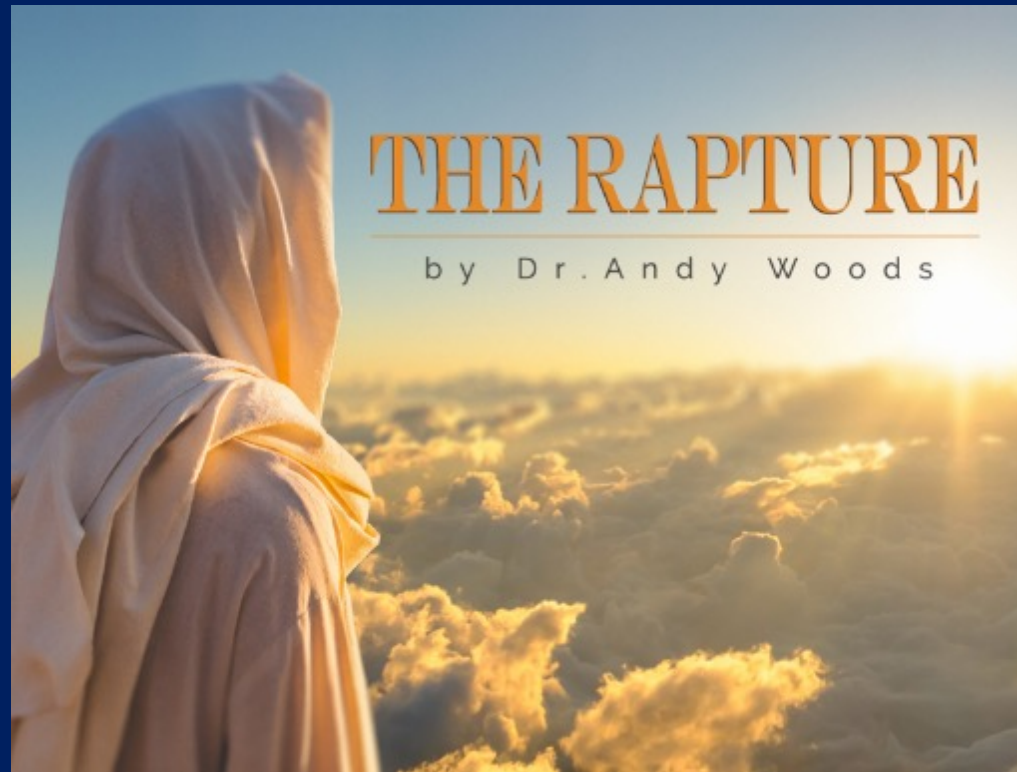


THE RAPTURE

What and When? – Part 59



Andrew Marshall Woods, Th.M., J.D., PhD.
Sr. Pastor, Sugar Land Bible Church

The Rapture

Course Overview

- I. What is the Rapture?
- II. When is the Rapture?
- III. Strengthening the Pre-Tribulational case
- IV. The opposing views
- V. One second after the Rapture



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What is the Rapture?



1. An important doctrine
2. Distinct from the Second Advent
3. Catching away of all living believers (1 Thess 4:17)
4. Reunion (1 Thess 4:14-16)
5. Resurrection (1 Cor 15:50-54)
6. Exemption from death (1 Cor 15:51, 54-56)
7. Instantaneous (1 Cor 15:52)
8. Mystery (1 Cor 15:51)
9. Imminent (1 Cor 15:51; 1 Thess 4:15)
10. Traditional doctrine now being recovered

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When is the Rapture?

7 Arguments Favoring the Pre-Tribulation View

1. Tribulation's purpose concerns Israel (Jer 30:7; Dan 9:24)
2. No biblical reference to the church on earth during the Tribulation period (Rev 4-22)
3. Church is promised an exemption from divine wrath (1 Thess 1:10; 5:9; Rom 5:9; Rev 3:10; 6:17)
4. Rapture is imminent (1 Cor 15:51; 1 Thess 4:15)
5. Rapture is a comfort (1 Thess 4:18)
6. Antichrist cannot come to power until the restrainer is removed (2 Thess 2:6-7)
7. Symbolic parallels (2 Peter 2:5-9)

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Strengthening the Pre-Tribulation Case

1. John 14:1-4
2. Revelation 3:10
3. First Thessalonians 4–5
4. Second Thessalonians 2:3a
5. Matthew 24–25



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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



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One Second After the Rapture

Sugar Land Bible Church 2021



Dr. Andy Woods

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

One Second After the Rapture

1. For the believer
2. For the unbeliever
3. So what?



One Second After the Rapture

1. For the believer
2. For the unbeliever
3. So what?



1. For the Believer

a. Reunion (1 Thess. 4:13-18)

b. Resurrection (1 Cor. 15:51, 53-55)

c. Reward (2 Cor. 5:10)



