

The Pre-Wrath Rapture of the Church

Most Messianic scholars believe that there remains one week of Daniel's 70 weeks to be fulfilled. They are looking for the Anti-Messiah to sign a peace treaty with Israel thereby beginning the 7 year tribulation period. Then when this happens or maybe right before, they are to be beamed up out of harms way in a pre-tribulation rapture of the church. So why should they concern themselves with prophesy and the Anti-Messiah and all those beasts from the sea, etc. After all they'll be gone..... or will they?

I believe these views are gravely erroneous and dangerous for the child of YHWH who may be totally unprepared for a conflict of which he didn't expect to be a part.

Before you scream HERESY and form a lynch mob, hear me out. I will let the scriptures speak for themselves. I believe it is extremely important to be open and teachable concerning bible prophecy. YHWH plainly warns us that false prophets shall arise and deceive many. (Matt. 24:11) Whether the deception is intentional or not, it is still error.

As I began to study the bible, I became confused by what I had been taught in Sunday school and what the word of YHWH said. In many cases, they were in opposition to each other. I know that YHWH is not the author of confusion (I Cor. 14:33), and that if I lacked knowledge I could ask YHWH (James 1:5) and the Ruach HaKodesh (Holy Spirit) would guide me into all truth (John 16:13).

I wanted to know where the major doctrines of the church came from and the scriptures that were used to support them. I had merely accepted them as a young believer, but the more I studied the word of YHWH the more improbable it seemed some of these doctrines became. Especially in the cases where a major doctrine was established on mans interpretation of a single scripture.

I had been sure that there must be SOLID biblical evidence for the anti-Messiah signing a peace treaty with Israel. Surely if there was to be a 3 1/2 year (mild?) tribulation and then a 3 1/2 year GREAT tribulation, the bible would be clear on this point. And if we were to be raptured at the BEGINNING of this 70th week as is so commonly taught, it HAD to be supported by the scriptures, right?..... No friend, the bible does NOT support any of these teachings.

I realize that most of you have been taught these things for so long that you honestly believe them to be true. If you hear something often and long enough, the tendency is to believe that it must be true. This is the same tactic that is used in brain-washing by some of the cults. Politicians also use this ploy.

Here are a few more things which we have all been taught that have no

biblical support. These were taken from "Christian Missionary Society" tract.

- 1) There is NO scripture that tells us that the rapture of the church will take place before the Great tribulation.
- 2) There is NO scripture that tells us that the Great tribulation will be for 7 years. All that is ever mentioned is 42 months or 3 1/2 years.
- 3) There is NO scripture that tells us that anyone will be "saved" after the rapture of the church. During the "Wrath of YHWH" period, it mentions 3 times that men DO NOT repent! (Rev. 9:21, 9:6, and 16:11)
- 4) There is NO scripture that tells of a "secret rapture" of the church without the world being able to see Messiah at that time.
- 5) There is NO scripture that tells us that the 144,000 of Israel will ever preach the gospel.

None of the great reformation preachers ever taught a pre-tribulation rapture. Men such as John Wesley, Charles Wesley, Charles Spurgeon, Matthew Henry, John Knox, Martin Luther, John Huss, William Carey, John Calvin, Isaac Newton, George Whitefield, George Mueller, John Newton, Johnathon Edwards, William Tyndale, John Wycliffe, John Bunyan and many others did NOT believe the church would escape the Great tribulation. There were many other famous men of YHWH who held this belief that were omitted for brevity's sake.

The Pre-Tribulation Rapture theory is believed to have begun in the early 1800's in England via a prophetic utterance of a 15 year old girl.

Unfortunately, men like Harry Ironside, James Gray, Ruben Torrey, Lewis Sperry and C.I. Scofield championed this theory. It might have disappeared had it not been for Scofield. He incorporated it into his notes in his famous Scofield Reference Bible which was used by most major seminaries in the U.S. Many of the students at the various seminaries considered Scofield's notes to be almost as inspired as the scriptures themselves. Is it any wonder then why this doctrine is so widely held when men like Feinberg, Wyrle, Hall, Walvoord, Dwight Pentecost, Hal Lindsey, Dake and others very actively promoted it as fact.

