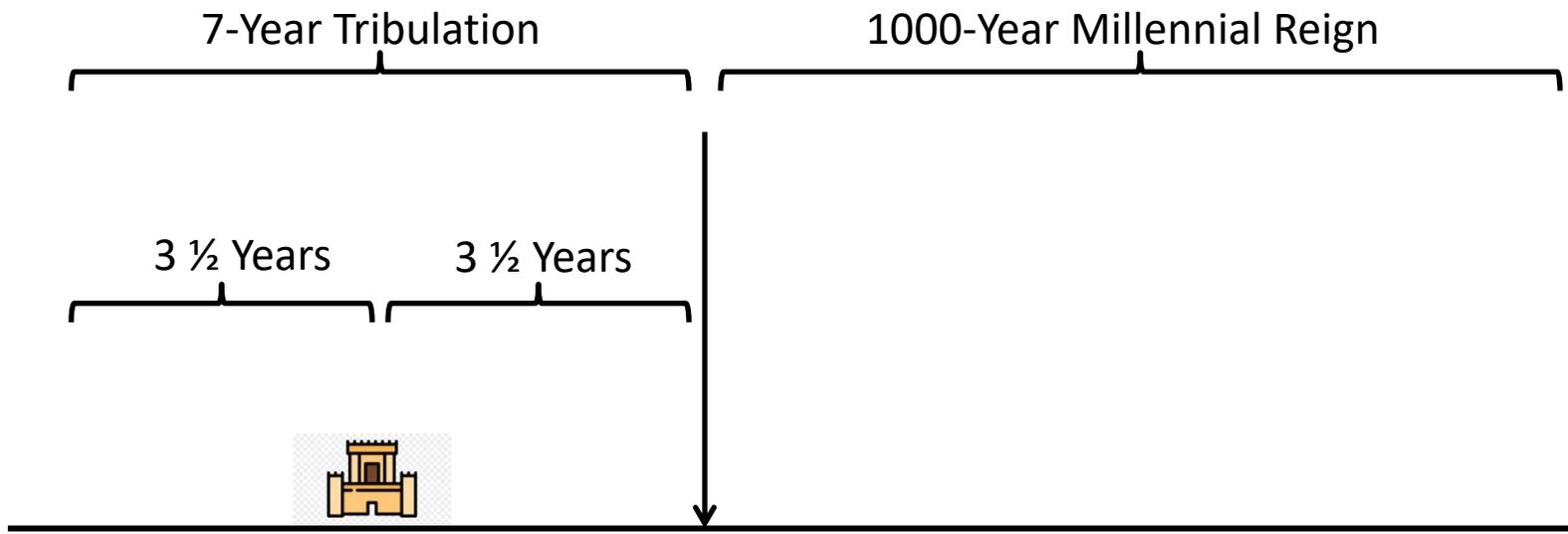


When Is the Rapture?

