SURVEY OF THE PRETRIB RAPTURE IN THE NT & OT



SOOTHKEEP

"TRUTH FORTRESS"

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NEW TESTAMENT PROOF

FIRST PROOF
PROMISE OF DELIVERANCE

REVELATION 3:10

Because you have kept the matter of my patience, I also will KEEP YOU FROM the hour of trial, which shall come upon ALL the world, to try those who dwell on the earth (the earthdwellers).

PARAPHRASE OF THE PROMISE

REV. 3:10 (paraphrase) — Because you have patiently suffered with me in the time of my patience (the church age), I will remove you from the planet prior to the time of trial (tribulation) that is coming on the entire planet to try those who are citizens of this planet.

SECOND PROOF

THE CHURCH IS IN HEAVEN
IN BEFORE THE 1ST SEAL

REVELATION 4-5

ORDER OF REVELATION

- Rev. 1:19 – Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall happen hereafter;
- things you saw = ch. 1 – person of Christ
- things which are = chs. 2-3 – Church age
- things which must happen **thereafter** (after church age) = chs. 4-22

TYPE OF THE RAPTURE

- Rev. 4:1 — After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up here, and I will show you things which must happen thereafter.

TWO SIGNIFICANT VERSES

- Rev 4:4 — Around the throne were twenty-four THRONES, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white ROBES; and they had CROWNS of gold on their heads.

- Rev 5:9 — And they sung a new song, saying, You art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for you were slain, and have redeemed us to God by your BLOOD out of every kindred, tongue, people, and nation.

FIVE BITS OF LIMITING DATA

- the 24 are blood redeemed (Rev 5:9)
- the 24 are wearing white robes (Rev 4:4)
- the 24 are enthroned (Rev 4:4)
- the 24 are crowned (Rev 4:4)
- the 24 are enrobed, enthroned, crowned BEFORE 1st seal (before the antichrist)

STRAIGHTFORWARD LOGIC

- IF the 24 are blood-redeemed and clothed in white robes, THEN they can only be human beings. (Not angels)
- IF the 24 are enthroned and crowned before the first seal is opened in Rev. 6:1, THEN the 24 are resurrected and rewarded before the antichrist and the tribulation. (not OT saints or trib saints)
- IF the 24 are resurrected and rewarded before the antichrist and the tribulation, THEN the pretrib rapture is true and the church won't see any of the tribulation.

THIRD PROOF

CONTRAST BETWEEN THE RAPTURE AND THE DAY OF THE LORD

2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-3

THE ANTICHRIST CHARACTERIZES THE DAY OF THE LORD

2 Thess. 2:1-3 — 1] We BESEECH you brethren, BY (on account of) the rapture, 2] NOT TO WORRY that the day of the Lord IS HERE. 3] Let no man deceive you, for that day IS NOT HERE unless the falling away happens first and the man of sin be revealed.

FOURTH PROOF

THE LORD'S NEXT PHYSICAL INTERACTION WITH THE CHURCH BRINGS HER TO HEAVEN

JOHN 14:1-3

John 14:1-3

1 Don’t let your heart be troubled: you believe
in God, believe also in me.
2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it*
were not *so*, I would have told you. I GO TO
PREPARE a place for you.
3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will
come again, and receive you unto myself; that
where I am, *there* you may be also.

NEW TESTAMENT CLARIFICATIONS

FIRST CLARIFICATION

1 THESSALONIANS 4:15-17

The distinction between **parousia** (royal entrance) and **apantesis** (meeting the royal train).

1 THESSALONIANS 4:15-17

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain for **the coming** of the Lord, shall not precede those who are asleep.

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

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be **caught up** together with them in the clouds, to **meet** the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

SECOND CLARIFICATION

The distinction between the **morning star** and **sunrise**.

TYPOLOGY OF THE DAY OF THE LORD



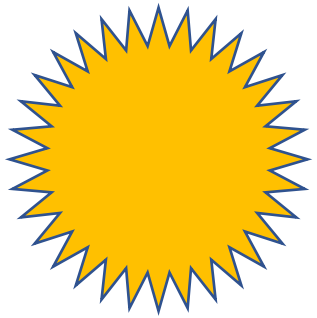
MORNING STAR

Crack of dawn of Day of the Lord
— first hint of the approaching day
— Rev. 2:28, Rev. 22:16, 2 Pet. 1:19
— comes as a thief in the night

unobtrusive sign

SUNRISE

Arrival of Day of Lord
(Mal. 4:1-3. Jam. 1:9-11)
(legal start of day)



terrifying signs in the heavens

RAPTURE

SECOND COMING

DAWNING

TRIBULATION

Dawning of the Day of the Lord
(1 Thess. 5, 2 Thess. 2)

signs increase variety, intensity, frequency

DAY PROPER

MILLENNIUM

— the Promised Rest
(Heb. 4, 2 Pet. 3:8,
Hos. 5:14-6:2)

— Day of the Lord in contrast to man's day

THE MORNING STAR IS THE RAPTURE

Rev. 22:16 — "I am the bright and **morning star**."

