RAPTURE

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PHENOMENAL, COMING ATTRACTION?

> Grady H. Sibbett Sr. Teacher, Missionary, Evangelist





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Grady H. Sibbett Sr. Teacher, Missionary, Evangelist This book is Presented to You By:



World-Wide Harvest Ministries Discipleship School

Compiled By: Grady H. Sibbett Sr. Teacher

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Tomorrow's News — Today!

Read—all about it!

Soon Destruction of Russia and probably America!
A World Ruler! Who?
War — on Christians! (3 1/2 Years).
A mark (of doom) — to buy or sell!
Coming of Jesus Christ — in the clouds of heaven. With power and great glory! Rapture of the Church!
Outpouring of "The Wrath of God"!
The Battle of Armageddon!
1000 Years of Peace!

Did you know that America, the USA is not mentioned in any of the end time Prophecies. New or Old Testaments. Not even it's geographical location is mentioned.

America will not exist as it is today.

This book contains a lot of information pertaining to the catching away of the Church.

This subject is more commonly known as The Rapture of the Church.

Due to a lot of mis-information pertaining to

The Rapture of the Church,

I wanted to let you in on just what the Bible has to say about this highly controversial subject.

No. 1

THERE IS NO SECOND LOAD

FOR THOSE LEFT-BEHIND NON-BELIEVERS COLD CHRISTIANS LUKE-WARM CHRISTIANS CONVERTS AFTER THE RAPTURE AND ANYBODY ELSE THAT THINKS THAT THERE IS A SECOND LOAD!

BOLD STATEMENTS, HUH?

I'm not a blasphemer! **This book is not an interpretation of the Bible.** It is exactly what the Bible has to say about the Rapture, or catching away. In the early 80's God was bringing me to a place of Spiritual growth and He was quick about it. He encouraged me to spend time with His Word, the Bible. One of the things the Spirit of God encouraged me to read and study, was concerning just what the Bible had to say about the Rapture of the Church. Paul referred to this, as the catching away.

My earthly father and his father and his father and even further back in my family history, were anointed men of God. Ministers, leaders, Church Builders, and even Founders in Denominational groups, rooted in the Pentecostal movement.

All of my life I have always been taught that we would be raptured out of the Great Tribulation. I had a fear of being left behind and having to go through the Great Tribulation without the strength of my family and or the Church because I was taught that the Church was going to get out of here before the trouble starts.

However, the Word of God is so clear about this subject and it is not a mystery.

I came to the knowledge that what I had been told about the Rapture was not what the Bible and the Spirit revealed to me. John T. Sharrit (Pres) of the Christian Missionary Society, had authored a book "Soon Coming World Shaking Events". I read this book and it was in harmony with my belief about the Rapture and actually confirmed what I had been shown by the Spirit, while I had studied this subject.

I had the privilege to personally meet Brother Sharrit. But before I met him, the pastor of the church, I attended, had had lengthy discussions with me on this matter. We had come to the same understanding. God had dealt with Him also in the Word as well as by revelation from hearing a message on II Thessalonians chapter 2.

My pastor sponsored Brother Sharrit to come and minister in our local church. This was quiet an experience to hear this dynamic message and to meet this Godly man. He called himself "an unworthy servant of God".

This book about the Rapture was compiled from his aforementioned book "Soon-Coming World Shaking Events".

I encourage you to study the Word while reading this book. Look up the scriptures that are mentioned throughout the text.

Pray and make sure that you keep with what the Word says. Not your opinion. Your opinion could be based on what you have been told.

The Rapture will take place. When? This shouldn't really concern you if you are abiding in the center of God's will in your life and you know that you are walking in the steps of Jesus Christ.

Paul said, "Absent from this body, present with the Lord."

You are not going to go anywhere until Jesus is ready for you to go.

Why? Jesus was the First Born in the Kingdom of God. The first resurrected person to have been born on this earth. He is in control of Life. He told John in the first chapter of Revelations that He had the keys to death, hell, and the grave. He is in control of life.

If you are in His divine will, you are not going anywhere until He calls you home. Don' worry about it!

They might be nail scarred but You are in good hands!

"God encourage and bless you," Pastor Grady

Credits

Beginning with page (1) throughout the remainder of this book, the information contained in the text of this book came from the book: "Soon-Coming World-Shaking Events" authored by: John T. Sharrit, Christian Missionary Society.

Brother Sharrit's book was not copyrighted, but I wanted to give Brother Sharrit 100 % credit for his heartfelt convictions concerning this message.

However; this book contains only the text pertaining to the "Rapture". Some special comments are inserted by me, to clarify what is meant by the text or to state that you can judge it, on its own merits.

> Grady H. Sibbett Sr. Teacher, Missionary, Evangelist

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO CHRISTIANS!

In recent years there has been a great controversy among Christians as to when the Rapture of the Church will take place. Some believe that it will take place before the Great Tribulation, (Pre-Tribulationists) some believe that it will take place in the middle of the Tribulation, (Mid-Tribulationists) and some believe that it will take place "immediately after the tribulation," (Post Tribulationists).

The Author of the book, "Soon-Coming World-Shaking Events" (John T. Sharrit, Christian Missionary Society) presents a Biblical interpretation that encompasses all three of the beliefs! It is absolutely Biblical, and it has been presented to many Biblical scholars, who cannot find a Biblical flaw in it. It adheres strictly to the Word of God! The writings contained in this brief synopsis are about the Rapture of the Church and the soon coming Great Tribulation and the Biblical Time Structure of these two events.

We hope and pray that it will bring harmony and peace to all Christians, and that there will be no more discord, as to when Jesus will come to rapture away His Church!

This compilation should bring reconciliation between the three beliefs, showing that each one has had its merit and Truths. It will give all Christians an intelligent, Biblical, Practicable and understandable knowledge (even to a child) of what the Bible says about "when is Jesus Coming" for the Rapture of the Church. (Mr. Sharrit, offers a "love-gift" of \$10,000.00 to the first person proving that his conclusions are wrong.)

1. The "Pre-Tribulationists" have been **Absolutely correct in saying:**

- a. Christians will never suffer the "Wrath of God"! Absolutely true!
- b. Christians will never be on Earth, during the "Wrath of God"! Absolutely true!
- c. There will be a "Rapture" of the Church before the Battle of Armageddon! **Absolutely true!**
- d. The "Marriage of the Lamb" will be in Heaven before the Battle of Armageddon! <u>Absolutely true!</u>

e. There will be two distinct "Coming of Christ"! One for the Church, then again, at the Battle of Armageddon!

Absolutely true!

2. The "Mid-Tribulationists have been **Absolutely correct in saying**:

Jesus will come for the Rapture of the Church in the "middle" of the 70th Week of Daniel! <u>Absolutely true!</u>

- 3. The "Post-Tribulationists" have been **Absolutely correct** in saying:
 - a. Jesus will not come until, as He said, "Immediately after the Tribulation of those days"! **Absolutely true.**

- b. Christians are going to have to face the Anti-Christ! Absolutely true!
- c. Jesus will not come for the Rapture of the Church until, as the Apostle Paul said:
 - (1) After a great falling away! Absolutely true!
 - (2) After the "man of sin" is revealed!

Absolutely true!

- d. Jesus will not come until, just as He said, after the sun is darkened, and after the moon shall not give its light, and after the stars of heaven will fall, and after the powers of heaven are shaken! Then Jesus shall come in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory! **Absolutely true!**
- e. The Anti-Christ will make war on Christians and overcome them! Absolutely true!

HOW CAN ALL THESE STATEMENTS BE RECONCILED?

HOPEFULLY, THIS STUDY WILL PUT IT ALL TOGETHER FOR YOU!

WHEN IS JESUS CHRIST COMING BACK?

THIS HAS BEEN THE QUESTION OF THE AGES!

Ever since that memorial day when Jesus ascended back into Heaven from Mount Olivet, where He had taken His Apostles, as described in the Book of Acts; people have wondered, "When will He return?"

"And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked up steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? 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 1:9-11)

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN LIFE!

The most important thing in your life is to prepare to meet God! Jesus said, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" or — "what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

God is a God of love — He is not willing that any should perish, but that all should have Everlasting Life. But, — He is also — a God of "Justice"! All sin and disobedience must, therefore, be punished, and God has decreed that it shall be punished with and ETERNAL PUNISHMENT, in the "Lake of Fire and Brimstone" unless an atonement is made for it.

There can be no atonement, or forgiveness of sins, except through the shedding of blood, by someone who is "Holy" and without sin. God says, "Without the shedding of blood there is no remission."

The only way that God, in His Justice, could forgive our sins, was for someone else, without sin, to die in our place. Who could that be — we have all sinned? In His great love and mercy, God sent down from Heaven His only begotten Son,

Jesus Christ, to die for our sins, if we would believe in Him.

Jesus came to this earth, He was born of a virgin, and was without sin of any nature.

He died for us, upon the Cross of Calvary, as an atonement for our sins, if we will only repent of them, and believe in Him as our Lord and Saviour.

Inasmuch as every living person in the world is "LOST" and on their way to an Eternal "Lake of Fire and Brimstone" unless they repent of their sins, and believe on Jesus as their Lord and Saviour — HOW MUCH — yes, **HOW MUCH** it behooves every Christian to work, and put forth every effort possible, throughout the world, to get the blessed Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to every person, before the soon-coming of Christ back to Earth.

JESUS PROMISED TO COME BACK TO EARTH AGAIN!

When Jesus was here on Earth, during His ministry. He promised many times that He would come to Earth again. Listen to a few of His own words:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 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. 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." (John 14:1-3)

"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." (John 5:28-29)

"Verily, verily, I say unto you Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man." (John 1:51)

"for as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under the heaven; shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in His day." (Luke 17:24)

The high priest asked Jesus, "Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed"? And Jesus said, "I am: and ye shall see the son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of Heaven." (Mark 14:61-62)

"But in those days, **after that tribulation**, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven." (Mark 13:24-27)

"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 form heaven, and the powers of the heaven 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)

OTHER BIBLE SCRIPTURES

There are many other Bible scriptures, written by God's holy Prophets, and the writers of the New Testament, foretelling the Coming of Christ back to Earth again! We shall just mention a few of them:

"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 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."

"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." (I Thess. 4:14-17)

"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." (I Cor. 15:51-52)

The Angels said, "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)

WHEN IS JESUS COMING?

NOW, WE COME TO THE IMPORTANT QUESTION! WHEN IS JESUS COMING?

Let me first say exactly what Jesus said:

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." (Matt. 24:42)

"But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in Heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is." (Mark 13:32-33)

In this treatise, we desire only to say what God's Word has to say about this most important subject. God forbid that we "add to," or "take from" the Word of God — or go off on some fanatical tangent, or our own fanatical imaginations, or dreams. We do not wish to speculate, or draw people's attention to us — the author is only an unworthy servant of Christ, having studied Prophetic Scriptures for about 50 years, and especially so, in the last few years.

God had told the Prophet Daniel, in his prophecies concerning the "end times,"

"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

"Go thy way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end." (Daniel 12:4;9)

It seems as if God has chosen to wait until these "last days" to reveal to His servants the time of the Second Coming of Christ. If the Christians down through the centuries had known that it would not have happened during their lifetime, perhaps they might have been less zealous for the Evangelization of the world — but now, in these <u>"last days"</u> we ought to know just what to expect! <u>This</u> is the generation that Jesus was talking about when He said:

"So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, <u>This generation</u> shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and Earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." (Matt. 24:33-35)

God has promised a special blessing upon all who will read and hear the Words from the Book of Revelation. This has been impressed deeply upon the heart of the author, and he has tried to diligently study it, and to rightly divide the Word of God.

"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein, for the time is at hand." (Rev. 1:3)

Most preachers, we fear, do not preach much from the Book of Revelation! They say that it is a book of "symbols" and that it is a "mystery," not understandable by the average person. If this is so, then — Why is it called "The Revelation"?

Although it has been a "mystery" in past centuries God has chosen to reveal it to us in these "last days," if we will hunger and thirst after the Truth, and diligently "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth." (II Tim. 2:15)

The author does not claim to "know it all" concerning the book of revelation, but the spirit of God has revealed many wonderful new things to him, as he read, and re-read, comparing it with the other prophecies of the Bible, and comparing different translations with each other. God's Spirit will do the same to you, if you will do likewise! God's holy Prophets and the Apostles of Christ, and others, have written many prophetic Scriptures for these "last days."

WHEN IS JESUS COMING?

Now, let us see if the Bible tells us "WHEN" Jesus is Coming!

As we have seen, no man will ever know the "day or the hour" that Jesus will return. Anyone claiming such knowledge can be marked down as being false. Many, in the past years, have claimed such knowledge, only to be found false, bringing ridicule, shame and unbelief of any true Biblical knowledge.

However, God has foretold us many things, where by we can know when it is near, even at the door. We can know the "times" and the "seasons"; we can know the "signs of the times" — we can know of things that must happen before He returns — we can know of what Jesus said would happen "immediately" before He comes — so that leads us to the fact that we will probably know the "year" and perhaps the "month," in which He will come — when that "year" and the "month" actually arrives. Jesus never said that we would never know the year or the month, but He said that we would not know the "day" or the "hour." Listen: —

"So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away."

"But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no not the angels which are in Heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray, for ye know not when the time is."

"For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants,

And to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." (Mark 13:29-37)

Now, please let us all forget, as much as possible, what our particular Church Organization, our Pastor, our Bible School — or what anyone else has ever taught us in the past concerning the Coming of the Lord, unless it is based and supported wholly upon the Word of God! Let us come, as a child, anew, unto God, our Heavenly Father, and ask Him for His Light — His Truths — concerning this great subject.

Let us become teachable — as long as we are taught only the pure Word of God, and not some manmade traditions of our fathers, or Church Elders, that have been handed down to us from previous generations — to whom God did not reveal these "last days" Truths to, as much as He is willing and anxious to, in this our day. Let us not be willing, however, to believe anything except what "Thus saith the Lord," directly from the Scriptures If your present beliefs are not based upon "rightly dividing" the Word of God only — then discard them! Accept what God's Word has to say about this subject, as well as every other Biblical doctrine. Look up every scripture possible on each subject — compare scripture with scripture compare different translations — hunger and thirst for the Truth, and God will surely give it to every honest heart!

WHAT DID JESUS SAY ABOUT HIS COMING?

Let us now see what Jesus himself said, in response to the questions asked by His disciples, as to "what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"

Remember, please, that they were speaking about His <u>next</u> coming — His <u>Second</u> Coming — and not about His Third Coming, for the Battle of Armageddon.

"And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to Him for to shew Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? Verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

"And as he sat upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples came unto Him privately, saying, tell us, when shall these things be" and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (Matt. 24: 1-3)

WHAT DID JESUS TELL THEM?

"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ, and shall deceive many."

"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. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginnings of sorrows." (Matt. 24:4-8)

These things, as you know, are happening NOW, in the very days in which we are \underline{now} living — in these "last days"

Now, Jesus proceeds to tell them what we can expect to happen in the near future — what we can expect to happen during the "GREAT TRIBULATION" that is soon coming upon the earth.

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DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE "ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION," spoken by Daniel the prophet, is? It is when the Anti-Christ, the soon-coming World Ruler, will sit in the Temple of God, (to be rebuilt in Jerusalem) and will take away the daily sacrifice, and set up the abomination that maketh desolate, as described in Daniel 12:11.

The Apostle Paul also tells us in the New Testament, as follows:

"Now, we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto Him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, not 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." (II Thess. 2:1-4)

Now , coming back again to the 24th Chapter of Matthew, with Jesus speaking — Jesus now goes ahead, and tells His believers who will be living during the soon-coming "great tribulation" days, some other pertinent facts and truths, so that they will know what not to believe, and what to actually expect to happen when Jesus does come:

"And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. 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. Behold, I have told you before."

"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. 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." (Matt. 24:22-27)

Did you notice that Jesus himself said, (Remember, please, that He is still talking about His Second Coming — His next Coming) "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth unto the west; **so shall the coming of the Son of man be.**"

So, you can easily see — if your mind has not been blinded by previous untrue teachings and traditions of men — that the next Coming of Jesus is **not** going to be a "secret" coming at all, like so many of us have been taught in the past — but it is going to be a tremendous display — "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."

Now, listen carefully, please, as Jesus Himself tells us further about His NEXT COMING;

"Immediately <u>after</u> 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." (Matt. 24:29-31)

<u>WHAT TREMENDOUS TRUTHS!</u> — FROM THE MOUTH OF JESUS HIMSELF!! — ABOUT HIS NEXT COMING — HIS SECOND COMING!!

These scriptures do not apply to His Third Coming, at the end of the seven-year period, for the Battle of Armageddon! At that time He will come "on a white horse, with the Armies of Heaven" also on white horses!