The Apostle Paul warned us against such teachings, calling those that teach these doctrines "Deceivers".

2Thes 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Yahshua Messiah, and by our gathering together unto him, (the rapture)

2Thes 2:2 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 Messiah is at hand. (Paul equates the rapture to the day of Messiah)

2Thes 2:3 *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;*

Could the "Spirit" that revealed the secret rapture to the young girl be a deceiving Spirit that Paul warns against in verse 2 ?Let's look at various doctrines, where they come from and how they are doctrines of man, not YHWH.

DOCTRINE OF THE 7 YEAR TRIBULATION PERIOD

The doctrine of a 7 year tribulation and the Anti-Messiah signing a peace treaty with Israel is taken from Daniel 9:24-27.

Dan 9:24 *Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. (KJV)*

Dan 9:25 *Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Yahshua the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. (KJV)*

Dan 9:26 *And after threescore and two weeks shall Yahshua be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. (KJV)*

Dan 9:27 *And he 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 overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. (KJV)*

The purpose of the seventy weeks was to punish Israel for their iniquity. They had been in Babylonian captivity for almost 70 years when Daniel sought YHWH in prayer knowing that the prophesied duration of their captivity was nearing its end. The angel Gabriel appeared to him and told him that 70 weeks are determined upon his people (The Jews) and upon the Holy city (Jerusalem) to:

- 1)** finish the transgression
- 2)** make an end of sins
- 3)** make reconciliation for iniquity

- 4) bring in everlasting righteousness
- 5) seal up the vision and prophesy
- 6) anoint the most Holy (Yahshua)

YHWH tells them in verse 25 to KNOW and UNDERSTAND that from the issuing of the command to restore Jerusalem UNTO the Messiah shall be 69 WEEKS. (We'll assume the reader is familiar with the concept of Daniel's 70 weeks of YEARS, since most of it is history and is well established.) Then in verse 26, He says that AFTER 69 weeks (including 7 to rebuild Jerusalem), the Messiah is CUT OFF or KILLED. This means that 69 weeks are already OVER and the Messiah must be cut off sometime in the 70th week. Follow this in your own bible with me as this point is very important. Also it says in verse 26 that Messiah will be cut off, but not for himself: (He is cut off for those of us who have entered into the covenant with him). Then the angel continues and tells him that the people of the prince that will come (I believe this was Titus) will destroy the city and the sanctuary. (This happened in 70 A.D).

In verse 27, the angel again picks up speaking of the Messiah and says HE will confirm THE COVENANT with many for one week.

What covenant are we talking about here? I believe the covenant is none other than the covenant Yahshua made with US. It's NOT some Anti-Messiah signing a peace treaty with Israel! Believe it or not, this is the very scripture that is used to formulate the Anti-Messiah peace treaty with Israel theory. But don't take my word for it; let's see what the bible says about it. YHWH is speaking through Isaiah here and says:

Isa 42:1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. (KJV)

...YHWH is speaking of Yahshua here...

Isa 42:6 I YHWH have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and GIVE THEE FOR A COVENANT of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; (KJV)

Isa 42:7 To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house. (KJV)

We know the one who is given as a light to the gentiles is Yahshua as we see in several verses.

Luk 2:32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

Isa 60:3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Isa 49:6 *And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.*

... And again, in the next verses YHWH speaks of Yahshua.

Isa 49:7 *Thus saith YHWH, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of YHWH that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee. (KJV)*

Isa 49:8 *Thus saith YHWH, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and GIVE THEE FOR A COVENANT of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages; (KJV)*

Nothing could be plainer than this. Yahshua was THE COVENANT CONFIRMED WITH MANY for ONE WEEK in Daniel 9:27. Gabriel continues:

Dan 9:27 *And he 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 overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. (KJV)*

Yahshua fulfilled the need for a temple sacrifice. He is the one that caused the sacrifice and oblation to cease. Can you imagine what a stench in the nostrils of a kadosh (holy) Elohim is the offering up of the blood of bulls and goats after He gave His only son as THE SACRIFICE for our sins? The Jews rejected that sacrifice and count it an unholy thing... What Blasphemy! Yahshua was cut off in the midst of the 70th week, 3 1/2 years into His public ministry. This means there is only 3 1/2 years of Daniel's 70 weeks of years left. Perhaps this is why the book of Revelation only speaks of 42 months or 3 1/2 years. Nowhere in the bible is there any indication of a 7 year tribulation period.

