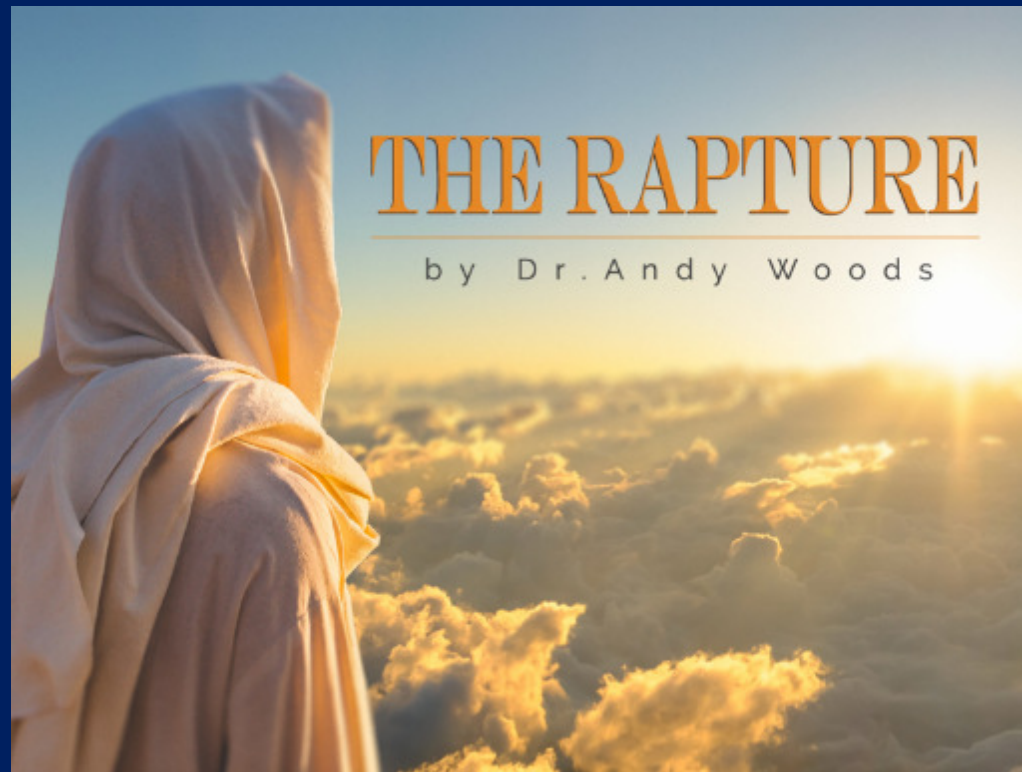


THE RAPTURE

What and When? – Part 29



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

What is the Rapture?



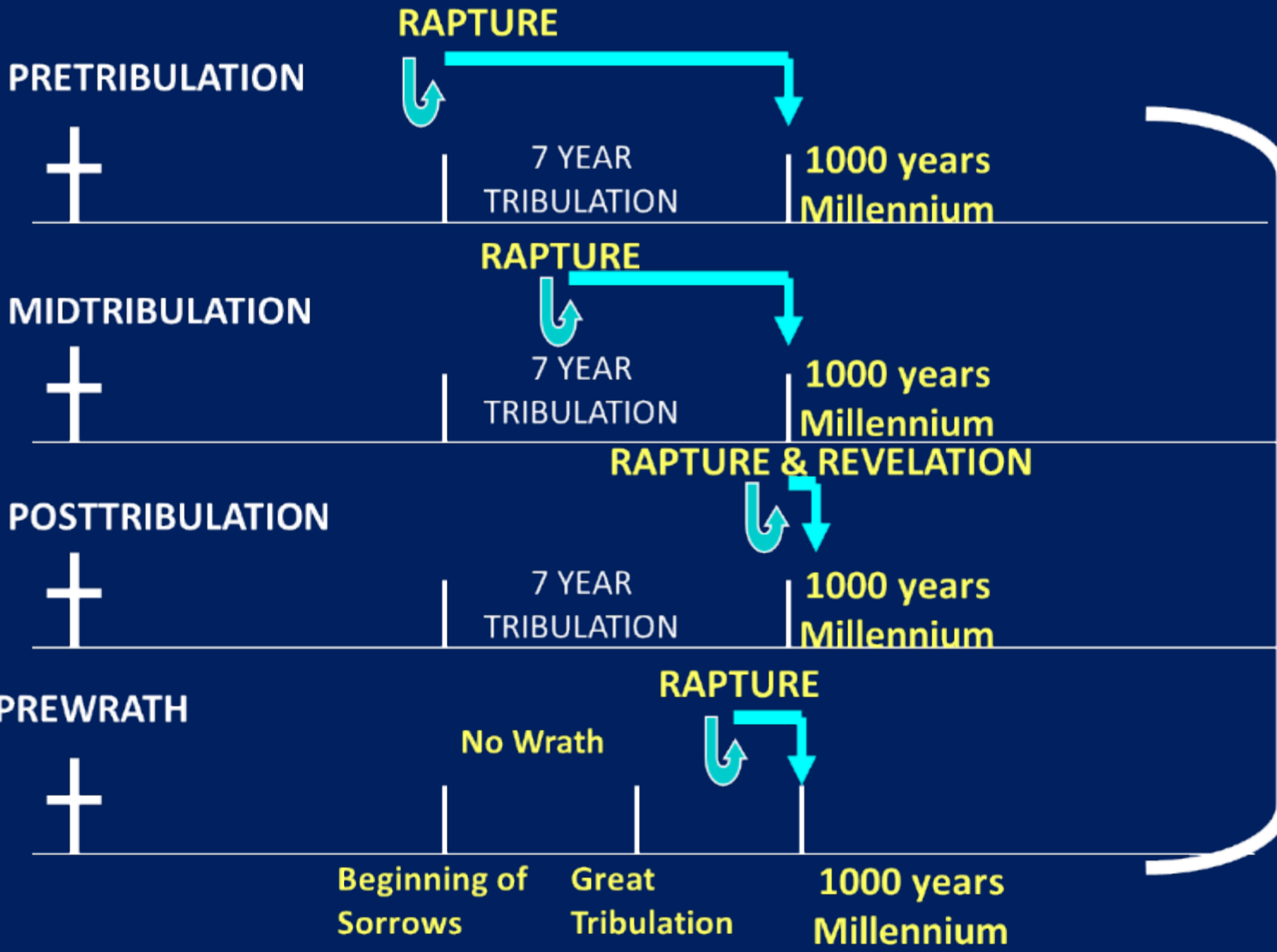
1. An important doctrine
2. Distinct from the Second Advent
3. Catching away of all living believers (1 Thess 4:17)
4. Reunion (1 Thess 4:14-16)
5. Resurrection (1 Cor 15:50-54)
6. Exemption from death (1 Cor 15:51, 54-56)
7. Instantaneous (1 Cor 15:52)
8. Mystery (1 Cor 15:51)
9. Imminent (1 Cor 15:51;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

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



3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

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)

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



Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)



Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)



THE RAPTURE IN MATTHEW 24

Note the order of events:

29 There are days of tribulation

30 The whole world sees Jesus return

31 The elect are gathered to Him

40-41 The rapture reiterated

How do Pre-Tribulation theorists explain the Rapture occurring before the apocalypse and before the Second Coming? Jesus says exactly the opposite in simple, unmistakable language.

Are there two Raptures - one before this that Jesus mysteriously didn't describe and then this one, which He did? Why would He leave one out? Or is there only one, but when he discusses it He jumbles up the order of events? Why would He do that?



John F. Walvoord

"Christ's Olivet Discourse on the End of the Age - Part I,"
Bibliotheca Sacra 128/#510 (April 1971), p. 116..

“In Matthew 24–Matthew 25 the expositor should, therefore, understand that the program of God for the end of the age has in view the period ending with the second coming of Christ to the earth and the establishment of His earthly Kingdom, **not the church age specifically ending with the rapture**. Both the questions of the disciples and the answers of Christ are therefore, keyed to the **Jewish expectation based on Old Testament prophecy**, and the program of God for the earth in general **rather than the church as the body of Christ.**”

Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. **The larger context**
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)



Matthew's Purposes

- To explain that Jesus in whom they had believed was the long-awaited Jewish Messiah
- To explain why the kingdom had been postponed despite the fact that the king had arrived
- To explain the interim program of God during the kingdom's absence

Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. **The immediate context (23:37-39)**
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)



Matthew 23:37-39

³⁷ “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather [episynagō] your children together, the way a hen gathers [episynagō] her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. ³⁸ Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! ³⁹ For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’”



Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)



Matthew 24:3

“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?’”



Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. **The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)**
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)



Matt 24 / Rev 6 Parallels

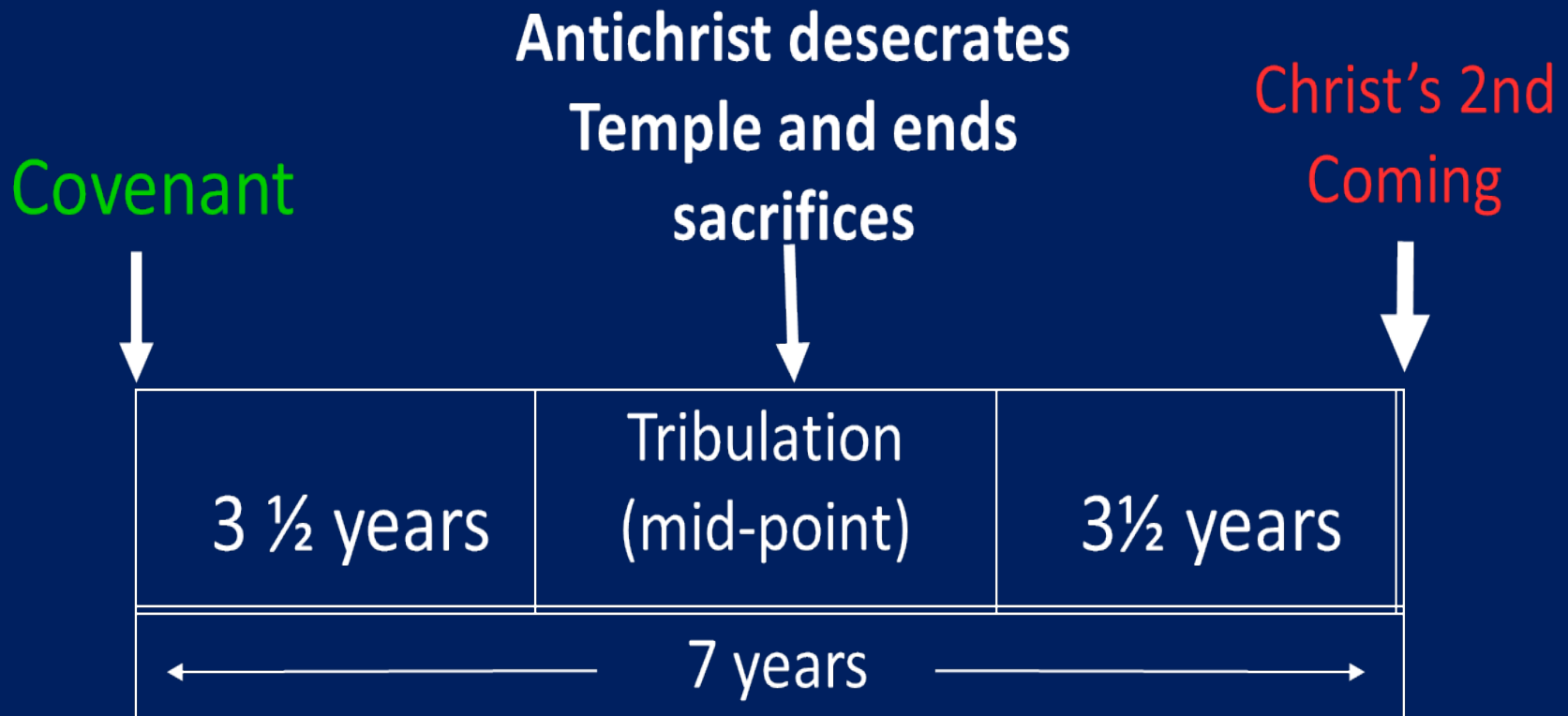
Prediction	Birth pangs (Matt 24)	Seal judgments (Rev 6)
1. False Christ	24:5	6:2
2. War	24:6	6:3-4
3. Famine	24:7	6:5-6
4. Death	24:6-7	6:7-8
5. Martyrs	24:9-13	6:9-11
6. Earthquakes	24:7	6:12-17
7. Evangelism	24:14	7:1-9

Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. **The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)**
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)



DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD



Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. **The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)**
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)



Matthew 24:21-22

“²¹ For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. ²² Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.”

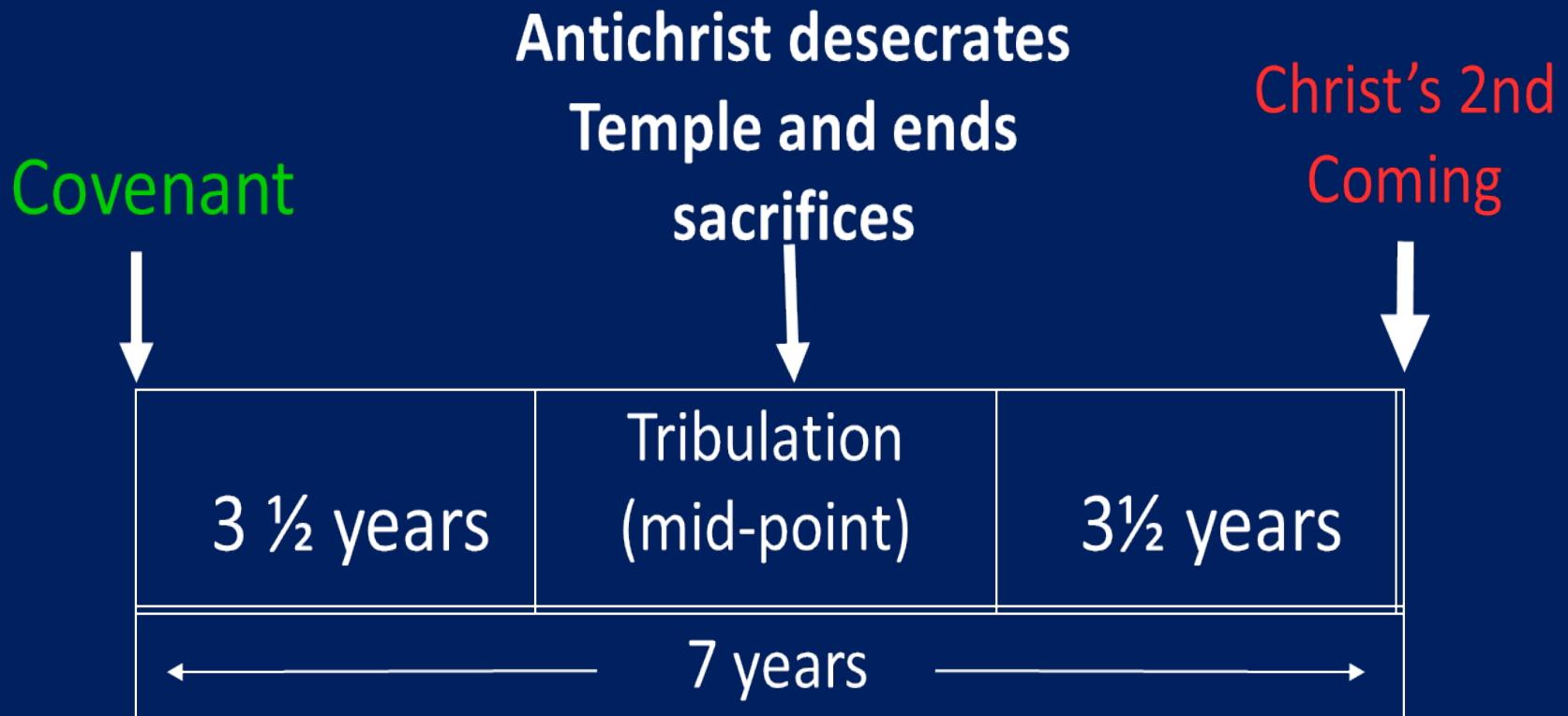


Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. **The Second Advent (24:23-31)**
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)



DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD



Matthew 24:31

“And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER [*episynagō*] HIS ELECT FROM THE FOUR WINDS, FROM ONE END OF THE SKY TO THE OTHER.”



Isaiah 27:13

“It will come about also in that day that a great trumpet will be blown, and those who were perishing in the land of Assyria and who were scattered in the land of Egypt will come and worship the LORD in the holy mountain at Jerusalem.”

RESTORATION
IS COMING!