Let us now go slow — and analyze each verse as Jesus speaks:

"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." (Verse 29)

Now, Jesus says that His next coming will be "immediately **<u>after</u>** the tribulation of those days." He says the HE is not coming back until "immediately after the tribulation"! But, the author (John Sharrit) was taught in Bible School, and heard it preached, and believed it for about 40 years, that Jesus would come BEFORE the Tribulation, and that His coming would be a "SECRET COMING," — and that the whole world would suddenly awake to the fact that Christians and children under the age of accountability, had suddenly and mysteriously disappeared, they knew not how! — and the many would be saved after the rapture of the Church, and that they would be the "tribulation saints" of Rev. Chapter 7, etc.

BUT, ACCORDING TO GOD'S HOLY WORD, THESE TEACHINGS ARE NOT TRUE! THEY ARE NOT BIBLICAL!

They are **only** traditions of our fathers, our elders, our Church organizations, and none of them are based and grounded upon the word of God! There is **no** scripture in the Word of God that teaches that the rapture of the Church will take place **before** the "Great Tribulation"!

THERE IS NO SCRIPTURE THAT SAYS THE NEXT COMING OF JESUS WILL BE "IN SECRET"!

THERE IS NO SCRIPTURE THAT SAYS THAT THE WHOLE WORLD WILL NOT SEE JESUS AT HIS NEXT SOON COMING! THERE ARE, HOWEVER, SEVERAL SCRIPTURES THAT TELL US THAT EVERYONE IS GOING TO SEE HIM WHEN HE COMES!

THERE IS NO SCRIPTURE THAT SAYS THAT THE 144,000 JEWS WILL EVER BECOME WORLD EVANGELISTS!

THERE IS NO SCRIPTURE THAT SAYS THAT ANYONE WILL EVER BE SAVED, AFTER THE COMING OF CHRIST THE NEXT TIME!

These are all just traditions! — man-made theories! — that have been handed down to us by our fathers and elders, — without any Bible support for them! The author (John Sharrit) will gladly pay \$10,000.00 for any scriptures to prove these man-made doctrines and theories!

WHAT DID JESUS SAY

(Continued)

Now, let us go on, and see what Jesus Himself says about His next coming. He says, —

"Immediately <u>after</u> 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."

Jesus says, "immediately after the tribulation of those days"! Now, let me explain here that the "Tribulation" only lasts for approximately 3 and 1/2 years, instead of the seven years, that is taught in most Churches and most Bibles Schools today. The Anti-Christ only reigns for 42 months, according to God's Word.

"and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months." (Rev. 13:5)

This is where most Churches have been confused! They preach and teach that the "tribulation" will last for seven years! But that is <u>not</u> what the Bible says! The Bible says that the "beast" was given power to continue for <u>forty and two months!</u>

The tribulation will only last for about 42 months, or 3 and 1/2 years! Jesus said that He would come "immediately <u>after</u> the tribulation," and <u>after</u> the sun is darkened, and <u>after</u> the moon shall not give her light, and <u>after</u> the stars shall fall from heaven and the powers of heaven be shaken. We have been taught that He will come before these things!

What a tremendous display it is going to be, when the whole Earth is dark, and such display of supernatural powers; such as you have never imagined — far, far greater than any 4th of July celebration that you have ever seen! "Every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced Him; and all kindreds of the Earth shall wail because of Him." these supernatural demonstrations can happen all at once, in a few moments of time. If Astronauts are able to circle the Earth in only 89 minutes, I am sure that Jesus can do it in less than one minute, if He wishes.

Let me explain briefly, that the last 3 and 1/2 years of the so-called 7 years of tribulation, is known in the Bible as <u>"The Wrath of God"!</u> It is for the world of sinners and unbelievers, and <u>never</u> for the Christians. The Christians will all be raptured away "immediately after the tribulation" into Heaven, to be forever with the Lord. They are shown in the 7th Chapter of Revelation worshipping and praising God, and Jesus , in Heaven. The "Marriage of the Lamb," as described in Rev. 19:1-10, will take place in Heaven, during the time of the awful "Wrath of God" being poured out upon the Earth.

In the Bible, the word "Tribulation" almost always refers to Christians, and not to the world! The words "Wrath of God," always are for the world, and not for the Christians! Please, always keep this in mind!

During the "Great Tribulation" for the saints, the world of sinners and unbelievers will accept the "mark of the beast," as described in the 13th Chapter of Revelation, and continue in sin, just as they did in the days of Noah, and of Lot. Here are the words of Jesus:

"And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all."

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all."

"Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." (Luke 17:26-30)

Noah suffered scorn and rebuke before the flood, just as the Christians will suffer before the "Wrath of God." Lot suffered at the hands of the people of Sodom, just before Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed; so it will be with the Christians; they will suffer before the "Wrath of God," but their sufferings will be as NOTHING, in comparison with what the world of sinners and unbelievers will have to suffer.

The world of sinners and unbelievers will not suffer during the 3 and 1/2 years of Tribulation which the Christians will have to suffer. They will accept the "Anti-Christ" and will be saying, "Peace, and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them."

When Jesus comes in "the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" and every eye will see Him, then the Bible says,

"And the kings of the Earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Rev. 6:15-17)

You see, therefore, their "Wrath of God" had not come until now, and in the future. Notice how they cry. "the great day of His wrath is come, and who shall be able to stand." (Future tense)

The Christians, however, will have already suffered during the "Tribulation," but now they are raptured up into Heaven to be with Christ, forever, Hallelujah!!

The 8th Chapter of Revelation shows the beginning of the 3 and 1/2 year period of the "Wrath of God" — continuing on through the 11th Chapter, bringing a chronological happening of events up until the time of Christ's 3rd Coming, as is described beginning with Rev. 19:11. (We will explain the intervening Chapters 12 through 19 later.)

FURTHER EXPLANATIONS OF JESUS

We will now return again to the words of Christ, in His describing the time and manner of His next return.

"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." (Verse 30)

DOES THIS SOUND LIKE A "SECRET COMING"? <u>No!</u> It will be extraordinarily visible to every tribe on Earth; when every tribe on Earth shall "mourn"! They shall all "see the Son of man (Jesus Christ) coming in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory"! Again, let me refer you to Rev.1:7.

"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!"

Now, as I have said before, this is not the same Coming of Christ as described in the 19th Chapter of Revelation, when it says,

"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 KNIGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." (Rev. 19:11-16)

Now, let us go on with the Words of Christ, in describing His next Coming:

"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." (Matt. 24:31)

HERE IS THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH! THE ELECT OF CHRIST! It cannot be proven, by the Word of God, that the Rapture of the Church will take place before this scripture! Remember, that this happens "Immediately after the tribulation," and not before the tribulation! As you see, the "elect" (the Christians) have had to go through the "Great Tribulation"!

WHO ARE GOD'S ELECT?

The author (John Sharrit) was taught in Bible School, and I believe that many Churches are still preaching it, that the "elect" referred to here in this verse, are the Jews only. This is not scriptural! The Bible, in the New Testament, calls the Christians of every nation the "elect"! Listen to St. Paul and St. Peter, in their writings to the Christians:

"Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, <u>Elect</u> according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you and peace, be multiplied." (I Peter 1:1-2)

"Who shall lay any thing to the charge of <u>God's elect</u>? It is God that justifieth, " (Romans 8:33)

"Put on therefore, as the <u>elect of God</u>, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;" (Col. 3:12)

"Therefore I endure all things for the <u>elect's sakes</u>, that they may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory." (II Tim. 2:10)

SUMMARY OF MATTHEW — 24TH CHAPTER

This now ends the actual description by Jesus Christ, Himself, of His next Coming, as told in the 24th Chapter of St. Matthew. Chapter 21 of St. Luke, and Chapter 13 of St. Mark, tell of the same message of Christ, in their corresponding and collaborating words, which we wish that you would carefully study. The only exception is that St. Luke gives warnings and instructions to the ones that were in Jerusalem in A.D. 70, at the destruction of Jerusalem, telling them what to do. (Luke 21:20-24) History tells us that the Christians obeyed these instructions in A.D. 70, and were saved from Titus's sword.

So, in a summary of Christ's own words, we see that He is not coming back for the Rapture of the Church until <u>"immediately after the tribulation,"</u> as He said, and <u>not</u> <u>before</u> the tribulation. Please don't let anyone deceive you otherwise!

WHEN DID ST. PAUL & ST. JOHN SAY THAT

JESUS WOULD RETURN TO EARTH?

We will now go on, and see what the great Apostle Paul has to say; then we will see what St. John, the Revelator, has to say, about the next **Second-Coming** of Christ!

Let us first read what St. Paul wrote to the Church of Corinth:

"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." (I Cor. 15:51-52)

Let us now look into the letter, written by St. Paul to the Church at Thessalonica. This Church had been troubled by others, who had taught them falsely, and Paul explained, in this Epistle, the Truth concerning the Second Coming of Christ. Let us read:

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him."

"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. 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." (I Thess. 4:13-17)

As you can see, these scriptures have all been in perfect harmony with the preceding words of Christ, in which He said that He would come "immediately after the tribulation". There are no contradictions whatsoever! Paul says that we will 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."

You can readily see that this is His Coming, "in the clouds of Heaven," as described by Jesus in Matt. 24, and not His final 3rd Coming, at the end of the seven years, when He will return on a white horse, for the Battle of Armageddon, with the armies of Heaven following Him upon white horses, to "judge and make war" and to smite the nations, and to "rule them with a rod of iron," and "treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God" — as described in the 19th Chapter of the Book of Revelation.

Can you not easily see that these are two separate Comings? Can you not see that the Coming described in Matthew 24th Chapter, by Christ Himself, is not this final Coming, as described in the 19th Chapter of Revelation? Yet — if you preach, or say, that Jesus is Coming in "secret," before the Tribulation, then you have to say that these two descriptions of His Comings are the same! Can you not see how absurd this teaching is? They are not the same! One takes place "immediately after the tribulation," which as I have shown only lasts for about

3 and 1/2 years, and the other one takes place immediately after the 3 and 1/2 year period of the "Wrath of God." They are about 3 and 1/2 years apart!

ST. PAUL – II THESSALONIANS

We will now see what St. Paul wrote to the Thessalonians in his second Epistle to them, as follows:

"Now, we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, 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 <u>**not**</u> 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." (II Thess. 2:1-4)

These scriptures are so important that we shall go over them again, slowly, so that the Truth of God can enter your mind and heart. Now, for the first verse, again:

"Now we beseech you, brethren, <u>by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by</u> <u>our gathering together unto Him. That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be</u> <u>troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the</u> <u>day of Christ is at hand." (Verses 1-2)</u>

Paul here beseeches the Christians at Thessalonica, "by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering unto Him," (which is the rapture of the Church) not to let anyone deceive them, by word, or spirit, or by letter as from him, "as the day of Christ is at hand."

Paul tells them, therefore, that he Rapture of the Church, our gathering unto Christ, was not then at hand! He then goes ahead and explains to them when to expect the Rapture of the Church; or, "the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering unto Him." Listen to him:

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for <u>that day shall not come, except there</u> <u>come a falling away first, and that man of sin</u> (The Anti-Christ World Ruler) 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." (Verses 3-4) Please catch carefully, each clause of these great Truths! Notice that two things must happen before "the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of our gathering unto Him"!

- **1.** "There come a falling away, first."
- **2.** "That man of sin be revealed" (The Anti-Christ)

a. "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped."

b. "so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

We are all aware, especially Fundamental, Bible-believing, Evangelical Christians, that we are NOW in that period of a great falling away from the "faith once delivered to the saints," and the further formation of the false Church System, known in the Bible as "MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" described in Revelation, Chapter 17:1-7.

Now, these **two things must happen before the Rapture of the Church,** or the Apostle Paul did not know what he was talking about, and told us a falsehood! The Anti-Christ **must** be revealed, and he **must** sit in the Temple of God (which the Jews will rebuild in Jerusalem) claiming that he is God, **before** the Rapture of the Church can take place.

Please tell me then, how can anyone truthfully say that Jesus is Coming **before the Tribulation**? It is not true, according to the Word of God!

THE ANTI-CHRIST

We know, from the Prophet Daniel, that the Anti-Christ shall "confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the over-spreading of abominations he shall make it desolate." (Daniel 9:27) So, the Anti-Christ will make a covenant with the Jews for seven years, and in the midst of the seven years (3 and 1/2 years) he shall break it. This will probably be also when he will sit "in the temple of God showing himself that he is God," which the Jews will not accept.

This, now as we have seen, must happen before the rapture of the Church. It appears as if when this does happen, and this scripture is fulfilled, then the Lord Himself will come "in clouds of heaven, with power and great glory," to rapture away His Church. Then, the "great tribulation" period of about 3 and 1/2 years will be over. Remember, the Anti-Christ will only reign for 3 and 1/2 years; then will come the awful "Wrath of God" upon the Anti-Christ, sinners and unbelievers for about 3 and 1/2 years. Then, the Lord will come again on His white horse, with the armies of Heaven also on white horses, for the great Battle of Armageddon.

Then, will follow the 1000 years reign of Christ upon this Earth in righteousness, known as the millennium. Then, will follow the resurrection of the wicked dead, and the "Great White-Throne Judgment." Then, ETERNITY — either "with the Lord" or in the "Lake of fire and Brimstone," as described in Chapter 20, of the Book of revelation. One of these places is the final destination of every person who has ever lived upon the face of the Earth! Reader — please take heed! "Prepare to meet thy God." (Amos 4:12)

ST. JOHN — THE REVELATOR!

Now, let us now come to St. John, the Revelator, and see what he has to say, about **when** the Rapture of the Church will take place. Let us read what takes place immediately after the opening of the first five seals of the tribulation period:

"And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

"And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;"

"And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: <u>For the great day of</u> <u>His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"</u> (Rev. 6:12-17)

We see here, at the opening of the 6th Seal, that the same things happen that Jesus Himself explained would happen just before His Second Coming. Let us read, again, the first three verses:

"And I beheld when He had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a might wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and Island were moved out of their places." (first 3 verses)

Now, let us turn back again to the words of Christ, in Matthew 24:29-30, and read again what He said would happen just before He came back the second time:

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." (Matt. 24:29-30)

CAN YOU NOT SEE THAT IT IS THE SAME HAPPENINGS? The very same things take place here in Rev. 6:12-17, as Jesus said would take place at His Second Coming, in Matt. 24th Chapter!

Now, let us read on —

"And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us, and hide us from the <u>face of Him</u> that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb." for the great day of His wrath <u>is come</u>; and who <u>shall be</u> able to stand?"

We see how everyone sees Jesus "on the throne" and how they will hide themselves "in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains" and say to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us, and hide us from the <u>face of Him</u> that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb."

You can see, that this is certainly not a "secret" thing! "**Every eye shall see Him."** "All kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him." (Rev. 1:7) "The kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man" **shall see Him.** Does this look like a "secret" Rapture, just for Christians? **No!**

Now, don't try to say that this takes place "after the seven years," and is the final Coming of Christ! What do the people say to the mountains and rocks? Listen! <u>"Fall on us,</u> and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!"

What for? For what reason? -

Listen! — Here is you answer! — "For the great day of <u>His wrath</u> "IS" come; and <u>who "SHALL BE" able to stand?"</u>

OH! — to those of you who believe that this happens at the end of the seven years, and at the end of the "Wrath of God" — I thought you said that the "Wrath of God" was now <u>all</u> <u>over with</u>, when this takes place? (When the 6th seal is broken) HOW SADLY MISTAKEN YOU HAVE BEEN!

These people say, "For the great day of His Wrath "IS" come, and who <u>"SHALL BE"</u> able to stand? (Future Tense) The "Wrath of God" had not come before this, — they had gone ahead in their sins, as in the days of Noah; — they had taken the mark of the Beast, and had a glorious time in sin during the 3 and 1/2 years of the tribulation for the saints, crying "Peace and safety." <u>But now</u>, — they see Jesus on His throne, after, "the heavens departed as a scroll when it is rolled together," and they <u>now</u> realize that the Bible is True! They realize <u>now</u> that God is not dead! They realize <u>now</u> that Jesus Christ is the true Son of Almighty God!

They realize **<u>now</u>** that they are "LOST" — without God and without Hope — Doomed to the Wrath and Judgments of Almighty God!

Yes, they cry then to the rocks and mountains, instead of calling upon God NOW,— for His mercy and forgiveness of their sins!

Now, to you who believe that the Rapture of the Church takes place before the Tribulation, — HOW DO YOU ANSWER THESE TRUE FACTS? These people say that god's Wrath <u>**"IS' come,**</u> and <u>**"SHALL BE"**</u> in the future, but you say that IT IS NOW PAST — THAT THIS IS HIS COMING AT THE END OF THE SEVEN YEARS. WHO IS RIGHT?