IMMINENCY

All right then... if there is no 7 year tribulation period, when are we raptured out of here? What about the doctrine of "IMMINENCY"? This is the belief that Messiah could return at any moment without the need for any further prophesied event occurring first. This doctrine is flawed as proven by a scripture we looked at earlier, II Thess. 2:1-3. Paul says:

2Thes 2:3 *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; (KJV)

These are two prophesied events that MUST occur FIRST before our gathering together unto him or the rapture of the church. If these have to occur first then the doctrine of IMMINENCY is clearly FALSE. We are not going anywhere until after the Anti-Messiah is revealed.

Paul said that our gathering unto YHWH (rapture) will occur on the DAY OF YHWH. (II Thess. 2:2). The prophet Joel said the sun would be darkened and the moon turned to blood BEFORE the DAY OF YHWH. (Joel 2:31)

Therefore the rapture can't occur until after the sun is darkened. This also destroys the doctrine of IMMINENCY... but I'm getting a little ahead of myself, so let's continue with IMMINENCY.

Remember when Yahshua's disciples asked him what would be the sign of his coming and the "end of the age"? (Matt. 24:3). He had just told them a parable of the good seed and the tares. (Matt. 13:24-30). They would grow together and be reaped in the harvest, at which time they would be separated the good from the bad. Yahshua went on to explain the parable that the good seed were the children of the kingdom while the tares were the children of the devil. The harvest was the "end of the age" at which time they both would be reaped. (Matt. 13:37-40).

It's obvious that the "end of the age" does not begin at the beginning of Daniel's 70th week. Both are reaped together which would leave no one here for YHWH's wrath to be poured out on.

WHEN WILL THE RAPTURE TAKE PLACE?

The prophet Joel tells us that the DAY OF YHWH occurs after the sun is darkened and the moon is turned to blood.

Joel 2:31 *The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, BEFORE the great and the terrible day of YHWH come. (KJV)*

..... Yahshua tells us when this will happen.

Matt 24:29 *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: (KJV)*

... He says it is IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TRIBULATION..

Matt 24:30 *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. (KJV)

Matt 24:31 *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. (KJV) (Rapture occurs here)*

Let's see what the sequence of events will be then:

1. Falling away or apostasy
2. Anti-Messiah revealed
3. 3 1/2 years of Great Tribulation
4. Darkening of sun and moon
5. Rapture
6. Day of YHWHs wrath

According to John in Rev. 6:2, the darkening of the sun and the moon turning to blood takes place at the opening of the sixth seal.

Rev 6:12 *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; (KJV)*

It's at this point that Yahshua will send his angels to reap the earth.

Matt 24:30- *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. (KJV)*

Matt 24:31 *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. (KJV)*

Notice, Then shall he send his angels to gather the ELECT. That's us!

Yahshua said in Matt. 24:22 that except the days are shortened (Great Tribulation), there should no flesh be saved: But for the ELECT'S sake those days shall be shortened. The elect are right in the middle of things here.

In chapter 7 of Revelation, John saw a great multitude which no man could number and they were identified as they which came OUT of the GREAT TRIBULATION. Most Pre-Tribulation Rapture teachers say that these are the converts to Messiah that became believers after the rapture. This view is totally unsupported by scripture. I believe it is exactly what the bible says; these are the saints that went thru the tribulation period. There is no

scripture in the bible that indicates anyone will be saved AFTER the rapture of the church.

Rev 7:9 *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; (KJV)*

Rev 7:14 *And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. (KJV)*
In chapter 10 of Revelation, we find the rapture of the church.

Rev 10:7 *But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of YHWH should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. (KJV)*

This is the seventh and LAST Trumpet of Revelation. This is the Trump spoken of by Paul in I Cor 15:52. Also, if we let the bible interpret itself, we find that the mystery of YHWH is the RAPTURE. Look what Paul says:

1Cor 15:51 *Behold, I shew you a MYSTERY; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, (KJV)*

1Cor 15:52 *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. (KJV)*

Paul declares that the mystery is the rapture and it takes place at the LAST TRUMP which is the 7th trumpet. There can only be ONE LAST TRUMP so the rapture can't take place before it.