with Will and Andrew

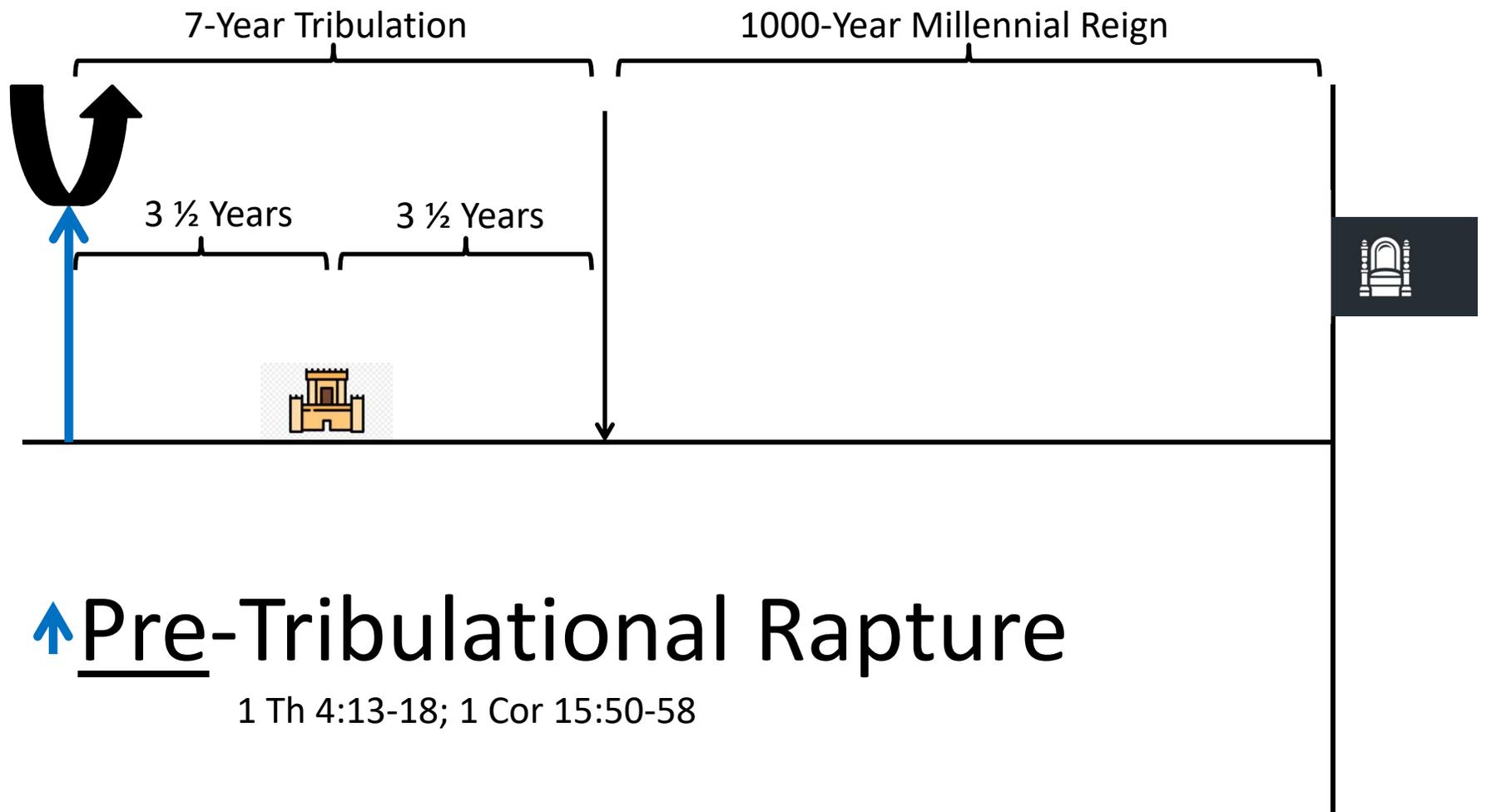




- ┌ 7-Year Tribulation—Dan 9:27
- ┌ First 3 1/2 Years—Rev 11:3
- ┌ Second 3 1/2 Years—Dan 7:25; 12:7, 11-12; Rev 11:2; 12:6, 14; 13:5

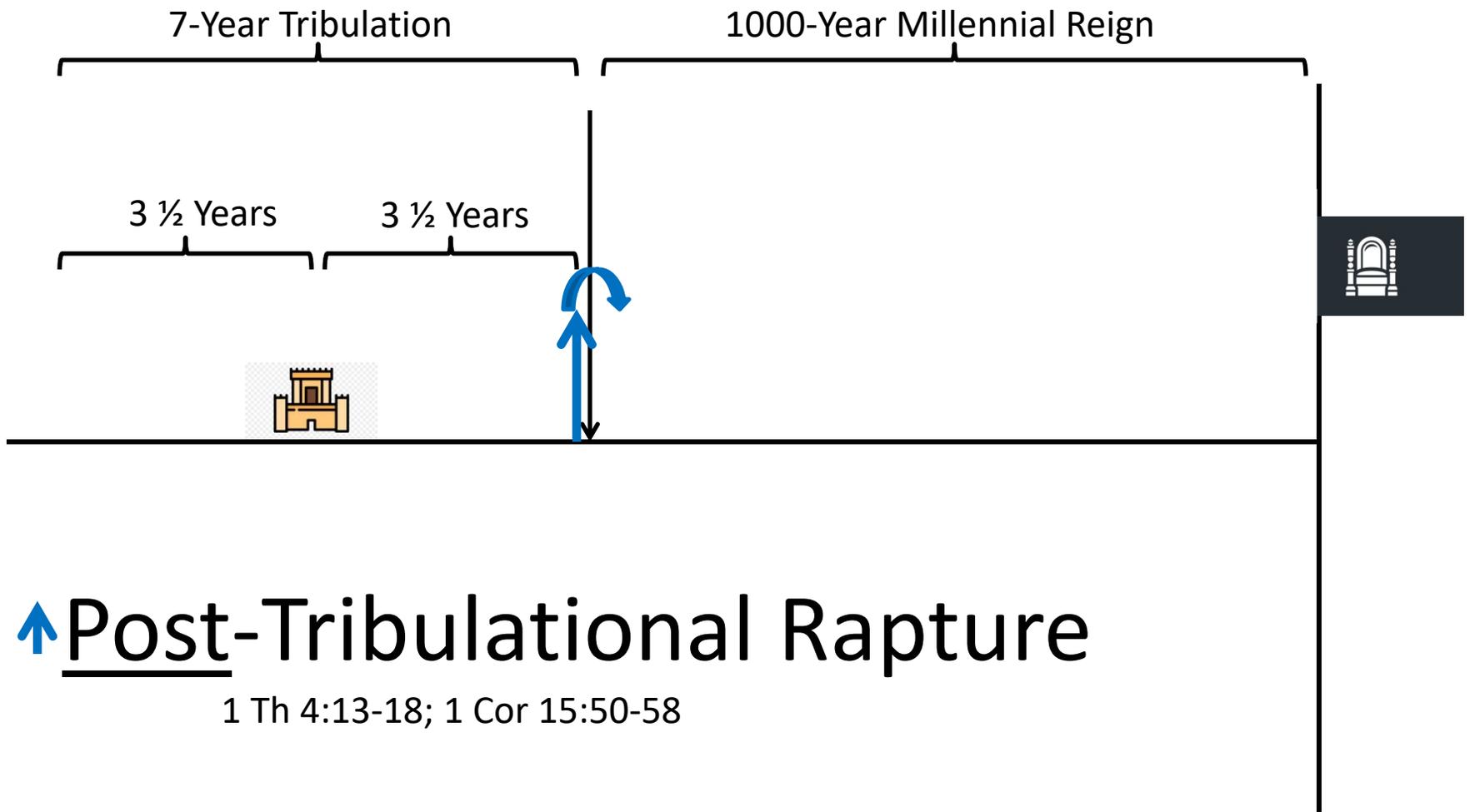

 Abomination of Desolation—Dan 9:27; 11:31; 12:11; Mt 24:15; Mk 13:14; 2 Th 2:3-4

- ↓ Christ's Second Coming—Rev 19:11-21; Mt 24:29-31, 25:31-46
- ┌ 1000-Year Millennial Reign—Rev 20:1-10
- 
 Great White Throne Judgment—Rev 20:11-15