The Truth is, that AFTER THIS, — IS THE WRATH OF GOD! The Christians are translated to Heaven, "to be forever with the Lord." All others are left here on Earth to experience the awful, terrible "Wrath of God." for about 3 and 1/2 years before the Battle of Armageddon.

There is no record of anyone ever being saved, after the coming of Christ the next time! To teach so is to teach a "second chance" for Salvation, which is <u>not</u> Biblical!

During the awful period of the "Wrath of God" the Bible says, "neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornications, nor of their thefts." "And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and <u>repented not</u> of their deeds." "And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it, and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them." (Rev. 9:21) (Rev. 16:11) (Rev. 9:6)

ST. JOHN — THE REVELATOR — CONTINUES!

After this sixth seal has been opened, and the things mentioned above have happened, then the Bible gives us a picture of the Christians up in Heaven, after **their translation**. Listen:

"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;

"And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.: (Jesus Christ) (Rev. 7:9-10)

Then, beginning with Chapter 8, — the 7th seal is broken, and there was silence in Heaven about the space of half an hour, and then the beginning of the "Wrath of God."

"And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets,"

"And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound." (Rev. 8:1-2;6)

This period of the "Wrath of God" continues through Chapters 8-9-10-11, taking a period of about 3 and 1/2 years.

Even when the 5th Angel sounded, it took a period of five months, the Bible says in Rev. 9:10.

PLEASE TELL ME, THEN, HOW CAN ANYONE SAY THT THE 6TH SEAL COMING OF CHRIST IS HIS COMING AT THE END OF THE SEVEN YEARS? HOW UNTRUE! HOW UNBIBLICAL!

How the Devil has deceived us! — with the traditions that have been handed down to us by our fathers, and Church organizations.

HOW MANY RESURRECTIONS ARE MENTIONED IN THE BIBLE?

The Bible gives us a description of only TWO resurrections; one for the righteous, and one for the wicked:

1. The Resurrection of the Righteous:

Paul, the Apostle tells us:

"Behold I shew 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. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." (I Cor. 15:51-53)

"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." (I Thess. 4:16-17).

The Book of Revelation tells us:

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them <u>that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the</u> <u>Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image,</u> <u>neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands;</u> 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!" (Rev. 20:4-5)

NOTE: To those who believe that the Rapture of the Church will take place before the reign and terror of the Anti-Christ World ruler:

In these Scriptures God plainly tells us that Christians

Who go through the Great Tribulation, under the reign of the Anti-Christ. Will be in the FIRST RESURRECTIN! HOW THEN CAN THE FIRST RESURRECTION TAKE PLACE BEFORE THAT GREAT TRIBULATION? IMPOSSIBLE! CAN YOU NOT SEE THE FALLACY OF THE PRE-TRIBULATION COMING OF CHRIST?

The Resurrection of the Wicked:

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the Book of Life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Rev. 20:12-15)

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE!

Now, we have shown you how that <u>Jesus</u> <u>Himself</u>, — <u>the</u> <u>Apostle</u> <u>Paul</u>, and the <u>Apostle St.</u> <u>John</u>, the Revelator, have all explained to us that Jesus will not come until <u>"immediately after the tribulation"</u>!

Thus, anyone who preaches that Jesus will come **<u>before</u>** the Tribulation must know more than all three of these great men, including Jesus Christ, Himself!

They certainly do not have even one single Scripture from the Bible to prove it; it is just man-made doctrines! We have presented to you these three great Biblical characters, including Jesus Himself, to prove otherwise! **WHAT SCRIPTURES DO YOU PRESENT?**

NOTE:

The doctrines expounded in this book are not to be construed as a "Mid-tribulation" theory!

There is no Scripture that teaches a seven-year tribulation! Consequently, the opening of the 6th Seal is not in the midst of the tribulation!

Jesus has told us that He would come for His elect (the Church) "immediately after the tribulation," which is at the opening of the 6th Seal!

The Great Tribulation is all over with, before the "Wrath of God" begins! The Great Tribulation, and "the Wrath of God" begins! The Great Tribulation, and "the Wrath of God" are two distinct, different periods of time!

However, both of them constitute the length of time known as Daniel's Seventieth Week! Daniel's Seventieth Week only applies to the nation of Israel; not the Great Tribulation!

6th Seal

THE GREAT TRIBULATION

3 1/2 yrs.

THE WRATH OF

3 1/2 vrs

DANIEL'S SEVENTIETH WEEK

7 years

HOW DID THE PRE-TRIBULATION THEORY BEGIN?

ORIGIN

"A brief account of the origin of the doctrine of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture of the church should prove enlightening to all and especially so to the Pre-tribulation Rapturists themselves.

In the early part of the nineteenth century, the "Irvingite" movement began. Among other things that distinguished the "Irvingites." so named from their leader, was the speaking in tongues and receiving allegedly supposed inspired messages through their "prophets" and "prophetesses." The work went well, it seems, for awhile, but gradually errors and extravagances crept in; the work fell into disrepute, and at last it died an apparently welldeserved death, if one may judge from certain statements that have come down from those days; many of them from "confessions" by disillusioned adherents of the movement, who declared they had come to realize that frequently, at least, while "speaking in tongues" or allegedly "giving messages in the Spirit" that they were really under demon control.

In one of the Irvingite meetings a woman, professing to be under the influence of the Spirit of God, gave a message to the effect that the church would not go through the great tribulation, as had always been supposed, but would be raptured out of it. Since the Irvingites believed all such messages were inspired, and took them at face value, of course they had to believe this one along with the rest, although it contradicted what they understood the Scriptures to plainly teach.

Later many of them came to question the origin of those "messages" and then to attribute them to demons—because of the accompanying "manifestations" - and so to reject them entirely. Then an era of sanity followed, and "Irvingism" died, the good perishing along with the bad.

But this particular "message" to the effect that the church would be raptured before the Tribulation had fallen into soil favorable to its rapid growth, and so took hold in the fleshly desires of men, where it found a ready audience—like as today. This pernicious doctrine soon reached the ears of the leaders of The Plymouth Brethren, who accepted it, along with much other error, and began to propagate it extensively

This woman was the first voice to ever be raised—and that in a "spirit message" - in the teaching of such a doctrine. No Christian writer through eighteen centuries had ever hinted at, or set forth, such a doctrine. It remained for the "Irvingite" woman to be the first to teach it. This beginning was about 1830, during the ministry of Chas. H. Spurgen, Dr. Tregelles, and

George Mueller, all of whom opposed it.

So Pre-Tribulation-Rapturism is a new doctrine without the support of even a single text of Scripture. Every Bible writer from Daniel to the Revelator (John) stands in solid opposition to this doctrine. And not one of the early church fathers or writers sanction or set it forth.

But once this flesh-pleasing doctrine was advanced, multitudes soon ran to a supposed shelter from the coming tribulation, and today this deception is everywhere, and to oppose it is to lay oneself liable to the severest critics and also to outright ostracism.

The question was recently asked, "How did it ever get such a start and hold upon so many"? The answer is: "the same was as has Russelism, Christian Science, Unity, Mormanism, Spiritualism and all the Cults taken hold upon people as they have—simply by believing what they taught; supposing it was Scriptural." (From the book "The Rapture" by Oscar Lewis)

ORIGIN OF RAPTURE THEORY

David MacPherson, director of the Heart of America Bible Society of Kansas City, Mo., in his pamphlet "Why I Believe the Church Will Pass Through the Tribulation," states the following concerning the origin of the pre-tribulation rapture theory:

"Edward Irving was a minister in the Church of Scotland. His magnetic personality drew large crowds to his church in London, England.

"In 1830, Irving was expelled by the London Presbytery because he wrote a booklet in which he claimed that Christ's human nature was sinful! However, he rejected their decision and continued his ministry. In 1831, disturbances began to take place in his services.

He was removed from his church the next year, and died two years later. On April 30, 1831, a Mrs. J. B, Cardale, who later joined Irving's church, had uttered a personal revelation in a home prayer meeting that Christ would soon return, but she was only echoing Scottish lassie Margaret MacDonald's novel 1830 revelation of a rapture before the Tribulation!

"It was from this supposed revelation that the modern doctrine and modern phraseology respecting it arose; it came not from Scripture, but from that which falsely pretended to be the Spirit of God. Irving accepted this teaching and it was taught at prophetic meetings at Powerscourt House in Ireland, attended by Plymouth Brethren organizer John Darby. Irving's views influenced Darby, C. H. Mackintosh, and C. I. Scofield, whose Bible popularized the new theory. Later, some of the leading Plymouth Brethren scholars, including Benjamin Newton and S. P. Tregelles, rejected this pre-Trib. Theory. For 1,800 years the Church had believed only in a post-Trib. coming which, during persecution, was occasionally thought to be imminent. **There is not a shred of historical evidence before 1830 that the Church ever believed in a double coming, or rapture before the Tribulation!**"

Mr. MacPherson goes on to explain further concerning Margaret MacDonald:

"She was the young woman who originated the pre-Tribulation rapture theory!

"According to Robert Norton's book, The Restoration of Apostles and Prophets in the Catholic Apostolic Church (London: 1861), she claimed on p. 15 to have received a "revelation" in the

spring of 1830, while living in Port Glasgow, Scotland, that Christians would be raptured before the Tribulation—something never taught before 1830. Before 1830, the Church taught only one coming, after the Tribulation.

"Margaret's revolutionary "revelation" split the second Coming of Christ into two phases—first, a pre-Trib rapture; then later after the Trib, the return of Christ to earth.

Her own statement, covering three pages in Norton's book, clearly contains most of the major tenets found today in pre-Trib despensationalism—meeting the Lord in the air, secrecy, suddenness, invisibility, imminency, and pre-Trib separation of believers and unbelievers, distinction between the raptured bride and Trib elect. Darby's pre-Trib view soon sprang from her partial Rapturism.

"F. R. Coad's "A History of the Brethren Movement" (Eerdmans; 1968), p. 63, states: "Darby, at Newton's suggestion, had already investigated (in 1830) these 'gifts' in the course of visits paid to their first place of occurrence at Roe in Scotland, and had rejected them." (Darby was 29 at the time; Newton was 22.)

"By February, 1831, Benjamin Newton was strongly opposing Irvingism and Margaret's underlying "revelation" of 1830; Coad, p. 128, writes: "This rejection included a feature of prophetic interpretation which Darby had adopted, the doctrine of 'the secret rapture of the saints.' So, Plymouth Brethren organizer John Darby rejected Margaret's 'miraculous gifts' but accepted her novel two-phase coming!

"As recorded in Robert Baxter's "Narrative of Facts" (London; 1833), p. 18, Baxter himself had a 'revelation' in an Irvingite prayer meeting on January 14, 1832, that Christ would return in three and half years on July 14, 1835. Not to be outdone, Darby also set dates. In his "Etudes sur L'Epitre aux Hebreus," Darby wrote on p. 146, 'There are excellent brethren in all countries who have sought to calculate these day Some have fixed 1844, others 1847; I myself have made several calculations in the times past, and in the same sense.' <u>And this same Darby influenced Scofield!"</u>

Every Christian should read the "Foxe's Book of Martyrs"!

It tells of how all the Apostles of Christ were all killed for Christ's sake, with the exception of the Apostle John!

It tells of how the Early Church suffered 10 periods of extreme persecutions and tribulations!

It tells of millions of Christians being put to death during the "Dark Ages" and during the Reformation period of the Church!

It tells of the sufferings of Christians in Europe, causing them to come to America for religious freedom. Even in America, in the early days, many Christians were persecuted!

Who are we then, especially in America, to think that we ought not to have to suffer tribulations? Do we think that we are any better than the millions and millions who have died for Christ down the centuries?

Jesus has warned us that there is soon-coming upon us, a "great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved; but for the elect's (Christians) sake those days shall be shortened."

CHRISTIANS! BE PREPARED! BE READY! BE GLAD TO SUFFER FOR CHRIST! THE EARLY CHURCH "COUNTED IT ALL JOY" TO SUFFER FOR HIM! LET US DO LIKEWISE!

DID THE EARLY CHURCH BELIEVE IN THE IMMINENT COMING OF CHRIST?

HOW COULD THEY? Jesus had given them plenty of reasons for not believing in His imminent coming!

Had not Jesus told Peter, the Apostle, that he would live to be an "old man," and explained to him how he was going to die? Certainly! Then, how could Peter, when he was of the age of 30, or 40, or 50, or 60, or even 70, preach that the coming of Christ was imminent? Listen to the words of Christ, to Peter:

John 21:18-19

"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not.

"This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, follow me."

Peter, therefore **knew** that he would not be living at the time of the coming of Christ! Furthermore, Peter **knew** that he would live to be an old man. How can we then say that Peter preached that the Lord might come at any minute? Can you not see how **impossible** it is? Therefore, **Peter did not believe in the "imminent coming" of Christ**! Listen to Peter's confession of his expectancy to die!

II Peter 1:14-15

"Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me."

"Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able <u>after</u> <u>my decease</u> to have these things always in remembrance."

The Apostle John was not expecting Christ to come in his lifetime, because Christ had showed him, on the isle of Patmos, **many things** that had to occur before the rapture of the Church would take place.

How about St. Paul? Did he believe that Jesus might come at any minute? **Definitely**

Paul was expecting to die! How do we know? Because he told Timothy, in his letter to him, the following:

"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand." (II Tim. 4:6)

Paul **knew** that he was going to die before the coming of Christ! How, then, could he ever have preached that the coming of Christ could be **at any minute**? **Impossible!**

Paul had told Timothy about what would happen in the "Last days" ! Listen, as the writes to Timothy:

II Tim. 4:1-2

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly that in the <u>latter</u> <u>times</u> some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

"Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;"

And again, Paul writes to Timothy:

II Tim. 3:1-5

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

"for men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

"without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

"Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

Paul therefore, **knew** that he would not be living in the "Last days"! How, then, can anyone say that Paul preached the "imminent" coming of Christ? **<u>He did not!</u>**

Again, Paul wrote to the Thessalonian Church:

II Thess. 2:1-5

"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, 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, shewing himself that he is Go

"Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?"

Paul tells the Church that <u>we will not be gathered unto Christ</u> (which is the rapture of the Church) <u>until the "man of sin" is revealed</u>! The "man of sin" <u>has not been</u> <u>revealed yet</u>! How, then, could Paul preach the "imminent coming" of Christ in his day? <u>Impossible!</u>

How could any of the Apostles have preached the "imminent Coming" of Christ? <u>They</u> <u>could not!</u>

Had not Jesus told them, in His Mount Olivet Sermon, that <u>Jerusalem</u> <u>would be</u> <u>destroyed</u>, and that <u>Israel would be led away captive into all nations</u>, and that <u>Jerusalem</u> <u>would be trodden down of the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be</u> <u>fulfilled</u>? Listen to the words of Christ, to them:

Luke 21:24

"And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."

Therefore, it was **IMPOSSIBLE** FOR CHRIST TO HAVE RETURNED, ACCORDING TO HIS OWN WORDS, UNTIL AFTER 1967 Jerusalem was trodden down of the Gentiles until 1967! How then, could Jesus have returned before that time? **Impossible!**

Can you not see how the Church has been deceived, and all who preached Pre-Tribulation before 1967 had not diligently studied their Bibles?

Had not Jesus told the disciples, in answer to their question concerning the sign of His coming, that:

"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. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows." (Matt. 24:6-8)

May I ask you in all sincerity, had these things occurred during the life of the Apostles, or the Early Church? Definitely not! We all know that "nation did not rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom" during the days of the Old Roman Empire! Rome ruled the whole known world at that time, up until the year A.D. 476. There was no nation rising up against Rome! There was no "kingdom" rising up against the kingdom of Rome! There were no "famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes" during the time of the Apostles and the Early Church, such as we have been experiencing during the last 50 years. Therefore, Jesus was talking about things that would not happen until the 20th Century!

Pre-Tribulation preachers use these "signs" to prove the near coming of our Lord at the present time! How, then, can they say that the Apostles and the Early Church expected the Lord to come at any minute?

Even today, as we have showed you in the previous Chapters, there are prophetic events that must be fulfilled before the rapture of the Church! <u>Russia must be destroyed!</u> <u>The Anti-Christ must arise, and make war on the Christians of today!</u>

The "abomination of desolation" that Jesus spoke about, and also the Apostle Paul wrote about, **must also happen** before the Rapture of the Church! Did not Jesus say:

"When <u>ye</u> (Christians) therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, . . . (the Temple in Jerusalem) then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains." (Matt. 24:15-16)

(He is telling the Christians who will be in Judea at that time, to flee into the mountains.) This has not happened yet!

Did not Paul tell the Christians:

II Thess. 2:1-4

"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

"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 <u>shall</u> <u>not</u> <u>come</u>, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin (the Anti-Christ) 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, shewing himself that he is God."