Matthew 16:1–3

¹ The Pharisees and Sadducees came up, and testing Jesus, they asked Him to show them a sign from heaven. ² But He replied to them, “When it is evening, you say, ‘*It will be* fair weather, for the sky is red.’ ³ “And in the morning, ‘*There will be* a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot *discern* the signs of the times?





Lewis Sperry Chafer

Systematic Theology, Vol. 4, p. 367

“THE IMMEDIATE RETURN OF CHRIST. Whether it be that coming of Christ to the earth in glory when Israel is to be delivered or that coming into the air to receive His Bride, the coming is imminent. Scripture which directs Israel in the tribulation, which time is terminated by the glorious return of Christ as their judge and Deliverer, warns her to **watch**, for He will then come “as a thief in the night” (cf. Matt. 24:32–25:13; 1 Thess. 5:1–8; 2 Pet. 3:8, 10). Over against this, the Church is instructed to **wait** and to look for His return for her (1 Thess. 1:9–10; Titus 2:13; Heb. 9:28).”



Lewis Sperry Chafer

Systematic Theology, Vol. 4, p. 367

“In both instances the return of Christ is unannounced and therefore impending, within the period to which each event belongs. The return of Christ for His Church was not impending in Old Testament days; nor is the glorious appearing impending until the tribulation (2 Thess. 2:3).”

Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)





National
Israel

The
Believing
Remnant

Zechariah 13:8-9

⁸“It will come about in all the land,” Declares the LORD,
“That two parts in it will be cut off and perish; But
the third will be left in it.” ⁹“And I will bring the third
part through the fire, Refine them as silver is refined,
And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My
name, And I will answer them; I will say, ‘They are My
people,’ And they will say, ‘The LORD is my God.’ ”



VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)
- G. The talents (25:14-30)
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

A. The fig tree (24:32-35)

B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)

C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)

D. The householder (24:42-44)

E. The wise servant (24:45-51)

F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)

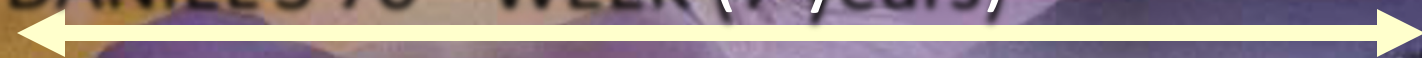
G. The talents (25:14-30)

H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



CONNECTING REV 12 & ANTI-SEMITISM

DANIEL'S 70th WEEK (7 years)



Israel flees



3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years

1260 days

VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. **The days of Noah (24:36-39)**
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)
- G. The talents (25:14-30)
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



Matthew 24:36-39

³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not understand until **the flood came and took them all away**; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.”



VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)
- G. The talents (25:14-30)
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



Matthew 24:36-41

³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.”



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

1. No rapture reasons

- a. Preceding context
- b. Days of Noah chronology
- c. Son of Man
- d. Other Matthean judgments
- e. Lukan parallel passage



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

1. No rapture reasons

a. Preceding context

b. Days of Noah chronology

c. Son of Man

d. Other Matthean judgments

e. Lukan parallel passage



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

1. No rapture reasons

- a. Preceding context
- b. Days of Noah chronology
- c. Son of Man
- d. Other Matthean judgments
- e. Lukan parallel passage



Matthew 24:36-41

³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ **THEN (tote)** there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.”



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

1. No rapture reasons

- a. Preceding context
- b. Days of Noah chronology
- c. Son of Man
- d. Other Matthean judgments
- e. Lukan parallel passage



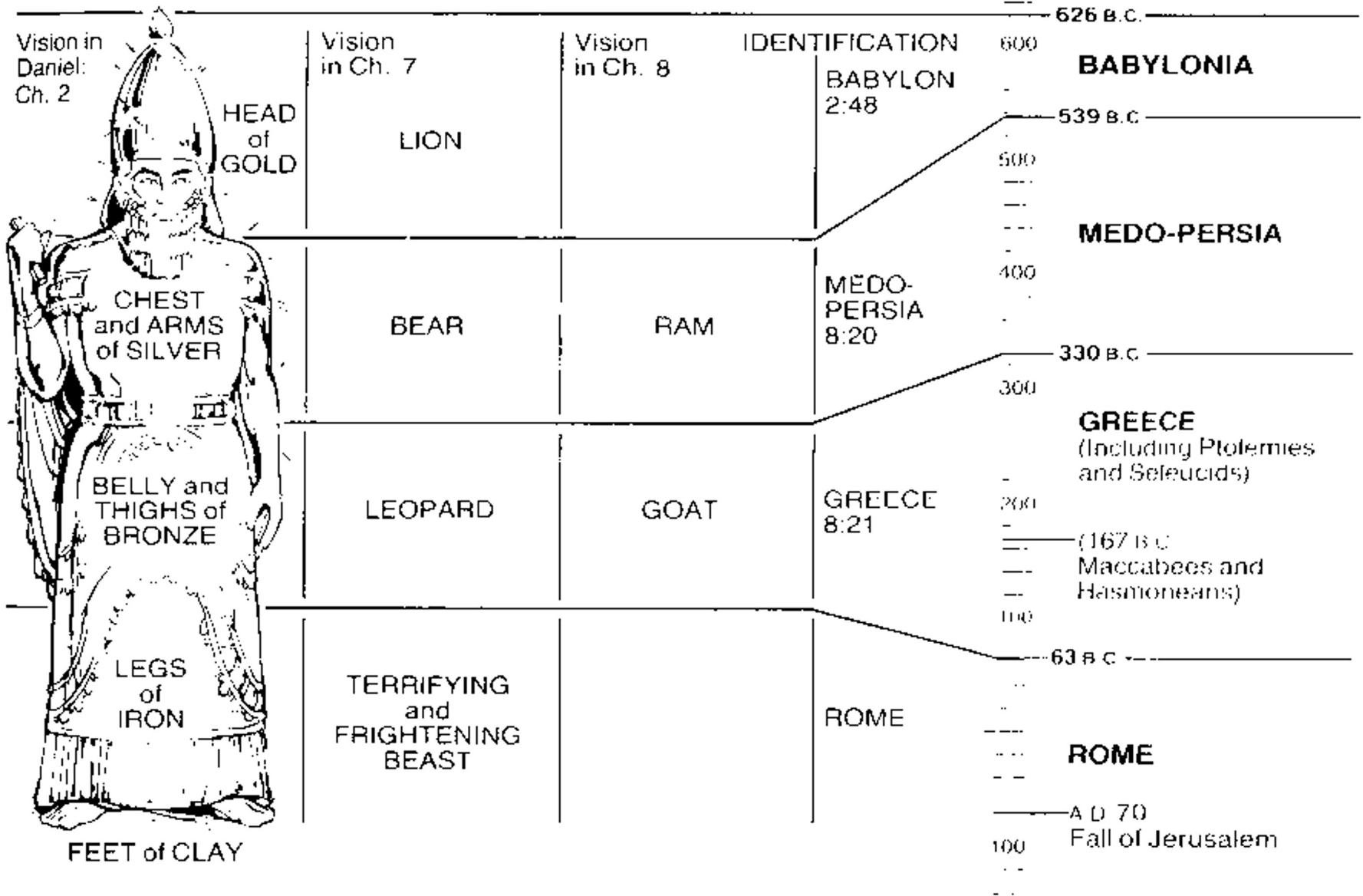
Matthew 24:36-41

³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the **Son of Man** be. ⁴⁰ Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.”



Identification of the Four Kingdoms

Chronology of Major Empires in Daniel



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

1. No rapture reasons

- a. Preceding context
- b. Days of Noah chronology
- c. Son of Man
- d. Other Matthean judgments
- e. Lukan parallel passage



Matthew 13:30

‘Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, “**First gather up the tares and bind them in bundles** to burn them up; but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’ ’ ”



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

1. No rapture reasons

- a. Preceding context
- b. Days of Noah chronology
- c. Son of Man
- d. Other Matthean judgments
- e. Lukan parallel passage



Luke 17:34-37

³⁴ “I tell you, on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left. ³⁵ “There will be two women grinding at the same place; one will be taken and the other will be left. ³⁶ “Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left.” ³⁷ And answering they said to Him, **“Where, Lord?”** And He said to them, **“Where the body is, there also the vultures will be gathered.”**



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

2. Pro-rapture reasons

- a. From *airō* to *paralambanō*
- b. Day or hour can be known in the Tribulation
- c. Normal life activities at the end of the Tribulation
- d. Peri De (“Now Concerning”) construction



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

2. Pro-rapture reasons

a. From *airō* to *paralambanō*

b. Day or hour can be known in the Tribulation

c. Normal life activities at the end of the Tribulation

d. Peri De (“Now Concerning”) construction



Matthew 24:36-41

³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and **took (airō)** them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ Then there will be two men in the field; one will be **taken (paralambanō)** and one will be left. ⁴¹ “Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be **taken (paralambanō)** and one will be left.”



