into the Millennium kingdom. Read Isaiah 65:20 about children born in the Millennium. Isaiah 65:20—Millenium children.**

1. **What happens in Zech. 14:4, when Jesus steps foot on the Mount of Olives?**
2. **Ez.5: 5 says what about Jerusalem? Chapters 40-46 Ezekiel, describe the Millennial Temple, the Messiah’s Temple?**
3. **Isaiah says……..”Who is that coming with garments spotted with blood? Isaiah 61: 1-2. Jesus gathers His elect out of Petra where they were hiding. Rev. 12:6. Jesus gathers His 1/3, brings His elect. Ez.43:1-7.**
4. **What is the Millennial Kingdom? Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 24:30-31 Matthew 19:28 Read the promise to the Church of Ephesus. Revelation 2:7. Is this a millennial promise?**
5. **The Rapture Procedure**
   1. **Daniel 9:24-last four verses….70 weeks. Re-read. What does this passage say?**
   2. **Daniel 9:24—Scopeof the Prophecy**
   3. **Daniel 9:25—The 69 Week—from rebuild Jerusalem to Jesus-173,880 days**
   4. **Daniel 9:26—Interval—Messiah killed; Jerusalem destroyed in 70 a.d., and it is still continuing today.**
   5. **Daniel 9:27—The 70th Week—more details than O.T. or N. T.—the Tribulation period**
      1. **Deals specifically with Israel**
      2. **Defined—covenant that is enforced by a world leader, Nimrod II**
      3. **Middle of week , he does the Abomination of Desolation, and it initiates the Great Trib, 3 ½ years, 42 years, 1260 days**
      4. **God’s wrath is being poured out on the world**
      5. **Church is promised to be removed**
      6. **The Time of Jacob’s Trouble, O.T. label by Jeremiah 30:7, re-read Dan. 12:1**
      7. **Started by Covenant, ended with 2nd Coming of Christ, then Millennium**
      8. **Zech 13:8-9, 2/3 of Jews destroyed**
      9. **Matthew 24:21-22—“Except those days be shortened…”Is this allusion to nuclear war?**
      10. **Matthew 23:37-39---God’s desire to gather His own….purpose of all History.**
      11. **Hosea 5:15—purpose of tribulation—to get Israel recognize their rejection of the Messiah**
   6. **The Church—the Body of Christ**
      1. **Bride of Christ—Ephesians 5:22-23, Romans7:4, 2 Cor. 11:2, James 4:4, Genesis 2:24**
      2. **Expressly exempted from God’s wrath—Rev. 3:10, I Thess. 5:9**
   7. **Anti Christ- makes war with the saints, Dan.7:21-22, Rev. 13:7,--to overcome the saints. Matthew 16:15—the gates of hell shall not prevail. How do these verses coincide? Matthew 11:11, “Among them that are born of women….John the Baptist” and then Matthew 11:13, Luke 16:16—John the Baptist is the close of the Old Testament.**
   8. **Not all saints are alike. There are O.T. Saints; there is the church; there will be people saved in tribulation, tribulation saints.**
   9. **What are some Old Testament patterns or shadows of the Rapture:**
      1. **Enoch and the Flood of Noah, Gen.5:24**
         1. **Three groups facing the flood: those that perished; those that were preserved; those that were removed prior—Enoch born on the Pentecost, raptured on Pentecost, and the Church was born on Pentecost**
      2. **Isaac’s Absence after His Offering, Gen.22:19-24;62**
      3. **Ruth during the Thrashing Floor Scene, Ruth 3:7-9**
      4. **Daniel’s Absence in the Fiery Furnace, Daniel 5**
      5. **Old Testament Allusions to Rapture**
         1. **Isaiah 26:19-21—hide thy people; thy chambers**
         2. **Zeph. 2:3—hid in the day of the Lord’s anger**
         3. **Psalm 27:5—time of trouble; He shall hide me**
   10. **Origen—writer who believed in allegory; Augustine was his student, birth of amillenialsm. Became the core doctrine in the Medieval Church. But, they believed most things were not literal.**
   11. **God’s not finished with Israel. What, then, is the purpose of the tribulation?**
   12. **Where does the church get raptured?**
       1. **Post tribulation—after the tribulation, held by amillenialists; denies NT imminency; church experiences God’s wrath; who will populate the millennium**
       2. **Mid-Trib—before the great wrath.**
       3. **Pre-wrath—rapture takes place ¾ through the Trib**
       4. **Pre-Trib—rapture does not necessarily trigger Daniel’s 70th week, it might, but doesn’t have to. It might be ahead of the 70th week by a little bit.**
          1. **Scenario has to be this: Rapture, (Leader cannot be revealed until after the Rapture—2 Thess. 2:6-9) revealing of the leader, leader sets up 7 years, sets up abomination of desolation, last ½ is the great tribulation.**