This is the "abomination of desolation" that Jesus was speaking about! It will be when the Anti-Christ World Ruler will sit in the Temple of God, declaring that he is God! This **has to happen** before the rapture of the Church, or Paul informed us wrongly! Can you not see this Truth?

It is a historical fact, that the "Early Church" for the first 300 years after Christ, **<u>believed</u>** and <u>taught</u> that in the <u>"last</u> <u>days"</u> that Caesar Nero would ascend up out of the bottomless pit, and that he would be the Anti-Christ World ruler, and would make war on the last generation of Christians, just before the Coming of Christ, for the rapture of the Church.

Therefore, **the Early Church did not believe in the <u>"imminent coming" of Christ,</u> as so many of the Pre-Tribulation preachers of today try to make you believe!**

Christ is not coming for His "elect" (the Church), until, as He said, "Immediately after the tribulation of those days"! Let every man be a liar, but let Jesus be true!

REBUTTAL OF PRE-TRIBULATION DOCTRINE!

Having himself believed in the pre-tribulation Coming for about 40 years, the author believes he is qualified to present the doctrines and supporting scriptures, of those who believe that Jesus will come before the Tribulation. Let us study their fallacies:

1. Rev. 3:10 "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."

THIS IS THEIR STRONGEST SCRIPTURE!

Let us examine it carefully. Jesus told the Apostle John, the Revelator, to write it "to the angel of the Church in Philadelphia." this was one of the Churches at that time (A.D. 96) in Asia Minor.

We have **no <u>Biblical</u> <u>authority</u>** to claim that this Scripture is meant for any other Church, except for that particular Church in Asia Minor. This Scripture was literally fulfilled, to the Church in Philadelphia in the 7th Century, when the Mohammedans destroyed every Church in Asia Minor, **<u>except the Church in Philadelphia.</u>**

Now, listen to this documentation; — to throw it completely out, as a scripture on which to build your hopes of being raptured away before the Tribulation. A foot-note, in the "Living Prophecies" by Kenneth N. Taylor, says this, referring to Rev. 3:10 —

"The inference is not clear in the Greek, as to whether this means "kept from" or "kept through." (the tribulation)

Now, if the Greek scholars throughout the world, can say that the scripture "is not clear in the Greek, as to whether this means "kept from" or "kept through" the tribulation." THEN AM I, OR ANYONE, ABLE TO BUILD A BIBLICAL DOCTRINE ON IT, AND SAY THAT THE CHURCH IS **NOT** GOING THROUGH THE TRIBULATION? **GOD FORBID**! Especially so, when Jesus, Paul and St. John say that Jesus will not come until "immediately after the tribulation."

2. Another scripture from those who say that the Church will be caught away before the Tribulation, is this:

"After this I looked, and behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will show thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in Heaven, and one set on the throne." (Rev. 4:1-2)

Now, these words were spoken to the Apostle John only, in his being given the Book of Revelation to write; and to say that this is a type, or a picture, also of the Church being raptured to Heaven before the Tribulation, through this door, is a very "sandy" foundation indeed, on which to build the all-important doctrine of the Church being translated through this door, before the Tribulation begins! By the same process of imaginations we might be able to build up other doctrines from other similar scriptures. Do you want to base your hopes on such "sandy" foundations? Especially, after hearing what Jesus Himself, St. Paul and St. John, say on the contrary? Do you want such a foundation?

3. Another scripture that the Pre-Tribulationists use is Luke 21:36. Let us read it:

"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."

Jesus, in this scripture, tells His followers, to watch and pray always, that they may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Does this mean to escape the tribulation, which He had already explained in the same Mt. Olivet sermon, that Christians would have to endure, (Matt. 24:21-22) or does it mean the awful "Wrath of God" period of approximately 3 and 1/2 years "that shall come to pass"? We believe it refers to escaping the "Wrath of God!" unless we keep "prayed up" and watching, we will be like the foolish "Virgins" of Matt. 25:1-13, that our Lord told us about, who were not ready when the bridegroom came, and they did not get to go in to the wedding.

Also, Greek scholars tell us that the words "to escape **<u>out of</u>** all these things" can also be translated "to escape out" of the Great Tribulation! Even though we may die, we will **<u>"escape out of"</u>** the Great Tribulation and enter into the presence of the Lord!

Certainly, in the light of the other scriptures, it is certainly not a verse of scripture on which to build a doctrine that the Church will not have to go through the tribulation, especially, in the light of the other scriptures which tell us that the Church will not be raptured away until **<u>"immediately after the Tribulation,"</u>** and <u>not</u> until the Anti-Christ sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

4. Another verse that is used in trying to prove that the church will not have to go through the Tribulation is the verse in the King James Version, as follows:

"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 us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth." (Rev. 5:9-10)

This is a picture of the four beasts, the twenty-four elders, around the throne of God in Heaven, falling down before the Lamb (Jesus Christ), and singing a new song, saying, "Thou art worthy to take the book and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.

This translation (King James) would mean that the four beasts and the twenty-four elders of Heaven had been redeemed out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation — and that they shall reign on the Earth. Some would have us to believe that they are representing the Christians, then in Heaven, but as we have seen, such is not true. There is no scripture to prove that the Christians are in Heaven at this time!

The author has checked many translations of the New Testament on these verses, and most of them read differently. For instance, the Amplified Version reads as follows:

"And (now) they sing a new song, saying, You are worthy to take the scroll and to break the seals that are on it, for you were slain (sacrificed) and with your blood You purchased <u>men</u> unto God from every tribe and language and people and nation. And you have made <u>them</u> a kingdom (royal race) and priests to our God, and <u>they</u> shall reign (as kings) over the earth!"

As you see, this puts a different light on these scriptures! The saints are not in Heaven, that we have any record of, at this time! Consequently, it is no proof that the Rapture

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As you see, this puts a different light on these scriptures! The saints are not in Heaven, that we have any record of, at this time! Consequently, it is no proof that the Rapture has already taken place!

EXHORTATIONS!

The Author believes that he has faithfully, conscientiously, and scripturally, explained away all the supporting scriptures of the belief that Jesus will come **before** the Tribulation.

He wishes that he could once again believe from his heart, the pre-Tribulation theory; but with all the contrary scriptures, he cannot do so. He feels impelled, therefore, to tell others! He would be happy to again be able to believe that the Church would not have to go through the Tribulation. He is not any more anxious to go through the Tribulation than you are, but if it is God's will for him to do so, he knows that God's Grace is sufficient, even in death!

<u>God's Word is absolutely True</u>! Let us accept whatever it proclaims! Let us preach whatever it teaches, no matter what the cost is! We, of this generation, are certainly no better than Christians of past ages, who have given their lives for Christ, by the millions and millions.

We, of this generation, have had, I fear, too "easy" a life, for our spiritual welfare, especially in America. Remember, the Bible says, "Judgment must begin at the house of God." after 40 years it was hard for the author to change his belief, but after much study and research concerning these things, he had to do so, in order to keep his conscience clear before God, and say only what "Thus saith the Lord" concerning these things. You may find it hard also, to change your belief about the Tribulation, especially if you have believed wrong for many years, but **please** stick to the Word of God!

Say, and believe, only what the Bible actually says! God before God in much prayer, study, and meditation, on this great, all-important doctrine! God will bless you for it!

We should let the people know just what to expect — just what the Bible says about the "great tribulation" that is soon coming upon us, in order that they can prepare themselves for it. Explain to them who the Anti-Christ will be; about the **<u>number of his name</u>** that God has given to us; about the <u>**"mark of the beast,"**</u> and the fearful results of ever accepting it; about what God says will happen during this awful period that is soon coming upon true born-again Christians during the "tribulation" period, of about 3 and 1/2 years.

CHRISTIANS ARE SEEING THE TRUTH!

Do you know that many prominent Pre-Tribulationists are changing their minds? Dr. Oswald J. Smith, the noted Missionary-Statesman, says:

"Now, after many years of study and prayer, I am convinced that there will be no rapture before the Tribulation, but that the Church will undoubtedly be called upon to face the Anti-Christ . . . When I began to search the Scriptures for myself I discovered that there is not a single verse in the Bible that upholds the Pre-Tribulation theory, but that the uniform teaching of the Word of God is of a Post-Tribulation Rapture."

Please read this report, out of the 'Humbard Christian Report' magazine of September 17, 1976:

"The Climax of This Age." Did you know that this entire age has been one of trial, persecution, suffering and martyrdom for literally millions of Christian believers? That is hard to believe in America, where we are accustomed to living in luxury, where we have never suffered the ravages of war, famine, persecution or such. In America, it is hard for us to comprehend what real suffering is like . . . And even harder to comprehend that people are suffering for Christ, even today, in many places around this world . . .

And that literally millions have paid with their very life-blood for being a follower of Jesus.

"We must understand that American Christians are not God's pets! Chinese Christians (almost 60 million), have died for Christ in our lifetime (this is the figure given by the Chinese Communists, themselves).

Were they appointed to the wrath of God? Certainly not!

Let me ad to this, and bring this up to date. <u>The year is now 2005</u>. According to Nora Lam Ministries, this figure continues to increase at the rate of 1,000 Christians per day!

But they had to suffer man-made "tribulation." Russian believers, even today, are suffering unbelievable torture, persecution, and martyrdom for their faith in Christ. Their children are taken from them and placed in state "orphanages" to be indoctrinated with the Communist line, and especially to be taught there is no God. Are these Russian believers appointed to the wrath of God? NO! but they have suffered the wrath of man. They would put many American Christians to shame.

"What about the believers slain in cold blood in Cambodia and Vietnam.

Were they appointed to God's wrath? NO! But reports from Cambodia and Vietnam, interpreted, have verified earlier belief that every Christian would be killed when the Communists took over. Communists were "planted" in every city, to find out the name of every "undesirable" person, and when they took over, every single Christian, including Catholics, were liquidated. Their favorite type of execution is by beheading . . . So right in 1975 literally thousands have died for Christ, a martyr's death! Were these precious believers appointed to wrath? NO, it is certain they were not. But again, they have suffered the wrath of man.

"Jesus warned us that we would have tribulation in this world (John 16:33). Paul made it very clear that we would "suffer for His sake" (Phil. 1:29). The early New testament Church believed and taught that suffering was normal, and expected no relief until the Lord was revealed from heaven (II Thess. 1:7).

"We live in an age of tribulation which will not reach its climax until the antichrist is revealed and persecutes the Church. Then we'll see Christians suffer as never before, but it will not be the wrath of God, but man's unhumanity toward man. And it will start off gradually, intensifying as we draw nearer to the end. We are seeing just a little of it in America already, if you have noticed, but, of course, we have not ye suffered as Christians in other countries.

"We can look for the following to take place: Churches losing their tax-exempt status; Christianity will generally become despised; Professing Christians will desert the ranks in droves; the Church will return to meeting in homes as in the 1st. Century; Christianity will be outlawed, finally, and believers will be forced to go underground (meet in secret, as believers in Russia and other places must do today);

The Scriptures will be forbidden; believers will be hated, despised, persecuted and killed when found, with members of their own family betraying them.

"One need not be a prophet to see what is coming! All it takes is an honest look at God's Word. The tribulation is simply the climax of an age which began with the persecution of the Lord Jesus Christ and will not end until He returns to end it IN PERSON. Believing we won't go through any suffering, persecution or affliction will not change anything at all.

"We are warning Christians not to count on a rapture before any persecution. Why? Because many Christians in Germany and other places believed just such a doctrine, and they were totally unprepared for what took place. It is known, a fact, that only one out of a hundred stood true to Christ when persecution broke out! This was because they had been taught wrongly, that they would never suffer persecution.

"Corrie Ten Boom Speaks Out On The Rapture! in her article entitled, "The Coming Tribulations" (Nov.-Dec., 1974, Logos Journal), Corrie Ten Boom strongly warns Christians to get their eyes off any rapture before the tribulation. She has personally seen persecuted Christians "cave in" because they expected to escape by rapture and were unprepared for suffering and martyrdom. She has personally suffered for Christ in her lifetime and knows what it is all about. We strongly suggest you read her books, as it may throw some light on this subject for you.

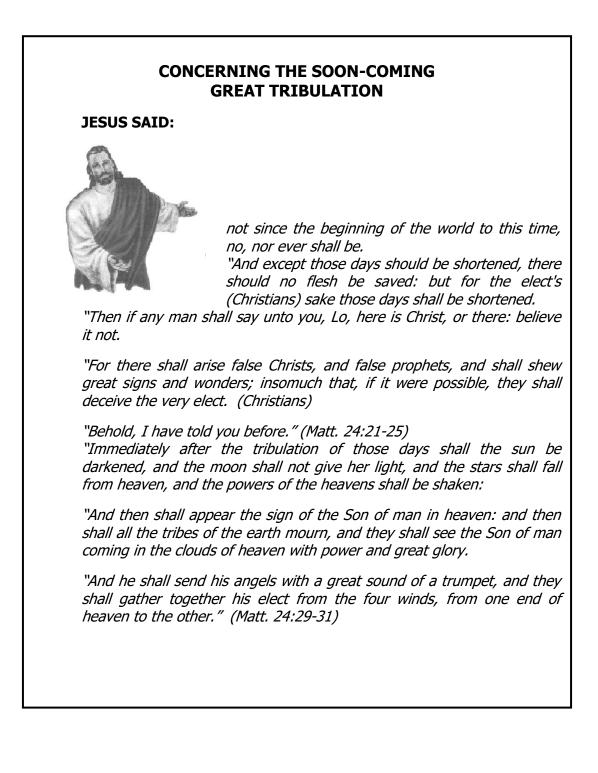
"In concluding, we again state that the only safe position to take is to prepare for tribulation, then if Christ comes earlier, we have nothing to lose. But if we prepare for rapture, and refuse to accept the idea of persecution, we will be totally unprepared for it, and will never be able to stand for Christ when that hour of suffering comes upon us . . . But will forsake the Lord, and turn away from Him, rather than suffer or be martyred. Remember, only one out of a hundred stood for Christ in that trying hour of persecution in the past.

"Are you ready for what is just ahead? Have you embraced the discipleship messages and surrendered your life to Christ? Have you been filled with His Spirit? Are you involved in a personal ministry of soul winning, reaching your friends, neighbors and loved ones while there is still time?

"We need not fear man's wrath, for God will be with us to the very end. But we had better fear the wrath of God if we are not ready to meet Him! We sincerely urge each one of you to prepare to meet God, for we WILL all stand before Him to be judged, and this can be a time of great joy if you are ready! God has a divine plan and purpose for your life on this earth . . . Prayerfully seek His guidance, looking into the Scriptures, and He will reveal what He wants you to do. Be faithful with your TIME, your TALENTS, and your earthly TREASURES — for these are the things you will have to give account of when you stand before the Lord at the Judgment Seat. And we must remember that only what is done through the power and ministry of the Holy Spirit of God will stand the fiery test of God's judgment . . . All works done in the flesh, and for selfish purposes, will be burned and we will suffer loss.

"Are you ready, should we have to suffer the wrath of man? Are you ready for the

rapture? Only with God's help, and in His power, can you be ready!"



NOTES AND REVIEW! WHEN IS JESUS COMING?

What did Jesus say? Read His Mount Olivet Sermon — Matt. 24:29-31 Mark 13:24-27 Luke 21:27.

St. Luke gave the prophecy on the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 (Luke 21:20-24) Matthew and Mark did not quote it. Careful attention must be given to each verse. Compare all three Gospels!

Christians in Jerusalem obeyed Luke's instructions in A.D. 70 and were saved from the destruction by Titus, according to history. We only want to teach what the Bible teaches! Let us stay with the Bible only!

WHEN did Jesus say He was coming?

IMMEDIATELY AFTER the Tribulation! (NOT BEFORE)

- IMMEDIATELY AFTER the
 - a. Sun is darkened!
 - b. Moon shall not give her light!
 - c. Stars shall fall from heaven!
- Matt. 24:29 Mark 13:24-25 Luke 21:25

Who are we — to say that Christ will come for his "elect "BEFORE these things happen! — to say that Christ could come at any moment? To do so, you call Christ a liar! — You say that Christ did not know — but that YOU do know!

How do we know that these things do not happen at the Battle of Armageddon, as the so-called Post Tribulationists believe? By comparing it with what the Bible says! Read Rev. 19:11-21 describing the "Battle of Armageddon."

We know that Rev. 19:11-21 is Christ's Coming at the Battle of Armageddon! It is definitely NOT His Coming for His "elect"! When is the Rapture of the Church? Jesus said that it would be "immediately AFTER the tribulation." Please do not let anyone deceive you otherwise!

Does the Bible say that the "Great Tribulation" will be for a period of 7 years? NO! This is where the Church has become confused!

There is NO Scripture in the Bible that tells us that the "Great Tribulation" will be for a period of 7 years!

