Why YOU will miss the Pre-Trib Rapture

January 4, 2025 Philip Shields www.LightontheRock.org

All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise. **KEY WORDS:** Rapture, Pre-Trib rapture, caught up, Darby, John Nelson Darby, tribulation, Great Tribulation, heaven, Rev. 14, Rev. 15, Rev. 19.

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Summary: We're being told the return of Jesus Christ for the Pre-Tribulation rapture is imminent. Is it any day now? Is that truly Biblical? And does the Bible really say all God's children escape the end-time Tribulation? This may surprise some of you: WILL God's elect ever be taken to heaven before Christ lands on the Mount of Olives? WHY was the Rapture doctrine never taught until 1830 by John Darby? This will make you think. *** **

One of the most discussed topics among Christians and believers in Christ – is the topic of The Rapture. What it is when it is... back and forth. Will the Rapture as they understand it, be **Pre-Trib, middle of the Tribulation or afterwards, called "Post Trib"?** It's actually potentially life-changing for some – and I'll explain. A lot of discussion on this is going on.

In the past few months we're hearing "The Rapture can happen now at any moment. Be Rapture-ready" – we're told over and over on YouTube. **More than a few are giving, or have even given, <u>specific</u> <u>dates for when the Rapture will hit.</u>**

This_includes so many giving specific dates in October 2024, one by one, based on each of God's Fall holy days – and then they moved to the next holy day as each day passed without the rapture happening.

The latest ones I've seen said Dec 29, 2024, for sure would be the rapture. But there was no rapture.

Now another preacher just recently said on Dec 26, 2024, that without a doubt, the rapture would happen Jan 2, 2025. But it did not. Another false prophet!

If someone gives a specific DATE like that with certainty -- and it doesn't happen, he can't be a true prophet. See my sermon about prophets.

Remember Yeshua/Jesus warned us that in the very last days there would be MANY false prophets deceiving people. **Matthew 7:15** – they'll be like wolves dressed up as true believers, as sheep of God. **Matthew 24:11, 24** – there would be MANY false prophets, even performing great signs, deceiving many. On YouTube, they're all over the place. But be on your guard!

I'm not here to attack anyone – but just to show you what the Bible says.

I'm Philip Shields, host and founder of LightontheRock.org We do try to show you just what scripture says – and in context as you'll see today – so we can have a close walk with our God and fellow believers. I hope you will register on Light on the Rock and get full free access to our website. Remember to **scroll down** to see the hundreds of audio and video sermons and blogs/short articles, hundreds of them.

Years ago they used to call it "the SECRET rapture," but thankfully most have dropped the "SECRET" part of the title – because everywhere we're told when Christ comes there will be loud trumpet blasts, seven trumpets leading to the seventh, final trumpet and the loud shout of the archangel of God, as Christ returns with millions of his dazzling angels. *Nobody could MISS it* when Jesus comes to gather his elect saints. **Revelation 1:7** says every eye shall see him.

<u>MORE AND MORE are pushing the PRE-TRIB (before the tribulation hits)</u> version, so I'll focus on that mostly today—and what Scripture really says.

WHY we need this message today:

- **Imagine if you believe strongly in the Pre-trib rapture** but the Tribulation is clearly going on, the Beast power is working, the Great False Prophet is doing great miracles even fire from heaven ... but **you're still here**. You weren't raptured? How will you feel about that? How will you feel about God at that point? And where will your faith be?
- We're also being taught by MOST that all true believers will miss the Great Tribulation – because they're all up in heavenly Jerusalem during the Tribulation. <u>But is that what scripture</u> <u>says? What if that's the wrong understanding?</u>

Does that premise that no true believers will have to go through the tribulation properly <u>prepare</u> us if it's NOT true that no true believers will go through the Great Tribulation?

- Is there anything wrong with calling it "the Rapture"?
- Why have so many sabbath-keeping churches totally dismissed the "Rapture" or being caught up to Christ?

So we must get it right. I'll address them all.

The Rapture is a FAIRLY NEW CONCEPT in Christianity

The Rapture – secret or not – was not taught by other church leaders in any Christian churches until after 1830, only AFTER English leader John Nelson DARBY first taught it. The big church names before Darby never taught it! Luther didn't, Calvin, Wesley, Zwingli – none of them ever talked about it before Darby started to.

