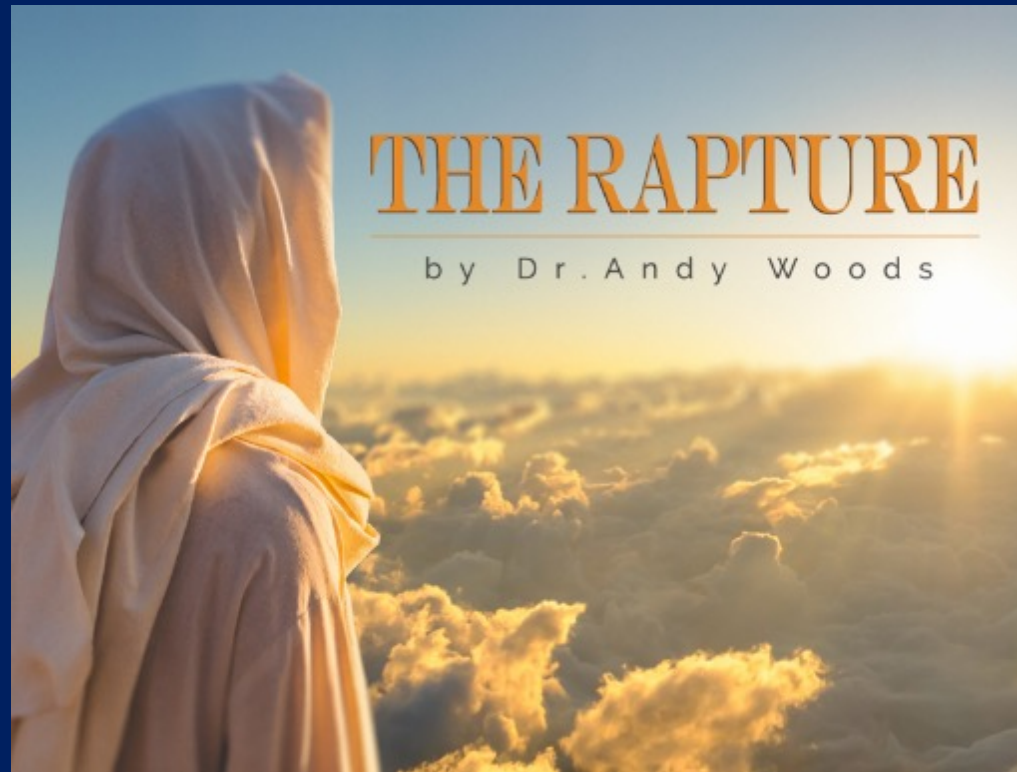


# THE RAPTURE

What and When? – Part 64



Andrew Marshall Woods, Th.M., J.D., Ph.D.  
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





# MAIL BAG



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## Revelation 13:17-18

“<sup>17</sup> 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.<sup>18</sup> 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.”



## 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	β
8	ח	τ	300	ל	δ
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

## 2 Thessalonians 2:6-7

<sup>6</sup>And you know what restrains [*katechon; neuter*] him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. <sup>7</sup>For 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.



