

the book of

# REVELATION

sermon series



**Dr. Andy Woods**

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church  
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

# Tribulation Judgments





# Seven Bowls

(Revelation 16)



1<sup>st</sup> Bowl (16:1-2) – Boils

2<sup>nd</sup> Bowl (16:3) – Sea becomes blood

3<sup>rd</sup> Bowl (16:4-7) – Freshwater destroyed

4th Bowl (16:8-9) – Sun scorches man

5th Bowl (16:10-11) – Darkness

6th Bowl (16:13-16) – Euphrates dried

**7th Bowl (16:17-21) – Greatest earthquake**

# 7. The Seventh Bowl

Revelation 16:17-21

- a) 7<sup>th</sup> angel pours out the bowl (17)
- b) Lightning & thunder (18a)
- c) Greatest earthquake (18b)
- d) Jerusalem destroyed (19a)
- e) Babylon destroyed (19b)
- f) Every mountain & island moved (20)
- g) 100-pound hailstones (21a)
- h) Man's sinful reaction (21b)





## Revelation 16:19

“The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath.”



# Revelation 17:1

“Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters.”



# 5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

Seals (Rev 7) 144,000 JEWS

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7

Trumpets (Rev 10–11) No Delay; 2 Witnesses

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 12–14) Israel's flight

Bowls (Rev 16:13-16) Armageddon

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 17–18) Babylon falls

# 5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

1. Rev 7 – 144,000 Jews
2. Rev 10:1-11:13 – Announcement of no more delay and the two witnesses
3. Rev 12-14 – Israel's flight, two beasts, six scenes of hope
4. Rev 16:13-16 – Gathering of the nations to Armageddon
5. Rev 17:1-19:6 – Babylon's fall



# The Woman Rides the Beast

## Revelation 17

- I. The Vision Concerning Babylon (1-6a)
- II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon (6b-18)



# The Great City of Babylon

## Revelation 18

- I. The Prediction of Babylon's Fall (18:1-3)
- II. The Appeal to Separate From Babylon (18:4-8)
- III. The Reactions to Babylon's Fall (18:9-20)
- IV. The Description of Babylon's Fall (18:21-24)



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# III. The Reactions Babylon's Fall

Revelation 18:9-20

- A. The Kings (9-10)
- B. The Merchants (11-16)
- C. The Sea Merchants (17-19)
- D. Those in Heaven (20)