- Jesus is the morning star
- Jesus comes for the church as the morning star of the day of the Lord
- the church will go up in the rapture BEFORE the tribulation (the dawning of the day of the Lord)

THE MORNING STAR IS THE RAPTURE

Rev. 2:26-8 — "He that overcomes … I will give him **the morning star**."

- this promise applies to all believers not just Thyatirans
- each of the seven letters contains three parts:
  - practical observation to historical church
  - admonition — “let him who has ears to hear, hear”
  - a rapture promise that applies to all believers

THE DAWNING IS THE TRIBULATION

1 Thess. 5:2-4 — 2] the DOL comes like a **thief in the night** 3] for when they say peace and security, then **unexpected destruction** comes upon them like **labor pains** upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. 4] But you brethren are not in darkness that that day should overtake you like **a thief**.

- the DOL overtakes the world like a **thief in the night**
- the DOL come upon world and increases like **labor pains**
- the DOL brings **unexpected destruction**
- the DOL does not overtake church like a thief

THE SUNRISE IS THE SECOND COMING

Mal. 4:1-2 — 1] Behold, the day comes, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. 2] But unto you that fear my name shall **the Sun of righteousness** arise with healing in his wings.

- the second coming is the sun of righteousness rising on world
- the sun of righteousness burns up all the ungodly
- the sun of righteousness brings blessing for the godly

THE DAY PROPER IS THE MILLENNIUM

Isa 2:11 — The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and **the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.**

- the Lord alone will be exalted *in that day*
- In WHAT day will the Lord alone be exalted?
- Not in the tribulation — world worships antichrist, Satan, idols
- "the Lord alone exalted" can only apply to the kingdom

NEW TESTAMENT TYPOLOGY OF A PRETRIB RAPTURE

INSTANTANEOUS JOURNEY TO SAFETY

JOHN 6:16-21 — 16] When evening was come, his disciples … 17] entered into a ship, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it became dark, and Jesus was not come to them. 18] And the sea arose because a strong wind blew. 19] … they saw Jesus walking on the sea and nearing the ship … 21] They received him into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went.

OLD TESTAMENT TYPOLOGY OF A PRETRIB RAPTURE

ENOCH TAKEN BEFORE THE FLOOD

Gen. 5:24 — Enoch walked with God and was not, for God took him.

Heb. 11:5 — By faith Enoch was translated so that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

DANIEL'S MYSTERIOUS ABSENCE

- In Daniel 3 the three Hebrew young men—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—are thrown into the fiery furnace while Daniel is mysteriously absent.
- This is a picture of the believing Jews in the last days. Some mysteriously vanish from the scene. Some are mysteriously preserved in the fiery tribulation.

ABRAHAM EATING WITH GOD WHILE FIERY JUDGMENT FELL

- In Genesis 18-19 we see Abraham on the high plains of Mamre fellowshipping with the Lord and the angels while fire fell on Sodom and Gomorrha below.
- This is a picture of the church fellowshipping in heaven with God and the angels while the world goes through the tribulation.

STRAIGHTFORWARD LOGIC

- IF we find types in the Bible of deliverance prior to judgment, THEN that implies that the church will be raptured (removed from earth) prior to the tribulation.

PRINCIPLE OF DELIVERANCE FROM WRATH

2 PETER 2:7-9

7 And delivered righteous Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)

9 The Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of TRIALS and to reserve the unjust for the day of JUDGMENT to be punished:

ILLUSTRATIONS OF DELIVERANCE FROM WRATH

ISAIAH 26:20

Come, my people, enter into your chambers (closets, inner rooms), and shut the doors behind you: hide yourself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be past.

MORE DELIVERANCES

- Psalm 91:7 — A thousand shall fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you.
- Noah’s deliverance
- Lot’s deliverance

CONCLUSION

There is a ton of proof in the Bible for a pretribulation rapture.

Only prejudice can’t see and appreciate it.



One short life
to be a good soldier;
One long eternity
to be a fulfilled human being.
— LWB

“endure hardship as a good soldier”
(2 Tim. 2:3)

“do exploits”
(Dan. 11:32)

EYES WIDE OPEN, BRAIN ENGAGED, HEART ON FIRE!