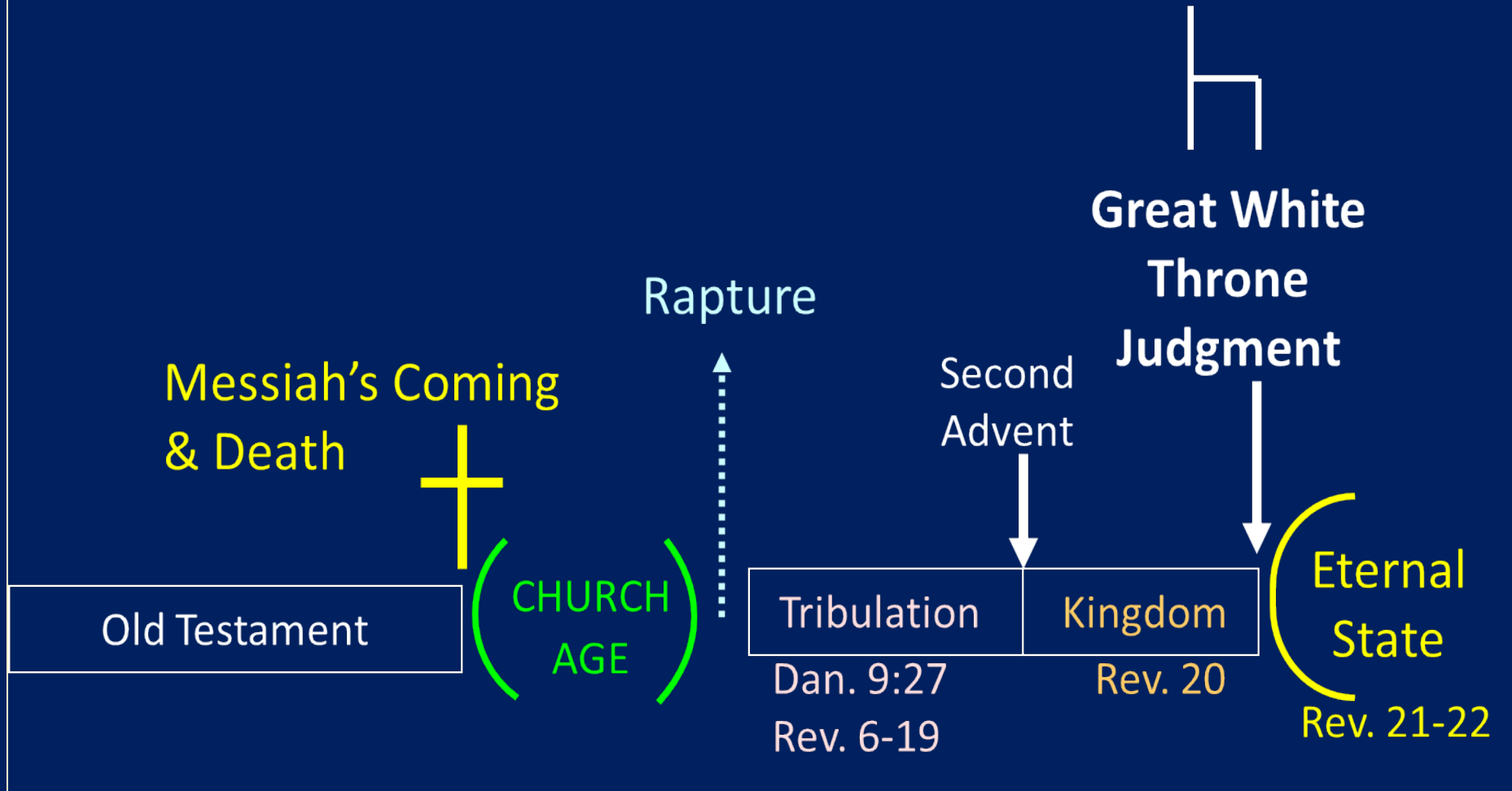


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# Prophecy Panorama

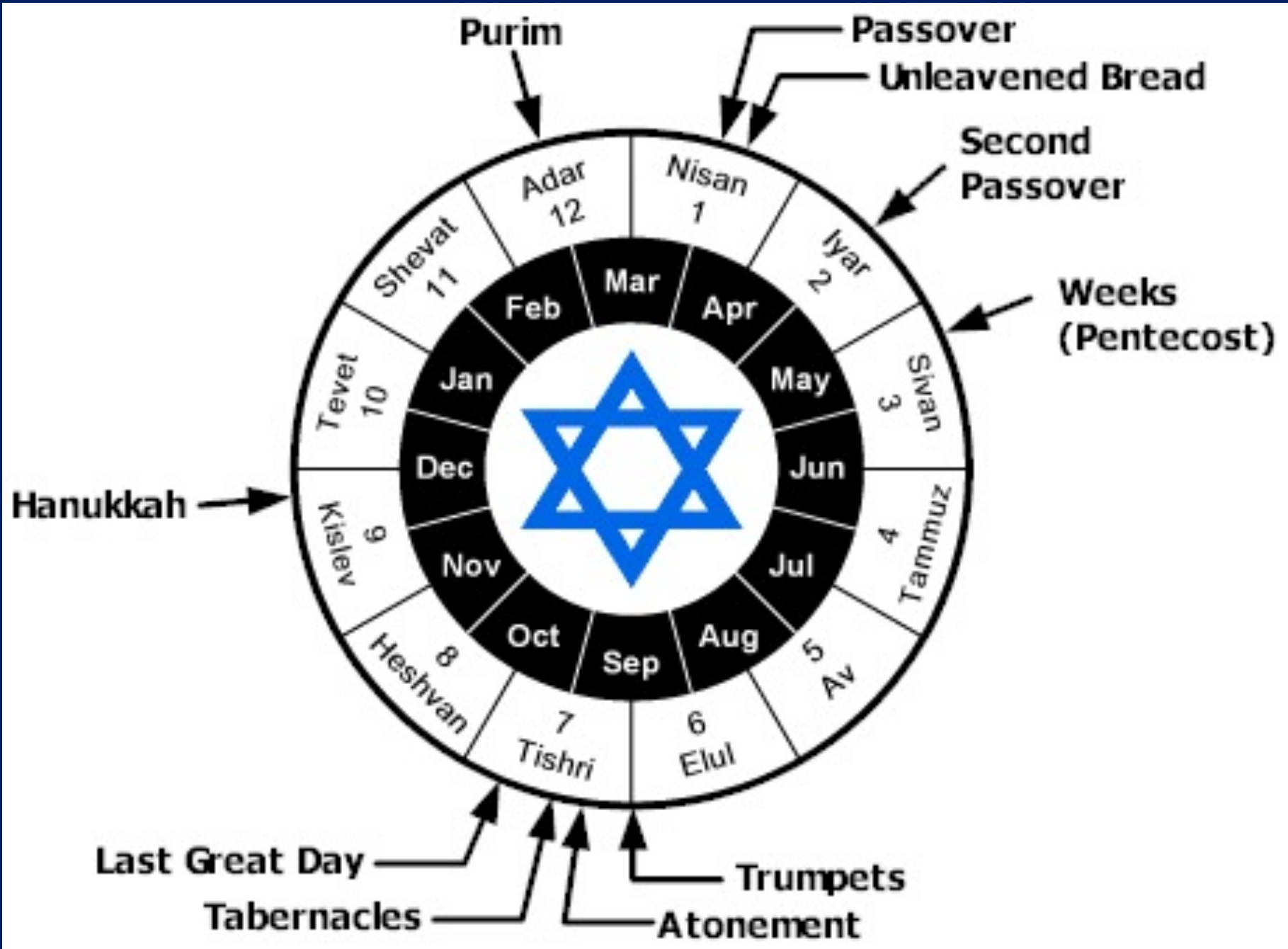






# Levitical Feasts (23)

<b>Feast</b>	<b>Season</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Type</b>
<b>Passover</b>	Spring	Redemption	1 Cor 5:7
<b>Unleavened Bread</b>	Spring	Separation	John 6:35
<b>1st fruits</b>	Spring	Praise	1 Cor 15:20
<b>Pentecost</b>	Spring	Praise	Acts 2:1-4
<b>Trumpets</b>	Fall	New Year	Matt 24:31
<b>Atonement</b>	Fall	Lev 16	Zech 12:10
<b>Booths</b>	Fall	Wilderness provision	Zech 14:16-18







# MAIL BAG



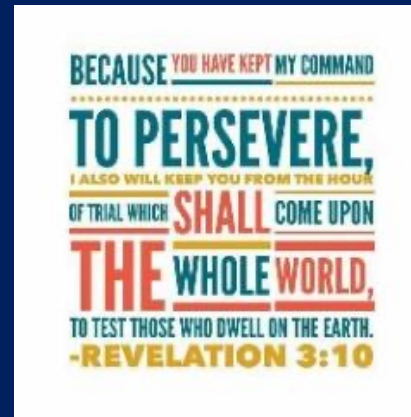
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## 2. Protection Through the Tribulation?

(Revelation 3:10)

- 1) Like the protection in Goshen (Exod. 8:22, 24; 9:4, 6; 11:4-7; Rev. 9:4; 16:2)
- 2) Effective? Rev. 6:9-11; 7:13-14; 13:10, 15; 17:6; 18:24; 20:4
- 3) Comfort? John 14:1; 1 Thess. 4:18; Titus 2:13





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## Ephesians 1:3

“Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.”



## John 14:1–4

<sup>1</sup> “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. <sup>2</sup> “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> “If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, *there* you may be also. <sup>4</sup> “And you know the way where I am going.”



## Revelation 1:6; 5:10

“and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen...You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign [*basileuō*] upon the earth [*gē*].”