# III. The Reactions Babylon's Fall

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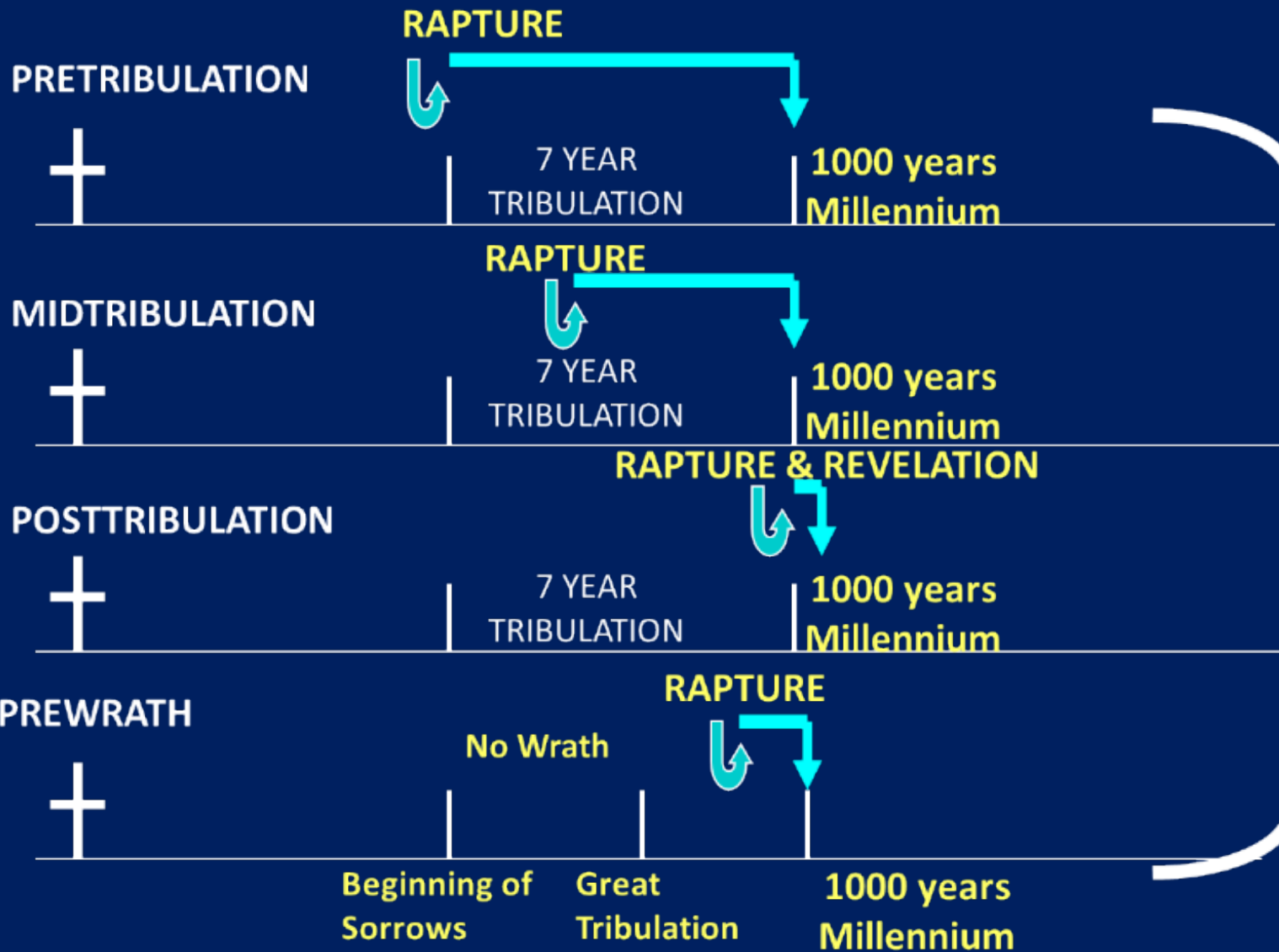
# When Will the Rapture Take Place Relative to the Tribulation Period?

- Pre-tribulation rapture theory
- Mid-tribulation rapture theory
- Post-tribulation rapture theory
- Pre-wrath rapture theory
- Partial rapture theory





# RAPTURE VIEW COMPARISON



Y-H-Z-R-E

# Revelation 1:19

“Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things [meta tauta].”



# Revelation 1:19

- Seen (Chapter 1)
- Are (Chapters 2–3)
- After these things (Chapters 4–22)



## Psalm 50:5 (NKJV)

“Gather My saints together to Me,  
Those who have made a covenant with  
Me by sacrifice.”





## Psalm 149:1 (NKJV)

“Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,  
And His praise in the assembly of saints.”



## Parallels Between Jeremiah 50-51 & Revelation 17-18

	Jeremiah	Revelation
Associated with a Golden cup	51:7a	17:3-4; 18:6
Dwelling on many waters	51:13	17:1
Intoxicating the nations	51:7b	17:2
Same name	50:1	17:5
<u>Persecution of the saints</u>	<u>51:49</u>	<u>17:6; 18:24</u>
Stone sinking into Euphrates	51:63-64	18:21
Sudden destruction	51:8	18:8
Destroyed by fire	51:30	17:16
Final, uninhabitable	50:39	18:21
Deserved	50:29	18:6
God's people flee	51:6, 45	18:4
Heaven rejoices	51:48	18:20

Dyer, "The Identity of Babylon in Revelation 17–18 (Part 2)," 441-43.

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# II. The Description of Babylon's Fall

Revelation 18:21-24

- A. Description (21)
- B. Nine Affected Groups (22-23a)
- C. Cause (23b-24)
  - 1. Sorcery (23b)
  - 2. Martyrdoms (24)



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# Preterism Advocates

## Recent Preterist Commentators

- R.C. Sproul



- N.T. Wright



- Scott Hahn



- J. Massyngbaerde Ford



- David Chilton



- Hank Hanegraaff



- Kenneth Gentry



# Isaiah 13-14

- Day of the Lord (13:6-9)
- Cosmic disturbances (13:10-13)
- Global judgment (13:11-12)
- Sodom and Gomorrah (13:19)
- Complete and final desolation (13:20-22)
- Universal peace and rest (14:5-8)
- Israel's regeneration (14:1-4)

Morris, *Revelation Record*, 348.