The Scripture of Daniel 9:27 is that the Anti-Christ will confirm the covenant with ISRAEL for 7 years, and that he will break his covenant in the midst of the week. (7 years)

This covenant with Israel has nothing to do with the "Great Tribulation" upon the "saints" (the Church) of Rev. 13:7. How long does the "Great Tribulation" last? What does the Bible say? The Bible says, "Power was given unto him (the Anti-Christ world Ruler) to continue for forty and two months." (Rev. 13:5) Therefore, the "Great Tribulation" will only be for 3 and 1/2 years! — not 7 years!

The Prophet Daniel also tells us that the saints (Christians) will be given into the hands of the Anti-Christ for 3 And 1/2 years. Read Daniel 7:25. Daniel says that the Anti-Christ will "wear out the "saints" of the Most High." St. John, the Revelator, says: "It was given unto him to make war with the "saints" and to overcome them." (Rev. 13:7)

We see, therefore, that the Bible says the "Great Tribulation" will be against the "saints" — the Christians! — All over the world! PLEASE do not let any man deceive you! The "Great Tribulation" is NOT for Israel! It is NOT for the world of sinners! The Anti-Christ will ONLY make war on the "saints" — the Christians! For the first 3 and 1/2 years.

As far as the world is concerned, they will accept this World ruler, they will take his mark on their right hand, or forehead, and will continue to do as in the days of Noah and Lot. Read Luke 17:26-36. "They did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded." (Luke 17:28) it will be a time of prosperity for the world! UNTIL THE VERY HOUR OF THE COMING OF CHRIST, FOR THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH. What is the last 3 and 1/2 years? It is known in the Bible 6 times, after the Rapture of the Church, as being "THE WRATH OF GOD" — Rev. 6:16-17 Rev. 11:18 Rev. 14:10 Rev. 14:19-20 Rev. 15:1 Rev. 16:1

Christians will NEVER, NEVER suffer the "WRATH OF GOD"! — but they are the ones to suffer the "Great Tribulation" for 3 and 1/2 years. Remember, the Bible says that it is APPOINTED unto Christians to suffer for Christ! NO PERSON SHOULD PROFESS TO BE A CHRISTION WHO IS NOT WILLING TO DIE FOR CHRIST! There is a difference between the "Great Tribulation" and "The Wrath of God"! The "Great Tribulation" is ONLY for the Church! The "Wrath of God" is ONLY for the world of sinners and unbelievers! They are TWO SEPARATE PERIODS OF TIME! If the Church of today will only recognize this great Truth, then the Coming of Christ for His Church, and the Book of Revelation, will become much more understandable!

We can see now, the order of events that the Bible describes, for the future:

1. The "Anti-Christ" World Ruler will arise out of the bottomless pit! (Rev. 17:8) The whole world will WONDER! (be startled)

2. He will "make war with the saints to overcome them" (Rev. 13:7) "Power was given him to continue for forty and two months."

3. The Rapture of the Church, at the opening of the 6th Seal. (Rev. 6:12-17) The Coming of Christ, in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory! — just as Jesus described to us in Matt. 24:29-31 and Mark 13:24-27.

4. The "Wrath of God" poured out upon all sinners and unbelievers, for about 3 and 1/2 years. (Rev. Chapters 8-9-10-11)

5. The "Battle of Armageddon" (Rev. 19:11-21) The Coming of Christ "on a white horse" with the armies of heaven on white horses.

6. The 1000 year reign of Christ on earth as "King of Kings" and "Lord of Lords" (Re. 20:1-9)

7. The "Great White Throne Judgment"! (Rev. 20:11-15)

8. ETERNITY! HEAVEN — or THE LAKE OF FIRE!

HOW DID JESUS DESCRIBE HIS NEXT COMING, FOR HIS ELECT — THE CHURCH? —



"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." (Matt. 24:27)

"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory." (Mark 13:26)

"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." (Luke 21:27)

"for as the lightning, that lighteneth out of one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day." (Luke 17:24) We KNOW that this Coming of Christ IS NOT for the Battle of Armageddon! Then — what is it? It is His NEXT Coming! His Coming for His Church!

This is not a "secret coming"! "Every eye shall see Him"! There is no Scripture in the Bible that tells us His Coming for His Church will be a "secret coming"! A love-gift of \$10,000.00 awaits anyone for such a Scripture! Can you find one? (Brother Sharrit was offering this gift while he was yet alive. I don't

know if it is still available.)

QUESTIONS:

Does not Jesus come as a "thief in the night"? Yes! — as far as the world is concerned! — but not as far as the Church is concerned! Read I Thess. 4:17 to 5:5. Some Christians will be on their tip-toe of expectancy, when Christ returns for His Church! (Luke 12:37-38) (Matt. 24:33-34)

Will EVERYONE see Jesus at His next Coming — for His Church? YES! Matt. 24:30 Luke 21:25-27 Luke 21:35 Luke 17:26-30 Rev. 1:7. People probably saw Lot leaving Sodom! People probably saw Noah going into the Ark! Jesus said: "So shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." (Luke 17:30)

Lot experienced tribulation before he left Sodom! Noah experienced tribulation before he went into the Ark! Jesus said: "Even thus shall it be in the days when the Son of man is revealed"! Christians, therefore, WILL suffer tribulations, before we are caught up into heaven! It is appointed unto Christians to suffer tribulations!

Will Christians have time to do anything after they see Christ coming in the clouds of heaven? YES! Read Luke 17:31-36 Therefore, the Rapture is not a sudden event! However, it will happen in a "moment" of time, — when that "time" arrives, — at the blowing of the "last trump"!

The angels will be blowing their trumpets. (Matt. 24:31) We will be caught up at the "last trump," as Paul said in I Cor. 15:51-52. Christians will have time (if they would want to) to get off the housetop and go inside the house! They will have time to return from the field — to their home! Jesus said so! Let every man be a liar, but Jesus be true! The Rapture, therefore, is not a sudden unexpected disappearance from the earth as most Christians believe!

What happens after the Rapture? 1. Christians are shown to be up in heaven! Read Rev. 7:9-17 This happens BEFORE the 7th Seal is broken! BEFORE the "Wrath of God" begins to be poured out on earth! — as recorded in Rev. Chapters 8-9-10-11. Christians are in "heaven" during the "Wrath of God" upon the earth!

Is there any Scripture that anyone will be saved after the Rapture? NO! To teach so, is to give people a 2nd chance to get saved! During the "Wrath of God" period the Bible says "neither repenteth they" ! Rev. 9:6 Rev. 9:21 Rev. 16:11 The 144,000, of Israel, will **never** preach the Gospel, as some believe!

REMEMBER! A love-gift of \$10,000.00 (John Sharrit) awaits the first person, with only ONE Scripture, to prove the Pre-Tribulation Coming of Christ, for the Rapture of the Church! We would love to believe it again, if it is in the Bible! If it isn't true, Why BELIEVE IT?

A SURPRISE FOR YOU!

LISTEN: Jesus told His disciples:

- 1. Jerusalem would be destroyed! (Luke 21:20-23) This happened in A.D. 70.
- 2. Israel would be led away captive into all nations. (Luke 21:24)

3. Jerusalem would be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled! (Luke 21:24)

How could Jesus then rapture away his Church until these things happened? They were all not fulfilled until 1967. Therefore, anyone preaching the Pre-Tribulation (or imminent) Coming of Christ before 1967, did not know all their Bible!

LISTEN: to this astounding Truth! BEFORE the Coming of Christ, and BEFORE the Anti-Christ World Ruler, Ezekiel's prophecy must be fulfilled! (Ezek. 38 through 39:16) Read: Ezek. 38:8 38:16-23 Ezek. 39:1-16 Russia **must** be out of the way as a world power before the Anti-Christ appears! These things are prophesied by God to happen in the <u>"latter days"</u> and in the <u>"latter years"</u>! They MUST happen in these LATTER YEARS — NOT AT ARMAGEDDON!

LISTEN: Did Peter preach the "imminent" Coming of Christ? NO! How could he? Jesus had told Peter how he would die, as an old man! (John 21:18-19) How, then, could Peter ever preach that Christ could return at any minute? IMPOSSIBLE!!! Peter knew that he would die — AN OLD MAN!

LISTEN: Did St. Paul preach the "imminent" Coming of Christ? Paul told Timothy twice that he was expecting to die! (II Tim. 3:1) (II Tim. 4-6) Paul knew he was not living in the last days! (I Tim 4:13) (II Tim 3:1-5) Therefore, Paul did <u>not</u> preach the "imminent" Coming of Christ! IMPOSSIBLE!!!

LISTEN: There is no record of the "Early Church" preaching Pre-Tribulationism! There is no record of Martin Luther, John Wesley, or any other Reformation preacher, ever preaching it! There is no record of it ever being preached until 1830 — when a 15 year old girl, Margaret MacDonald, of the Irvingite Church in Scotland, had a "supposed revelation" from the Lord, that the Church would be raptured "BEFORE the Tribulation."

It was accepted as truth by her pastor, Edward Irving. Later it was accepted by the Plymouth Brethren, then later by Dr. Scofield, who placed it in the foot-notes of his Scofield Bible.

It has now scattered all over the world! It is an "easy on the flesh" doctrine to believe, IF IT WAS ONLY TRUE! But it is not true! Shall we believe this 15 year old girl, or believe what the Bible says about this great truth? Jesus said: "Take heed lest any man deceive you! We have allowed a 15 year old girl to deceive the whole Christian world, by this FALSE DOCTRINE!

When did the Apostle Paul say that Christ would rapture the Church? Read I Cor. 15:51-52 I Thess. 4:13-17. As you can see, Paul gives us the "manner" in which Christ will come, but he does not tell us "when." we see, however, that it does not conflict, in any manner, with the words of Christ, in Matt. 24:29-31 — or Mark 13:24-27, in which Christ said that He would come, "immediately **<u>after</u>** the tribulation of those days." Neither does it mean that Christ will come alone, as some teach!

LISTEN: When did Paul say that Christ would come, and the Church be raptured? Read II Thess. 2:1-4. In this Scripture Paul tells us that we will not be gathered unto Christ until the "man of sin" (the Anti-Christ) is revealed! Why don't we believe Paul, in place of this 15 year old girl, or any other preacher?

Paul tells us that we will not be gathered unto Christ until the "man of sin" is revealed! He beseeches (begs) us to not let anyone deceive us, by any method, about when Christ is coming for the Church.

Yet! — TODAY most Christians ARE deceived! We want to stick to the traditions of our fathers, in place of the Word of God, — in place of Jesus and Paul! MAY GOD HELP US!

Some people say that the "Day of Christ" does not begin until the Battle of Armageddon! But—that is not what Christ said!

Luke 17:24 Luke 17:26 Luke 17:30-31 The "Day of Christ" then begins at the day of His coming for the rapture of His Church! MAN'S DAY IS THEN OVER! God will then take over the affairs of earth! The "wrath of God" then begins to fall! The seven angels pour out the "Wrath of God"! No one is converted! Men do not repent!

When did the Apostle John, the Revelator, say that Christ would come? At the opening of the 6th Seal! (Rev. 6:12-17) When:

- **1.** When the sun became black!
- 2. When the moon became as blood!
- 3. When the stars of heaven fell!
- 4. When the heaven departed as a scroll!
- 5. When everyone on earth sees Christ coming on His throne!
- 6. When sinners cry to the mountains and rocks: 'Fall on us and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, for the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?'

LISTEN: Most Christians are not able to explain this coming of Christ! It does not "fit in" with their Pre-Tribulation doctrine! Yet, — it "fits in" perfectly with what Christ said, and with Paul and John, the Revelator. Let Christ, Paul and John be true, — and every other contrary view be a lie! Can you say "AMEN!"

LISTEN: (a Truth!) If Christians of today had never been taught the coming of Christ BEFORE the Tribulation, BY OTHERS, they would never have believed it! IT IS NOT IN THE BIBLE! — for them to read! It is only the "tradition of men," handed down to us SINCE 1830!

If we had never been taught of the "Seven Church Ages" we would never believe it! It, also, is not scriptural! We have no scriptural authority to claim the promise of Rev. 3:10, which was given only to the Church of Philadelphia, in Asia, in A.D.96. it does not pertain to the Church of today! This promise (Rev. 3:10) was literally fulfilled in the 7th century, when the Mohammedans conquered all of Asia Minor, and destroyed every Church except the Church of Philadelphia! Read Rev. 3:10. We have no scriptural authority to claim this promise! However, it is the leading Scripture for those who believe in the Pre-Tribulation Rapture!

The Pre-Tribulationists say that the Church is raptured in Rev. 4:1. Let us read it! This is only the experience of JOHN! It does not refer to the Church! There is no rapture of the Church here! It is more "tradition of men" trying to prove their Pre-Tribulation doctrine! What a shame.

There are no Christians shown to be up in heaven until after the opening of the 6th Seal! (Rev. 7:9) those who believe in the rapture of the Church BEFORE the Tribulation, are NOT able to explain the Coming of Christ, at the opening of the 6th Seal! They want to put it off, to the Battle of Armageddon — when there is no resemblance! LOOK!

The 7th Seal had not been opened!

The "Wrath of God" had not begun! At the Battle of Armageddon (a) The sun is NOT turned black! The moon does NOT become as blood! The stars do NOT fall! Christ is NOT seen coming sitting on His throne! He comes on a — HORSE — at the Battle of Armageddon!

Can you not see how UNTRUE it is? LET US STICK WITH THE BIBLE! Some preachers try to tell us that Matthew — 24th Chapter was written for the nation of Israel!

There are not 3 comings of Christ! If you say He comes before the Tribulation, then there are 3. Certainly, He comes at the opening of the 6th Seal, — and again at Armageddon! Therefore, the Pre-Tribulation theory is not according to the Bible! Let us believe the Bible, and not man's traditions!

Why is this not true?

- ALL four Gospels were written for Christians only. Jesus told His disciples to teach these things to all nations, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you!
- 2. Jesus would never have spoken Matt. 24 just for Israel, when all the rest was for His Church!
- 3. Repeatedly, Jesus said in Matt.24 "Ye" "ye" "Ye"! It was to His followers! He used "Ye" or "You" 16 times in this Chapter!
- 4. Jesus told them to "pray ye"! Remember Israel does not pray to Christ.

Jesus told them to "watch therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. Remember! — Christ is not Israel's Lord!

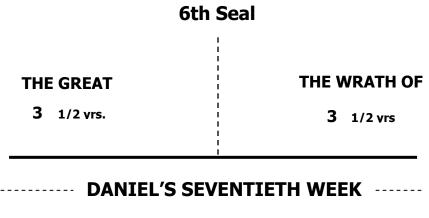
We see, therefore, that the 24th Chapter of Matthew was not written to just the nation of Israel, — but to all Christians — but especially for the Christians of this generation!

Some "Pre-Tribulation" preachers try to tell us that Israel is the "elect" of Christ, in this dispensation! Why is this not true? The "elect" are Christ's "CHOSEN ONES"! The CHURCH is His "Chosen Ones"! The CHURCH is His coming bride! Peter and Paul called the Gentiles, and every believer in Christ, the "elect"! I Peter 1:1-2 Romans 8:33 Col. 3:12 II Tim. 2:10 Romans 11:7 We see, therefore, that Israel is **not** the "elect" of Christ, in our age!

We believe that we have proven, from the Bible, THE WORD OF GOD, that the Church **WILL NOT** be raptured until, as Jesus said,

- 1. "Immediately after the tribulation of those days." (Matt. 24:29-31) (Mark 13:24)
- 2. At the opening of the 6th Seal! (Rev. 6:12-17)
- 3. As the Apostle Paul said! After the "Anti-Christ" is revealed! (II Thess. 2:1-5)

Let Jesus — Paul and St. John be true, and every other teaching be a lie. Jesus said, "Take heed that no man deceive YOU!



7 vears

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS!

WHEN IS JESUS COMING?

QUESTIONS — ANSWERS

WHAT DID JESUS SAY?

Answer: (Let us look at His Sermon on the Mount of Olives)

(This sermon was delivered to His Apostles, and to His Church!)

ST. MATTHEW:



<u>"Immediately after the tribulation of those days</u> 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 <u>his</u> <u>elect</u> from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." (Matt. 24:29-31)

ST. MARK:

"But in those days, <u>after that tribulation</u>, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,

"And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.

"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory,

"And then shall He send his angels, and shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven." (Mark 13:24-27)

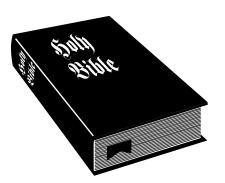
ST. LUKE:

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

"Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." (Luke 21:25-27)

Note: None of the Gospels give the full exact words of all His sermon.



WHEN WILL THE SUN BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON NOT GIVE HER LIGHT, AND THE STARS FALL FROM HEAVEN, AND THE POWERS OF THE HEAVEN BE SHAKEN?