## John 14:1–4

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## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

... have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words."



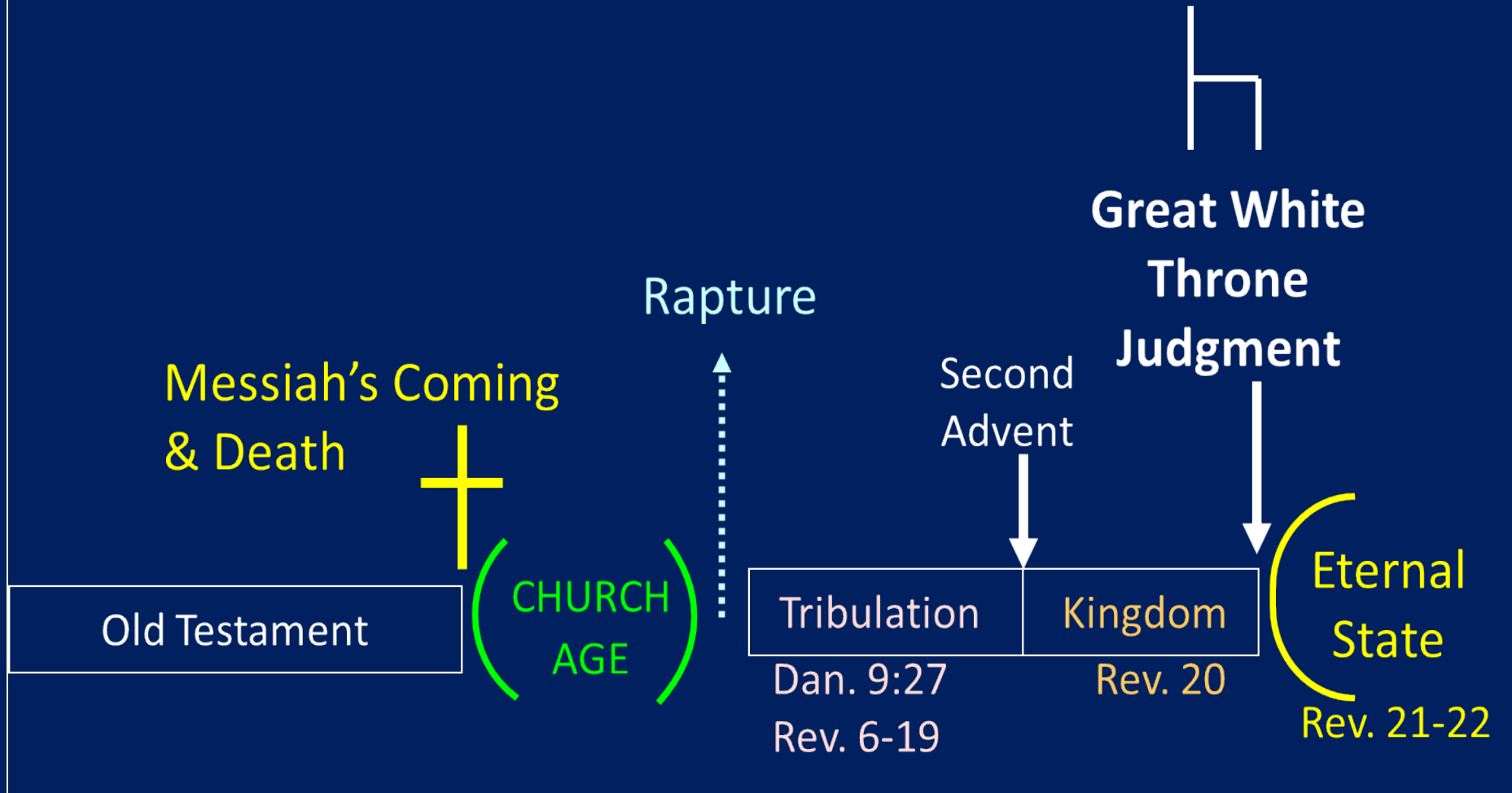
# Jewish Marriage Analogy

STEP	JEWISH MARRIAGE	CHURCH ANALOGY
1. Marriage covenant	Groom initiated; Covenant established upon payment for bride; drank same cup	Christ initiated; Christ's sacrificial death (1 Cor. 6:19-20; 11:25)
2. Bride set apart	Bride set apart exclusively for groom	Church's positionally sanctified (1 Cor. 1:2; 6:9-11)
3. Bridal chamber prepared	Groom separates from bride and returns to his father's house to prepare bridal chamber	Christ's 2000 year separation from church; Ascension; return to heaven to prepare dwellings (John 14:2; Acts 1:9-11)
4. Betrothal period	Loyalty test	Reward determined by orthodoxy and orthopraxy (Jas. 4:4)
5. Bride retrieved	Groom returns at unknown time preceded by a shout with escorts to retrieve bride	Rapture at unknown time (John 14:3; 1 Thess. 4:16-17)

