#### Follow Up from Matthew Chapter 24 Bible Study

## **End Times Question Response**

#### **Eschatology**

- Eschatology is a part of theology concerned with the final events of history, or the ultimate destiny of humanity.
  - We are concerned with Christian Eschatology

#### **Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing**

 When studying Revelation and eschatology it is all too easy to lose sight of the call of Christ in Revelation, which is to live victoriously as overcomers of sin, the world, and the devil and to remain faithful to him at all costs because he will make all things right in the end. Whatever view one thinks best reflects the teaching of Scripture, it must always be kept in mind that Scripture always presents the doctrine of last things as a motivation for faithful living. In the end, perhaps John Frame draws our attention to the most important eschatological point: "So far as I can see, every Bible passage about the return of Christ is written for a practical purpose -not to help us develop a theory of history, but to motivate our obedience."

#### End times -> What we will cover

- 1. Fundamental Truths
- 2. References
- 3. The Big Picture
- 4. Definitions
  - 1. Rapture
  - 2. Rapture timing theories
- 5. The Premillennial view what most Christians and Pastor Coffie believe

# References Statements of faith from the sources

https://www.compellingtruth.org/faith.html



- https://www.gotquestions.org/faith.html
- https://alwaysbeready.com/what-we-believe/



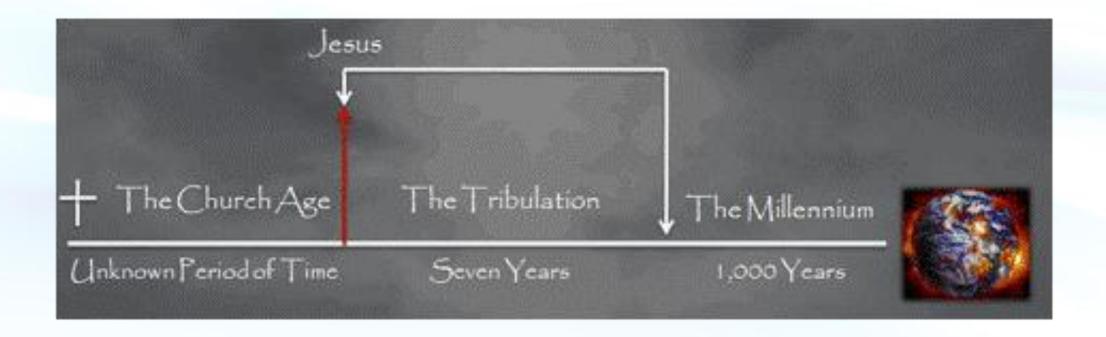
#### **Fundamental Truths**

- A. Jesus will return we do not know when
- B. Regardless of any of our ages, we are only here in this life for a short period of time
  - A. Tomorrow is not promised to any of us
- C. We should be ready for his return
  - A. Having a personal relationship with him
  - B. Being obedient to his word (serving him)

**James 4:14** (KJV) Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

### The Big Picture – Be ready for his return

- We are in the church age (from the day of Pentecost to the Rapture)
- The Rapture (Jesus' return for his church) can occur at any moment



#### **Definitions – The Rapture**

 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (KJV) But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

#### **Definitions – The Rapture**

 Paul teaches that Christ will come at some future point in time for those who belong to Him. Those who are the "dead in Christ" will experience their resurrection first and be gifted with glorified bodies when He comes. Those believers in Christ who are alive at that time will then be instantly transformed from their earthly state to their eternal state and will not experience death. Instead, they will be caught up to be with all those who have previously gone on to be with the Lord and be transferred to heaven. Paul speaks about this generation of believers who will not taste death when he says, "Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed" (1Co 15:51)



#### **Definitions – The Tribulation Period**

- There is no debate among Bible scholars as to whether there will be a rapture, but much discussion has occurred over when the rapture will occur. There have been five main theories put forward as to the timing of the rapture and they all surround what is known in prophetic biblical teaching as the "tribulation" period, which is mentioned by Christ in Matthew 24 and described in great detail in Revelation 4—19. The five hypotheses are:
- 1. **Post-tribulation** believers are raptured at the end of the tribulation period, when Christ returns in judgment