At the completion of the sounding of the last trump, we are told that the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Messiah.

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 Messiah; and he shall reign forever and ever. (KJV)*

And in verse 18, it says:

Rev 11:18 *And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. (KJV)*

YHWH's wrath is come and the time that the dead should be judged and the saints rewarded.

One thing that is important to note is that Revelation is written with a lot of fill in information between the events. We know that the Rapture takes place at the last trump which BEGAN TO SOUND in Rev. 10:7 and SOUNDED in Rev.11:15. The actual event of the harvest is recorded in Rev. 15:14-20. My original intention of this article was to demonstrate that the rapture could not take place BEFORE the great tribulation, so let me again focus on this.

Another thing that has caused confusion is the revealing of the Anti-Messiah. I heard a well respected bible scholar state over the radio that the Anti-Messiah couldn't be revealed until AFTER the church was removed. Again we turn to Brother Paul for help:

2Thes 2:3 *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; (KJV)*

He clearly indicates that the rapture SHALL NOT COME except there be a falling away first and the ANTI-MESSIAH BE REVEALED. Paul calls those that teach such a doctrine "deceivers".

They also like to teach that the next 4 verses indicate that the Ruach HaKodesh (Holy Spirit) must be removed with the rapture of the church so that the Anti-Messiah can be revealed.

2Thes 2:6 *And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. (KJV)*

2Thes 2:7 *For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. (KJV)*

2Thes 2:8 *And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom YHWH shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: (KJV)*

2Thes 2:9 *Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, (KJV)*

However, we already read in verse 3 that this is just NOT the case. If the Ruach HaKodesh is the one restraining the Anti-Messiah, couldn't he just simply quit restraining him? Besides, if the Ruach is removed from the earth, how would anyone be drawn to Messiah and be saved during the tribulation as they profess.

How would the Anti-Messiah be given power to make war on the saints and overcome them if they weren't going to be here? (Rev. 13:7)

Whoa!! Back up just a minute now...We all know that we're not going thru the tribulation because YHWH has not appointed us to wrath. (I Thes. 5:9) I couldn't agree more that YHWH has not appointed us to wrath, but we need to understand that YHWH's wrath is NOT poured out in the great tribulation. His wrath is poured out on the wicked after the ELECT are raptured after the tribulation is over. There is plenty of wrath going on though; man's wrath against man and Satan's wrath against man, but YHWH's wrath is poured out ONLY on the wicked.

Rev 14:14 *And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. (KJV)*

Rev 14:15 *And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. (KJV)*

Rev 14:16 *And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. (KJV)*

The ELECT are gathered in the verses above.....
.....and the WICKED here! Only now can the wrath of YHWH be poured out on man.

Rev 14:17 *And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. (KJV)*

Rev 14:18 *And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. (KJV)*

Rev 14:19 *And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of YHWH. (KJV)*

We already know that the rapture takes place at the beginning of the day of YHWH as seen in 2 Thes 2:2. Paul said in I Thes 5:4 that the DAY OF YHWH should not overtake us as a thief. Since we know that the day of YHWH occurs after the tribulation, why would Paul tell us to watch and be sober if we weren't even going to be here then?

1Thes 5:4 *But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. (KJV)*

1Thes 5:5 *Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. (KJV)*

1Thes 5:6 *Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but LET US WATCH AND BE SOBER. (KJV)*

Paul must have known that the church would be on the earth right up until the day of YHWH or his warning would have been pointless. Yahshua said in John 6:40 He would raise up all that the Father had given him at the LAST DAY. This is speaking of the resurrection because the dead in Messiah rise FIRST and we who remain are caught up together with him in the clouds and so shall we ever be with YHWH. Therefore, the LAST DAY must be the DAY OF YHWH. We and the dead in Messiah are removed from the earth and THEN YHWH's wrath falls.

It was well understood in Yahshua's day that the resurrection occurred at the LAST DAY. When Yahshua was about to raise Lazarus from the dead, he told Martha that Lazarus would rise again. She replied in John 11:24 that she knew he would rise again in the resurrection at the LAST DAY.