One Second After the Rapture

1. For the believer
2. For the unbeliever
3. So what?



2. For the Unbeliever

- a. A perverted explanation to be offered
- b. Change in God's program
- c. Identification of the Antichrist
- d. Global governance
- e. One-world religion
- f. Signs & wonders movement
- g. The demise of America
- h. God's wrath

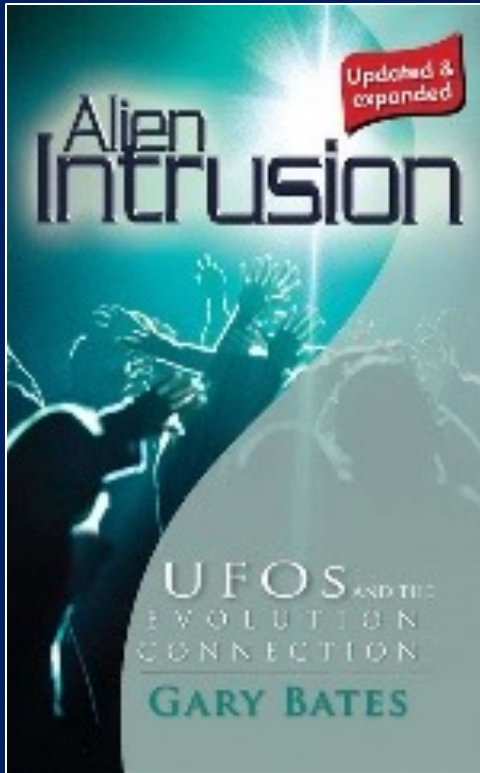


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Explanation of the missing



“The people who leave the planet during the time of Earth changes do not fit in here any longer, and they are stopping the harmony of Earth. When the time comes that perhaps 20 million people leave the planet at one time there will be a tremendous shift in consciousness for those who are remaining.”

Barbara Marciniak, *Bringers of the Dawn: Teachings from the Pleadians* (Rochester, VT: Bear and Co., 1992), cited in “Rapture: The New Age Version,” <www.redmoonrising.com/newage.htm>, 29 January, 2010. See Gary Bates, *Alien Intrusion: UFOs and the Evolution Connection* (Powder Springs, GA: Creation Book Publishers, 2004), 367-68.

