

Eschatology II

Overview of Future Events, Rapture, Tribulation

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- ### Overview of Future Events
- (Pretribulational Premillennial View)
1. Rapture and Resurrection of the Saints (1 Thess 4:13-18)
 2. The Judgment (Bema) Seat of Christ (1Cor3:11- 4:5; 2 Cor 5:10) – takes place in Heaven
 3. The Marriage of the Lamb (Rev 19:9) – starts or occurs in Heaven
 4. The Tribulation: Seven-year period of judgment on earth (Dan 9:24-27; Rev 6-19)
 - Purpose1: Bring national Israel and some Gentiles under New Covenant
 - Purpose2: Judge wicked people and nations

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Overview of Future Events

5. Second Coming of Christ to Earth

- Tribulation ends
- Five Important Events in connection with Second Coming:
 - Judgment of living Gentiles (Matt 25:31ff)
 - Judgment of living Israel (Matt 25:1-11)
 - Resurrection and reward of OT saints and Tribulation martyrs (Rev 20:4-6; Dan 12:2, 13; Rev 6:9)
 - Binding of Satan (Rev 20:1-3)
 - Establishment of Messianic Kingdom

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Overview of Future Events

6. Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ

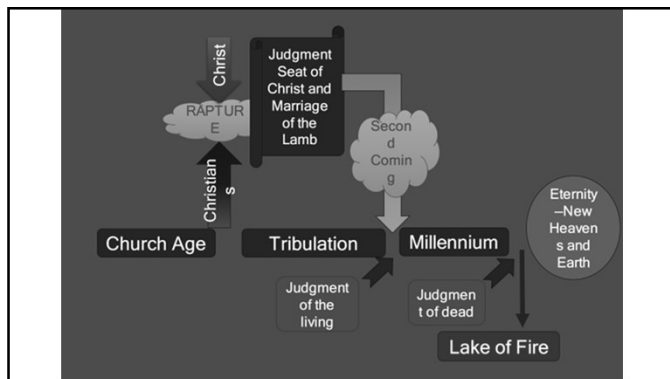
- Fulfillment of unconditional Covenants (Abrahamic, Davidic, New [Priestly is likely as well])
- Righteousness, peace, ecological renewal, long life, etc.

7. The Final Judgments (Rev 20:7-15; 1 Cor 6:3)

- Final judgment of Satan and fallen angels
- Great White Throne Judgment of all unbelievers
- Judgment of heavens and earth (2 Peter 3:7-10)

8. The Eternal State (Rev 21:22)

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Overview of Rapture

1. "Rapture" from Latin translation of Greek word "caught up" in 1 Thess 4:17
2. Primary texts: 1 Thess 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:51-57; John 14:3
3. Examples of Rapture in Scripture: Elijah, Jesus, 2 Witnesses
4. Components of the Rapture (all described in above texts)
 - The (partial) return of Christ
 - Resurrection of dead church saints
 - Translation of living believers
 - Glorious reunion
 - Glorified bodies
 - Speed of Rapture

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Overview of Rapture

5. Timing of Rapture related to Tribulation
 - Amillennial and Postmillennial—coming of Christ is single event followed by general resurrection and judgment
 - Five Views of Premillennialism
 - Pretrib—rapture before seven years
 - Mid-trib—midpoint of seven years
 - Pre-wrath—3/4 of the way through seven years
 - Post-Trib—Rapture and Second Coming are single event at end of Tribulation ("BOING")
 - Partial Rapture—only "spiritual" Christians will be raptured (Robert Govett, 1835)
6. Why is timing of Rapture important?
Whole counsel of God, deals with Christian hope, consistency of hermeneutics

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Overview of Rapture

7. Biblical Defense of Pre-Trib Rapture
 - Church is promised deliverance from divine wrath (1 Thess 1:10; 5:9; Rev 3:10)
 - Differences between Rapture Passages and Second Coming Passages

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RAPTURE	SECOND COMING
John 14:1-3; 1 Cor 15:51-58; 1 Thess 4:13-18	Zech 14:1-21; Matt 24:29-31; Mark 13:24-27; Luke 21:25-27; Rev 19
No signs	Signs
Blessing	Judgment
No mention of kingdom set-up	Lots of mentions of kingdom set-up
Glorified bodies received	No mention of glorified bodies
Meet in the air	No mention of meeting in air
Resurrection #1 DURING	Resurrection #2 AFTER
Saints going to heaven	Saints coming to earth
Jesus gathers the elect	Angels gather the elect
Rapture is a "mystery"	Second Coming all over OT
No mention of Church in Rev 4-18	Mention of Church in Rev 19