John 14:1–4

¹ “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. ² “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. ³ “If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you (*paralambanō*) to Myself, that where I am, *there* you may be also. ⁴ “And you know the way where I am going.”



2 Kings 2:1, 3, 5

“¹ And it came about when the LORD was about to take up [alah] Elijah by a whirlwind to heaven, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal....³ Then the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that the LORD will take away [laqach] your master from over you today?” And he said, “Yes, I know; be still.” ...⁵ The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that the LORD will take away [laqach] your master from over you today?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be still.”



John 19:15-16

“¹⁵ So they cried out, “Away with Him [airō], away with Him, crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” ¹⁶ So he then handed Him over [paralambanō] to them to be crucified.



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

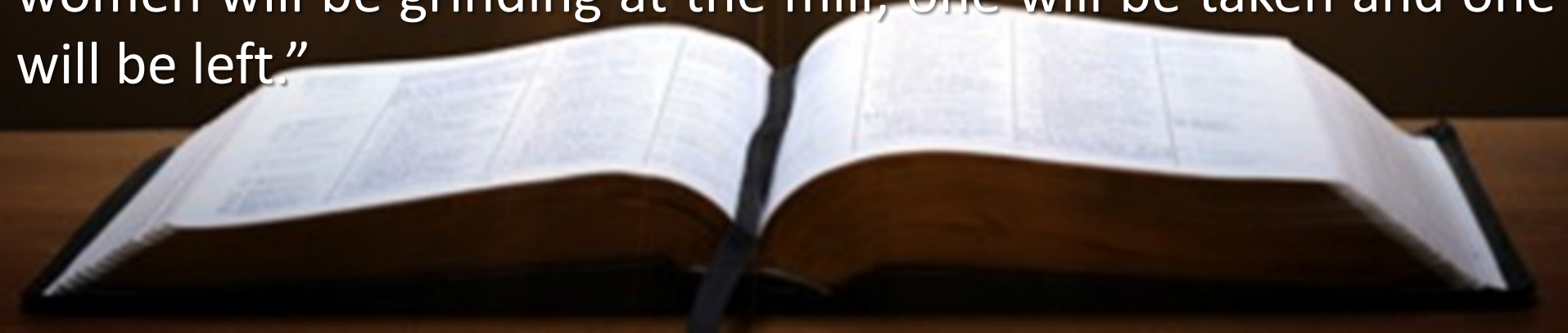
2. Pro-rapture reasons

- a. From *airō* to *paralambanō*
- b. Day or hour can be known in the Tribulation
- c. Normal life activities at the end of the Tribulation
- d. Peri De (“Now Concerning”) construction