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b. Change in God's Program

1) From the Church to Israel

2) In the Holy Spirit's operation



b. Change in God's Program

1) From the Church to Israel

2) In the Holy Spirit's operation



b. Change in God's Program

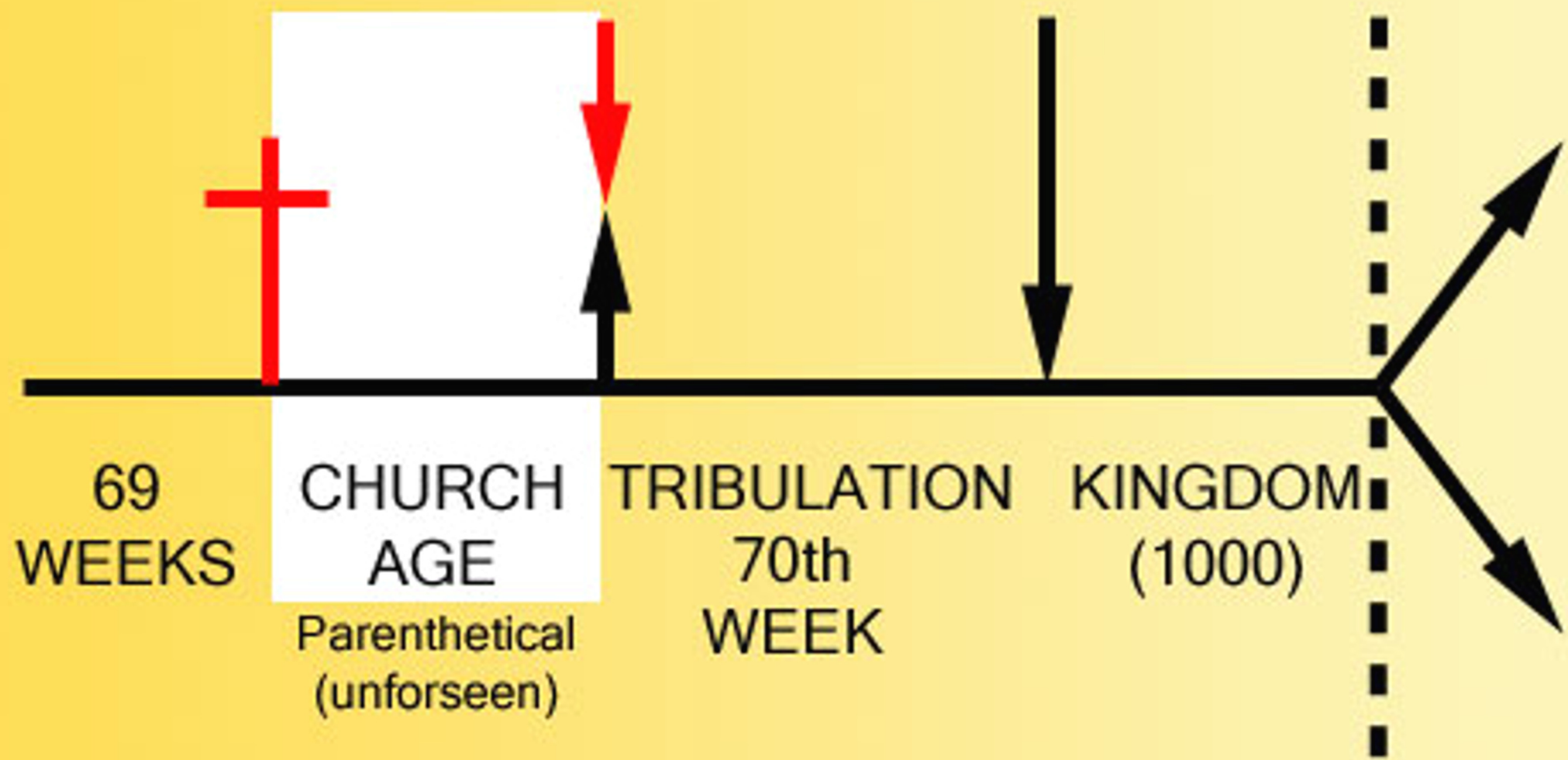
1) From the Church to Israel

2) In the Holy Spirit's operation



WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN THE OT

	OT/GOSPELS/ACTS 1	ACTS 2/TODAY
External vs. Internal	Upon (1 Sam. 16:13)	Within (John 14:17)
Reception of all of the Spirit at the moment of salvation?	Subsequent to salvation (Exod 31:3)	At moment of salvation (Rom 8:9)
How long is the indwelling?	Temporary indwelling (1 Sam 16:14; Ps 51:11)	Permanent indwelling (John 14:16)
Who is indwelt?	Selective indwelling (Joel 2:28)	Universal indwelling (1 Cor 12:13)



2. For the Unbeliever

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2 Thessalonians 2:6-7

⁶And you know what restrains [*katechon; neuter*] him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains [*katechōn; masculine*] will do so until he is taken out of the way.