He originally taught it **as the "SECRET Rapture."** His teaching soon enough spread throughout the world. *This is crucial to understand. You won't find this Rapture teaching in any Christian church's creeds, teachings, or anything – until after 1830.*

The Rapture Teaching Defined

Basically the rapture teaching is that Jesus comes in two passes: first just FOR his saints, to gather his elect saints – take them to heaven – then return later WITH his saints. The recent dominant theory is the <u>PRE-TRIB Rapture</u>, teaching dogmatically that Jesus comes for his saints BEFORE the Tribulation. They also add that NO true elect saints will have to go through the Great Tribulation.

Those who teach the POST-TRIB rapture believe, however, that saints <u>will</u> **go through the Tribulation.** So they can't agree. My impression is that the dominant theory today is the Pre-Trib rapture.

We need to compare all that to what Scripture actually says. SOME of you just reject the Rapture completely, without fully understanding it first.

WHERE DOES The name "RAPTURE" COME FROM

The word "rapture" is not in the Bible. BUT, in a way, it is. Let me explain.

They take the rapture idea from 1 Thess 4:16-17 saying those believers who remain alive when Christ returns are "**caught up together**"—as it is in English. <u>So this is the one main verse</u> where the Rapture idea comes from. Many other church groups like ours, **know this passage as the verse on**

the resurrection, not as the rapture passage. But let's examine it and see if there's any problem with using the word "rapture?

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven **with a shout**, with the voice of an archangel, and with **the trumpet of God.** And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall **be CAUGHT UP together** with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord."

The English words "caught up" come from the Greek word in the original -- "harpazo." When the Latin Vulgate was translated, they used the Latin word "rapturo" for "caught up" —hence, rapture.

So get this: the words "caught up", from the Greek "harpazo" and Latin "rapture" (rapturo) all mean the same thing. So the word itself is not a problem! The Bible <u>does say</u> we are caught up, or raptured – with Christ – and so the word itself is not a problem.

The Greek word "harpazo", caught up -- is used in thirteen scriptures. Such as Satan catching away what was sown in his heart (seeds sown in the wayside); Philip being caught away after baptizing the eunuch in Acts 8:39 – then found in Azotus. John 10:28- "no one can snatch/pluck any of my sheep from my hand." It's a decisive taking up, grabbing, taking away.

So if we're simply looking at the WORD "rapture" – as just being another translation of harpazo from the Greek – there's nothing wrong with the word.

Since all 3 Rapture theories are tied to the Great Tribulation, let's be sure to identify exactly what the Tribulation is – but most of you likely already know.

WHAT is the Tribulation?

"Tribulation" means "trouble." The "Great Tribulation" is the absolute worst "time of trouble" the world has ever seen. And "rapture" refers to being caught up by Christ at his return when the first resurrection occurs. But does He come for his saints before the Tribulation starts – or after? If he comes before, does that means saints won't have to go through the Tribulation? Scripture clearly shows us when he comes – before or after Tribulation.

How bad will the Great Tribulation actually be?

The tribulation time is described in several scriptures as simply the worst time this world has ever seen since creation (Mark 13:19) or since the beginning of the world (Matt. 24:21). That means it is really, really a troubled time. Most see a seven year tribulation period with the <u>last 3-1/2</u> years of it being the "Great Tribulation" – the absolute worst time.

The final 3-1/2 period starts AFTER we see the Man of Sin, the Anti-Christ setting up his throne in the holy place temple of Jerusalem (2 Thess. 2:1-4). Yes, there will be a THIRD temple built soon. Daniel 9:27 says this Anti-Christ stops the daily sacrifice. So a daily sacrifice has to first resume for it to be able to be stopped. So far, as of January 2025, there is no daily animal sacrifice going on in Jerusalem.

Matthew 24:15-22

"Therefore when you see **the 'abomination of desolation**,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing **in the holy place**" (whoever reads, let him understand), 16 "then let those who are <u>in Judea flee to the</u> <u>mountains</u>. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. 19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!

20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

21 For THEN there will be GREAT TRIBULATION, <u>such as has</u> <u>not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no,</u> <u>nor ever shall be.</u>

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

Verse 22 is referring to surviving, being left alive, at the end of the tribulation and more, as several translations render verse 22.

IS IT TRUE THAT <u>NO</u> TRUE BELIEVERS WILL HAVE TO GO Through the GREAT TRIBULATION?