# Jewish Marriage Analogy

STEP	JEWISH MARRIAGE	CHURCH ANALOGY
6. Bride and groom hidden in Father's house for seven days	Hidden in the Father's house for seven days: three events transpire	Church hidden from world during Daniel's 70 <sup>th</sup> Week
7. Bride cleansed	Bride undergoes ritual cleansing prior to wedding ceremony	Bema Seat Judgment (1 Cor 3:10-15; 2 Cor 5:10)
8. Wedding ceremony	Meeting with the Father's assembled wedding guests; Private wedding ceremony	Meeting with OT saints; Rev 19:7
9. Consummation	Bride and groom consummate the marriage	Eph 5:27
10. Marriage feast	Public presentation; Bride unveiled; marriage feast	Col 3:3-4; Rev 19:9

# Prophecy Panorama



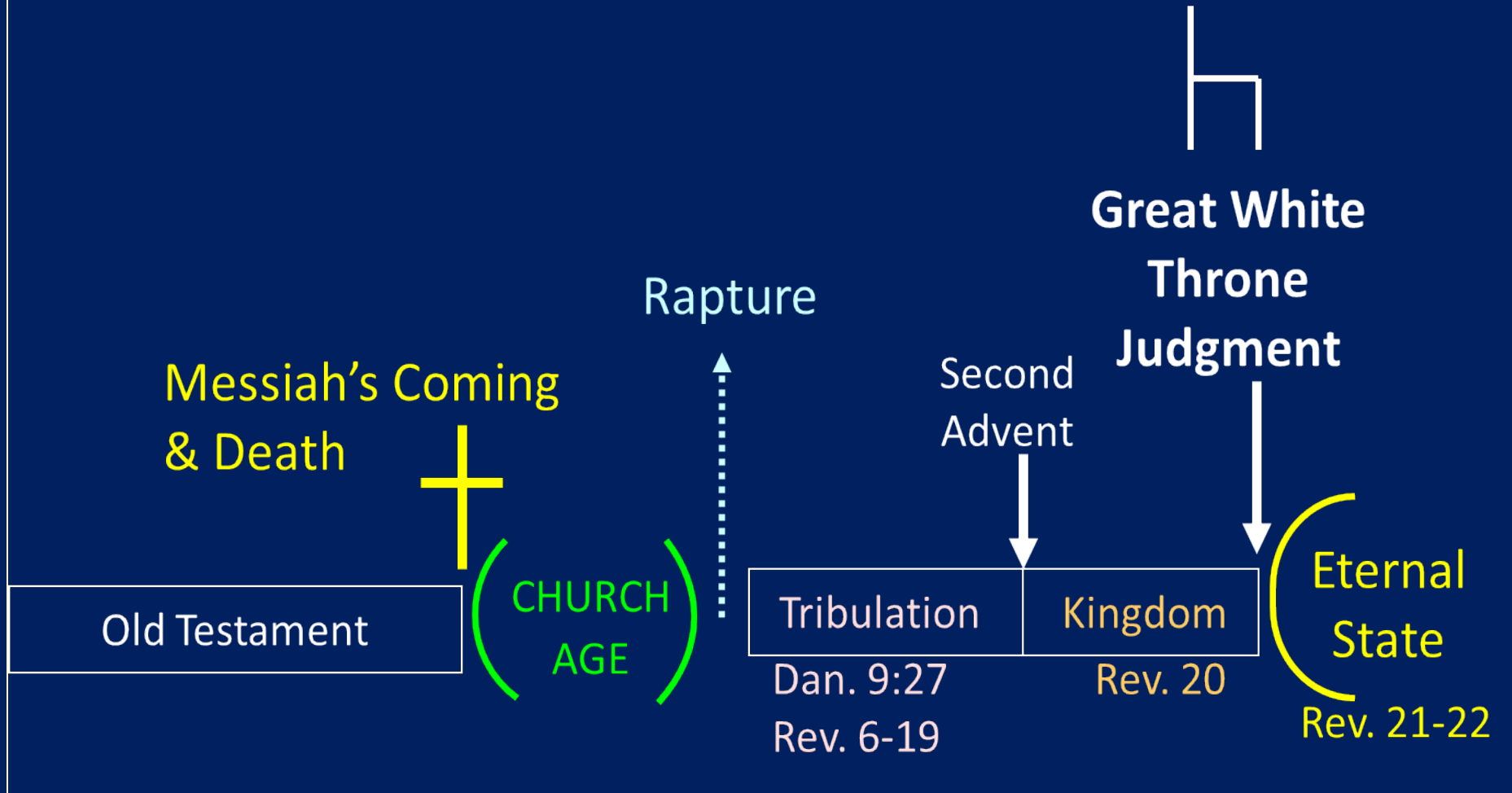


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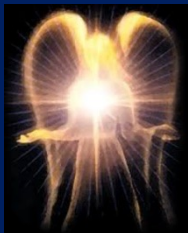




## Revelation 20:1-3

“<sup>1</sup> Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. <sup>2</sup> And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; <sup>3</sup> and he threw him into the abyss, and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.”





# Satan's Progressive Defeat



1. Initial eviction from heaven (Isa 14:12-15; Ezek 28:12-17)