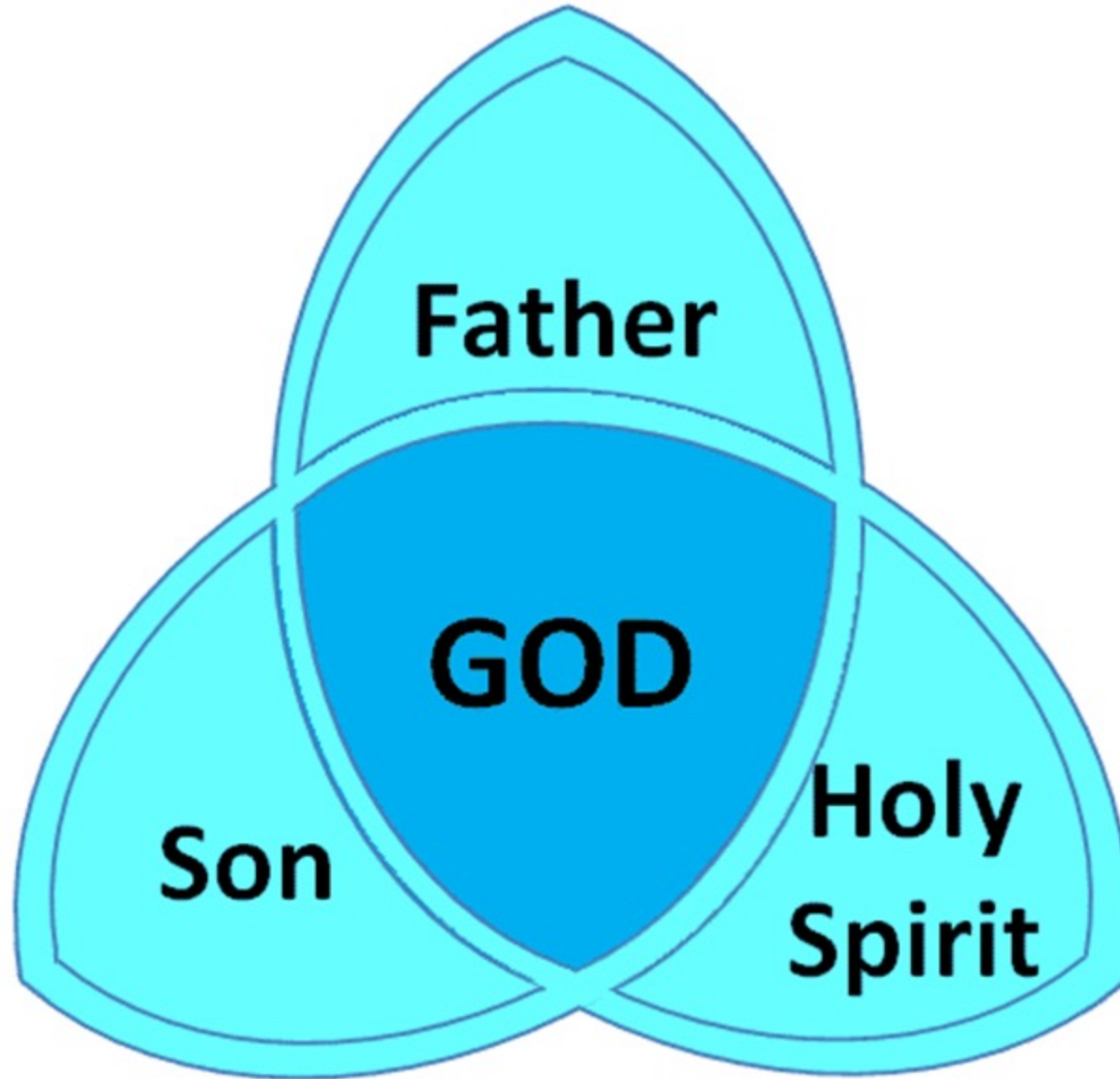
Father

Son

Holy
Spirit



TRINITY



3 Reasons Why the Restrainer is the Holy Spirit

(2 Thessalonians 2:6-7)

1. The Holy Spirit is omnipotent
2. The Holy Spirit view handles well the switch in gender from the neuter (vs. 6) to the masculine (vs. 7)
3. The Holy Spirit is active in the world (Gen. 6:3; John 16:7-11)



Who is the Antichrist?

“We will not, however, incur the risk of pronouncing positively as to the name of Antichrist; but if it had been necessary to announce his name plainly at the present time, it would have been spoken by him who saw the apocalypse. For it was not seen long ago, but almost in our own time, at the end of the reign of Domitian.”



Ezekiel 28:13, 15

¹³ “You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were **created** They were prepared... ¹⁵ “You were blameless in your ways From the day you were **created** Until unrighteousness was found in you.



2 Thessalonians 2:3, 7

“...the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction...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.”



1 John 4:3

“and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the *spirit of the antichrist*, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.”



Revelation 13:16-18

¹⁶ And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, ¹⁷ and *he provides* that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, *either* the name of the beast or the number of his name.

¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.



TABLE OF ALPHABETIC NOTATION OF NUMERALS

	Hebrew	Greek		Hebrew	Greek
1	א	α	50	ה	ν
2	ב	β	60	ו	ξ
3	ג	γ	70	ז	ο
4	ד	δ	80	ח	π
5	ה	ε	90	ט	φ
6	ו	ς	100	י	ρ
7	ז	σ	200	כ	ρ
8	ח	τ	300	ל	σ
9	ט	θ	400	מ	τ
10	י	ι	500	נ	υ
20	כ	κ	600	ס	φ
30	ל	λ	700	ע	χ
40	מ	μ	800	פ	ψ
				צ	ω

The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11



Patmos

Nero Cesar's Numbers

Hebrew letter

Numerical value

נ Nun
ר Resh
ו Waw
נ Nun
ק Quph
ס Samekh
ר Resh



50
200
6
50
100
60
200

666

Revelation 13:17-18

“¹⁷ and he provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name.¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man [anthrōpos]; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.”



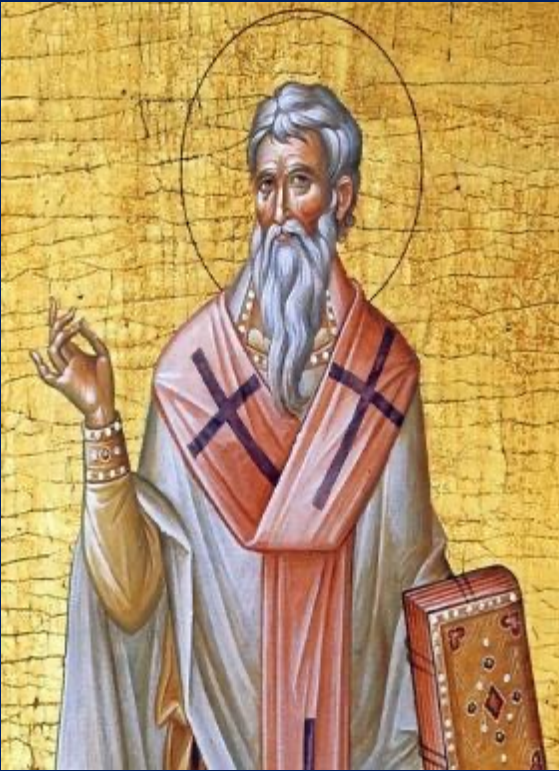


Problems With Neronian Calculation

- Transliteration from Greek to Hebrew
- “Cherry picking” to fit an ordained outcome
- Not suggested by the ancient commentators
- Inconsistent use of numbers
- Date of Revelation