Now on to YHWH's wrath.....

While it's true that we are not appointed to YHWH's wrath, there are some that do incur YHWH's wrath. They are the ones who receive the mark of the beast.

Rev 14:9 *And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, (KJV)*

Rev 14:10 *The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of YHWH, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: (KJV)*

YHWH's wrath is never poured out on His saints. Just as He protected Israel from the plagues poured out on the Egyptians, so will He protect His elect. Yahshua said in John 16:33 that in the world we shall have tribulation. He prayed in John 17:15 that YHWH should not take us out of the world, but that He would keep us from the evil.

Right after the rapture in Rev. 14:14-16 and the wicked are harvested for the great winepress of the wrath of YHWH, we are told in Rev. 15:1 that in the 7 last plagues are filled up the wrath of YHWH. These are the Vial judgments.

Rev 15:1 *And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of YHWH. (KJV)*

Doesn't sound like a fun place to be, does it?

The Old Testament also has plenty of evidence that we'll be here and see the abomination of desolation, the Anti-Messiah and the whole ball of wax. Daniel chapter 11 describes the abomination of desolation and in Chapter 12, we find Michael, the great prince for the Jewish people arise to fight for the nation.

Dan 12:1 *And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. (KJV)*

Dan 12:2 *And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. (KJV)*

The resurrection is mentioned here in verse 2. It's after the abomination of desolation which most of the church world says occurs in the middle of the tribulation period. Obviously, this view is erroneous. Notice that in verse 2 above, both the righteous and unrighteous dead are said to awaken. We know from other scriptures that there is a 1000 year period between the 2 awakenings.

Rev 20:4 *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 Yahshua, and for the word of YHWH, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Messiah a thousand years. (KJV)*

Rev 20:5 *But the rest of the dead LIVED NOT AGAIN until the thousand years were finished. THIS IS THE FIRST RESURRECTION. (KJV)*

Did you catch that? The souls that were beheaded for the witness of Messiah which didn't take the mark of the beast..... These guys went thru the tribulation didn't they? But the thing I really want to point out here is the bible calls this THE FIRST RESURRECTION. Not the second or third in a series of resurrections, but the FIRST!! Let's reason this out then...

If the dead in Messiah RISE before the rapture and beheaded souls that came out of the tribulation are part of the same resurrection, then it could ONLY

occur AFTER the tribulation. Do you think maybe the bible is mistaken on this resurrection and it really wasn't the first, but one of a series under the general heading of first resurrection? Pretty silly isn't it? It gives you an idea of the lengths that some go to try to bend scripture to fit their theories. If scripture doesn't fit, throw out the theory!

Well, we've gone to some length to see how illogical the view of a pre-tribulation rapture is. If we would only take Yahshua literally and not try to put words into his mouth, we'd be in a better position to understand scripture. Comparing Yahshua's own statement about the gathering of his elect to other scriptures of the same event, we see a harmony in the statements. Yahshua said IMMEDIATELY AFTER the tribulation, the sun and moon would be darkened, and all the tribes of the earth would see him coming in the clouds of heaven.

And he sends his angels with the sound of a great trumpet and they gather the elect from the four corners of the earth. (Matt. 24:29-31)

In Rev 14:14-20, John tells us that after the Anti-Messiah has been dealt with that he looked and saw a white cloud and one sat like unto the son of man, having a sharp sickle in his hand. In verse 15, another angel came out of the temple, crying with a LOUD VOICE (probably the voice of the archangel) and in verse 16 the earth is reaped. Then the wrath of YHWH is poured out in the last 7 plagues of chapters 15 and 16.

Isn't this what Yahshua said would happen in Matt. 24.

What happens in 1 Thes. 4:16-17?

1Th 4:16 *Because the Master Himself shall come down from Heaven with a commanding shout of an archangel's voice, and with the trumpet of YAHWEH. And the dead in Messiah will rise again first.*

1Th 4:17 *Then we who remain alive will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet with our Master in the air. And so we will always be with our Master. (HRB)*

Isn't this what was said by Yahshua and John in the previous paragraphs? It is the same event. Paul goes on to say when it is, that he is talking about in the next few verses of Chapter 5.