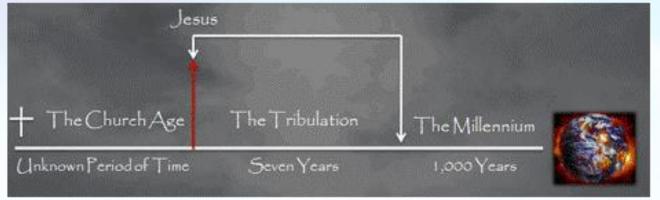
#### **Definitions – The Tribulation Period continued**

- 2. **Pre-wrath** believers are caught up somewhere between the sixth and seventh seals described in Revelation.
- 3. **Mid-tribulation** living believers are taken in the middle of the tribulation period.
- 4. **Partial rapture** only faithful believers are taken to be with Christ at the beginning of the tribulation, with unfaithful Christians being left to endure it.
- 5. Pre-tribulation believers are caught up to be with Christ before the tribulation begins.



#### **Definitions – The Tribulation Period continued**

 The pre-tribulation view states that, at present, all believers are living in the Church age, which has no specified time period given to it in Scripture. At some point in the future, Christ will return for His Bride, the Church, and evacuate believers from earth before the start of a sevenyear period in which God will pour out His wrath on an unbelieving world. The tribulation will climax with the bodily return of Christ, after which He will establish a perfect reign that lasts 1,000 years. Once that reign has concluded and one final rebellion crushed, God creates a new heaven and earth, and the eternal state begins.





NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM OF COMING KINGDOMS THAT WOULD PRECEDE THE ESTABLISHING OF GOD'S KINGDOM ON EARTH

God gave the interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream to Daniel in Daniel chapter 2. The interpretation includes the prophecy that God would set up an everlasting kingdom during the time of the ten kings of the revived Roman Empire (see 4b below). Daniel said, "And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." (Daniel 2:44) This will happen when Jesus returns to earth immediately after the Tribulation.

BABYLONIAN EMPIRE/ GOLD MEDO-PERSIA EMPIRE/ SILVER "THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES" (Luke 21:24, Rev. 11:1-2) "the fullness of the Gentiles" (Rom. 11:25) will be GRECIAN EMPIRE/ BRONZE complete after the last Gentile is saved Daniel 2:39, 7:6, 8:21 in the Tribulation. Then "the Deliverer [Jesus] will come" (Rom. 11:26). 4a) ROMAN EMPIRE/ IRON Daniel 2:40, 7:7,19, 23 4b) REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE/ IRON +CLAY Daniel 2:41-43, 7:7, 7:20-25 A future weaker version of iron kingdom made up of ten kings, out of which the Antichrist will arise. \_\_ Christ's 5. GOD'S KINGDOM Daniel 2:44 **JESUS** God's kingdom is now in existence in heaven CHRIST'S Acts 2:27-31, (Acts 28:31; Rom. 14:17; 1 Cor. 4:20; Col. 1:13) John 20) followed **FIRST** but will be present on the earth during the forty days later by His COMING

Millennium following the return of Christ to earth. **(4a)** (3.)

Grecian

Medo-Persia Babylonian 605B.C.-539B.C. 539B.C.-331B.C. 1.GOLD

\*Timeline not to scale.

2. SILVER

321B.C.-150B.C.

150B.C.-5th Cent

Roman

TO EARTH

(Isa, 7:14, Micah

5:2, Mtt.1:21-23)

ascension

"cut off."

Dan. 9:26

Jn. 19:17)

into heaven. (Acts 1:9-10)

JUDGED & REWARDED AT THE "BEMA" [Gk.] SEAT (2 Cor. 5:10, Rom. 14:10-12, 1 Cor. 3:13-15)

BELIEVER'S IN HEAVEN, WHERE WORKS ARE THE "MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB" (Jesus) TO THE BRIDE (the Church).

"THE DAY OF CHRIST JESUS" (Phil. 1:6, 10, 2:16; 1 Thess. 5:2; 1 Cor. 1:8, 2 Cor. 1:14)

YOU ARE HERE.