Late Date (A.D. 95)

Irenaeus *Against Heresies* 5.30.3



“But if it had been necessary to announce his name plainly at the present time, it would have been spoken by him who saw the apocalypse. For it was not seen long ago, but almost in our own time, at the end of the reign of Domitian.”

DATE: EXTERNAL EVIDENCE

WITNESSES FOR DOMITIANIC DATE

WITNESSES FOR NERONIC DATE

Irenaeus (A.D. 180)

Victorinus (c.300)

Eusebius (c. 300)

Jerome (c. 400)

Sulpicius Severus (c.400)

The Acts of John (c. 650)

Primasius (c. 540)

Syriac Version of N.T. (550)

Orosius (c. 600)

Andreas (c. 600)

Venerable Bede (A.D. 700)

Arethas (c. 900)

Theophylact (d. 1107)



Nero Does Not Fit the Facts of Revelation 13

■ Nero did not:

1. Usher in persecution for exactly 42 months (13:5)
2. Control the entire planet (13:7; 5:9)
3. Force people to receive a mark on their right hand or forehead in order to participate in the global economy (13:16-18)

Revelation 13:14

“And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image (*eikōn*) to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life [*záō*].”





Nero Does Not Fit the Facts of Revelation 13

- Nero did not:
 4. Coerce the entire world to worship a singular image of him (13:15)
 5. Resurrect from the dead (13:14)
 6. Associate with a miracle working false prophet (13:13, 15)
 7. Receive global veneration (13:8)

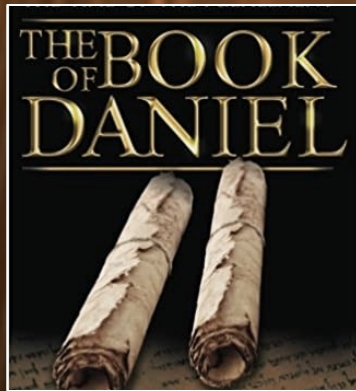
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Daniel 7:23

“The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the *other* kingdoms and will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it.”



Satan's Goal of Globalism



- ◆ Dan. 7:23
- ◆ Rev. 13:7-8; Rev. 5:9
- ◆ Rev. 13:16-18
- ◆ Rev. 17:15

Zechariah 5:5-11

- Woman (wickedness)
- Ephah (commerce)
- House (Temple-2 Sam 7; religion)
- Shinar (Gen 10:10; 11:2; Dan 1:2)



2 Thessalonians 2:6-7

⁶And you know what restrains [*katechon; neuter*] him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains [*katechōn; masculine*] will do so until he is taken out of the way.



Zechariah 5:5-11

Revelation 17–18

Woman sitting in a basket

**Woman sitting on beast, seven mountains, many waters
(17: 3, 9, 15)**

**Emphasis on commerce
(a basket for measuring grain)**

Emphasis on commerce (merchant of grain, 18:13)

Woman's name is wickedness

Woman's name is Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth

**Focus on False worship
(a temple is built for the woman)**

Focus on False worship (17:5)

Woman is taken to Babylon

Woman is called Babylon



John Lennon

Song "Imagine"

... imagine a time when there will be "no countries," "no religion," "no heaven," "no hell," "no possessions," everyone "living for today," and the world "as one."





David Rockefeller

cited in Memoirs, page 405.

“For more than a century ideological extremists...have seized upon well-publicized incidents...to attack the Rockefeller family for the inordinate influence they claim we wield over American political and economic institutions. Some even believe we are part of a secret cabal working against the best interests of the United States, characterizing my family and me as 'internationalists' and of conspiring with others around the world to build a more integrated global political and economic structure--one world, if you will. *If that's the charge, I stand guilty, and I am proud of it.*”

Henry Steele Commager

cited in *The New World Order*, page 147



“The inescapable fact, traumatized by the energy crisis, the population crisis, armaments race, and so forth, is that nationalism as we have noted in the 19th and much of the 20th century is as much of an anachronism today as with States Rights when Calhoun preached it and Jefferson Davis fought for it.”

Henry Steele Commager

cited in *The New World Order*, page 147



“Just as we know, or should know, that none of our domestic problems can be solved within the artificial boundaries of the states, so none of our global problems can be solved within the largely artificial boundaries of the nations.”

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1 John 4:3

“and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the *spirit of the antichrist*, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.”



Chrislam?