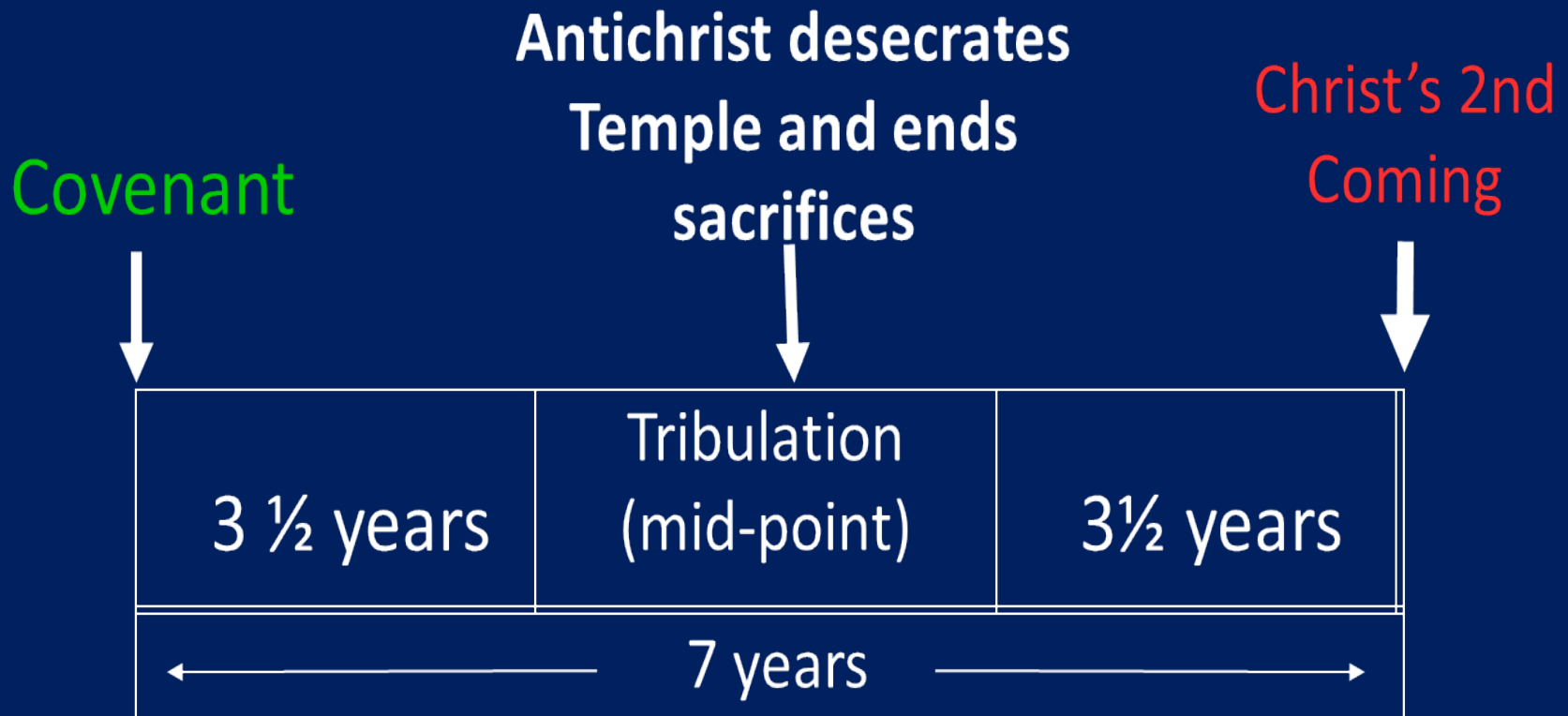


Matthew 24:36-41

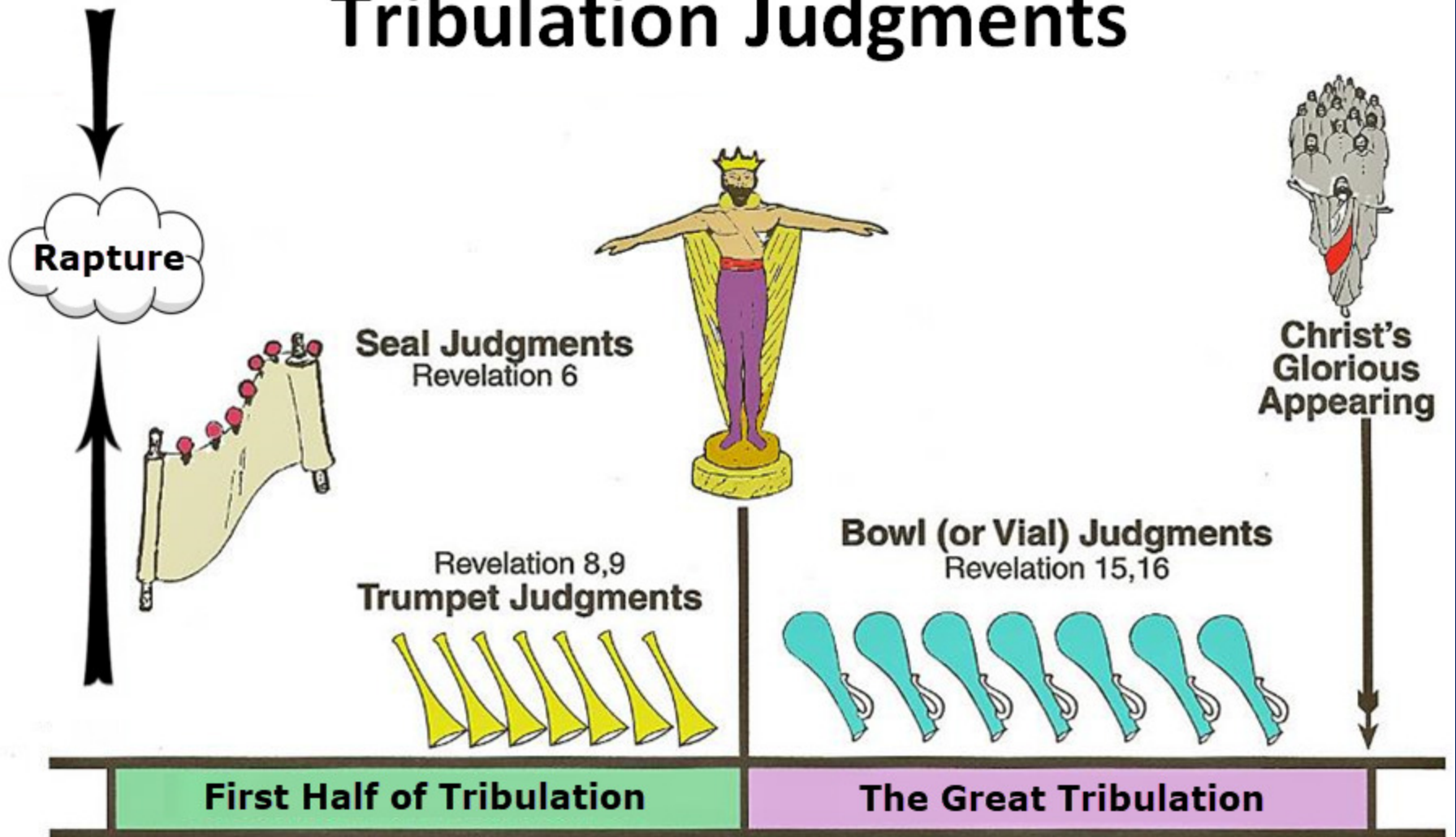
³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.” ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ “Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.”



DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD



Tribulation Judgments



Genesis 6:1-4

“¹ Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, ² that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose. ³ Then the Lord said, ‘My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.’ . . .



Matthew 24:36-41

³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, **until the day that Noah entered the ark,** ³⁹ **and they did not understand** until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ “Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.”



C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

2. Pro-rapture reasons

- a. From *airō* to *paralambanō*
- b. Day or hour can be known in the Tribulation
- c. Normal life activities at the end of the Tribulation
- d. Peri De (“Now Concerning”) construction

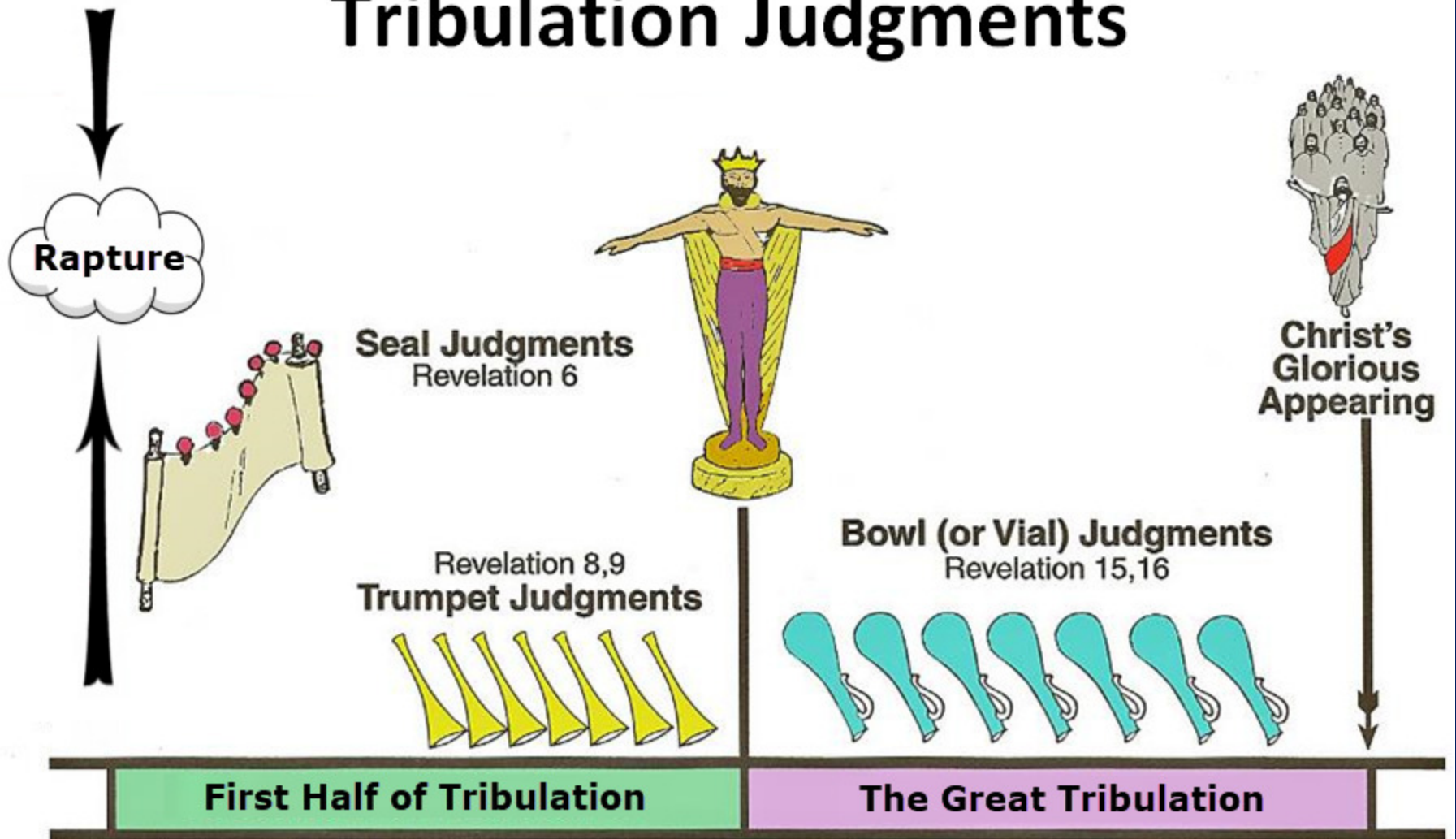


Matthew 24:36-41

³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ “Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.”



Tribulation Judgments





Seven Bowls

(Revelation 16)



1. 1st Bowl (16:1-2) – Boils
2. 2nd Bowl (16:3) – Sea becomes blood
3. 3rd Bowl (16:4-7) – Freshwater destroyed
4. 4th Bowl (16:8-9) – Sun scorches man
5. 5th Bowl (16:10-11) – Darkness
6. 6th Bowl (16:13-16) – Euphrates dried
7. 7th Bowl (16:17-21) – Greatest earthquake



Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

Yeshua: The Life of Messiah from a Messianic Jewish Perspective,
4 vols., vol. 3 (San Antonio, TX: Ariel Ministries, 2017), 366.

“The rapture will occur when conditions on earth are normal and people are eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage (Matt. 24:38). These are common activities in human society. Marrying and giving in marriage are necessary to propagate life; eating and drinking are essential to sustain it. During the time of Noah, life was normal when suddenly the flood came and took the people away. The rapture will occur in the same manner: *so shall be the coming of the Son of Man* (Matt. 24:39). Nothing spectacular will forewarn people that the believers are about to be taken up. However, things . . .



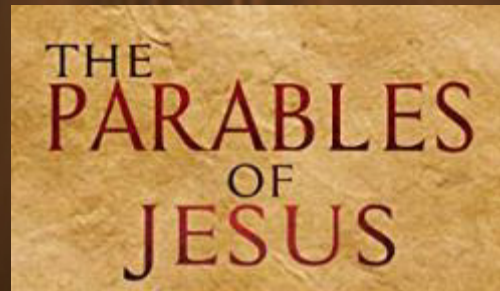
Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

Yeshua: The Life of Messiah from a Messianic Jewish Perspective,
4 vols., vol. 3 (San Antonio, TX: Ariel Ministries, 2017), 366.

. . .will be abnormal at the time of the second coming. Nearly three-quarters of the earth will be destroyed in seven long years of tribulation. A blackness paired with tremendous tidal waves, anarchy, confusion, and perplexity will envelop the world. The Olivet Discourse shows that conditions will be abnormal at the time of the second coming, and so it is better to interpret this passage as referring to the rapture.”