↑ Pre-Tribulational Rapture

1 Th 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:50-58



Post-Tribulation Rapture

1 Th 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:50-58

1 Thessalonians 5

5:1 Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you. 2 For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. 3 While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape. 4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief;

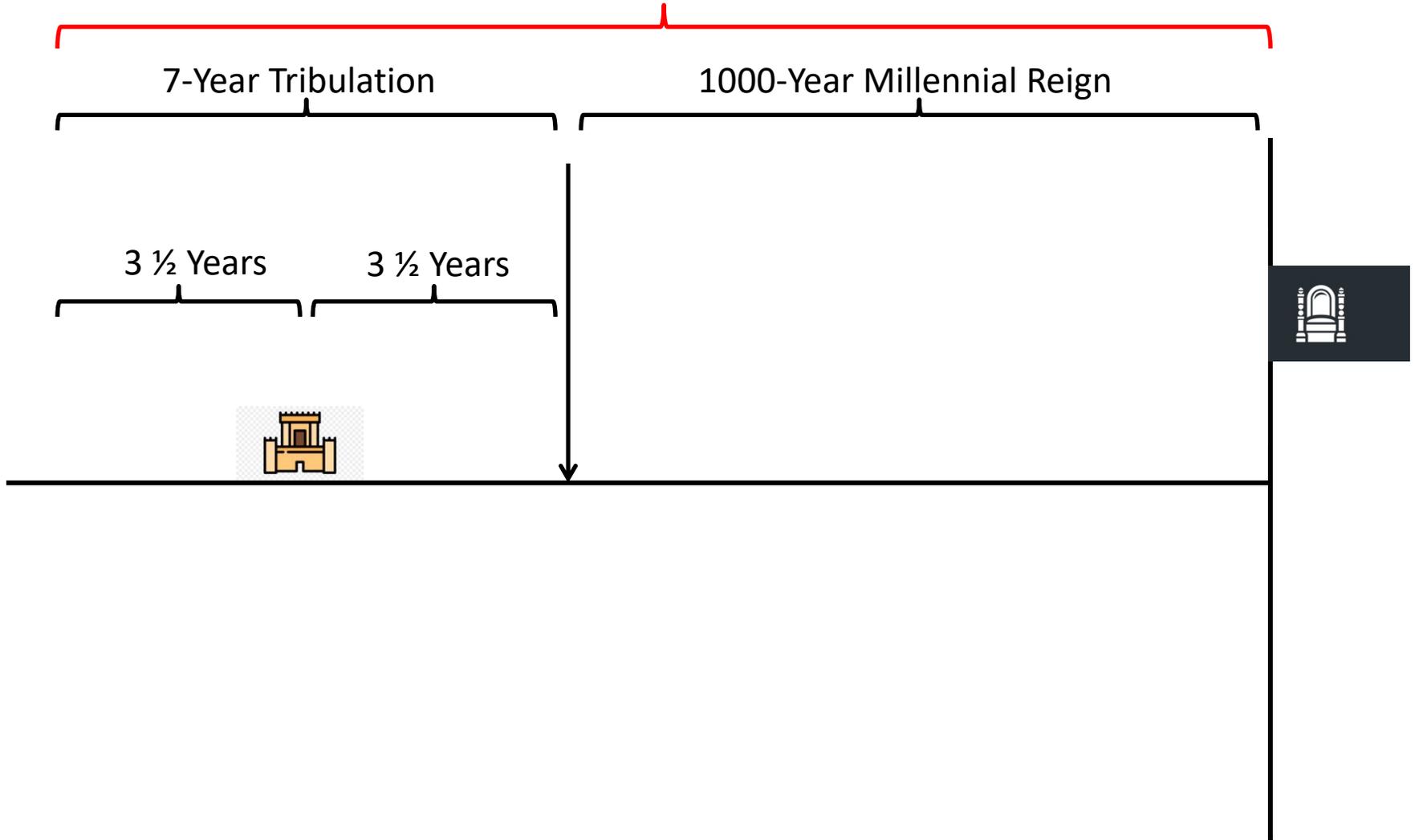
The Thief in the Night

- Matthew 24:43
- Luke 12:39
- 1 Thessalonians 5:2, 4
- 2 Peter 3:10
- Revelation 3:3
- Revelation 16:15

The Day of the Lord

- 1 Thessalonians 5:2, 4
- 2 Thessalonians 2:2
- 2 Peter 3:10, 12

The Day of the Lord



1 Thessalonians 5

9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5

23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

2 Thessalonians 2

2:1 Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, 2 that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. 3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

2 Thessalonians 2

5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? 6 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way. 8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

2 Thessalonians 2

9 *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. 11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, 12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

Tribulation is coming
... and there will be no place to hide

A Thief in the Night

Russ Doughten Films, Inc. presents a MARK IV PICTURES production

DVD VIDEO Starring **Patty Dunning** and **Thom Rachford**

A Thief in the Night II

"A DISTANT THUNDER"