BEULAH

CUMBERLAND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



Friday Prayers our Specialty

**FIRST CHRISLAMIC
CONGREGATION
BAPTISMS AND
SALAT AL JUMMAH**

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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.”



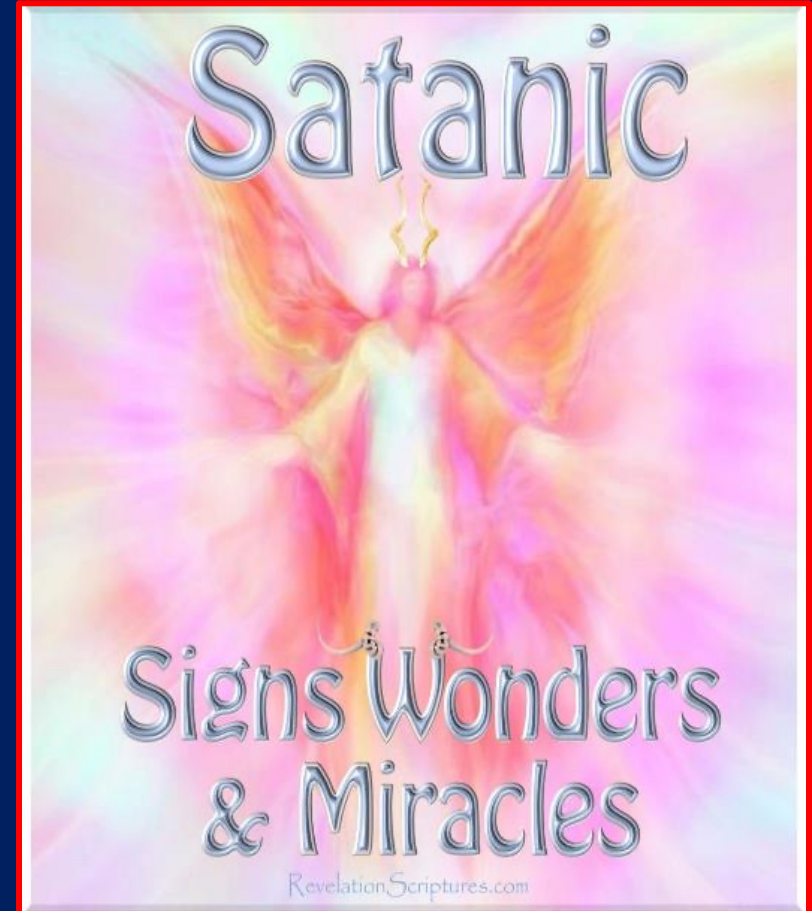
Antichrist's Satanic Miracles

(2 Thessalonians 2:9)

MIRACLE	GREEK	CHRIST'S MINISTRY
Powers	<i>Dynamis</i>	Matt. 11:20
Signs	<i>Semēion</i>	John 20:30
Wonders	<i>Teras</i>	Acts 2:22

Satanic/Demonic Miracles

1. Exod. 7–8
2. Deut. 13:1-3
3. Job 1:12-19; 2:7-8
4. 1 Sam. 28?
5. Matt. 7:21-23; 24:24
6. Acts 8:9; 16:16
7. Gal. 1:6-9
8. 2 Thess. 2:9
9. Rev. 13:3, 13, 15; 16:13-14



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God Blesses His Truth

Proverbs 14:34

“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.”

Ps 33:12

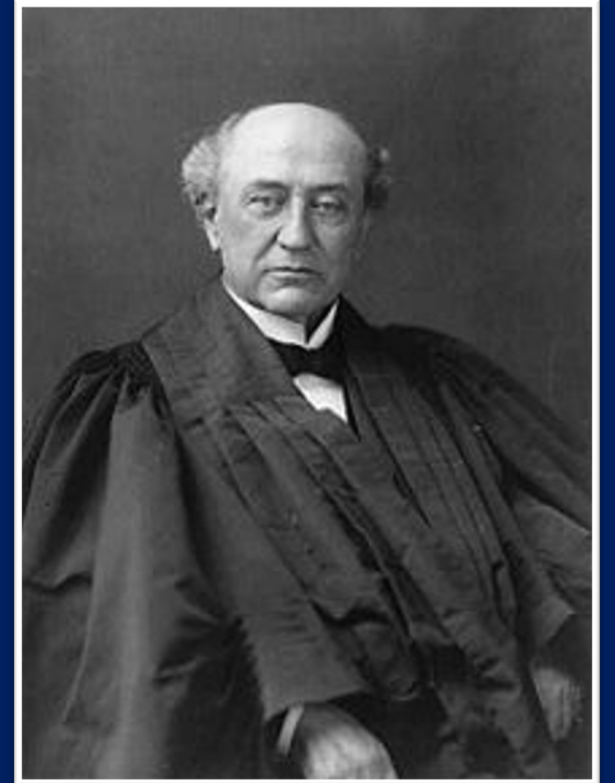
“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”