# Jeremiah 50-51

- Sudden destruction (51:8)
- Complete destruction (50:3, 13, 26, 39-40; 51:29, 43, 62)
- No reuse of building materials (51:26)
- Believers flee (50:8; 51:6, 45)
- Israel's regeneration (50:2, 4-5, 20; 51:50)

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# Babylon's History After 539 B.C.

- Herodotus gives Babylon's measurements (450 B.C.)
- Alexander the Great visits and dies in Babylon (323 B.C.)
- Seleucus seizes Babylon (312 B.C.)
- Strabo pronounces Babylon's hanging gardens as one of "seven wonders of the world" (25 B.C.)
- Babylonians present on Pentecost (Acts 2:9)
- Talmud promulgated from Babylon (A.D. 500)
- Haukal mentions Babylonian village (A.D. 917)
- Babylon known as "Two Mosques" and "Hilah" (A.D. 1100)



## John F. Walvoord

*The Nations in Prophecy, 63-64*

“As far as the historic fulfillment is concerned, it is obvious from both Scripture and history that these verses have not been literally fulfilled. The city of Babylon continued to flourish after the Medes conquered it, and though its glory dwindled, especially after the control of the Medes and the Persians ended in 323 B.C., the city continued in some form or substance until A.D. 1000 and did not experience a sudden termination such as anticipated in this prophecy.”



## Isaiah 2:2-3

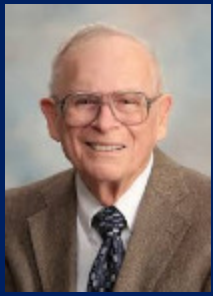
“Now it will come about that In the last days The mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains, And will be raised above the hills; And all the nations will stream to it.<sup>3</sup> And many peoples will come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways And that we may walk in His paths.’ For the law will go forth from Zion And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.”



## Zechariah 14:16-18

“Then it will come about that any who are left of all the nations that went against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths. <sup>17</sup> And it will be that whichever of the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain on them. <sup>18</sup> If the family of Egypt does not go up or enter, then no *rain will fall* on them; it will be the plague with which the LORD smites the nations who do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Booths.”





# Robert Thomas

*Four Views on the Book of Revelation, page 207.*



*“At the end of the Millennium that city will be Satan’s prime objective with his rebel army, because Israel will be a leader among the nations.”*

# II. The Description of Babylon's Fall

Revelation 18:21-24

A. Description (21)

**B. Nine Affected Groups (22-23a)**

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# Genesis 11:1-4

<sup>1</sup> Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. <sup>2</sup> It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. <sup>3</sup> They said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly.” And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar. <sup>4</sup> They said, “Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”



# Spread of the Mother-Child Cult

	<b>Mother</b>	<b>Child</b>
<b>Assyria</b>	Ishtar	Tammuz
<b>Phoenicia</b>	Astarte	Baal
<b>Egypt</b>	Isis	Osirus/Horus
<b>Greece</b>	Aphrodite	Eros
<b>Rome</b>	Venus	Cupid
<b>Asia</b>	Cybele	Desius
<b>India</b>	Isi	Aswara
<b>Roman Catholicism</b>	Mary	Jesus
<b>Israel</b>	Queen of Heaven (Jer. 7:18; 44:17)	Tammuz (Ezek. 8:14-15)

# OT Descriptions of Babylon in Rev 17–18

	<b>Revelation 17–18</b>	<b>Old Testament</b>
<b>Waters</b>	<b>17:1</b>	<b>Psalms 137:1</b>
<b>Babylon the Great</b>	<b>17:5</b>	<b>Daniel 4:30</b>
<b>Mother harlots</b>	<b>17:5</b>	<b>Genesis 11:1-9</b>
<b>Fallen, fallen is Babylon</b>	<b>18:2</b>	<b>Isaiah 21:9</b>
<b>Will not see widowhood</b>	<b>18:7</b>	<b>Isaiah 47:7-9</b>
<b>Colorful attire</b>	<b>17:4; 18:16</b>	<b>Daniel 5:7, 16, 29</b>
<b><u>Sorcery</u></b>	<b><u>18:23</u></b>	<b><u>Isaiah 47:9-13</u></b>
<b>Destroyed in a day</b>	<b>18:8, 10</b>	<b>Daniel 5:30</b>

## Revelation 9:20-21

“The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk; <sup>21</sup> and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries (pharmakeia) nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.”