ISRAEL DECLARED A NATION

after 1,878 years w/out a homeland

THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Roman Empire (4b) Dan. 2:41-43

with its single currency, and

its united military, perhaps

the beginning of a Revived

May 14, 1948.

Satan thrown down to earth.-(Rev. 12:9-13)

ANTICHRIST

**DECLARES** 

TO BE GOD.

(Dan. 7:20-21

11:36, 2 Thess.

puts an end

sacrifice and

abomination

that causes

desolation.

(Dan. 9:27;

Mtt. 24:15)

12:11

sets up the

to regular

2:3-4. Rev. 13:6)

HIMSELF

#### RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up ["harpazo"-Greek,"rapturo"-Latin] together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord." (1 Thess. 4:17) The coming of Christ for His Church is discussed in Jn. 14:3, 1 Thess. 4:16-18, 2 Thess 2:1, 1 Cor. 15:50-53, Phil.3:20-21.

The Rapture, being prior to Tribulation wrath, is supported by: 1 Thess. 1:10, 5:9-11, 2 Thess. 2:3-8, Nah. 1:2, Rev. 6:16-17, Luke 21:35-36

An Antichrist led world SECOND gov't is now fully in place **COMING OF** (Rev. 13:7, **CHRIST TO** 17:12-13). The false **EARTH** prophet

(Rev. 13:1-10) (Dan. 2:44, Matt. 24: 27-31. performs signs and Zech. 14:4. wonders Rev. 1:7, Acts 1:11) with the saints 13:13-14) (1 Thess. 3:13, and deceives Rev. 19:8,14) ending the rule of the the world Antichrist (2Thess. 2:8 Dan. 8:25b, 2:34-35, 44).

worshipping the Antichrist (Rev.13:8, 12). The false prophet has the authority to kill those who will not worship him (Rev.13:15). The false prophet requires a mark be given to all of Antichrist's followers that permits them to buy and

Days of the ten kings

into

Empire (Dan. 2:44, sell (Rev. 13:16-18). 7:23-24, Rev. 17:12). 3.5 YEARS - 3.5 YEARS Intense persecution agains Jews & Tribulation Christian

Israel under peace agreement (1 Thess. 5:2-3)

in revived Roman

(Rev. 12:13-17, 13:5-7) 4b, IRON mixed w/clay Seal Judgments, (Mtt. 24:4-8. Rev. 6:1-8:1)

Trumpet & Bowl Judgmen (Mtt. 24:9-31, Rev. 8-16)

By this point, Jewish temple will be standing once again (2 Thess. 2:4, Rev. 11:1-2).

**7 YEAR PEACE** AGREEMENT made between Antichrist

and Israel. (Dan. 9:27) Many commentators to rebuild their temple

Week [or 7 year

**PREPARATION** TIME BEFORE PEACE TREATY

THE TRIBULATION PERIOD, 7 YEARS (Dan. 9:27; Matt.24:9,

believe this is what Rev. 3:10). Also known THE "GREAT" will allow the Jews as the "Seventieth period] of Daniel" (Dan. 9:24-27).

> ARMAGEDDON (Literally: the mount of Megiddo) armies

TRIBULATION

(Mtt. 24:21, Rev. 6:1

18:24) culminating

at Armageddon.

from around the world will gather together at Megiddo in N. Israel before launching a massive attack against Jerusalem (Zech. 12:1-3, 14:1-5, Rev. 16:14,16; 19:19)

35:1-2, 6b-7, 55:13) and a Millennial temple in Jerusalem where sacrifices will be made in remembrance to Christ's death (Ezk. 40-46). This period is also known as "THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF LAMB" (Rev.19:9). This glorious time of celebration - THE RESURRECTION

takes place on the earth and will

include the Jews saved during

the Tribulation period (the

bridesmaids of Mtt. 25:1-13)

who are ready to go into the "wedding feast" when the

bridegroom comes (Mtt. 25:10).