America is a “Christian Nation”

“**This is historically true.** From the discovery of this continent to the present hour, there is a single voice making this affirmation... These are not the sayings, declarations of private persons: they are organic utterances; they speak the voice of the entire people...These and many other matters which might be noticed, add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that **this is a Christian nation.**”

Church of the Holy Trinity v. U.S., 143 U.S. 457, 465, 470-71 (1892)



THE BATTLE OF
GOG & MAGOG
Ezekiel 38:1-17



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Pretribulationism is not Escapism

- Trials (John 16:33)
- Man's wrath (2 Tim 3:12)
- Satan's wrath (Eph 6:11-12)
- World's wrath (John 15:18-19)



Promised Exemption from Divine Wrath

- The promise (1 Thess 1:10; 5:9; Rom 5:9; 8:1; Rev 3:10)
- Tribulation = divine wrath (Rev 6:16-17; 11:18; 15:1, 7; 16:1, 19)



God's Role in Redemption (Rev 5)

- Seven sealed scroll (5:1)
- John weeps (5:2-4)
- Christ is qualified to open the scroll (5:5-6)
- Christ takes the scroll (5:7)
- Christ praised by various entities (5:8-14)



Telescoping

7th judgment releases 1st in next series

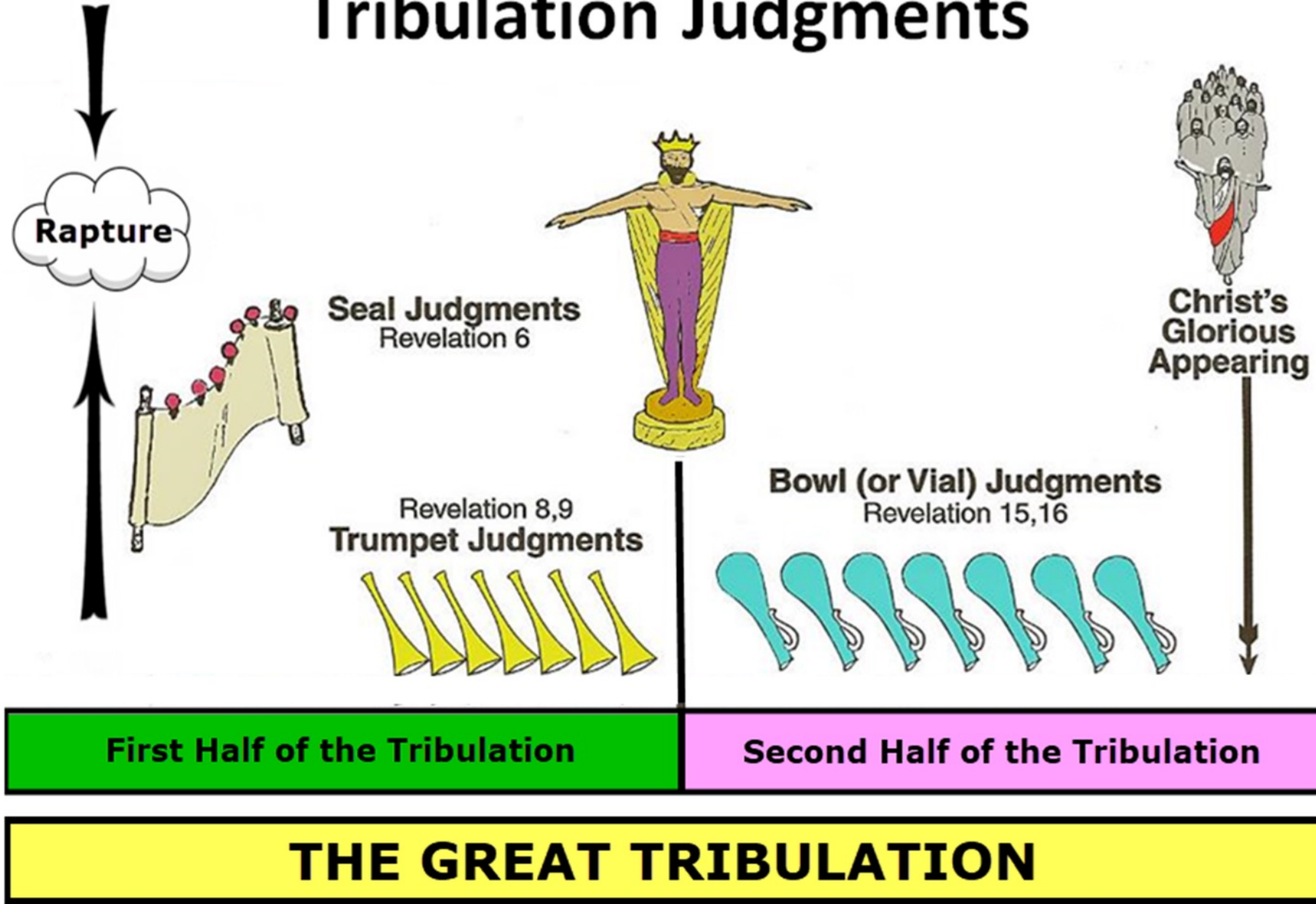
Seals: 1 2 3 4 5 6 **7**

Trumpets: **1** 2 3 4 5 6 **7**

Bowls: **1** 2 3 4 5 6 7



Tribulation Judgments



1st Six Seals (Rev 6)