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Overview of Rapture

8. Biblical Defense of Pre-Trib Rapture

- Church is promised deliverance from divine wrath (1 Thess 1:10; 5:9; Rev 3:10)
- Differences between Rapture Passages and Second Coming Passages
- Pre-Trib best explains presence of non-glorified saints in Millennial Kingdom (Isaiah 65:20; Rev 20:7-10)– allows for salvation of those born in Millennium
- Nature and purpose of Tribulation excludes the church (prepare Israel for Christ and judge unbelieving world)
- Expectation of Church is imminent coming of Christ, not Tribulation period (1 Cor 1:7; Titus 2:13; Phil 3:20)
- The Thessalonian's disturbance indicates Pre-Trib (2 Thess 2:2-3)

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Overview of Tribulation

- *Great* Tribulation generally speaks of second half
- Seal Judgments begin Tribulation (Rev 6:2)
- "Day of the Lord"—Jer 30:7-9; 2 Peter 3:10; Isaiah 4:2; 19:23-25; 34:8ff; 35:1-6
 - General term for any intervention by God (Zeph, Joel)
 - PAST: Judgment of Israel
 - FUTURE: Judge nations and discipline Israel,
 - Millennial Kingdom, remake heavens and earth
 - Future Day of the Lord BROADLY = Seven years;
 - NARROWLY = Return of Christ
- "Wrath of God" (1 Thess 1:10; Rev 11:18; Rev 6:16-17)
- Seventieth Week of Daniel 9:24-27 (Rev 12:14; 11:2; 13:5; 12:6)

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Overview of Tribulation

Antichrist

- Antichrist, Man of Lawlessness, beast, little horn (1 John 2:18; 2 Thess 2:3-4; Rev 13/17; Dan 7:8)
- Career
 - Leader of western nation (Dan 7:8)
 - Prince who is to come (Dan 9:26)
 - Signs covenant with Israel (Dan 9:27)
 - Begins to conquer other nations (Dan 7:8)
 - Apparently assassinated and "raised" (Rev 13)
 - Breaks covenant with Israel (Dan 9:27)
 - Rules as dictator for last 3 1/2 years (Rev 13:5ff)
 - Persecutes Jews (Rev 12)
 - Destroys apostate church in favor of Antichrist worship (Rev 17)
 - Defeated by Christ at end of the Tribulation (Rev 19:20)

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Overview of Tribulation

The "False Prophet"

- Second beast (Rev 13:11ff)
- Follower of first beast
- Religious leader with miraculous power
- Power is from Satan

144,000 (Rev 7:1ff; 14:1-5)

- Jewish bondservants of God who are sealed evangelists/missionaries (Matt 24:14)

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Overview of Tribulation

Two Witnesses (Rev 11)

- Miraculous power from God
- Centered in Jerusalem to preach repentance
- 3 1/2 year ministry
- Uncanny resemblance to Moses/Elijah

Judgments (beginning Rev 5)

- Seal Judgments
- Trumpet judgments
- Bowl judgments
- Thunder judgments? (Rev 10:3-4)

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Overview of Tribulation

Salvation in Tribulation

- Many Jews
 - 144,000
 - Jews who flee into wilderness (Rev 12)
 - Remnant in the land (Rev 12)
 - Final salvation of Jews (Zech 12:10)
 - 1/3 of Israel saved (Zech 13:8-9)
 - Rebellious Jews judged and killed (Ezek 20:33-44; Zech 13:8-9; Matt 25:1-13)
 - All Jews who enter Millennial Kingdom are saved—THUS FULFILLING Rom 11:26
- Many Gentiles
 - Souls of fifth seal (Rev 6:9)
 - Unnumbered Martyrs (Rev 7:9-10)
 - Rebellious Gentiles judged and killed (Matt 25:31-46)
 - NOTE: 2 Thess 2:10-12 seems to indicate that rejection of the gospel PRIOR to rapture does not give a second chance AFTER