The story of the tribulation and the end times continues

Russ Doughten Films, Inc. presents a MARK IV PICTURES production

Executive Producer: **Russell S. Doughten, Jr.**
Producer/Director: **Donald W. Thompson**
Starring: **Patty Dunning** and **Thom Rachford**
with **Sally Johnson** and **Sandy Stevens**

DVD VIDEO

A Thief in the Night III

...Now mankind has been given what we really always wanted... a world without God

IMAGE OF THE BEAST

Russ Doughten Films, Inc. presents a MARK IV PICTURES production

Executive Producer: **Russell S. Doughten, Jr.**
Producer/Director: **Donald W. Thompson**
Starring: **William Wellman, Jr.** and **Thom Rachford**
with **Susan Plumb** and **Patty Dunning**

DVD VIDEO

A Thief in the Night IV

THE PRODIGAL PLANET

A TRUE STORY THAT IS YET TO HAPPEN

Russ Doughten Films, Inc. presents a MARK IV PICTURES production

Executive Producer: **Russell S. Doughten, Jr.**
Producer/Director: **Donald W. Thompson**
Starring: **William Wellman, Jr.** - **Linda Beattie**
Cathy Wellman - **Thom Rachford**

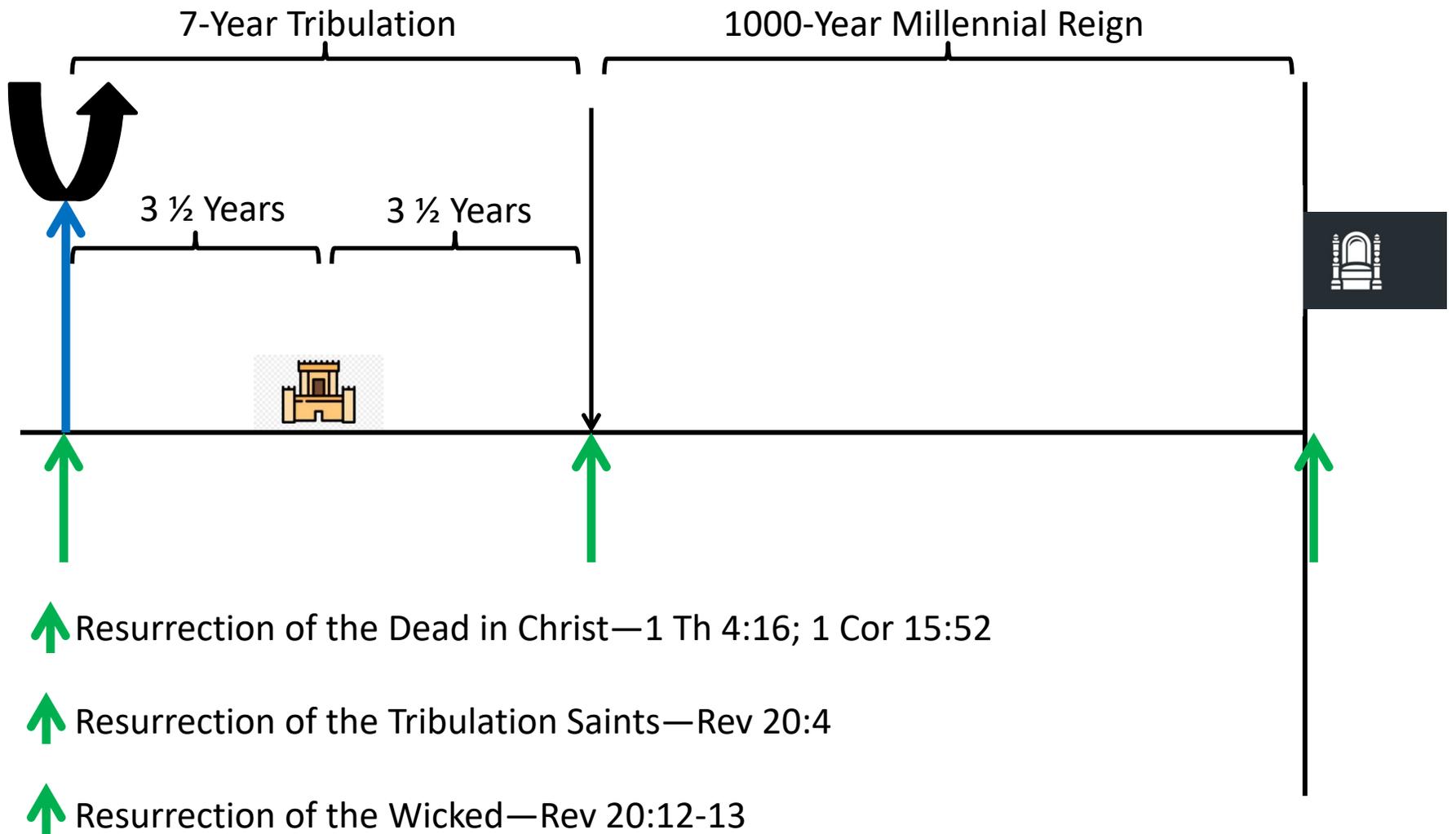
DVD VIDEO

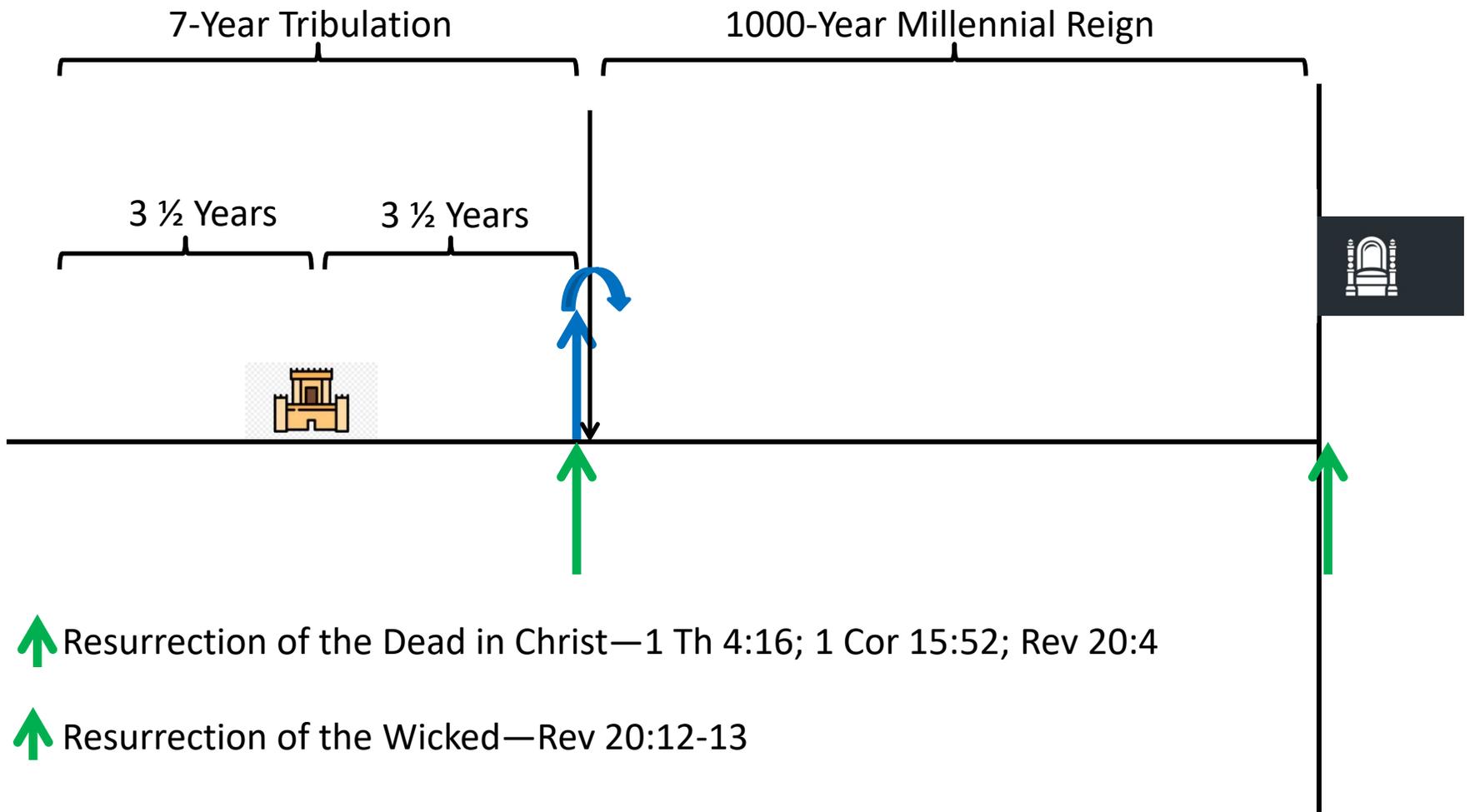
2 Thessalonians 2

13 But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth. 14 It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 15 So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught, whether by word *of mouth* or by letter from us.

2 Thessalonians 2

16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, 17 comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.





↑ Resurrection of the Dead in Christ—1 Th 4:16; 1 Cor 15:52; Rev 20:4

↑ Resurrection of the Wicked—Rev 20:12-13



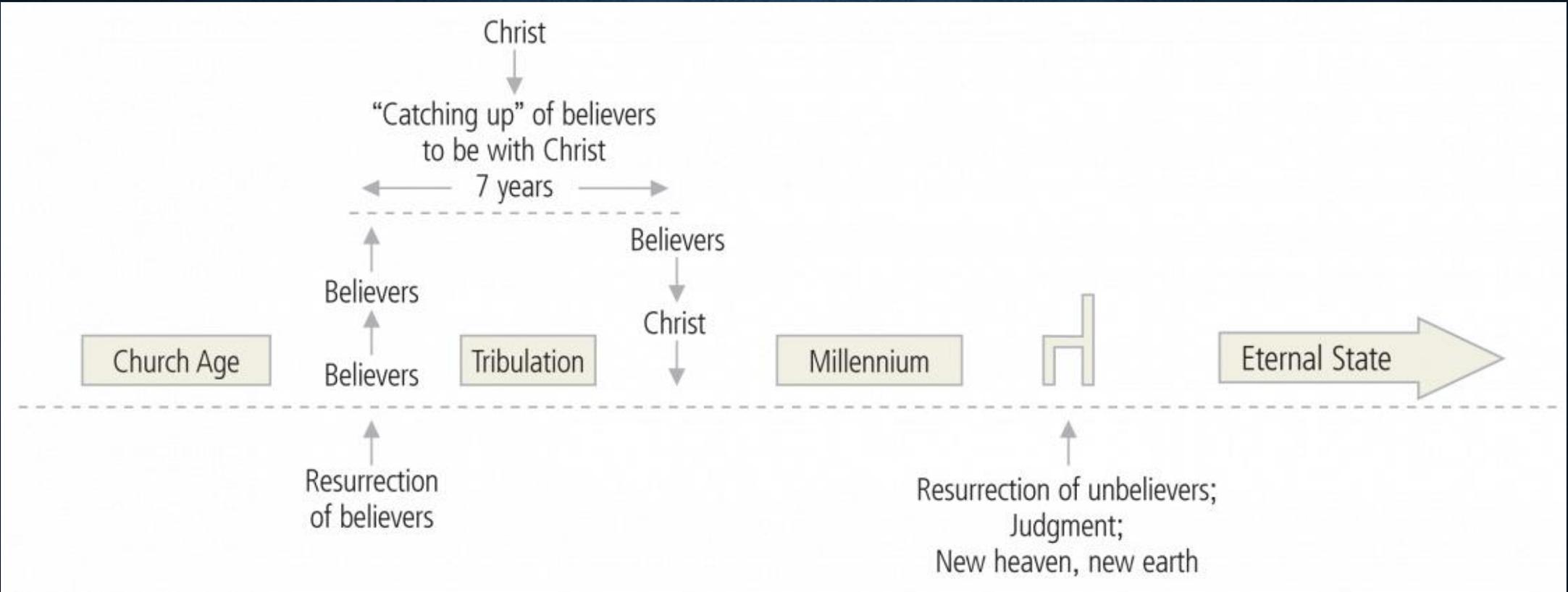
**A BIBLICAL CASE
FOR THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE**