2. Eden (Gen 3:15)
3. Pre-diluvian world (1 Pet 3:19-20)
4. Cross (John 12:31; 16:11; Col 2:15; Heb 2:14; 1 John 3:8)
5. Mid point of the Tribulation (Rev 12:9)
6. **Beginning of millennium (Rev 20:2-3)**
7. End of millennium (Rev 20:10)







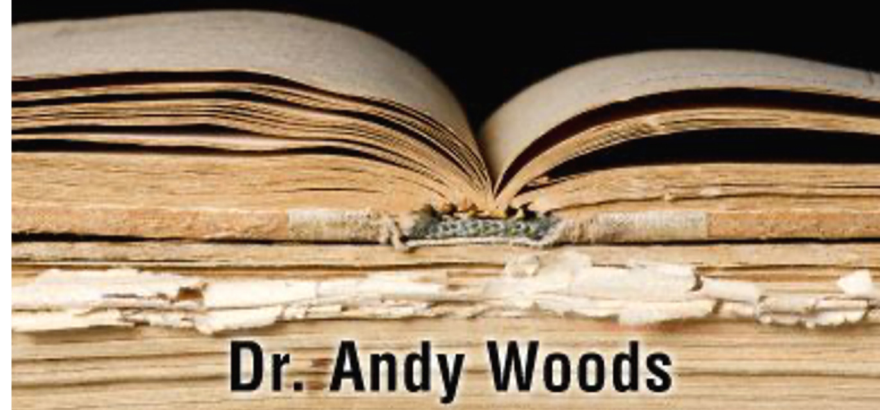
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*Ever*  
**REFORMING**

*Dispensational Theology and the  
Completion of the Protestant Reformation*



**Dr. Andy Woods**

# Pseudo Ephraem

(4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> century A.D.)

“Why therefore do we not reject every care of earthly actions and prepare ourselves for the meeting of the Lord Christ, so that he may draw us from the confusion, which overwhelms all the world...For all the saints and the elect of God are gathered, prior to the tribulation that is to come, and are taken to the Lord lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins.”

STUDIES IN  
EVANGELICAL  
HISTORY  
AND THOUGHT



# FOR ZION'S SAKE

Christian Zionism  
and the Role of  
John Nelson Darby

Foreword by  
Thomas Ice



Using the word *Zion*  
for Christ's church?