The Bible answer is that SOME believers will be delivered from the Tribulation and NOT have to go through it, but others will go through it. Saying some will be delivered does not itself explain the deliverance is by being raptured or caught up. God protected his servants in many ways, right

here on earth, as he did Elijah, for example for three and a half years of drought. Here's another scripture about the Tribulation and protection.

Daniel 12:1 "At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; **And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time.**

And at that time your people shall be delivered, Every one who is found written in the book."

Revelation 2-3 speak of seven true churches. Those like the **Philadelphian types of** Rev 3, seem to be protected from that hour of trouble that shall come upon the whole world **(Rev 3:10)**. Whereas those of the **Laodicean** attitude will have to be refined like gold in the fire for their lukewarm attitude (**Rev. 3:17-19**). To Philadelphians he says he's coming quickly, and to the Laodiceans he says he is standing at their door, knocking.

That seems to indicate to me that some believers will be protected and some won't. But being kept from the hour of trouble does not by itself clearly say they will be raptured before the tribulation.

Scripture is very, very clear that some saints will be attacked, persecuted, tortured and even beheaded/killed. So do not feel that your safety and your very life is in a belief of a pre-trib Rapture that will spare you from tribulation.

The great tribulation corresponds to the 5th Seal of Revelation 6,

a time <u>of great martyrdom</u> of the saints in fact.. It sounds to me more like Satan's wrath, not God's wrath at this point. Satan goes after the saints.

Revelation 6:9-11

"When He **opened the fifth seal, I** saw under the altar the souls of those **who had been SLAIN for the word of God and for the testimony which they held.** 10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" 11 Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, UNTIL both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, <u>who would be killed</u> as they were, was completed."

<u>**Rev.**</u>₇ describes the 7th seal, announces the 144,000 from all 12 tribes of Israel, sealed and protected from any further attacks. WE are already sealed

(2 Cor. 1:21-22). Then later in Rev. 7, a vast number are presented who came out of the tribulation without giving in, and they're pictured in vision as having palm branches of victory, dressed in white robes, but **"these are they who came out of the great tribulation" it says – Rev 7: 13-14.**

Satan will use the Beast Power and the Great False Prophet to terribly persecute God's saints. If the saints had all been taken to heaven, how could this happen? We best get used to the fact that *some of God's people* will be tortured, killed and beheaded – and some will be protected. <u>Determine in your heart now you will be faithful to the very end, no matter if protected or not.</u>

Notice these verses about the Beast power of Rev 13:

<u>Revelation 13:7-8</u> (about the coming Beast power) "It was granted to him to MAKE WAR with the SAINTS <u>and to</u> <u>OVERCOME them</u>. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. 8 ALL who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."

Revelation 13:15

"He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause **as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be KILLED**."

Satan will give the Beast and False Prophet great power to do miracles and signs (2 Thess 2:9).

Daniel 7:21-22 also says the evil anti-Christ "horn" was seen <u>making</u> <u>WAR against the saints, and prevailing against them</u>, until the ancient of Days came..."

So some are protected, and some are not.

<u>Matthew 24:9</u>

"Then they **will** <u>*deliver you up to tribulation*</u> and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake."

Revelation 20:4, after Christ returns and starts establishing his 1000-year reign, says those in the first resurrection include <u>those who were *beheaded* for</u> their witness and for not taking the mark of the Beast or worshiping him.

<u>Revelation 20:4</u> "And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw **<u>the souls of those who</u> <u>had been beheaded</u> for their witness to Jesus** and for the word of

God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years."

WILL JESUS' COMING BE TOTALLY UNEXPECTED or HAPPEN TOTALLY WITHOUT WARNING?

Matthew 24:42-44

"WATCH therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.

44 Therefore you also <u>BE READY</u>, for the Son of Man is coming at an <u>hour you do not expect</u>."

Jesus clearly teaches us not to put too much stock in various "prophets" time lines of prophecy. He says no one knows when He returns.

Jesus compared last days to the days of Noah and Lot – how everything seemed to be going along, but then suddenly, Noah is told to get into the ark. Suddenly, Lot is pulled out of Sodom without any prior warning, very early in the morning while it was still very dark, then fire and brimstone from God fell on the cities of the plain, wiping out all life in four cities.

See how Paul explains in 1 Thess 5 that it shouldn't be a total surprise to us. (Remember more is said in the video than I can put into notes.)