          2. **2 Thessalonians 2—order of events for the Rapture. They were upset because they thought the Trib had begun because of Nero’s persecution. Paul writes this letter to rebut a forgery of a letter going around about the rapture. They thought that they had missed the rapture.**
             1. **2 Thess. 2:3—falling away first; reference to a time of apostasy that has to come first**
             2. **2 Thess. 2:11—God will send a strong delusion; that they will believe a lie.**
             3. **The restrainer being taken out of the way**
             4. **Sequence of events: apostasy, restrainer removed—Holy Spirit taken out, then the man of sin revealed, day of the Lord.**
             5. **“Day of the Lord”—unless there’s a falling away first, 2 Thess**
   13. **The Lampstands—identified as the church—Rev.1:20, Rev. 4:5—they are in heaven**
   14. **Twenty-four elders, identified as the Redeemed, Rev. 5:9-10, priests and kings—redeemed; worship the lamb before the scroll opened; then the scroll opens and starts the tribulation.**
   15. **Magog invasion happens after the Rapture of the church.**
   16. **Reasons that the church will be raptured before the Tribulation:** 
       1. **Promised from the hour of trial—Rev. 3:10**
       2. **After Rev. 4:1, the church is not seen until Rev. 19:11; there is an abrupt shift after chapter 3 to “the things which shall be afterward.”**
       3. **John’s spiritual translation to heaven, Rev. 4, as a typological indication of the Rapture.**
       4. **The presence of the 24 elders in heaven which indicates that the church already in heaven before the scroll is opened—Rev. 4:4—**
       5. **The church is not the object of God’s Wrath—Rev. 6:1, I Thess. 5:9—contrast to Rev. 13:7 where the Antichrist is given power to make war with the saints and overcome them.**
       6. **Jewish focus on the Rapture in light of Daniel’s 70th Week, Romans 11:25-26.**
       7. **Told to “escape, not endure” tribulation—Luke 21:36,**
       8. **Told that that day “shall not come as a thief” on the Church—I Thess. 5:4; Luke 12:39**
       9. **Told to “look up”—Luke 21:28**
       10. **The Imminency of the Coming of Christ—Daniel 9:27, 2 Thess. 2:1-4)**
       11. **Before all wars, you call your ambassadors home—2 Cor. 5:20**
       12. **Restrainer removed before the antichrist appears—2 Thess 2**
       13. **Takes place in the twinkling of an eye; not an extended activity**
       14. **The Church is told over and over again to “watch for Christ,” not “watch for the antichrist.” (I Thess. 5:6, Titus 2:13, Rev. 3:3).**
       15. **Happens in the air, not on the earth**
       16. **Woman in Rev. 12:5 is Israel, not the church**
       17. **Marriage supper in heaven includes the raptured and happens before Rev. 19:11-14**
       18. **Read Rev. 19:8, 18, When Jesus returns, an army follows Him, riding on white horses, and clothed in fine linen that is the righteousness of the saints. If the saints of God are returning with Christ to wage war on the Antichrist, then it is impossible to have post-Trib rapture without us running into ourselves as we are coming and going.**
       19. **Complete absence of any mention of the Rapture at the closing of the Tribulation.**
       20. **At the close of the book, Rev. 19:19-21, King Jesus is returning to earth for battle. It would be strange to be “meeting your Lord for the first time” as He’s rushing into this epic skirmish. The scene of that is impossible to imagine, especially since they would have to transpire at the same moment in post-Trib rapture.**
       21. **Twenty-four verses in the book of Revelation refer to the church. Twenty of the 24 verses refer to the church in the present church age (Rev.**[**Rev. 1:4**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/1-4.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-1/revelation-1-4.html#3.1.4)**,**[**Rev. 1:11**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/1-11.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-1/revelation-1-11.html#3.1.11)**,**[**Rev. 1:20**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/1-20.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-1/revelation-1-20.html#3.1.20)**;**[**Rev. 2:1**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/2-1.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-2/revelation-2-1.html#3.2.1)**,**[**Rev. 2:7**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/2-7.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-2/revelation-2-7.html#3.2.7)**,**[**Rev. 2:8**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/2-8.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-2/revelation-2-8.html#3.2.8)**,**[**Rev. 2:11**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/2-11.