PAUL RICHARD WILKINSON



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## "7 SIGNS" in Gospel of John



**Changing Water into Wine**

**2:11**



**Healing official's son**

**4:46-54**



**Healing an invalid at the Pool of Bethesda**

**5:1-18**



**Feeding the 5,000**

**6:5-14**



**Walking on water**

**6:16-21**

**Healing a blind man**

**9:1-7**



**Raising dead Lazarus**

**11:1-45**



# Outline of John

1:1-18	HEAVENLY GENEALOGY (Explains who Jesus is)
1:19-11:57	PUBLIC MINISTRY ( 7 signs & discourses)
12:1-50	TRIUMPHAL ENTRY (public national rejection of Christ-12:37)
13-17	UPPER ROOM DISCOURSE (new dispensation)
18-21	PASSION NARRATIVES (crucifixion to resurrection)



## Daniel 12:2

“Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting (*olam*) life, but the others to disgrace *and* everlasting (*olam*) contempt.”





## John 14:1-4

<sup>1</sup> “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. <sup>2</sup> “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> “If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, *there* you may be also. <sup>4</sup> “And you know the way where I am going.”





## New Mystery Truth

“But here in John 14 the Lord gives a new and unique revelation; He speaks of something which no prophet had promised, or even could promise. Where is it written that this Messiah would come and instead of gathering His saints into an earthly Jerusalem, would take them to the Father's house, to the very place where He is? It is something new.”



## Ephesians 3:3-6

“<sup>3</sup> that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. <sup>4</sup> By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; <sup>6</sup> to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel”.





## Colossians 1:26

*“that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints.”*



## “Mystery” Defined

“In the N.T, it [*mystērion*] denotes, not the mysterious (as with the Eng. word), but that which, being outside the range of unassisted natural apprehension, can be made known only by Divine revelation, and is made known in a manner and at a time appointed by God, and to those who are illumined by His Spirit.”



W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White, *Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of the Old and New Testament Words* (Nashville: Nelson, 1996), 424.

# 1 Corinthians 15:51

“Behold, I tell you a mystery [*mystērion*]; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed.”





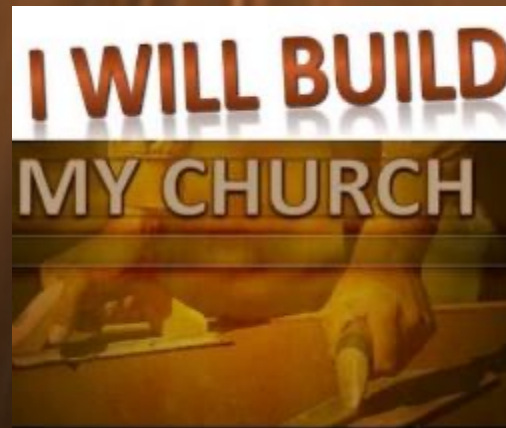
## 1 Corinthians 15:20-23

“<sup>20</sup> But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. <sup>21</sup>-For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order (*tagma*): Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ’s at His coming.”



## Matthew 16:18

I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build [oikodomeō] My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.





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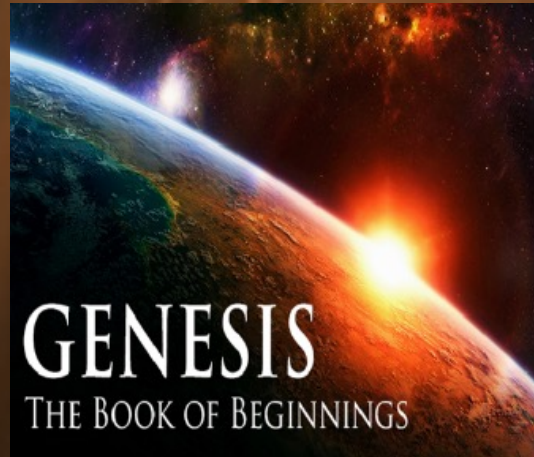


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## Psalm 90:10

“As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is but labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away.”