<u>1 Thessalonians 5:1-6</u>

"But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. 2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the <u>day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night</u>. 3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then *sudden destruction* comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

4 *But <u>YOU, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day</u> <u>should overtake YOU as a thief</u>. 5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober."*

Christ's coming should NOT be a complete surprise to His children. But it's more like a pregnant woman knowing her due dates – but not quite ready at the exact minute her water breaks!

So it's a MIX – we shouldn't be totally caught off guard as 1 Thess 5 says, but neither will we know the <u>exact</u> day or hour when Christ does return and the angels all gather his elect. Most rapture teachers keep saying there will be no way we know how close it's getting, but 1 Thess 5 says they're wrong.

As bad as things are until our Savior returns, <u>we don't have to fear the Last</u> <u>Days End Time</u> – but rejoice that we know Him and He knows us. Spend more time strengthening that relationship.

According to JESUS' OWN WORDS – WHAT WORLD EVENTS must PRECEDE The Great tribulation and also HIS COMING?

Really you just have to read Matthew 24 and Luke 21 to get a good picture. **The TIMING of Christ's coming is compared to a pregnant woman** who knows when the baby is DUE (1 Thess 5:3-4) – but is still often caught off guard a bit when her water suddenly breaks and the baby's coming!

What Jesus is doing in Matthew 24 is answering the questions he was asked by his disciples: "WHEN will all these things happen, and what's the sign of your coming?"

<u>Matthew 24:1-3</u>

Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him **the buildings of the temple**. 2 And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, **when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?**"

So Matthew 24 IS what Christ says must happen before he will return. But Rapture teachers keep saying he can come at any time! But that's not what Jesus said. He clearly warns us there will be certain things happening first.

So in Matthew 24, he speaks of LOTS of false prophets, wars and talk of wars. **See that you are not troubled; for all these things** <u>*must come*</u> <u>*to pass, but the end is not yet.*</u> v 6. A pregnant woman is not caught off guard totally when her water breaks.

<u> Matthew 24:4-13</u>

And Jesus answered and said to them: **"Take heed that no one** <u>deceives</u> you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.

6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things <u>must come to pass, but the</u> <u>END is NOT YET.</u>

7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be **famines, pestilences, and earthquakes** in various places. 8 <u>All these are **the beginning of sorrows**</u>.

9 <u>"Then they will deliver YOU up to TRIBULATION and KILL</u> you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 Then **many false prophets** will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved."

<u> Matthew 24:14</u>

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and THEN the END will come."

The good news of the Kingdom must include the good news about Jesus, his work, death and resurrection – the way INTO God's kingdom. Though there are Bibles around the world, have we achieved this yet of the true, complete <u>gospel being preached in every nation?</u> I think we have more work to do yet. There are still many nations that don't even allow a Bible to be given to someone – without fear of death.

Matt 24:15-25 – as I showed earlier, Yeshua also said there will be the Man of Sin, in the holy place. In the temple – 2
<u>Thess. 2:1-5</u> – AND compare Daniel 9:27. He'll stop the daily sacrifices in Jerusalem. So before Christ returns, daily sacrifices have to first be resumed in Jerusalem in order for them to be stopped later. Preparations for sacrifices is ongoing – but we're still waiting for actual animal sacrifices to start as of this recording, January 2025.

THEN, AFTER all the activities stopping sacrifices at the Temple, there will be GREAT Tribulation. Anti-Christ says HE is God (2 Thess 2:1-5)

Matthew 24:21-22

"For THEN there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22

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

You should know Israel has **FIVE of the required RED HEIFERS now** that they can sacrifice and burn and then use the ashes for purifying as **Numbers 19** requires. So we must be getting close!

BONUS: In late 2024, the FINISHED replica of the PURE GOLD ARK was displayed in Israel. The NEW ARK: <u>https://www.jns.org/with-eyes-on-winning-war-</u>

building-third-jewish-temple-ark-replica-shown-in-jerusalem/

- I also believe there will be **a third temple** built in Jerusalem, though <u>sacrifices *could* start *before* the building is complete</u>. Check out my sermon coming soon about the 3rd Temple that *will* be built.
- And, there has **to be the Great Tribulation**, a time of greatest trouble ever seen over the entire world <u>BEFORE</u> God's Son returns as He himself said He comes AFTER the Tribulation (Matthew 24:29-31).