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-2/revelation-2-11.html#3.2.11)**,**[**Rev. 2:12**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/2-12.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-2/revelation-2-12.html#3.2.12)**,**[**Rev. 2:17**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/2-17.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-2/revelation-2-17.html#3.2.17)**,**[**Rev. 2:18**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/2-18.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-2/revelation-2-18.html#3.2.18)**,**[**Rev. 2:23**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/2-23.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-2/revelation-2-23.html#3.2.23)**,**[**Rev. 2:29**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/2-29.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-2/revelation-2-29.html#3.2.29)**;**[**Rev. 3:1**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/3-1.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-3/revelation-3-1.html#3.3.1)**,**[**Rev. 3:6**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/3-6.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-3/revelation-3-6.html#3.3.6)**,**[**Rev. 3:7**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/3-7.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-3/revelation-3-7.html#3.3.7)**,**[**Rev. 3:13**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/3-13.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-3/revelation-3-13.html#3.3.13)**,**[**Rev. 3:14**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/3-14.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-3/revelation-3-14.html#3.3.14)**,**[**Rev. 3:22**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/3-22.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-3/revelation-3-22.html#3.3.22)**;**[**Rev. 22:16**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/22-16.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-22/revelation-22-16.html#3.22.16)**,**[**Rev. 22:17**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/22-17.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-22/revelation-22-17.html#3.22.17)**). Two verses refer to the church in the marriage of the Lamb, which will take place *in heaven* , not on the earth (Rev.**[**Rev. 19:7**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/19-7.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-19/revelation-19-7.html#3.19.7)**,**[**Rev. 19:8**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/19-8.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-19/revelation-19-8.html#3.19.8)**). Two verses refer to the church in the eternal state (Rev.**[**Rev. 21:2**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/21-2.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-21/revelation-21-2.html#3.21.2)**,**[**Rev. 21:9**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/revelation/21-9.html)[**+**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-21/revelation-21-9.html#3.21.9)**). It is important to note that there are no references to the church *on the earth* in chapters 4 through 18, the chapters relating specifically to the 70th week of Daniel**[**Dan. 9:1**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/daniel/9-1.html)**, including the seals, trumpets, and bowls.****[1](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/related-topics/rapture.html" \l "102176E" \t "_blank)**
6. **The church is mentioned 17 times in the first three chapters of Revelation**, but after John (a member of the church) is called up to heaven at the beginning of chapter 4, he looks down on the events of the Tribulation, and the church is not mentioned or seen again until **chapter 19**, when she returns to the earth with her Bridegroom at His glorious appearing. Why? The answer is obvious: *She isn’t in the Tribulation*. She is raptured to be with her Lord before it begins!
7. **Signs of the Second Coming of Christ**
   1. 1) Increasing instability of nature. ([Matthew 24:7](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Matthew%2024.7) & [Luke 21:11](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Luke%2021.11))
   2. 2) Increasing lawlessness and violence.([Matthew 24:12](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Matthew%2024.12))
   3. 3) Increasing immorality.([Matthew 24:37](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Matthew%2024.37))
   4. 4) Increasing materialism. ([2 Timothy 3:2](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%203.2))