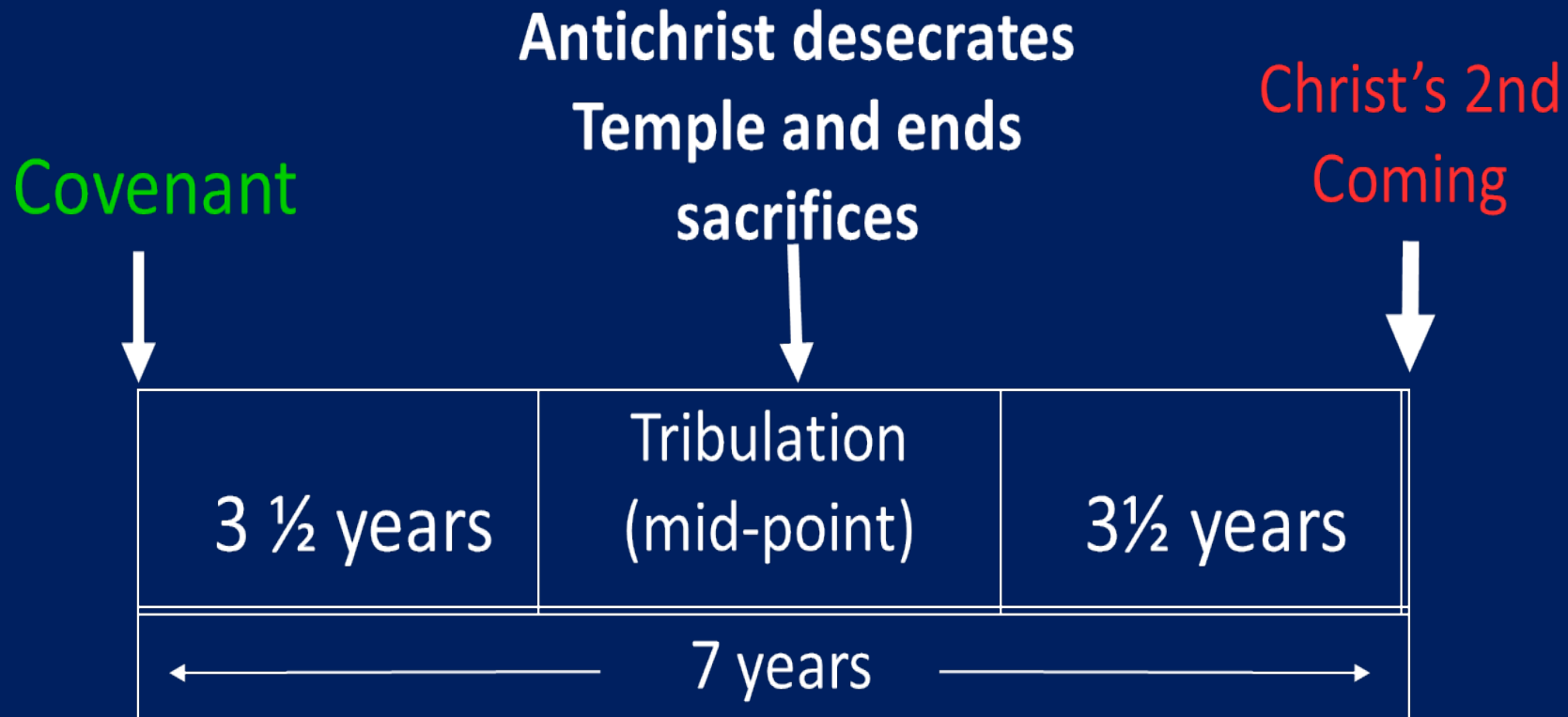
## Matthew 24:15-16, 20

“<sup>15</sup> Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand) <sup>16</sup> then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains...<sup>20</sup> But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath.”





# DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD





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# Rapture Distinct from Second Advent

## **RAPTURE**

**(1 Thess 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:51-58)**

**Christ comes in the air**

**(1 Thess 4:16-17)**

**For His saints**

**(1 Thess 4:15-17)**

**Blessing**

**(1 Thess 4:18)**

**Effects only believers**

**(1 Thess 4:16)**

## **SECOND COMING**

**(Rev 19:11-16)**

**Christ comes to the earth**

**(Zech 14:4)**

**With His saints**

**(Rev 19:14)**

**Judgment**

**(Rev 19:15)**

**Effects both believers &  
unbelievers**

**(Rev 19:15)**



# Rapture Distinct from Second Advent

## **RAPTURE**

**(1 Thess 4:13-18; 1 Cor 15:51-58)**

**Invisible**

**(1 Thess 4:16)**

**Announced only by an archangel**

**(1 Thess 4:16)**

**Resurrection**

**(1 Cor 15: 51)**

**Rescue of the Church**

**(1 Thess 1:10)**

## **SECOND COMING**

**(Rev 19:11-16)**

**Visible to all**

**(Rev 1:7)**

**Involves myriads of angels**

**(Jude 14)**

**No resurrection**

**Rescue of Israel**

**(Matt 23:37-39)**

CONCLUSION



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