And when does JESUS <u>show up</u> to GATHER His saints? Before or AFTER the TRIBULATION, according to him?

The Pre-Trib folks all are adamant that Yeshua's return to gather his saints will be BEFORE the Tribulation.

Matthew 24:26-27

"Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, He is in the inner rooms!' do not believe it. 27 **For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.**"

<u> Matthew 24:29-32</u>

"Immediately *AFTER the tribulation of those days* the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

30 <u>THEN the sign of the Son of Man will appear</u> in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and <u>they WILL SEE</u> the Son of Man coming <u>on the clouds</u> of heaven with power and great glory.

31 And He will send His angels with <u>a great sound</u> of a trumpet, and they will GATHER together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

Again, WHEN will Jesus come in the clouds, with trumpet and gather His elect? Let me repeat because this truth is not being preached!

HE HIMSELF tells us! <u>Verse 29 again: "Immediately AFTER</u> <u>The TRIBULATION..."</u> Then verse 30, "THEN the Sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven..." and EVERYONE, every tribe on EARTH will see him coming... and v 27 says it's going to be like bright lightning flashing across the skies all around the world. You can't miss bright lightning!

So the return of Jesus has not happened yet. The Pre-TRIB rapture, as commonly taught, therefore has not happened yet and won't happen secretly. Let's read Jesus' timing again:

Matthew 24:29-32

29 "Immediately <u>*AFTER* the tribulation</u> of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

30 *THEN* the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and <u>they WILL SEE</u> the Son of Man coming on the <u>clouds</u> of heaven with power and great glory.

31 And He will *send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect* from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

But then what happens?

WILL God's saints ever be taken to heaven?

Scripture clearly shows that God's firstfruit saints, written in his Book of Life, will be taken to God's throne room in heaven when they're resurrected, after the Great Tribulation. I spoke on this at great length in my 2-part sermons on the First resurrection. Make sure you study those especially if you want more detail than I've given here.

FIRST RESURRECTION sermon, Part 1

<u>https://www.lightontherock.org/index.php/sermons/message/the-glorious-</u> <u>first-resurrection-part-1-new</u> *First Res sermon Part 2: (be sure to study part 2)* <u>https://lightontherock.org/index.php/sermons/message/our-glorious-first-</u> <u>resurrection-part-2-then-what</u>

<u>WHY would Yeshua take his Elect Bride to heaven AFTER the</u> <u>Great Tribulation?</u>

- The Resurrection is at the 7th trumpet of God (Rev. 11:15). There are still seven last BOWL PLAGUES of the wrath of God (REV. 16). We're not just going to be hovering with Christ over Jerusalem while those seven last plagues, which will last months, are being poured out. Remember there are 7 SEALS of Rev. 6-7, then the seventh seal has seven trumpet plagues REV 8-9, then the 7th trumpet has seven final terrifying Bowl plagues Rev. 16. So we'll be in heaven during that terrible time on earth as I'm about to show you.
- When Jesus Christ, Yeshua the Messiah returns as king over the earth, he is shown as <u>coming WITH His saints</u>. "Saints" could mean holy angels, true – but very likely are holy ones, brethren with God's spirit.

How could Jesus return "WITH his saints," unless they're first up in heaven *with Him <u>before</u>* he absolutely returns with them?

<u>1 Thessalonians 3:12-13</u>

"And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, 13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and **Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ** <u>WITH</u> **all his SAINTS**".

Also Jude 14 "The Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints."

<u>Revelation 17:14</u>

"These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and <u>those who are WITH HIM ARE CALLED, CHOSEN AND</u> <u>FAITHFUL</u>."

 <u>There are still seven bowl plagues in Revelation 16 which all happen</u> <u>AFTER our resurrection at the seventh trumpet</u>. These are the wrath of God in full! It includes <u>the whole EARTH being shaken with an</u> <u>earthquake</u> such as the world has NEVER experienced.

We've already been resurrected – we're up in the air with Jesus, then what are we doing? Where do we end up? Are we just hovering over Jerusalem? Hardly. SEVEN more bowls of God's wrath are being poured out on the earth.

First let's read <u>the LAST TWO</u> of the seven final Bowl plagues of God on earth in Revelation 16. God will make sure HIS people are protected from these.

<u>Revelation 16:12-21 cite...</u>

"Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.