By Andrew Reynolds



“THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH IS ONE OF THE MOST *IMPORTANT PRACTICAL* PROPHECIES IN SCRIPTURE FOR BELIEVERS TODAY.”

~JOHN WALVOORD



**CHRIST COMES BEFORE THE MILLENNIUM AND
BEFORE THE TRIBULATION**



THE RAPTURE AND THE BIBLICAL TEACHING OF IMMINENCY

**Imminence: an event
that can occur at any
moment**





THE EVENTS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION WILL BE FULFILLED ‘SOON.’ THIS REFERS TO THE NEARNESS OF THE TIME AT WHICH THE EVENTS IN REVELATION WILL BE FULFILLED.

**John bookends Revelation with
an urgent temporal
expectancy!**

- **Revelation 1:3...**for the time *is* at hand (KJV)
- **Revelation 22:6...**the things which must soon take place (NASB)

- **As in verse 1, the emphasis is on the imminence of the final events of human history. In fact, the book is framed by warnings regarding the imminent eschaton (here and in 22:10).**
- Osborne, G. R. (2016). [*Revelation: Verse by Verse* \(p. 23\)](#). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.



Philippians 4:5 The Lord is near.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 and to wait for His Son from heaven

James 5:9 the Judge is standing right at the door.

JESUS' EMPHASIS ON IMMINENCE

**Luke 12:35 “Be dressed in readiness, and keep your lamps lit.
³⁶ Be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open the door to him when he comes and knocks.”**



IF SEVERAL SIGNS/PROPHECIES HAD TO BE FULFILLED BEFORE THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH, THEN HOW COULD JESUS COMMAND THIS?

DO SOME PASSAGES TEACH CERTAIN SIGNS MUST TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE RETURN OF CHRIST?

Revelation 3:3...“I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.”



Matthew 24:3 As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

HOW DO YOU HARMONIZE THESE PASSAGES?



Passages demanding imminency would refer to the rapture, whereas passages demanding signs would refer to Christ's 2nd coming. Failure to recognize this distinction and trying to see the rapture and the 2nd coming as a single event forces certain writers into the dilemma of having a 2nd coming that is imminent in some passages and not imminent in other passages. Surely the Spirit of God cannot be accused of contradicting Himself.

**NO SIGNS OR
FULFILLED
PROPHECIES WILL
PRECEDE THE
RAPTURE**

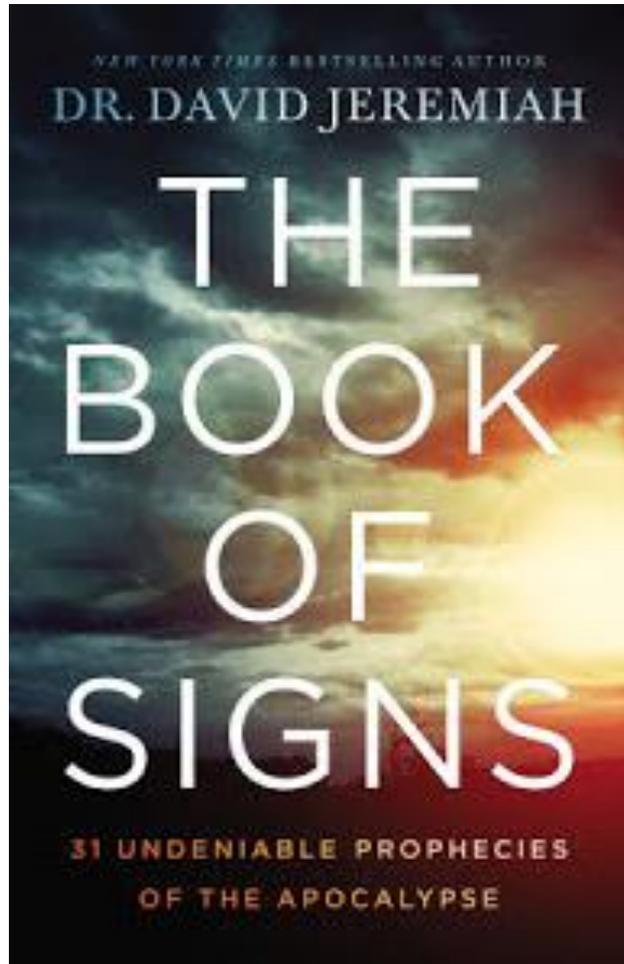
**The creation of the modern state of
Israel in 1948 did not fulfill any
biblical prophecy**