Answer: The Apostle John, in the Book of Revelation, gives us this answer:



"And I beheld when he had opened the **<u>sixth</u> <u>seal</u>**, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

"And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

"And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

"And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

"And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and form the wrath of the Lamb:

"for the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Rev. 6:12-17)

DOES THE APOSTLE JOHN SAY THAT JESUS WILL COME AT THIS TIME ALSO?

Answer: Yes! The Apostle John says:

" The kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and <u>hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne</u>, and from the wrath of the Lamb: (Jesus Christ) For the great day of his wrath <u>is come</u>, and who <u>shall be</u> able to stand?"

Note: Therefore, the Apostle John does say that Jesus comes at this time, and that He will do on his throne. The unsaved will hide themselves in the dens, and in the rocks of the mountains, and cry for them to fall on them and hide them form the face of Christ, as He sits on His throne! They will know then that the WRATH OF GOD awaits them!

The Wrath of God had not begun on them as yet! — Although the five seals, describing the great tribulation upon the Church, was over!

DOES THE BIBLE SAY THAT THE CHURCH IS RAPTURED AT THIS TIME ALSO?

Answer: Yes! The Church is shown to be up in Heaven in the next few verses:



"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; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the Throne, and unto the Lamb." (Jesus Christ) (Rev. 7:9-10)

Note: The Church is raptured into Heaven to be with Christ, <u>"immediately after the</u> <u>tribulation"</u> just as Jesus said. However, it is before the "Wrath of God" begins to fall upon the unsaved! The Church will <u>never</u> suffer the "Wrath of God"! The Church <u>will be in</u> <u>Heaven</u> while the Wrath of God is being poured out upon sinners and unbelievers.

DOES THE BIBLE SAY THAT THE TRIBULATION WILL BE FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS?

Answer: No!

There is no Scripture that says that the Tribulation will last for seven years.

The Bible says:

"And there was given unto him (Anti-Christ) a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue <u>forty</u> <u>and</u> <u>two</u> <u>months</u>," (Rev. 13:5)

"And he (Anti-Christ) shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a <u>time and times and the dividing of time."</u> (Daniel 7:25)

Note: We see from these scriptures that the Tribulation is against the <u>saints</u> <u>of</u> <u>God</u> for a period of <u>3 1/2</u> <u>years</u>. It is a time when the Anti-Christ will make war on the Church.

WILL THE COMING OF CHRIST BE IN SECRET — A SECRET CATCHING AWAY WITHOUT ANYONE ELSE SEEING CHRIST AT THAT TIME?

Answer: No! The Bible says:



"And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall <u>all the tribes of the earth mourn</u>, and they <u>shall</u> <u>see</u> the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." (Matt. 24:30)

"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and <u>every eye shall see him</u>, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him." (Rev. 1:7)

"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." (Luke 21:27)

Note: We see, therefore, that there is <u>no such thing as the Coming of Christ in secret for</u> <u>the rapture of His Church!</u>

IS THERE ANY SCRIPTURE THAT SAYS THAT ANYONE WILL BE SAVED AFTER THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH?

Answer: No! To teach so, is to give people a second chance to be saved!

There is **no scripture** that tells us that the 144,000 of the 12 tribes of Israel will **ever preach the gospel** after the rapture of the Church, as so many people believe and preach.

Note: The Bible says that after the rapture of the Church, during the Wrath of God, that the people <u>"repented not"</u>!

"Neither repented they" (Rev.9:21)

"And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it, and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them." (Rev. 9:6)

"And <u>repented not</u> of their deeds." (Rev. 16:11)

Was there anyone saved after Noah went into the ark? No!

Was there anyone saved after Lot went out of Sodom? No!

Jesus said, "Even <u>thus shall it be</u> in the day when the Son of Man is revealed." (Luke 17:30)

JESUS SAID HE WOULD COME FOR HIS ELECT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TRIBULATION. WHO ARE THE ELECT OF CHRIST?

Answer: The Bible tells us that the Church is the elect of Christ! Listen to the Apostle Paul:



"Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's <u>elect</u>?" (Romans 8:33)

"Put on therefore, as the <u>elect</u> of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, Meekness, long-suffering;" (Col 3:12)

"Therefore I endure all things for the <u>elect's</u> sakes, that they my obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory." (II Tim. 2:10)

Listen to the Apostle Peter also:

"Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the <u>strangers</u> <u>scattered</u> <u>throughout</u> <u>Pontus</u>, <u>Galatia</u>, <u>Cappadocia</u>, <u>Asia</u>, <u>and</u> <u>Bithynia</u>,

<u>"Elect</u> according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit," (I Peter 1:2)

MANY BELIEVE THAT MATTHEW 24 IS FOR THE NATION OF ISRAEL. EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS NOT TRUE.

Answer:

1. All four Gospels were written for <u>Christians</u> — <u>(Not Israel</u>, who were unbelievers).

2. Jesus would <u>never</u> have spoken Matt. 24 just for Israel (unbelievers) when every other scripture in the four Gospels are for <u>Christians</u>. Jesus was speaking to <u>His</u> <u>disciples!</u>

3. Repeatedly, Jesus said in Matt. 24 "Ye" "Ye" "Ye." He used "ye" or "you" sixteen times in this one chapter!

4. Jesus told them to "pray ye." Remember Israel will not pray to Christ!

5. Jesus told them to "Watch, therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." Remember, Christ is not **Israel's** Lord! They are **still looking for the <u>"Messiah</u>" the Lord to come.**

Note: We see, therefore, that the 24th Chapter of Matthew is not spoken to Israel! — but to Christians: — just the same as all of the rest of the four Gospels, and that Jesus told the Christians that he would come for the rapture of the Church, "Immediately after the tribulation," (not before!)

Only the Gospel of Luke (Luke 21:20-24) tells of the destruction of Jerusalem that occurred in A.D. 70. History tells us Christians obeyed and were saved.

HOW DO WE KNOW THAT MATT. 24:29-31 IS NOT FULFILLED AT CHRIST'S COMING AT THE END OF THE 7 YEARS FOR THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON?

Answer:

1. There is **<u>no</u>** <u>**record**</u> of the sun being darkened at the Battle of Armageddon, neither of the moon not giving her light, neither of the stars falling from heaven, neither of His sending His Angels to gather His elect!

Compare —

Here is the Biblical description of the coming of Christ at the Battle of Armageddon:



And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse, and he that sat pon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth udge and make war. — and the armies which were in heaven followed num upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of dis mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: nd he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God." (Rev. 19:11-15)

Note: As you can readily see, the coming of Christ at the Battle of Armageddon is not the coming of Christ as He described in Matt. 24. Yet, Jesus said that His coming of Matt. 23 would be "immediately after the Tribulation."

DOES JESUS NOT COME AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT, AS IS GENERALLY BELIEVED?

Answer: He comes as a thief in the night only for the ungodly (the unbelievers) but not as far as the Church is concerned!



The Apostle Paul said,

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness." (I Thess. 5:4-5)

Note: The world will continue in sin. They will accept the mark of the beast (Anti-Christ) and go on in prosperity until the Lord comes for the rapture of the Church. The Anti-Christ will make war on Christians, and overcome them. Jesus said, "As it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded, but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed."

Similarly -

Immediately after the Church is raptured, the "Wrath of God" will begin to fall.

IF JESUS DOES NOT COME FOR THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH UNTIL "IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TRIBULATION," AND IF THE TRIBULATION IS FOR 3 1/2 YEARS, WILL THE CHRISTIANS NOT KNOW EXACTLY THE DAY OR HOUR THAT JESUS WILL COME?

Answer: We will <u>never</u> know the day or the hour! Jesus said so! But <u>we will know</u> <u>that it is very near</u>. We may know the month and the year, when that time is actually upon us.

The days of tribulation will be shortened but we do not know how much. Jesus said, "Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the <u>elect's</u> (Church) sake those days shall be shortened." (Matt. 24:22)

Jesus said:

"Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping." (Mark 13:35-36)

"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape (out of) all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." (Luke 21:36)

We will escape the Wrath of God!

WILL CHRISTIANS HAVE TIME TO DO ANYTHING AFTER THEY SEE JESUS COMING IN THE CLOUDS?

Answer: Yes! Here is what Jesus said:

"In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back." (Luke 17:31)

Note: We see, therefore, that the rapture is **not** a sudden, unexpected thing, but every eye will

see him. His coming will be "as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west." "The sun shall 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." (What a display it is going to be! Far, far greater than any 4th of July celebration!)



"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 <u>elect</u> (the Christians) from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." (Matt. 24:30-31)

THIS IS THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH!

WHEN DOES THE "WRATH OF GOD" BEGIN?

Answer: The "Wrath of God" begins —

After the Great Tribulation is all over!

After the 6 seals of Rev. 6 have been broken!

After the Coming of Christ in the clouds!

<u>After</u> the Rapture of the Church!

After the saints are shown up in heaven. (Rev. 7:9-17)

The "Wrath of God" begins with <u>Chapter 8 of the Book of Revelation</u>. The 7th seal is broken, and there is silence in heaven for the space of one-half hour before it starts. The "Wrath of God" continues through Chapters 8-9-10-11 of the Book of Revelation, leading up to the Battle of Armageddon, described in Rev. 19:11-21. The intervening chapters 12 to 19 are "wonders" "signs" "pageants" of things that had already happened during the Great Tribulation, or were about to happen. The "Wrath of God" is mentioned <u>6 times</u> from Chapter 6:16 to Chapter 17.

Rev. 6:16-17	Rev. 11:18	Rev. 14:10
Rev. 14:19-20	Rev. 15:1	Rev. 16:1

<u>Christians will NOT have to suffer the "Wrath of God</u>," but we will be the ones who will suffer during the great tribulation of 3 1/2 years. <u>God has told us so</u>, in Re. 13:5-8 and in Daniel 7:25. <u>Let no man deceive you otherwise!</u>

WHAT IS GOD'S SCHEDULE FOR THE FUTURE?

Answer: We are now living in the "last days." Russia will soon be destroyed by God as foretold in Ezekiel 38-39. Then the 10 "horns" (nations) of Daniel and Revelation will spring up. (It may be the 10 nations of the Common Market!) The Anti-Christ will ascend out of the "bottomless pit." Everyone will "wonder," except Christians (those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life). (Read Rev. 17:8) Then:

The Great Tribulation. (about 31/2 years) Anti-Christ will make war on Christians.

<u>The</u> <u>**Coming**</u> <u>**of**</u> <u>**Christ**</u> — in the clouds of heaven, with great glory.

The Rapture of the Church! (at the opening of the 6th seal) (saints are in heaven)

The Wrath of God is poured out on sinners and unbelievers for about 31/2 years.

The Battle of Armageddon. (Coming of Christ on a white horse with armies of heaven). Satan bound 1000 years. Anti-Christ and False Prophet cast into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

<u>1000 year reign of Christ on Earth.</u>

Satan loosed for a little season.

- <u>Great</u> <u>White</u> <u>Throne</u> <u>Judgment</u>. Wicked dead are raised. Whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire!
- **<u>Eternity</u>** Either in Heaven or Lake of Fire!

DID NOT THE APOSTLES EXPECT CHRIST TO RETURN IN THEIR GENERATION?

Answer: No!

Paul was expecting to die! Listen to him: "For I am now ready to be offered, and **the time of my departure is at hand."** (II Tim. 4:6) "this know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." (II Tim. 3:1)

Paul knew that he was not living in the last days. Read also I Tim. 4:1-3. He said that Christ would not rapture us **<u>until the Anti-Christ is revealed</u>**. (II Thess. 2:1-3)

How about Peter?

Jesus had told Peter that he would die as an old man. (John21:18)

Peter himself said: <u>"knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle</u>, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. Moreover, I will endeavour that ye may be able

after my decease to have these things always in remembrance." (II Peter 1:14-15)

The Apostle John <u>was</u> <u>not</u> <u>expecting</u> <u>Christ</u> <u>to</u> <u>come</u> <u>in</u> <u>his</u> <u>day</u>, because Christ had showed him on the Isle of Patmos, many things that had to occur before the rapture takes place.

WHEN DID THE APOSTLE PAUL SAY THAT CHRIST WOULD RAPTURE THE CHURCH?

Answer:

Let us read Paul's writings:



"Behold, I shew 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." (I Cor. 15:51-52)

"We which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the arch-angel, 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." (I Thess. 4:15-17)

Here, Paul gives us the <u>manner</u> in which Christ will come, but he <u>does</u> <u>not tell</u> <u>us</u> <u>WHEN</u>. However, we see that it does not conflict in any manner, with the words of Christ in Matt. 24:29-31, in which Christ said that He would come <u>"immediately</u> <u>after the</u> <u>Tribulation</u>," Paul tells us "WHEN" on the next page.

WHEN DID PAUL SAY THT CHRIST WOULD COME, AND THE CHURCH BE RAPTURED?

Answer: Here is Paul's answer!



"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, (which is the Rapture) 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. <u>Let no man deceive you</u> by any means: for that day (<u>the day of our</u> <u>gathering unto Christ — the Rapture</u>) <u>shall not come, except</u> <u>there come a falling away first, and that man of sin (Anti-Christ)</u> <u>be revealed</u>, the son of perdition." (II Thess. 2:1-3) In this scripture Paul beseeches (begs) us Christians not to let anyone deceive us by <u>any method</u>, about when Christ is coming for the <u>Rapture of the Church</u>, — <u>Yet</u> — <u>today</u>, <u>most Christians are deceived</u>!

And we have been deceived by a <u>"Spirit</u>" (which Paul mentioned) <u>telling a woman in</u> <u>1830</u> in Great Britain <u>that Christians had been wrong for 1800 years, and that she was</u> <u>right</u>. The Church has believed her, and tht "Spirit," in place of continuing to believe the Word of God!

The Christians of today apparently do not want to listen to Paul, but they **want to believe** the tradition that has been handed down to us from this woman, who supposedly had a special revelation that all other Christians had been wrong for 1800 years — <u>a tradition that</u> is just opposite to what Jesus, Paul and St. John preached.

Paul said that Jesus would not return, and that the Church would not be raptured to meet Him, — until two events happen:

"There come a falling away."

"That man of sin is revealed." "Who opposeth — 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." (II Thess. 2:3-4)

PAUL, THEREFORE, SAYS THAT THE CHURCH WILL NOT BE RAPTURED UNTIL THE ANTI-CHRIST IS REVEALED!

If you say otherwise, you say just opposite of what the Apostle Paul says! Just opposite of what Jesus said! Of what St. John says!

If you say otherwise, you say a lie! Let God be true, and every man a liar!



WHEN DID THE APOSTLE JOHN SAY THAT JESUS WOULD COME?

Answer:

Immediately after the Tribulation — after the opening of the five seals. **At the opening of the 6th seal**.



"And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

"And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

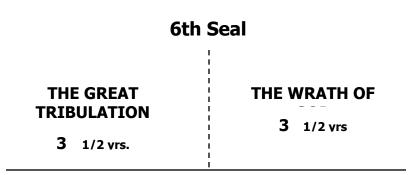
"And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

"And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains.

"And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and <u>hide us from</u> <u>the face of him</u> <u>that sitteth on the Throne</u>, and from the wrath of the Lamb: (Jesus Christ)

"For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Rev. 6:12-17)

Note: Pre-Tribulationists, nor post-Tribulationists (those believing that the rapture will take place at the Battle of Armageddon) are not able to explain this coming of Christ!



DANIELS SEVENTIETH WEEK

7 Years

DID THE EARLY CHURCH EXPECT CHRIST TO COME FOR THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH IN THEIR DAY?

Answer: No!

Paul, Peter, and John had written to the Church and explained many things that must happen before the coming of the Lord. They **knew** that these things had not happened.

It is a historical fact, which anyone can verify at a Public Library, that the early Church Fathers did **not** expect the imminent coming of Christ in their day!

Great Christian men of the first four centuries of the Church, such as Augustine, Barnabas, Clement of Rome, Ignatius, Irenaeus, Jerome, Polycarp and Tertullian, <u>did</u> <u>not</u> <u>believe in the imminent coming of Christ!</u>

We find no historical record of <u>any</u> of the early Christians believing that Jesus would come in <u>their day</u>. They believed, as the Apostle Paul had written, that Jesus <u>would not</u> <u>come until after the Anti-Christ was revealed!</u>

IS THERE ANY RECORD OF ANY OF THE GREAT REFORMATION PREACHERS BELEIVING THAT CHRIST WOUD RAPTURE THE CHURCH BEFORE THE TRIBULATION?

Answer: No!