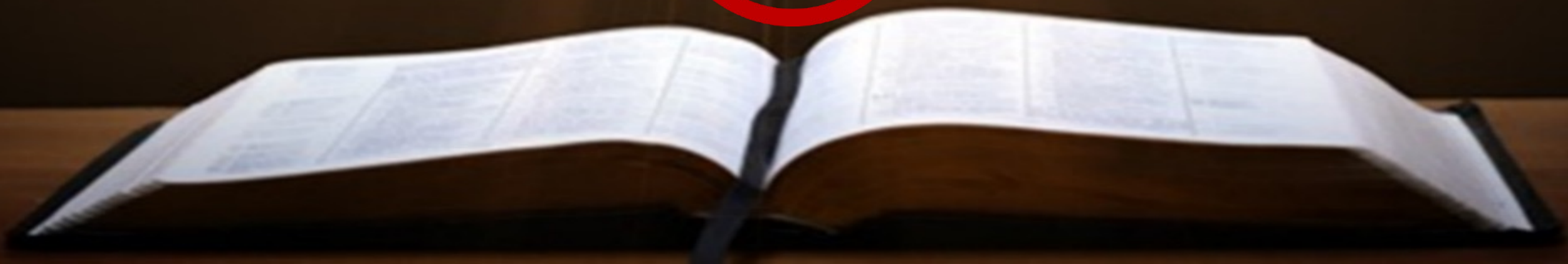
- 6:1-2 – Advent of antichrist
- 6:3-4 – War
- 6:5-6 – Famine
- 6:7-8 – Death
- 6:9-11 – Martyrdoms
- 6:12-17 – Cosmic disturbances



Revelation 6:16-17

“¹⁶ and they said to the mountains and the rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the sight of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath [orgé] of the Lamb; ¹⁷ for the great day of Their wrath [orgé] has come, and who is able to stand?’”

~~WRATH~~





Robert L. Thomas

Rev. 6:16-17

"The verb *ēlethen* ("has come") is aorist indicative, referring to a previous arrival of wrath, not something that is about to take place. Men see the arrival of this day at least as early as the cosmic upheavals that characterize the sixth seal (6:12-14), but upon reflection they probably recognize that it was already in effect with the death of one-fourth of the population (6:7-8), the worldwide famine (6:5-6), and the global warfare (6:3-4). The rapid sequence of all of these events could not escape notice, but the light of their true explanation does not dawn upon human consciousness until the severe phenomena of the sixth seal arrive."

2 Peter 2:7-9

“⁷and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men ⁸ (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds), ⁹ then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment.”



Genesis 19:22

“Hurry, escape there, for I cannot do anything until you arrive there.” Therefore the name of the town was called Zoar.”

Work That Burns Is Not Rewarded

“If his work is burned up, he will suffer the **loss**.

However, he will be saved, though it will be like going through a fire.”
1 Corinthians 3:15 GWT



www.PrayerThoughts.com



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One Second After the Rapture

1. For the believer
2. For the unbeliever
3. So what?



3. So What?

- a. Uniformitarianism?
- b. Live for Christ
- c. Reach the lost
- d. Believe the Gospel



3. So What?

a. Uniformitarianism?

b. Live for Christ

c. Reach the lost

d. Believe the Gospel



2 Peter 3:3-6

“³ Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with *their* mocking, following after their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming? For *ever* since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.’ ⁵ For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶ through which the world at that time was destroyed by being flooded with water.”



HISTORY

2 Pet. 3:5-7

- Creation (5)
- Flood (6-7)
 - ◆ God will judge again via fire



3. So What?

a. Uniformitarianism?

b. Live for Christ

c. Reach the lost

d. Believe the Gospel



Romans 13:11-12

“Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. ¹² The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.”



3. So What?

- a. Uniformitarianism?
- b. Live for Christ
- c. **Reach the lost**
- d. Believe the Gospel



3. So What?

- a. Uniformitarianism?
- b. Live for Christ
- c. Reach the lost
- d. Believe the Gospel



John 5:24

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”



Review: One Second After the Rapture

1. For the believer
2. For the unbeliever
3. So what?



CONCLUSION

The Rapture

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