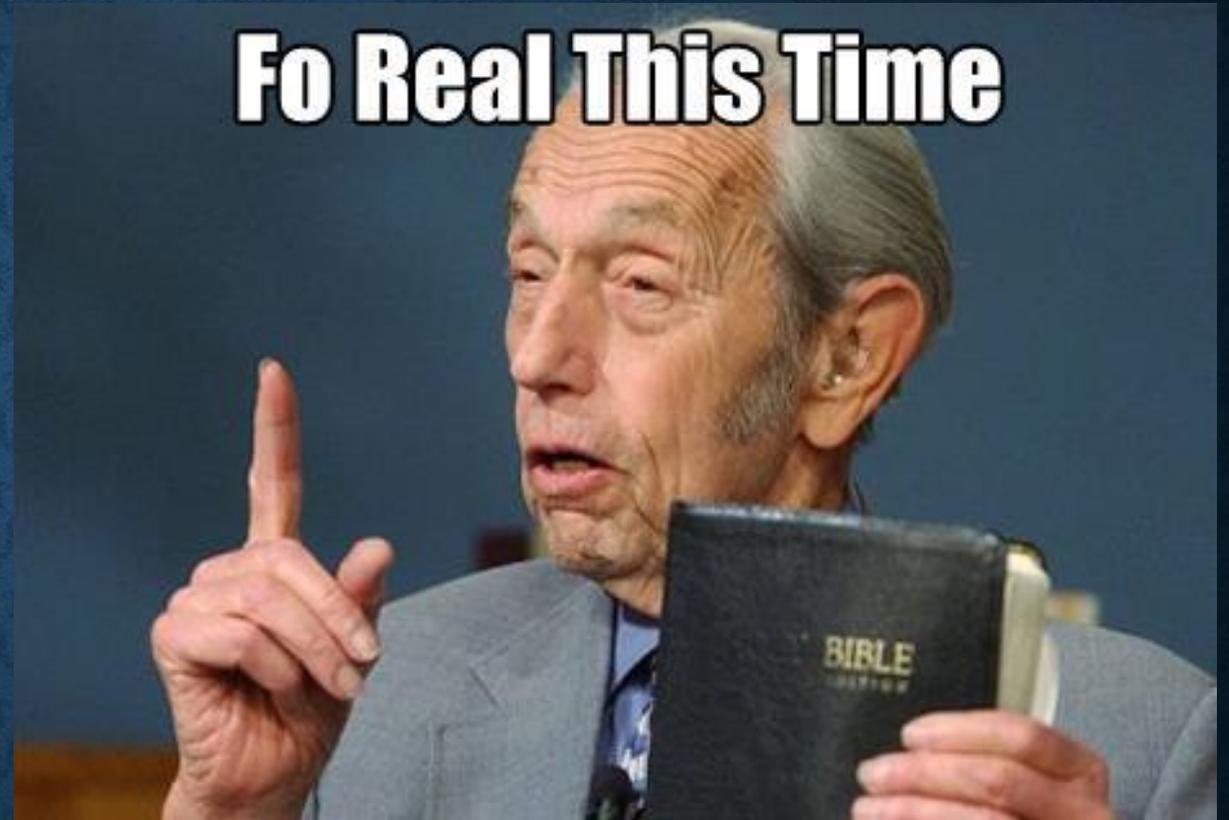
NO SIGNS OR FULFILLED PROPHECIES WILL PRECEDE THE RAPTURE

**God never intended the 7 churches
in Revelation 2-3 to represent
different time periods throughout
Church history**



“In the book of Daniel, Daniel interprets two dreams. These dreams prophesy the unification of Europe, which is being fulfilled today.”

American Christian radio host Harold Camping stated that the Rapture and Judgment Day would take place on May 21, 2011, and that the end of the world would take place five months later on October 21, 2011, based on adding the 153 fish of John 20 to May 21.



DATE SETTING CONTRADICTS IMMINENCY



RENALD SHOWERS

“If something else must take place before an event can happen, that event is not imminent. The necessity of something else taking place first destroys the concept of imminency.”



**JOHN AND THE RAPTURE:
REVELATION 2-3**

IN REVELATION 2-3, THE LORD COMMENDS AND MAKES PROMISES TO THE CHURCHES

THE MESSAGE TO EPHESUS ***(2:1-7)***

Church of Loveless Orthodoxy

The incentive to heed the moral lessons of the message is centered in the promise to the overcomer.

Revelation 2:7 To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'

IN REVELATION 2-3, THE LORD COMMENDS AND MAKES PROMISES TO THE CHURCHES

THE MESSAGE TO SMYRNA ***(2:8-11)***

Church of Martyrdom

The incentive to heed the moral lessons of the message is centered in the promise to the overcomer.

Revelation 2:10 Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Revelation 2:11 He who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.