`e. 5) Increasing Hedonism.([2 Timothy 3:4](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%203.4))

f. 6) Increasing influence of Humanism. ([2 Timothy 3:2](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%203.2))

1. 7) Depraved entertainment. ([2 Timothy 3:4](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%203.4))
2. 8) Calling evil good and good evil.([2 Timothy 3:3](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%203.3) & [Isaiah 5:20](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Isaiah%205.20))
3. 9) Increasing use of drugs.([2 Timothy 3:3](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%203.3))
4. 10) Increasing blasphemy.([2 Timothy 3:2](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%203.2))
5. 11) Increasing paganism.([2 Timothy 3:1-4](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%203.1-4))
6. 12) Increasing despair.([2 Timothy 3:1](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%203.1))
7. 13) Signs in the heavens.([Luke 21:11](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Luke%2021.11),[25](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Luke%2021.25))
8. 14) Increasing knowledge.([Daniel 12:4](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Daniel%2012.4))
9. 15) Increasing travel.([Daniel 12:4](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Daniel%2012.4))
10. 16) The explosion of cults.([Matthew 24:11](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Matthew%2024.11))
11. 17) The proliferation of false christs.([Matthew 24:5](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Matthew%2024.5))
12. 18) Increasing apostasy in the Church.([2 Timothy 4:3-5](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Timothy%204.3-5))
13. 19) Increasing attacks on Jesus.([Romans 1:18-19](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Romans%201.18-19))
14. 20) Increasing attacks on the Bible.([Romans 1:18-19](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Romans%201.18-19))
15. 21) Increasing persecution of Christians.([Matthew 24:9](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Matthew%2024.9))
16. 22) Increasing occultism.([1 Timothy 4:1](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/1%20Timothy%204.1))
17. 23) Wars and rumors of wars.([Matthew 24:6](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Matthew%2024.6))
18. 24) Weapons of mass destruction.([Luke 21:26](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Luke%2021.26))
19. 25) Increasing famine.([Luke 21:11](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Luke%2021.11))
20. 26) Increasing pestilence.([Luke 21:11](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Luke%2021.11))
21. 27) Computer technology.([Revelation 13:7](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Revelation%2013.7))
22. 28) Television.([Revelation 11:8-9](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Revelation%2011.8-9))
23. 29) Satellite technology.([Revelation 11:8-9](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Revelation%2011.8-9))
24. 30) Virtual reality.([Revelation 13:14-15](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Revelation%2013.14-15))
25. 31) Unification of Europe.(Daniel 2 & 7)
26. 32) Far Eastern military powers.([Revelation 9:16](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Revelation%209.16) & [16:12](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Revelation%2016.12))
27. 33) Movement toward world government.([Daniel 7:23-26](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Daniel%207.23-26))
28. 34) Regathering of the Jews.([Isaiah 11:10-12](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Isaiah%2011.10-12))
29. 35) Re-establishment of Israel.([Isaiah 66:7-8](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Isaiah%2066.7-8))
30. 36) Reclamation of the land of Israel.([Ezekiel 36:34-35](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Ezekiel%2036.34-35))
31. 37) Revival of Biblical Hebrew.([Zephaniah 3:9](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Zephaniah%203.9); [Jeremiah 31:23](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Jeremiah%2031.23))
32. 38) Re-occupation of Jerusalem.([Luke 21:24](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Luke%2021.24))

mm.39) .Resurgence of the Israeli military.([Zechariah 12:6](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Zechariah%2012.6))

nn.40) Re-focusing of world politics on Israel.([Zechariah 12:3](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Zechariah%2012.3))

oo.41) Russian threat to Israel.(Ezekiel 38 and 39)

pp.42) Arab threat to Israel.(Ezekiel 35 and 36)

qq. 43) Denial of the Second Coming.([2 Peter 3:3-4](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/2%20Peter%203.3-4))

rr. 44) Denial of creation by God.([Romans 1:18-22](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Romans%201.18-22))

ss.45) Outpouring of the Holy Spirit.([Joel 2:28-29](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Joel%202.28-29))

tt. 46) Translation of the Bible into many languages.([Matthew 24:14](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Matthew%2024.14))

uu. 47) Preaching of the Gospel worldwide.([Matthew 24:14](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Matthew%2024.14))

vv.48) The revival of Messianic Judaism.([Romans 9:27](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Romans%209.27))

ww. 49) The revival of Davidic praise worship.([Amos 9:11](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Amos%209.11))

xx. 50) The understanding of Bible prophecy.([Daniel 12:8-9](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Daniel%2012.8-9))

WHEN WILL THE RAPTURE COME?

**Romans 11:25**, "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel*, until* the fullness of the Gentiles be come in."

Additional Verses:

Zeph. 2:1-3—pre trib rapture ----“hiding”

Isaiah 26: 19, 20, 21—19—arise, resurrection as in I Thess. 4:16, 20—enter into thy chambers, as in wedding chambers, 21—tribulation is to “punish the earth.”

Psalm 27:5—He shall hide me; set me on a rock.

Matthew 25:10—a door shut, door was shut (the one that the church and John entered into)

Rev. 4—same trumpet as Paul talks about in Thess. 4, and I Cor. 15

**Promise:** Acts 16:30-32, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.”