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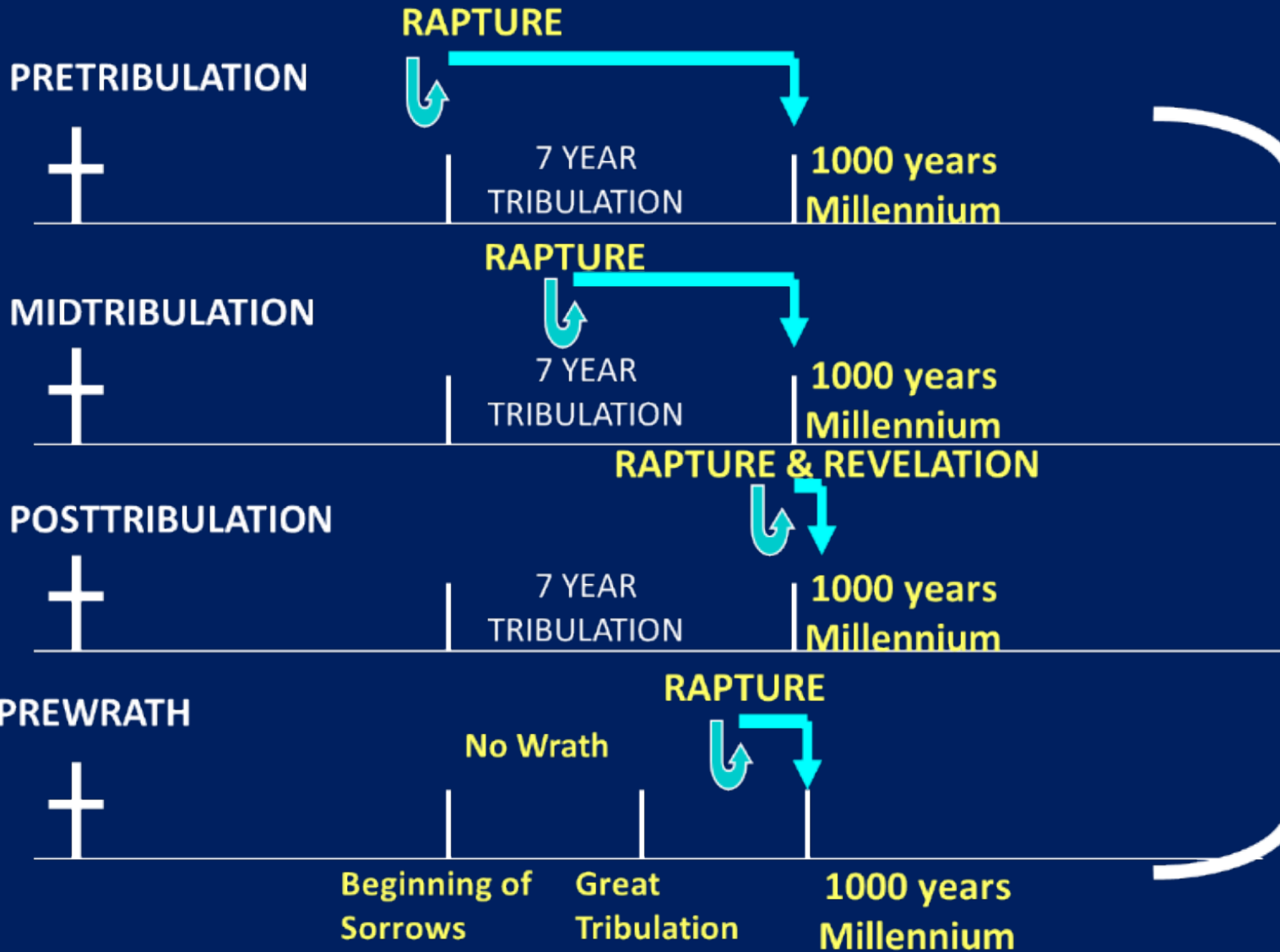


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Conclusion

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“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)