1Th 5:2 *For you yourselves know accurately that the day of YAHWEH comes as a thief in the night. (HRB)*

He identifies the time as the Day of YHWH and he admonishes us to watch and be sober for Elohim has not appointed us to wrath. Why should he tell us to watch and not sleep if we were going to be raptured out of here before all of this?

2Peter 3:10-12 tells us the same thing, that the Day of YHWH will come as a thief in the night and asks what manner of persons should we be looking for and hastening unto the coming of the Day of YHWH. I ask again, if we were going to be gone by then, why the warning?

Paul says in 1 Cor. 15:52 that in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the LAST TRUMP, the dead shall be raised and we shall be changed.

I don't find a single Rapture verse that doesn't fit the scenario developed in the sequence of events described above. There are many other scriptures dealing with this subject and I won't be so dogmatic to say that I'm right and everyone else is wrong. But, if I'm not right and we're exiting stage left at the beginning of the tribulation, I'd like to be on the first bus load out like everyone else. But that first bus is very dubious.

The main thrust of my message is to not blindly accept as GOSPEL the view point of some bible scholar without studying the word with an open mind to see if that's really what it says. For over 1800 years, the common belief was that the rapture occurred at the last day. What changed? The bible certainly didn't! Our beliefs are being colored by traditions of men and too many seminary professors who in some cases don't even believe what the bible says, especially the first 8 chapters....or even in YHWH.

We were told in scripture that this would happen in the end times.

Jer 16:19 *O YAHWEH, my strength and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the nations shall come to You from the ends of the earth and say, Our fathers have inherited only lies, vanity, and there is no profit in them.*

Jer 16:20 *Can a man make gods unto himself and they are no gods?*

Jer 16:21 *Therefore, behold, I will make them know this time; I will cause them to know My hand and My might; and they shall know that My name is YAHWEH.*

Things are beginning to move fast in the prophetic realm as we approach the end of the age. I personally believe we are living in the last days and are the generation to witness the return of our savior Yahshua, the Messiah. Yahshua said in Mat 24 that the generations that saw the things begin to come to pass would not pass away until all these things were fulfilled. I am also convinced that just as Elohim created the heavens and earth in six days and rested on the seventh, He also appointed six thousand years for man to obtain salvation and then a Sabbath rest period with the Messiah reigning over his righteous kingdom for the 7th one thousand year period. This is the principle that a day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as a day. The 40th Jubilee since Calvary and the 70th since Adam is about upon us. The purpose of the Jubilee as you recall was to proclaim liberty throughout the land, to set the captive free and regain the title deed to their property and possessions. Isn't this what Yahshua has done for us?

As one begins to see things come to pass, he may realize that they aren't happening the way it was laid out in "The Late Great Planet Earth" and other prophecy books. But don't

despair, YHWH seldom does things the way we think He should. He is very much in control of everything and there is good news!

YAHSHUA IS COMING!!!! He will not let you down. Just as He was with the children of Israel as they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years, He will be with you if you trust in Him. He didn't lift them off of the planet, but He did feed and clothe them. Neither their shoes nor their clothing wore out during the 40 years according to scripture. Do you realize that the children's shoes must have grown with their feet?

Remember Lot and his family? YHWH didn't lift him off the planet either, but did hold back destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah until Lot and his family were safely out of the way.

How about the Hebrew children in the fiery furnace? YHWH didn't rapture them out of it, but HE did walk with them in it. Their clothes weren't even singed or smelled of smoke. And there was Daniel in the lion's den. He spent the night in there with a bunch of hungry lions. YHWH didn't take him out of the den, but He did protect Daniel by shutting up their mouths.

Perhaps the most well known example of YHWH protection was when He destroyed the world with the flood. He didn't take Noah and company to heaven, but He did provide an ark of safety for them. He saw them through the perilous time and delivered them.

There are many more instances of YHWH protecting His people from destruction. The pattern is clear. He will see us through the perilous times ahead and according to His word; we will be caught up to meet Him the air before the wrath of YHWH is poured out upon the earth.

Rom 10:13 *For whosoever shall call upon the name of YHWH shall be saved. (Joel 2:32)*

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