Great preachers such as John Wesley, Charles Wesley, Charles Spurgeon, Matthew Henry, John Knox, Martin Luther, John Huss, William Carey, John Calvin, Isaac Newton, George Whitefield, A.B. Simpson, George Mueller, John Newton, Adoneran Judson, Jonathan Edwards, William Tyndale, John Wycliffe, John Bunyan, and many others, <u>did not believe</u> that the Church would be raptured before the Great Tribulation that Jesus had spoken of.

Prominent Pre-Tribulationists preachers, some of whom are now on Radio and Television, have been interviewed, and <u>none</u> of them could name a single preacher between the first century and 1830 who ever preached the coming of Christ <u>before the Tribulation</u>!

So, we see that it is only within the last 140 years that the coming of Christ **before** the Tribulation has been preached. It is not based upon Scripture, but upon a **supposed revelation** given to a woman in Great Britain, in 1830, as we shall see!

HOW DID THE PRE-TRIBULATION THEORY BEGIN?

Answer:

"Pre-Tribulation-Rapturism" is a modern "ism." Until the year 1830 all teaching of the Church was of Post-Tribulation variety. The Pre-Tribulation teaching was born early in the nineteenth century. Quite evidently it was an illegitimate birth. It was sired by Satan. The circumstances that gave it birth prove this. A woman, named Margaret MacDonald, who was associated with a religious group in Great Britain, known as the "Irvingites," mothered the illegitimate fallacy. Irvingism meetings featured so-called "Spirit manifestations," "speaking with other tongues," and "giving messages in the Spirit." The Irvingite woman, in such a meeting, and while supposedly "under the power" of the Holy Spirit, was given a message which was believed by her to be from the Lord. She claimed the Lord revealed to her that Old and New Testament writers, anyone, and everyone whoever contended for Post-tribulation-Rapturism — all were wrong. He revealed to her— so she believed — that the Church would be raptured before and not "immediately after the tribulation." The teaching took root for the first time when men like Irving, who headed this sect, took the new revelation, and built it into a doctrine that has become almost universally accepted by Adventists. It was in direct contradiction to all teaching of the Bible on the subject and it nullified all that had been taught about it by the faithful Church for 18 centuries.

"Therefore, and I say this guardedly, this Spirit revelation was given by a demon spirit, and not the Holy Spirit. I realize this is a serious charge to make, and it is not made lightly. There are tears in it. If nothing am I more sure than that the overwhelming majority of Christian teachers and preachers are sincerely desirous of, and prayerfully attempting to propagate truth, all the truth, and only the truth.

With many, teaching the error of Pre-tribulation-Rapturism is not a deliberate design to deceive — it is the tragic result of themselves being mis-taught. More and more we realize what a tremendous responsibility it is to "preach the Word." May God grant us to "know the truth" and faithfully preach it! Amen!" (Taken from the book, "Immediately after the Tribulation" by Moreton f. Scruby).

We see that Satan sprung the Pre-Tribulation theory upon the Church about the same time as he did Mormonism, Christian Science, and many other false doctrines of these last days. Let us reject it! — and preach the Truth!

WHAT SHOULD CHRISTIANS DO TO PREPARE FOR THE SOON — COMING GREAT TRIBULATION?

Answer:

1. (From God) "Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: (Anti-Christ) for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six." (Rev. 13:18)

Note: In verse 17 God tells us that "no man might buy or sell, save (unless) he that had the mark (never, never take the mark) or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." God says the number of his name is 666. (Some ancient manuscripts say 616) God tells us that if we know the name of the Anti-Christ, or the number of his name, that we will be able to buy and sell during the Tribulation! (King James Version)

2. Have patience! God will punish those who persecute you!



"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. 13:10)

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

3. "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." "Therefore be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." "If any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or Lo, he is there; believe him not:

For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect." (Christians). The false prophet shall make "fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth."

- 4. "Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is" (the day or the hour) "Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch."
- 5. "Look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." "Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life." "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass (the Wrath of God) and to stand before the Son of man."

JESUS SAID, "AS IT WAS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH, SO SHALL IT BE IN THE DAYS OF THE SON OF MAN." WILL NOT CHRISTIANS BE RAPTURED BEFORE THE TRIBULATION, AS NOAH ENTERED THE ARK BEFORE THE FLOOD?

Answer:

Noah did not enter the Ark before his tribulations, but he did enter before the "Wrath of God" began to fall. Noah suffered his tribulation before he went into the Ark! He preached 120 years without any converts!

Likewise, the Christians will go through the Tribulation at the hands of the Anti-Christ before they enter the Ark — being with Christ! (Rev. 13:7) (Dan. 7:24) Jesus will come for the Church, just as he said, "immediately after the tribulation"! As Noah was safe in the Ark during the flood, so will the Christians be safe with Jesus during the "Wrath of God," but we will experience the Great Tribulation, which precedes the "Wrath of God"!

Likewise, in the days of Lot! Lot suffered tribulations before the angel took him out of Sodom. Lot did not suffer the "Wrath of God" but he did suffer tribulation before his escape. Jesus said, "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot — even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed."

Jesus said:



"And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man.

"They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;

"But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. "Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

"In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff is in the house let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back.

Remember Lot's wife

"Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it.

"I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left.

"Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

"Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left." (Luke 17:26-36)

THERE IS NO SCRIPTURE THAT TELLS US THAT ANYONE WILL EVER BE SAVED AFTER THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH! THERE IS NO SCRIPTURE THAT TELLS US THAT THE GREAT TRIBULATION WILL BE FOR A PERIOD OF 7 YEARS, AS IS GENERALLY TAUGHT! (The Bible says 31/2 years, or 42 months.) (Rev. 13:5) (Dan. 7:25)

THERE IS NO SCRIPTURE THAT TELLS US THAT THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH WILL BE A "SECRET RAPTURE"! JESUS SAID, "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." (Matt. 24:29-31) (This prophecy is not fulfilled at the Battle of Armageddon! Then, when is it fulfilled? There is only one answer, — at the opening of the 6th seal!) (Mark 13:26 Luke 21:27 Rev. 1:7 Rev. 6:12-17)

THERE IS NO RECORD OF ANY RAPTURED CHRISTIANS IN HEAVEN UNTIL IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE OPENING OF THE 6TH SEAL! (REV. 7:9-17) CHRIST COMES ON HIS THRONE AT THE OPENING OF THE 6TH SEAL. (Rev. 6:16)

IF CHRIST COMES BEFORE THE TRIBULATION, THEN HE COMES THREE TIMES! — ONCE BEFORE THE TRIBULATION, THEN AT THE OPENING OF THE 6TH SEAL, AND AGAIN AT THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON! THIS IS NOT BIBLICAL, AS ALL SCHOLARS WILL AGREE.

WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THESE SCRIPTURES THAT PRE-TRIBULATIONISTS QUOTE TO PROVE THEIR THEORY?

"Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world." (rev. 3:10)

Answer: This Scripture was given to the Church at Philadelphia, Asia Minor in A.C. 96. We have <u>no</u> scripture authority to claim this promise today! It was literally fulfilled in the 7th Century, when every Church in Asia Minor was destroyed except the Church at Philadelphia. The so-called 7 Church Ages <u>is not</u> Scriptural!

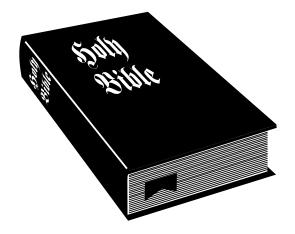
Rev. 4:1-2 "After I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the spirit and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne"

Answer: Even a child would know that this Scripture does not teach that the Church will be raptured at this time. *It applies only to the Apostle John, and not the Church!

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."

Answer: The Church will escape the "Wrath of God," which will follow their translation! However, we have no promise of escaping the "Great Tribulation"! Are we any better than Christ, or the Apostles, or millions and millions of other Christian martyrs through the centuries? Are we not willing to suffer for our Lord?

Also, Greek scholars tell us that this could be translated "to escape **<u>out</u> of** all these things." Not to escape the Great tribulation but to escape <u>out of it!</u>



NOTE FROM GRADY !!!

The next question concerning the Anti-Christ is to be taken with the understanding that no one has a perfect answer for every aspect of the end time events. The answer to this question is one of them.

WHO WILL BE THE ANTI-CHRIST WORLD RULER?

Answer:

The Early Church, of the first and second Centuries, according to Encyclopedias, believed and taught that **<u>Caesar</u>** <u>Nero</u>, in the last days, would "ascend out of the bottomless pit" (See Rev. 17:8) as the Anti-Christ World Ruler, and that he would make war on the church just before the Coming of Christ. This belief is <u>**absolutely Scriptural!**</u>

The Bible says, "The beast (Anti-Christ) that thou sawest was, (this was written in 96 A.D.) and **is not**, and **shall ascend out of the bottomless pit**, and go into perdition." The Anti-Christ then has to be someone who lived and reigned as king over Rome **before A.D. 96**, but who was dead in A.D. 96. In the last days he will "ascend out of **the bottomless pit**" — "and they that dwell on the Earth shall **wonder** (some translations **say startled**) — when they behold the beast (Anti-Christ) **that was, and is not, and yet is."** (Rev. 17:8)

The Bible tells us that the soon-coming World Ruler Anti-Christ will be a **<u>Roman</u>**! (Dan. 9:26) (Rev. 17:9-18)

The Bible tells us that the NUMBER OF HIS NAME will be 666. The Bible does not say that the "mark of the beast" will be 666, as so many teach. The name "Caesar Nero" in both the Hebrew and Aramaic languages, adds up to be 666. (In Aramaic, Hebrew, Greek and Latin, the alphabet is also their numerals, for instance, the Roman X = 10, etc.)

According to the bible, the Anti-Christ <u>has to be</u> one of the five kings who ruled over the seven-hill city of Rome, before A.D. 96. (Study carefully Rev. 17:8-18) He will <u>"ascend out</u> <u>of the bottomless pit</u> — they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, (be startled) whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world." this proves that the Christians will still be on earth at that time, and <u>not raptured</u>!

The Bible says, "It was given unto him (Anti-Christ) to <u>make war</u> with the saints (Christians) and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life." this, again, proves that the Christians are <u>still here</u> during the reign of the Anti-Christ!

Besides taking the mark of the beast to buy and sell there will be **two** other ways. Christians will be able to by and sell during the Tribulation, (according to the King James Version of the Bible) if they know them, <u>without</u> taking the mark of the beast, namely, (1) <u>if</u> <u>you know the name of the Anti-Christ</u>, and (2) <u>if you know the number of his name</u>! Then God tells us Christians that the <u>NUMBER OF HIS NAME</u> will be 666. (Rev. 13:17)

WILL ANYONE BE ABLE TO MAKE WAR WITH THE ANTI-CHRIST — WORLD RULER?

Answer: The Bible says, "The dragon (devil) gave him (the Anti-Christ) his power, and his seat, and great authority." the ten nations, out of the Old Roman Empire, "shall give their power and strength" unto him. The Bible further states that "power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations." <u>Under these conditions, with all this power, it will be impossible for anyone, or any nation, to make war with him</u>! The Bible says, "WHO IS ABLE TO MAKE WAR WITH HIM?" The answer is, <u>NO ONE</u>!

Russia will soon be destroyed by God, in their invasion of Palestine! (Ezek. Chapters 38-39) It will take Israel 7 years to burn the weapons of Russia, and 7 months to bury the dead! This must take place before the Battle of Armageddon! The Battle of Armageddon is not a battle between nations; <u>it is a battle of all nations against Jesus Christ, the precious</u> <u>Lamb of God</u>! Study (Rev. 16:13-21) (Rev. 17:12-14) (Rev. 19:11-21)

Friend, REMEMBER: the Bible says: "If <u>any man</u> worship the beast (Anti-Christ) and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, (in order to buy or sell) the same shall drink of the wine of the Wrath of God — <u>and the smoke of their torment ascendeth</u> <u>up for ever and ever and they have no rest day nor night"</u>!

WHY EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD FEAR GOD!

"And great fear came upon all the Church, and upon as many as heard these things." (Acts 5:11)

"Then had the churches rest throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied." (Acts 9:31)

The reason why Christians of today are not more spiritual and close to God is because we do not fear Him enough to keep His commandments!

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (II Cor 7:1)

"Submitting yourselves one to another, in the fear of God." (Eph. 5:21)

"Work out you own salvation with fear and trembling." (Phil. 2:120

"Praise our God, all ye servants, and ye that fear Him, both small and great." (Rev. 19:5)

And many other scriptures!

The "WRATH OF GOD"

- The Battle of Armageddon!
- The Millennium! 1000 Year Reign of Christ!
- The Great White Throne Judgment!
- A New Heaven and a New Earth!
- Description of the City "New Jerusalem"!
- How to understand the Book of Revelations Better!

DEAR PRECIOUS SOUL:

If you are not already saved, "born again," will you please make this prayer your earnest, sincere prayer to God! Remember, that Church Membership, good morals, good works will never save you!

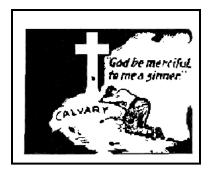
"Oh God, Creator of Heaven and Earth, — my Creator: PLEASE HAVE MERCY UPON ME! I have sinned against You! I have disobeyed thy laws and thy commandments! I am a lost sinner! — doomed for Hell and the Lake of Fire!

"I come to You, in the name of Jesus Christ, Your only begotten Son, Who died for me, — Who shed His Holy blood as an atonement for my sins; that I might not perish, but that I might have Everlasting Life, by believing in Him.

"I confess my sins to You! I am sorry for them! I repent of them! I will make any restitution that You may require of me! I now forsake all my sins to follow Jesus. Please forgive me of all my sins, and cleanse me, through the precious Holy blood of Jesus. I now receive Him as my Saviour and my Lord!

I NOW BELIEVE IN HIM!

Pray until YOU KNOW that you are saved! Then, thank and Praise HIM! Then go to some Bible-believing, Bible-preaching Church!



THE WRATH OF GOD!

As we have explained in previous chapters, the "Wrath of God" does not begin until after the opening of the 6th Seal! The words "Wrath of God" are not mentioned in the Book of Revelation until at the opening of the 6th Seal. However, it is mentioned many times after that, up to the Battle of Armageddon.

The "Wrath of God" does not take place on Earth until after "the wrath of Satan," known as the Great Tribulation, is all over. The "wrath of Satan" is his last effort against the Church of Jesus Christ. The Christians will be raptured, and taken into heaven, before the "Wrath of God" begins! The wrath of Satan is against the Christians, whereas, the "Wrath of God" is against the world of sinners and unbelievers!

At the opening of the 6th Seal, the sinners and unbelievers all see Jesus Christ, coming on His Throne! They are in total derision! They will see then that the Bible is true! The Bible says:

Rev. 6:15-17

"And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

"And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the **wrath** of the Lamb:

"For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"

Everyone on Earth will see Jesus, on His throne, at this time! The door of Salvation is now shut, just as Jesus said it would be. (Matt. 25:10) (Luke 13:25) <u>There is no record of anyone being saved (born again) after the opening of the 6th Seal</u>! So many preachers tell us that after the Rapture the 144,000 of the children of Israel will become world evangelists, and that millions will be saved, whereas, <u>the Bible does not tell us that</u>, in the least degree! To do so, God would have to give people a "second chance" to get saved! <u>There is no Scripture for it</u>! There are many Scriptures, on the contrary!

The 144,000 of Israel will be divinely protected from harm during the "Wrath of God" period, but **there is no Scripture that they will ever preach the Gospel!** (Rev. 9:4)

At the opening of the 8th chapter, of the Book of Revelation, the 7th Seal is opened!

There is silence in heaven for the space of half an hour! **THEN!** — begins the outpouring of the "**WRATH OF GOD**" upon the Earth! — such Wrath that is almost staggering!

We will let the Word of God speak for itself, during the period known in the Bible as the "**WRATH OF GOD**." Inasmuch as the seven vials of the "Wrath of God" in Chapter 16 seems to be a re-telling (or a pageant of) of the blowing of the seven Trumpets of Chapters 8-9-10-11, we will print both of them, side by side, for your comparison:

THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

First Trumpet (Rev. 8:7) "The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."

Second Trumpet (Rev. 8:8) "And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood;"

Third Trumpet (Rev. 8:10-11)

"And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters;

Cont.

THE SEVEN VIALS

First Vial (Rev. 16:2) "And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshiped his image."

Second Vial (Rev 16:3)

"And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea."

Third Vial (Rev. 16:4)

"And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood." "And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter."

Fourth Trumpet (Rev. 8:12) "And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars, so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise."

Fifth Trumpet (Rev. 9:1-12) "And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

"And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun an the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

"And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

Cont.

Fourth Vial (Rev. 16:8-9)

"And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. "An men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory."

Fifth Vial)Rev. 16:10-11)

"And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain.

"And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds."

"And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. "And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. "And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. "And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it: and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. "And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold and their faces were as the faces of men. "And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the faces of men. "And they had hair as the Hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.