Matthew 24:32-33

³² “Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; ³³ so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right* at the door.”





Dr. Roy B. Zuck

Basic Bible Interpretation, p. 215-16.



“Usually a parable, like a sermon illustration, is teaching a single truth. When Jesus explained a number of His parables, He usually...stated one spiritual truth. For example when the man found his one lost sheep, he rejoiced, and Jesus said this illustrates the truth that there is rejoicing in heaven when a sinner repents (Luke 15:7)...He gave one simple spiritual lesson, and made no attempt to see any spiritual significance to the vineyard, the denarius, or the sixth hour, the ninth hour, or the eleventh hour, nor the vineyard foreman...To hunt for meanings in every detail in the parables is to turn them into allegories.”

C. The Comparison of Two Men and Women

Matthew 24:40-41

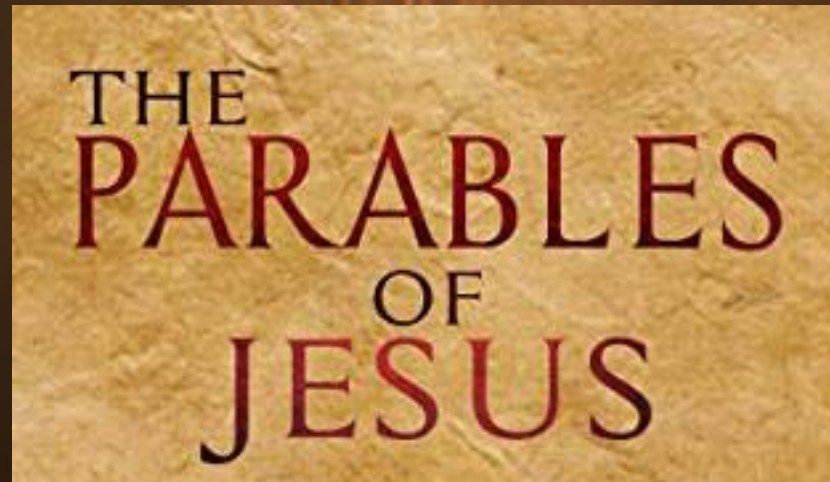
2. Pro-rapture reasons

- a. From *airō* to *paralambanō*
- b. Day or hour can be known in the Tribulation
- c. Normal life activities at the end of the Tribulation
- d. Peri De (“Now Concerning”) construction



Matthew 24:36

“But (*peri de*) of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.”





Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

Yeshua: The Life of Messiah from a Messianic Jewish Perspective,
4 vols., vol. 3 (San Antonio, TX: Ariel Ministries, 2017), 365.

“Matthew began the passage with the word *but* (Matt. 24:36). In the Greek language, there is more than one way of saying *but*. Here, the English word is a translation of two Greek words, *peri de*, meaning ‘now concerning.’ As Greek grammar books show, this construction denotes a contrast and often introduces a new subject. Paul uses the formula frequently in his writings when presenting a new topic (eg. 1 Cor. 7:1, 25; 8:1; 12:1; 16:1, 12; 1 Thess. 4:9; 5:1; etc.). In the context of Matthew 24, Yeshua had been talking about one topic (the second coming), then introduced a new subject (the rapture)...In the passage above, He introduced the new topic by using the *peri de* construction.”



Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

Yeshua: The Life of Messiah from a Messianic Jewish Perspective,
4 vols., vol. 3 (San Antonio, TX: Ariel Ministries, 2017), 365.

“Matthew began the passage with the word *but* (Matt. 24:36). In the Greek language, there is more than one way of saying *but*. Here, the English word is a translation of two Greek words, *peri de*, meaning ‘now concerning.’ As Greek grammar books show, this construction denotes a contrast and often introduces a new subject. Paul uses the formula frequently in his writings when presenting a new topic (eg. 1 Cor. 7:1, 25; 8:1; 12:1; 16:1, 12; 1 Thess. 4:9; 5:1; etc.). In the context of Matthew 24, Yeshua had been talking about one topic (the second coming), then introduced a new subject (the rapture)...In the passage above, He introduced the new topic by using the *peri de* construction.”

A Comparison of the Olivet & Upper Room Discourses

Discourse	Olivet	Upper Room
Scripture	Matt 24–25	John 13–17
Location	Mount of Olives	Upper Room
<u>PASSION WEEK</u>	<u>THIRD DAY</u>	<u>SIXTH DAY</u>
General focus	Farewell: Israel	Hello: Church
Specific focus	Israel's future	Divine provisions
Prompting	Temple's destruction	Christ's imminent departure
Explanations	Written OT	Unwritten NT
Apostles	Israel (Matt. 19:28)	Church (Eph. 2:20)

VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)
- G. The talents (25:14-30)
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)
- G. The talents (25:14-30)
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)
- G. The talents (25:14-30)
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. **The wise virgins (25:1-13)**
- G. The talents (25:14-30)
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

1. Chapter division & preceding context
2. Demoted from bride to maidens
3. Bride? Body? In Christ?
4. Translation? Resurrection?
5. Bridegroom comes to the earth



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

6. All asleep (vs. 5)
7. Rapture for all Christians (1 Cor. 15:51)
8. End of the Inter-Advent Age
9. Consistency with the other Parables
10. Dispensationally misapplied passage



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

1. Chapter division & preceding context
2. Demoted from bride to maidens
3. Bride? Body? In Christ?
4. Translation? Resurrection?
5. Bridegroom comes to the earth



Divisions of Five in Matthew



“...and when Jesus had finished saying these things” (7:28; 11:1; 13:53; 19:1; 26:1)

1. Sermon on the Mount (5-7)

2. Missions Discourse (10)

3. Kingdom Parables (13)

4. Humility Discourse (18)

5. Olivet Discourse (24-25)

F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

1. Chapter division & preceding context
2. Demoted from bride to maidens
3. Bride? Body? In Christ?
4. Translation? Resurrection?
5. Bridegroom comes to the earth



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

1. Chapter division & preceding context
2. Demoted from bride to maidens
3. **Bride? Body? In Christ?**
4. Translation? Resurrection?
5. Bridegroom comes to the earth



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

1. Chapter division & preceding context
2. Demoted from bride to maidens
3. Bride? Body? In Christ?
4. Translation? Resurrection?
5. Bridegroom comes to the earth



1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up [*harpazō*] together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words."



Catching Away of All Living Believers

(1 Thess 4:17)



- *Harpazo* = seized or caught up by force
- *Harpazo* (Greek) = *rapere* (Latin) = rapture (English)

1 Corinthians 15:50-51

“⁵⁰ Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed.”



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

1. Chapter division & preceding context
2. Demoted from bride to maidens
3. Bride? Body? In Christ?
4. Translation? Resurrection?
5. **Bridegroom comes to the earth**



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

6. All asleep (vs. 5)

7. Rapture for all Christians (1 Cor. 15:51)

8. End of the Inter-Advent Age

9. Consistency with the other Parables

10. Dispensationally misapplied passage



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

6. All asleep (vs. 5)

7. Rapture for all Christians (1 Cor. 15:51)

8. End of the Inter-Advent Age

9. Consistency with the other Parables

10. Dispensationally misapplied passage



1 Corinthians 12:13

“For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”



1 Corinthians 15:50-51

“⁵⁰ Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed.”