IN REVELATION 2-3, THE LORD COMMENDS AND MAKES PROMISES TO THE CHURCHES

THE MESSAGE TO PERGAMUM (2:12-17)

Church of Indiscriminate Toleration

The incentive to heed the moral lessons of the message is centered in the promise to the overcomer.

Revelation 2:17 To him who overcomes, to him I will give *some* of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.'

IN REVELATION 2-3, THE LORD COMMENDS AND MAKES PROMISES TO THE CHURCHES

THE MESSAGE TO THYATIRA (2:18-29)

Church of Compromise

The incentive to heed the moral lessons of the message is centered in the promise to the overcomer.

Revelation 2:26 'He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS;²⁷ AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON...²⁸ and I will give him the morning star.

IN REVELATION 2-3, THE LORD COMMENDS AND MAKES PROMISES TO THE CHURCHES

THE MESSAGE TO SARDIS ***(3:1-6)***

Church of Complacency

The incentive to heed the moral lessons of the message is centered in the promise to the overcomer

Revelation 3:5 'He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.'

IN REVELATION 2-3, THE LORD COMMENDS AND MAKES PROMISES TO THE CHURCHES

THE MESSAGE TO PHILADELPHIA (3:7-13)

Church of Promised Deliverance

The incentive to heed the moral lessons of the message is centered in the promise to the overcomer.

Revelation 3:10 'Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, **I also will keep you from the hour of testing**, that *hour* which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

IN REVELATION 2-3, THE LORD COMMENDS AND MAKES PROMISES TO THE CHURCHES

THE MESSAGE TO LAODICEA (3:14-22)

Church of Lukewarmness

The incentive to heed the moral lessons of the message is centered in the promise to the overcomer.

Revelation 3:21 'He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne

THE PROMISE TO THYATIRA REFERS TO PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION DURING THIS CRISIS HOUR

Preservation while present during the period

John 17:15 "I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one."

Removal from the scene of Satan's activity is the very thing Christ does not request, according to the first half of the verse.

BELIEVERS WILL BE KEPT FROM THE TESTING WHILE HAVING TO GO THROUGH IT.



Rev. 9:4

THE PROMISE TO THYATIRA REFERS TO PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION DURING THIS CRISIS HOUR



BELIEVERS WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE EARTH BY THE RAPTURE BEFORE THE TIME OF TESTING.

Preservation by means of removal

John 12:27 "Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour '? But for this purpose I came to this hour.

Jesus clearly prays for removal!

Proverbs 21:23 He who guards his mouth and his tongue, Guards his soul from troubles.

**IN REVELATION 3:10, DOES “FROM”
MEAN...**

*BELIEVERS WILL BE
PROTECTED FROM THE
TESTING WHILE HAVING
TO GO THROUGH IT?*

*BELIEVERS WILL BE
REMOVED FROM THE
EARTH BY THE RAPTURE
BEFORE THE TIME OF
TESTING?*

How do we make this decision?

REVELATION 3:10 DEMANDS A PRE-TRIB RAPTURE!

“[The Pre-Trib] would encourage them in their present suffering to persevere a little longer, whereas the other option of preservation while remaining during the Tribulation would furnish no encouragement at all. The latter would be tantamount to a threat rather than a promise, a threat for remaining faithful, they would experience worse persecution than they had already. Such is completely inappropriate at this point in the message where a promise to motivate the recipients is required.”



**Saints present
during the
Tribulation period
will not be exempt
from harm (6:9-11;
7:9-14; 13:15; 20:4).**

ROBERT GUNDRY PROTESTS...

“The Pre-Trib position backfires, because all recognize that saints of one kind or another will be present on earth during the tribulation.”

Correct. But, Revelation 3:10 is a promise for the Church. Tribulation saints are not part of the Church.



REVELATION 3:10 'BECAUSE YOU HAVE KEPT THE WORD OF MY PERSEVERANCE, I ALSO WILL KEEP YOU FROM THE HOUR OF TESTING, THAT *HOUR* WHICH IS ABOUT TO COME UPON THE WHOLE WORLD, TO TEST THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE EARTH. ¹¹ 'I AM COMING QUICKLY; HOLD FAST WHAT YOU HAVE, SO THAT NO ONE WILL TAKE YOUR CROWN.

**THE BIBLE
TEACHES
ABOUT THE
FUTURE FOR
SEVERAL
REASONS:**

**Revelation 1:1... “to show to His
bond-servants, the things which
must soon take place”**

**THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT THE FUTURE
FOR SEVERAL REASONS:**

Eschatological teaching is fundamentally ethical in its purpose: to exhort to watchfulness, holiness, and readiness for the end (Matt. 25:1-30; Mark 13:32-37; 2 Pet. 3:11)

***DENYING IMMINENCY WEAKENS
THE ETHICAL OBJECTIVE TO ESCHATOLOGY***



“The fact that the glorified, holy Son of God could step through the door of heaven at any moment is intended by God to be the most pressing, incessant motivation for holy living and aggressive ministry (including missions, evangelism, and Bible teaching) and the greatest cure for lethargy and apathy. It should make a difference in every Christian’s values, actions, priorities, and goals.”



In light of the concept of the imminent coming of Christ and the fact that the New Testament does teach His imminent coming, we can conclude that the Pretribulation Rapture view is the only view of the Rapture of the church that comfortably fits the New Testament teaching of the imminent coming of Christ. It is the only view that can honestly say that Christ could return at any moment.

IN CASE OF RAPTURE

QUESTIONS?

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

THIS CAR WILL BE UNMANNED