13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14 For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the entire world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

15 "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame." 16 And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, **"Armageddon"**

Seventh Bowl Plague: <u>The Earth</u> Utterly Shaken

17 Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"

18 And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a **GREAT EARTHQUAKE, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth**. 19 Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness <u>of His wrath.</u>

20 Then every ISLAND fled away, and the MOUNTAINS were not found. 21 And great HAIL from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent (75 lbs; 36 kg). Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great."

What magnitude earthquake would make every island disappear and the mountains flattened?

<u>SO Yeshua/Jesus will come in two passes:</u>

1. First the Son of God comes in the CLOUDS, <u>AFTER</u> the Great Tribulation as we've read in Matt 24:29-31, and collects his saints and takes the Elect saints to be with him in heaven. While in heaven, we will see the mansions (John 14:1-3) Yeshua has made for us. And we will receive our unique **new names**, and then **marry** Christ (Rev. 19:1-9. Then Rev 19:11-21 return to earth to fight the armies.

<u>John 14:1-3</u>

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again <u>and</u> <u>receive you to Myself; that where I am</u>, there you may be also."

God's throne is in heaven. SO are the four living creatures, the 24 elders and so is the Sea of Glass (Revelation 4). Now watch where the saints are.

<u>Revelation 14:1-5</u>

"Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. 2 And I heard a <u>voice **from**</u> <u>**heaven**</u>, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

3 They sang as it were a new song **before THE THRONE**, **before the four living creatures**, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed <u>FROM the earth</u>.

4 These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. *These were redeemed FROM among men, being <u>FIRSTFRUITS</u> <u>to God and to the Lamb</u>. 5 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault <u>before the THRONE OF GOD.</u>"*

Did you get all that? Firstfruit believers. Redeemed from earth. In front of the throne of God and the 4 living creatures and 24 elders.

This is AFTER the seventh trumpet, AFTER the resurrection, AFTER the Great Tribulation – but it's all clearly happening in heavenly Jerusalem, according to Revelation 4. STUDY it. NEXT chapter, Revelation 15, v 2 – victorious saints standing --WHERE? The SEA OF GLASS. Where's that? That's in heaven too! They sing the song of Moses V. 3. Yes, we'll go to the Kingdom of Heaven in joyous wonder and glory to our Father and Savior.

<u>Revelation 15:2</u>

"And I saw <u>something like A SEA OF GLASS</u> mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, <u>standing beside the</u> <u>sea of glass</u>, having harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses..."

Here's a harpists rendition of Song of Moses <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLa5_zXcFcY</u>

Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, Song of Moses Rev 15 <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6rr5Nle_h5E</u>

And while we're IN HEAVEN, GOD our FATHER puts on the most glorious wedding Marriage Supper for his Son and his Bride this universe has ever seen! You could be there too. Revelation 19.

<u> Matthew 22:2</u>

"The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,"

2. Some earth months after first going to heaven, AFTER the wedding put on by our Father in heaven, we all return with Christ, but this time not just in the clouds, but riding white <u>angelic</u> spirit charges/horses. NOT just the clouds. It's describing a different pass/return. Our King leads his armies and destroys the assembled armies from around the world in Israel, then we land on the Mount of Olives and reign with Christ over the earth as **Rev. 20:4-6** says.

<u>Revelation 19:11-21</u>

"Now I saw HEAVEN opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him <u>on white horses</u>.

15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. <u>He Himself</u> <u>treads the winepress of the fierceness</u> **and wrath of Almighty God**. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (v 19 next, for time)

19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. 20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh."

So I hope you're seeing it and how exciting the truth will be. Christ comes, but it's AFTER the Tribulation, and we're caught up to meet him in the air by his angels, and from there rise to Heavenly Jerusalem, protected from the seven last plagues, and meet our heavenly Father and all the firstfruits from Abel onwards. And then we marry Yeshua, king of Kings – then return with him to rule the earth.

But though many saints will be protected somehow even here on earth during the tribulation – some saints will be attacked and even beheaded. We must commit to enduring to the end.

Maranatha. Come quickly, Lord. May our king come soon. It won't be in just days or months, but He will come when God decides. **If this message has helped you – please share it and tell others.**

And if you'd like to HELP US spread the truth of God's word – yes, we can sure use your help. We'd appreciate your help so much. Just go to the **DONATE** button if you want to help us. And thank you, thank you. And may our great God bless you so much!

CLOSING PRAYER