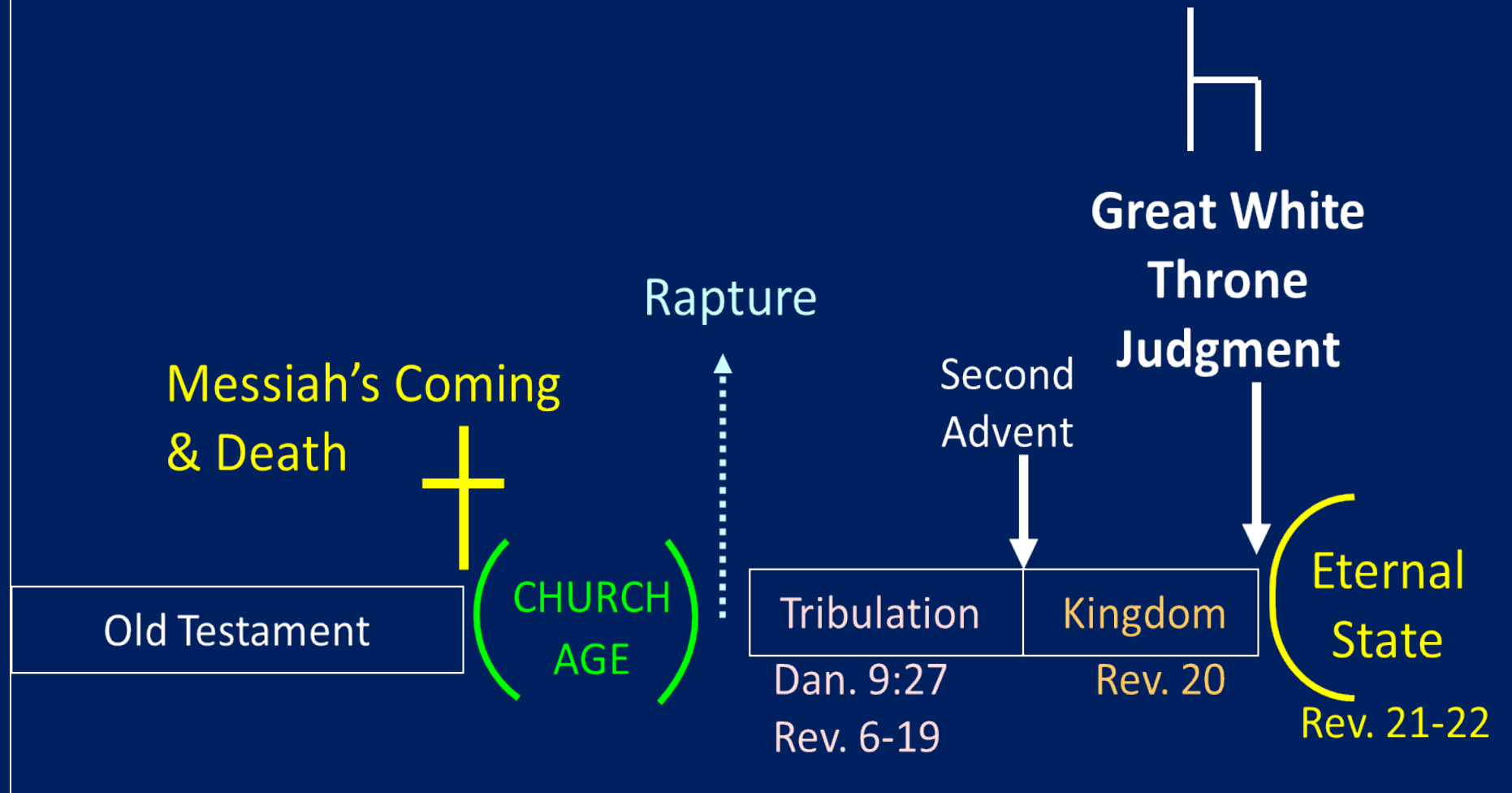
F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

6. All asleep (vs. 5)
7. Rapture for all Christians (1 Cor. 15:51)
8. End of the Inter-Advent Age
9. Consistency with the other Parables
10. Dispensationally misapplied passage



Prophecy Panorama



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

6. All asleep (vs. 5)
7. Rapture for all Christians (1 Cor. 15:51)
8. End of the Inter-Advent Age
9. Consistency with the other Parables
10. Dispensationally misapplied passage



F. Partial Rapture of the Church?

(Matthew 25:1-13)

6. All asleep (vs. 5)
7. Rapture for all Christians (1 Cor. 15:51)
8. End of the Inter-Advent Age
9. Consistency with the other Parables
- 10. Dispensationally misapplied passage**



VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)
- G. **The talents (25:14-30)**
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)
- G. The talents (25:14-30)
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



Matthew 23:37-39

³⁷ “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather [episynagō] your children together, the way a hen gathers [episynagō] her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. ³⁸ Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! ³⁹ For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’”



Matthew 24:31

“And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER [*episynagō*] HIS ELECT FROM THE FOUR WINDS, FROM ONE END OF THE SKY TO THE OTHER.”



Jeremiah 30:7

“Alas! for that day is great, There is none like it; And it is the time of Jacob’s distress (Gen. 32:8; 35:10), But he will be saved from it.”



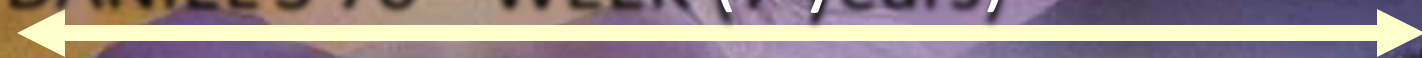
Matthew 24:21-22

“²¹ For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. ²² Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.”



CONNECTING REV 12 & ANTI-SEMITISM

DANIEL'S 70th WEEK (7 years)



Israel flees



3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years

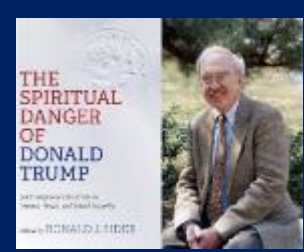
1260 days



Kevin DeYoung

“Seven Passages on Social Justice (4),” The Gospel Coalition, 13 April 2010 (italics original).

“Matthew 25 is about social justice in the sense that it is about caring for the needy. But the needy in view are fellow Christians, especially those dependent on our hospitality and generosity for their ministry...*Jesus says if we are too embarrassed, too lazy, or too cowardly to support our fellow Christians who depend on our assistance and are suffering for the sake of the gospel, we will go to hell. We should not make this passage say anything more or less than this.*”



Ronald J. Sider

“Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger, Sixth Edition (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2015), 64.

“Jesus expressed it even more pointedly. To those who do not feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and visit the prisoners, he will speak a terrifying word at the final judgment: “Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matt. 25:41). The meaning is clear. Jesus intends that his disciples imitate his own concern for the poor and needy. Those who disobey will experience eternal damnation.”



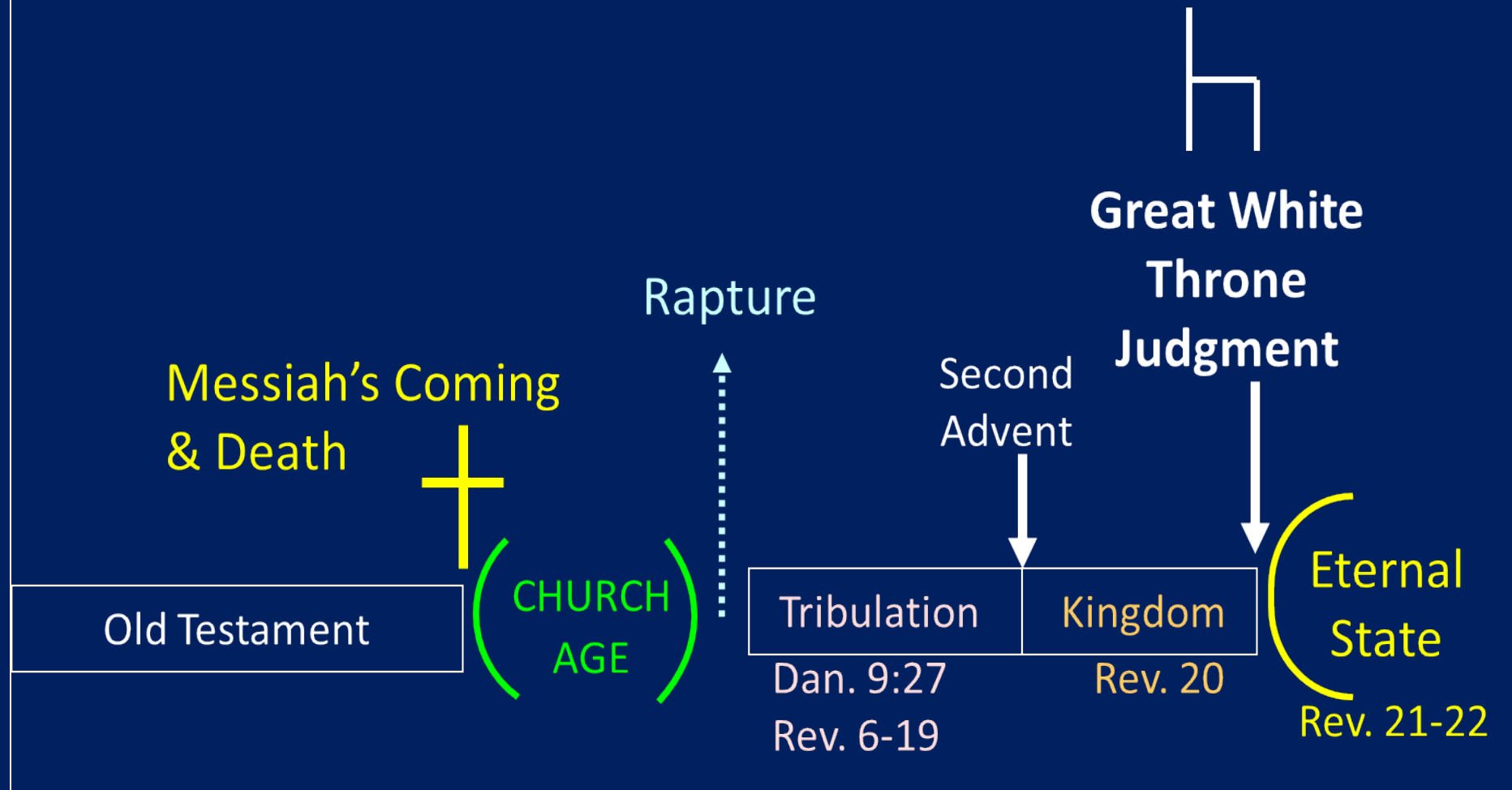
Joe Scarborough

“Morning Joe,” MSNBC, 26 June 2018.