"And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.

"And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Appollyon.

"One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter."

Sixth Trumpet (Rev. 9:13-21)

"And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God.

"Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

"By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths.

Cont.

Sixth Vial (Rev. 16:12-14:16)

"And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the, The mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

"for they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, together them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."

Cont.

"For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt. "And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

"Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts."

Seventh Trumpet (Rev. 11:15)

"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever." The mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

"for they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, together them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."

"And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon."

Seventh Vial (Rev. 16:17-21)

"And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. "And there were voices, and thunders, and lightning's; and there was a great earthquake,

Such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty and earthquake, and so great.

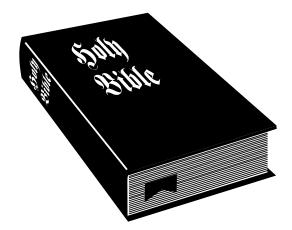
"And the great city was divided unto three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

Cont.

"And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

"And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great." This brings us up to the Battle of Armageddon, a literal "**Invasion from Space**" such as the world has never seen. At the Battle of Armageddon, Christ will return on a **white horse**, with the armies of Heaven upon white horses, "clothed in fine linen, white and clean." He will slay the armies of the world, which have gathered in Palestine to fight against Him, with a sharp sword which goes out of His mouth, and "His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem," and He will begin to rule the world for 1000 years, in peace and righteousness.

We see, therefore, that the Battle of Armageddon, <u>is not Christ's coming for His</u> <u>elect</u> (the Church) as he described in Matt. 24:29-31 and Mark 13:24-27, as some people believe. He had already come for His Church at the opening of the 6th Seal! Those who believe in the Pre-Tribulation Coming of Christ — or those who believe that Christ will not rapture the Church until the Battle of Armageddon — are unable to explain Christ's Coming at the opening of the 6th Seal — ON HIS THRONE! — WHEN EVERY EYE SHALL SEE HIM! — AND WHEN THE WORDS OF Christ in Matt. 24:29-31 and Mark 13:24-27 are LITERALLY, FAITHFULLY FULFILLED! We hope that every Christian will see and believe these great BIBLE TRUTHS <u>it solves every Prophetic Scripture</u>!



THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

Invasion from Space!

The Battle of Armageddon is not a battle between nations, as most people believe!

The Battle of Armageddon is a battle between Satanic worldly armies and Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The armies of the nations of the world will gather in Palestine, with the Anti-Christ World ruler as their leader, to make war against Jesus Christ, as he returns from heaven on a white horse, with the armies of heaven on white horses. No doubt they will have all of their nuclear weapons, guided missiles, and every other imaginable weapon, hoping that they will be able to kill Jesus Christ, as He returns.

Here is the Bible description of the battle, as recorded in the Book of Revelation, written by St. John, the beloved Apostle of Jesus Christ:



"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon (Satan), and out of the mouth of the beast (World Ruler), and out of the mouth of the false prophet (false religious leader). For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty . . . And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." (Rev. 16:13-16)

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called

Faithful and True (Jesus Christ), 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 (He shed His blood on Calvary's cross): 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 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 (World Ruler), and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the horse (Jesus Christ), and against His army. And the beast (World Ruler) was taken, and with him the false prophet (false religious leader) that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast (a mark in you right hand or in your forehead), and them that worshipped his image. These both (the World Ruler and the False Prophet) were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

"And the remnant were slain with the sword of Him (Jesus Christ) that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of His mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

"And I saw an angel come down form heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 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. 19:11 to Rev. 20:3)

NOTE: You will notice that the World Ruler and the False Prophet were cast into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. At the end of the one thousand year reign of Christ upon the Earth, Satan himself will also be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the World Ruler and the False Prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever. You see here the absolute proof of ETERNAL PUNISHMENT FOR THE DEVIL (SATAN), THE WORLD RULER AND THE FALSE PROPHET. At the Great White Throne Judgment, <u>"whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire" which is the SECOND DEATH for all sinners and unbelievers</u>!

STOP AND THINK HOW LONG IS ETERNITY?

Our little finite minds cannot fathom the length of Eternity; ages upon ages, upon ages. Let us take an example to set before us; — If it was possible for a bird to fly to one of the far away planets and back again, and it took one billion years to make the round trip, how long would it take the bird, carrying one grain of sand on each trip, to transplant all the grains of sand on the earth to the other planet — how many billions and billions and billions of years? Yet — when it would get finished — ETERNITY would just have begun — there is no end!!! Sinner friend, WHERE WILL YOU SPEND ETERNITY? In one of two places, HEAVEN, or the LAKE OF FIRE AND BRIMSTONE, WHICH WILL IT It will be in the Lake of Fire and BE? Brimstone unless you repent of your sins, and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour.

THE MILLENNIUM

The 1000 Year Reign Of Jesus Christ Upon Earth!

Yes, Jesus Christ, is going to soon reign over this Earth for a period of 1000 years!

It has been almost 6000 years, according to Bible genealogy, since God created Adam and Eve, in the Garden of Eden. Man was in complete dominion of the Earth until he sinned and sold out to Satan. Since then Satan has been in the background, ruling the Earth through the leadership of mankind. Man has made a failure, as we all see at the present time.

The Bible says that **one day** is with the Lord as a **thousand years**! When God created the Earth, he created everything in six days and rested on the seventh day. "And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it; because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made." (Gen. 2:3) It appears as if God will let man rule the Earth for 6000 years, which will soon be up, and then let His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, have the rulership for the last 1000 years, before He creates a "New Heaven and a New Earth."

After the Battle of Armageddon Jesus Christ will rule and reign for 1000 years, in peace and righteousness, with a "rod of iron."

Let us now turn to the Bible for a Biblical description of the rule and reign of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We have space for only part of the Scriptures describing this glorious reign, which is in the near future.

The Old Testament Prophet Zechariah tells us:

"Behold, the day of the Lord cometh . . . For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle . . . Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations (the Battle of Armageddon), as when he fought in the day of battle. And His feet shall stand in that day upon the <u>Mount of</u> <u>Olives</u>, which is before Jerusalem . . . And <u>the Lord shall be king over all the earth</u>: in that day shall there be one Lord and His name one." (Zech. Chapter 14)

The Prophet Isaiah tells us:



"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots (Jesus Christ):

"And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;

"And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord, and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the Meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked; And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

"And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." (Isa. 11:1-9)

St. John, the Revelator, tells us this:



"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 (World Ruler), 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 : 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.

"And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison (you remember he had been placed in the bottomless pit for 1000 years), and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the Earth .

.. To gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. 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."

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast (World Ruler) and the false prophet (false religious leaders) are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." (Rev. 20:4-10)

The Bible also describes the place of future punishment for sinners and unbelievers to be: "A lake of fire." (Rev. 20:10-15) — "A place of torment." (Luke 16:22-24) — "A place where lost souls never die and the fire is not quenched." (Mark 9:43-48) — "A place of weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth." (Matt. 25:30) (Matt. 8:12) (Matt 24:51) — " A place where sinners drink of the wine of God's wrath." (Rev. 14:10) — " A place where the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever." (Rev. 14:11)

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT!

A New Heaven and a New Earth!

These are probably the most solemn, awesome, all important verses in the entire Bible. It is the climax of the destiny of mankind!

Most people are interested in what is going to happen to them after death, Here is the answer! — the final answer! — for Eternity — for everyone! — from God Almighty!

These verses also tell us what is going to happen to Satan, that arch-enemy of mankind, as well as the soon-coming World Ruler, and the False Prophet, who will shortly deceive the present generation.

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and heaven fled away: and there was found no place for them.

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them; and they were judged every man according to their works.

"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

"And whosoever was not found in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Rev. 20:10-13)

We see that "whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" and brimstone — for eternity!

What a horrible thought for every man, every woman, every boy or girl, who has spurned the love of God for them, and continued in their sinful rebellion and unbelief against God. God is a God of love, but he is also a God of wrath!

"for God so loved the world; that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH

John says:

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: — for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was nor more sea".

"And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying. Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. "And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold I make all things new.

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

"I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son". (Rev. 21:1-7)

DO YOU WANT TO BE A SON OF GOD, THROUGHOUT ETERNITY?

<u>"He That Overcometh"</u>

"But the <u>fearful,</u> and <u>unbelieving,</u> and the <u>abominable,</u> and <u>murderers</u>, and <u>whoremongers</u>, and <u>sorcerers</u> (drug users), and <u>idolaters</u>, and <u>all liars, shall have their</u> <u>part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone".</u> (Rev. 21:8)

"Which is The Second Death".

The "second death" will be for Eternity!

"In the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone"!

WHAT A TRUTH!

DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY OF NEW JERUSALEM

It will descend out of heaven — from God!

Having the "glory of God"!

Her light will be like a stone most precious! — even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal!

It will have a great wall, and high!

It will have 12 gates!

And at the gates — 12 angels!

Names will be written there on, which are the names of the "12 tribes of the children of Israel"!

On the East — three gates! On the North — three gates! On the South — three gates! On the West — three gates!

The wall of the city will have twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb ! (Jesus Christ)

The city will lie foursquare!

The length will be 1500 miles!

The width will be 1500 miles!

The height will be 1500 miles!

Allowing 10 ft. high for each floor, it would be 792,000 stories high!

Each floor would be 2,250.000 square miles in area, or a total of 1,782,000,000,000, square miles.

You will have plenty of elbow room in this city of New Jerusalem!

The wall will be 144 cubits!

The wall will be jasper!

The city will be pure gold! Like unto clear glass!

The foundations of the wall will be garnished with all manner of precious stones! (1) jasper (2) sapphire (3) chalcedony (4) emerald (5) sardonyx (6) sardius (7) chrysolite (8) beryl (9) topaz (10) chrysoprasus (11) jacinth (12) amethyst.

The twelve gates will be twelve pearls! Every gate will be of one pearl!

The street of the city will be pure gold, as it were transparent glass!

- There will be no temple there! for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb (Jesus Christ) are the temple of it!
- The city will have no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it, for the glory of God will lighten it, and the Lamb (Jesus Christ) is the light thereof!

The saved shall walk in the light of it!

Kings of the earth shall bring their glory and honour into it!

The gates shall not be shut!

There is no night there!

<u>There shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever</u> <u>worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: But they which are written in the</u> <u>Lamb's book of life</u>!

IS YOUR NAME WRITTEN THERE? IF NOT — REPENT OF YOUR SINS! BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!

"And He shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. (Jesus Christ)

"In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the "tree of life," which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." (Rev. 22:5)

"And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun, for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever"? (Rev. 22:5)

BE SURE TO BE THERE!



"There was a man of the Pharisees, "The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we

know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

"The which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

"Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

The wind blower where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." (John 3:1-8)

HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE BOOK OF REVELATION BETTER!

The Book of Revelation will be much easier understood, if you will consider the following truths:

CHAPTER 1

Chapter 1 is the introduction to the book and a picture of the glorified Christ, and His instructions to St. John, the Revelator.

CHAPTER 2-3

Chapters 2 and 3 are composed of the letters that Jesus had the Apostle John to write to the seven churches of Asia, at that time.

CHAPTER 4

Chapter 4 tells of St. John being caught up into Heaven, and a description of the Throne of God, with its activities.

CHAPTER 5

Chapter 5 tells of the book in Heaven that no man, except Christ was worthy to open, and to break the seals thereof; followed by Heavenly adoration of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER 6

Chapter 6 tells of the opening of the first six seals of the book in Heaven, and what takes place each time one of the seals is opened. It is believed by many Biblical scholars that this takes place during the Tribulation days on Earth, followed by the Coming of the Lord, at the opening of the 6th seal.

CHAPTER 7

Chapter 7 tells us of the sealing in their foreheads of 144,000 of the 12 Tribes of Israel; then a picture of a great multitude in Heaven, around the throne of God, who have come out of great tribulation.

CHAPTER 8

Chapter 8 tells us of the opening of the 7th seal, and the beginning of the "Wrath of God" being poured out upon the Earth, by the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Angel.

CHAPTER 9

Chapter 9 tells us about the 5th and 6th Angel sounding their trumpets, and the consequences thereof, as the "Wrath of God" continues.

CHAPTER 10

Chapter 10 tells us of "another mighty Angel" coming down from Heaven, and the consequences thereof.

CHAPTER 11

Chapter 11 tells us of God's two witnesses, and their ministry; of their ascension up to heaven in a cloud; the sounding of the 7th and last Angel, and the 24 Elders in Heaven thanking God.

CHAPTER 12-18

Up until now, things have seemingly gone along in a chronological order, bringing us up to the time of the 3rd Coming of Christ. (Battle of Armageddon) However, beginning with Chapter 12, a new manner of presentation of Truths seems to take place.

Instead of continuing on in a chronological order, Chapter 12 begins with these words, "And there appeared a great<u>wonder</u> in Heaven," followed by another "<u>wonder</u>" in verse 3. Upon checking this, with other translations, we find others to use the word "<u>sign</u>" instead of the word "wonder." Still another translation uses the word "<u>pageants</u>," signifying that the Apostle John saw one "<u>pageant</u>" after another, <u>of things that had already happened</u>, or that would come.

So, if you will consider Chapter 12, through Chapter 18, as "**pageants**," and **explanations** of things which had **already occurred** up to the close of Chapter 11; — with the exception of the "pageant" describing the coming Battle of Armageddon, in Chapter 14:17-20, (which actually occurs in Chapter 19) you will find the Book of Revelation **much easier** to under stand. For example, the seven Angels, having the seven last plagues in Chapters 15 and 16, seem to be a re-telling, in another manner, of the same events that occurred when the seven Angels poured out God's Wrath in Chapters 8-9-10-11. Compare them and see for yourself!

Chapter 17, describes the great whore, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS, which Bible scholars consider the false Apostate Church. Then it explains who the beast (Anti-Christ) will be. Chapter 18 describes the destruction of the great BABYLON false Church, with the consequences thereof.

CHAPTER 19

Beginning with Chapter 19, we seem to pick up again the events happening in a chronological order, that we left in Chapter 11. This chapter gives us a view into Heaven, and the events happening up there, apparently during the "Wrath of God" period on Earth. Then, in verse 11, it begins to tell of Christ's 3rd Coming, and the Battle of Armageddon.

CHAPTER 20

Chapter 20 tells us of an Angel coming down from Heaven, chaining, and binding Satan for a thousand years, casting him into the bottomless pit; then of his release for a little season and his final attempt to deceive the nations; then of his being cast into the "lake of fire and brimstone," where the beast (Anti-Christ) and False Prophet are, to be tormented day and night for ever and ever. Then, it tells of the great white throne Judgment.

CHAPTER 21

Chapter 21 tells us of a new Heaven and a New Earth!

CHAPTER 22

This final chapter continues the description of Heaven and the conditions that will exist there, together with final admonitions and exhortations from our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen!"

<u>A NOTE TO</u> CHRISTIANS

Do we really, from our innermost being, believe that all sinners and unbelievers are going to Hell?

Do we really believe that they will spend Eternity in the Lake of fire, of which Jesus has definitely, in no uncertain language, warned us about, weeping, wailing and gnashing their teeth? — in torment — with no hopes of ever getting out?!!!

What about our next-door neighbors?

What about our relatives and friends? What about every person, who has not had a born-again experience?

Are we trying our very best, in these last days, to get them saved? — or, do we spend most of our spare time looking at television, and pursuing our own selfish interests?

May God awaken us, stir us, and set us aflame to win souls!

HERE IS **<u>ABSOLUTE</u> <u>PROOF</u>** THAT "PROFESSORS OF CHRIST." WHO HAVE SINS IN THEIR LIVES, WILL NOT MAKE THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH , AND <u>**CAN**</u> **<u>NOT</u>** BE SAVED AFTER THE RAPTURE!

JESUS CHRIST SAID:



"Strive to enter in at the strait gate; for <u>many</u>, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

"When once the master of the house (Jesus Christ) is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he (Jesus Christ) shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

"Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.

"But he (Jesus Christ) shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

"There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the Kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out." (Luke 13:24-28)

These people called Jesus Christ "**Lord**, **Lord**." they had, apparently **with their mouth**, **accepted** Christ as Lord, but had continued to be "workers of iniquity"!

Jesus said there will be **MANY** of such people, when He comes for the rapture of His Church! Jesus said, however, that He "hath shut to the door!"

THIS TELLS US:

The "door" will be shut when Christ leaves Heaven for the rapture of His Church! There is no "second chance" to get saved! There is no one saved after the rapture of the Church! If you are not living a holy life, without sin,

you will never make the rapture, but will be "thrust out," where there will be "weeping, and gnashing of teeth."

Everyone will see Christ when He comes for the rapture!

There is no such thing as a Christian going to Heaven and then being judged for their sins! (As many teach) Every sin must be confessed and forsaken NOW!