“[In Matthew 25] Jesus actually is asked by [His] disciples who is going to be able to sit on your right hand and who is going to be cast away. And Jesus goes through the list and He talks about anyone that does this for the least among us is doing it to Me. They will be with the sheep. Those who don’t will be tossed out—will be with the goats. . . . It is one of the few times . . . Jesus says, “This is what you have to do to get to heaven; and if you don’t do it, you will not get to heaven”—one of the times He says, “This is it: giving a cup of water in the Master’s name, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting those in prison, and, again, helping the least among us.”

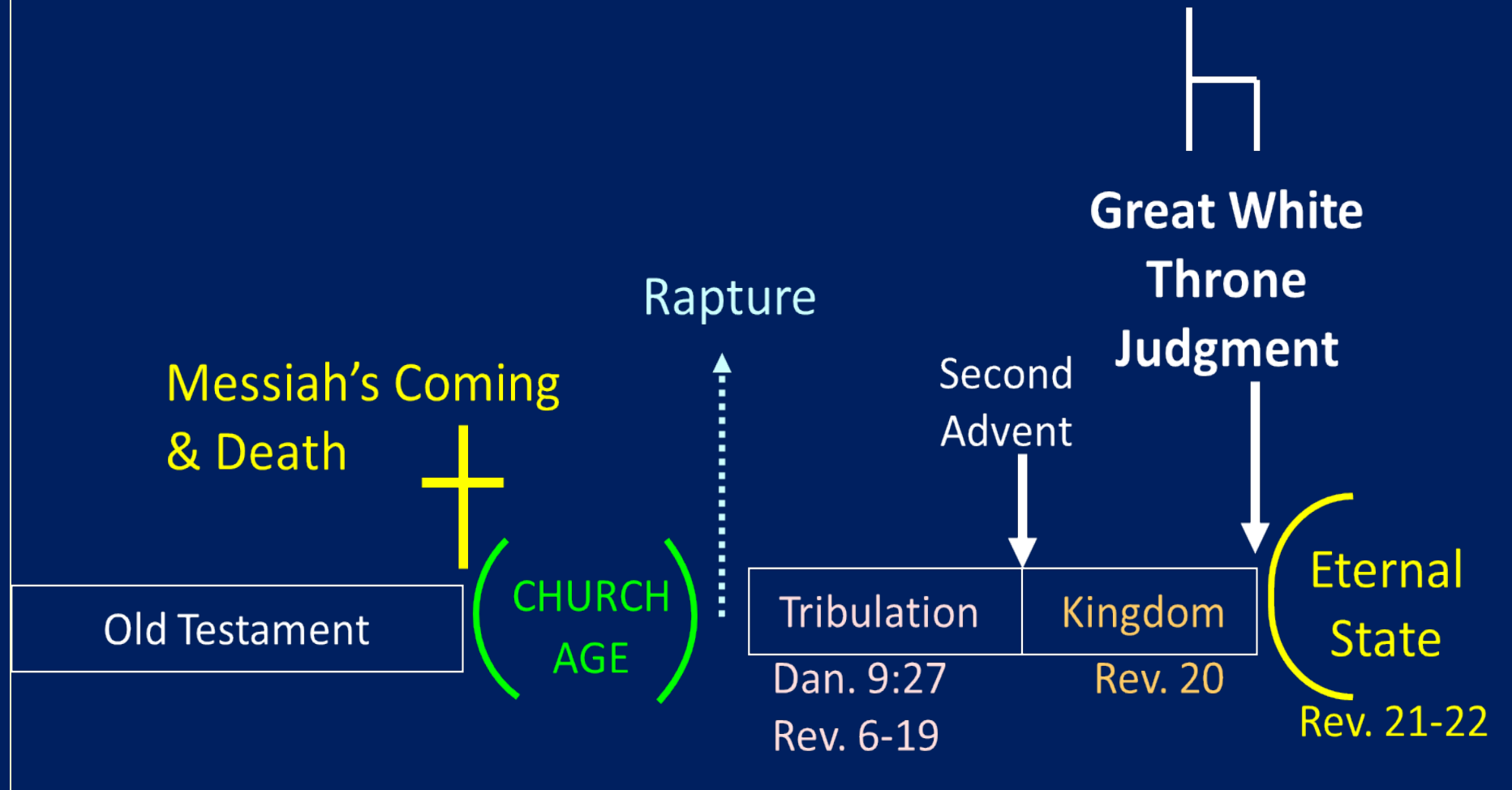
Prophecy Panorama



Scripture's Four Judgments

Name	<u>Sheep and Goat</u>	Judgment of the Jews	Bema Seat	Great White Throne
Scripture	<u>Matt 25:31-46</u>	Ezek 20:33-44	1 Cor 3:10-15	Rev 20:11-15
Place	<u>Earth, Jerusalem</u>	Earth, wilderness	Heaven	Earth
Audience	<u>Gentile Tribulation survivors</u>	Jewish Tribulation survivors	Church Age believers	All unsaved
When	<u>After Tribulation</u>	After Tribulation	After rapture	After Millennium
Purpose	<u>Saved Gentiles enter kingdom</u>	Saved Jews enter kingdom	Reward believers	Degree of punishment in hell
Evaluation	<u>Treatment of Christ's brethren</u>	Passing under shepherd's rod	Works taken through fire	Not in the book; judged by books

Prophecy Panorama



Messiah's Coming
& Death



CHURCH
AGE

Rapture

Old Testament

Tribulation

Dan. 9:27
Rev. 6-19

Second
Advent

Kingdom

Rev. 20

Great White
Throne
Judgment

Eternal
State

Rev. 21-22

SHEEP & GOAT VS GREAT WHITE THRONE

MATT. 25:31-46

REV. 20:11-15

Post Second Advent

Post Millennium

Living Nations

Dead

Believers & Unbelievers

Unbelievers Only

Angels, Sheep, Goats, Brethren

Unbelievers Only

David's Throne

Great White Throne

Earthly

Non-earthly

Pentecost, *Things To Come*, 425-26

SHEEP & GOAT VS GREAT WHITE THRONE

MATT. 25:31-46

REV. 20:11-15

**After Poverty, Imprisonment,
Sickness**

After Utopia

Entrance into Kingdom & Hades

Entrance into Lake of Fire Only

Basis: Treatment of Brethren

Basis: Book of Life and Books

Not After Resurrection

After Resurrection

Subjects: Tribulation Survivors

Subjects: Unbelievers of All Ages

After Regathering of the Elect

After the Second Resurrection

Pentecost, *Things To Come*, 425-26

Conclusion

VIII. Eight Parabolic Exhortations

(Matthew 24:32–25:46)

- A. The fig tree (24:32-35)
- B. The days of Noah (24:36-39)
- C. The comparison of two men & women (24:40-41)
- D. The householder (24:42-44)
- E. The wise servant (24:45-51)
- F. The wise virgins (25:1-13)
- G. The talents (25:14-30)
- H. The sheep & goat judgment (25:31-46)



Preview of Matthew 24–25

- I. The problem
- II. The larger context
- III. The immediate context (23:37-39)
- IV. The Disciples' questions (24:1-3)
- V. The Tribulation's first half (24:4-14)
- VI. The Tribulation's mid-point (24:15-20)
- VII. The Tribulation's second half (24:21-22)
- VIII. The Second Advent (24:23-31)
- IX. Eight parabolic exhortations (24:32–25:46)