Mtt. 22:1-14 pictures those not

in wedding garments being ushered out of the feast. This will

take place at the Judgment of

the Nations (Mtt. 25:31-46). See

Dr. John F. Walvoord's Prophecy

Knowledge Handbook, 1990, p.

THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST (1,000 YEARS)

Jesus will rule (Isa. 9:6) the world from Jerusalem (Micah 4:1-2) for a 1,000 years

The Millennium will start off with believers only (John 3:3, Mtt. 25:31-34, 41, 46)

believers and Tribulation martyrs will co-reign with Christ (Rev.20:6, 2 Tim.2:12).

David will be the prince of Israel (Ezek. 34:22-24), the twelve apostles will judge

the twelve tribes of Israel (Mtt. 19:28, Lk. 22:29-30), all weapons of war will be

knowledge of God (Isa. 11:9), peace (Isa. 9:6-7), justice (Isa. 11:3-5), obedience (Dan. 7:27), holiness (Ezek. 36:24-31, 37:23-24), the fullness of the Holy Spirit

(Joel 2:28-29) and an increase in joy (Isa. 9:3-4, 14:7). Children will be born (Isa.

11:6, 65:20, 23, Jer. 30:20) by those in their natural bodies (i.e., survivors of the

Tribulation and their offspring). There will also be a prolonged life expectancy for those in their natural bodies. There will be comfort for those who would

animals (Isa. 11:6-9, Ezk. 34:25, Isa. 65:25), great changes in the environment (Isa.

sorrow (Isa. 12:1, 35:10, 65:19), a removal of sickness (Isa. 33:24, Jer. 30:17),

healing of the deformed (Isa. 35:5-6), fruitful, enjoyable labor (Isa. 62-8-9,

65:21-23), one language (Zeph. 3:9), a change in the nature of ferocious

destroyed (Isa, 2:4), there will be no wars (Micah 4:3), there will be a worldwide

(Rev. 20:1-6; Zech. 14:9, v.16; Isa. 2:1-4, 11:1-10, 35:1-10) where the nations will

come to worship (Zech.14:16) and learn of God's ways (Micah 4:2, Zech. 8:3).

and will be marked by a unified government (Hos. 1:11) where church age

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT. where every unsaved person (Rev. 20:11-13) will stand before Jesus (Jn. 5:22) to be judged for their works.

OF THE WICKED DEAD

(Rev. 20:12-13, Jn. 5:28,29b)

THOSE NOT FOUND IN THE BOOK OF LIFE are thrown into the lake of fire to be tormented forever (Rev. 20:10, 15).

1 CORINTHIANS 15:24-28

NEW HEAVENS **NEW JERUSALEM** 

(Isa. 65:17, 66:22, Rev. 21:1-2, 2 Ptr. 3:10-13), believers forever with the Lord (Jn. 14:3,1 Thess. 4:17). No more curse, death, mourning, crying, or pain (Rev. 21:3-5, 22:3).

THE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS

ANTICHRIST and

false prophet thrown

(Rev.19:20), Armies that

attacked Israel will be

14:12-15). SATAN IS

BOUND (Rev. 20:2-3)

into the lake of fire

destroyed (Zech.

(Matt. 25:31-46) also known as "The Judgment of the Sheep (Tribulation believers, v.37) and the Goats (unbelievers)." See Mtt. 13:24-31, 13:47-50, Ps. 96:13, Rev. 20:4. Those who come to faith during the Tribulation will enter the Millenium Kingdom. Unbelievers will ultimately be cast into "eternal fire" (Mtt. 25:41).

617-618

—1.000 YEAR MILLENNIAL REIGN
—▶

[See notes above]

(5.)

1,000 years (Rev. 20:3,7), deceives many into going to war against the saints and Jerusalem (v.8), where they are immediately consumed by fire from heaven (v.9). Satan is thrown into the lake of fire (v.10).

SATAN RELEASED,

"for a short time" at the end of

PRESENT **HEAVENS &** EARTH "ARE TO BE DESTROYED." (2 Ptr. 3:10-12, Isa. 34:4).

RESURRECTION OF TRIBULATION MARTYRS (Rev. 20:4) & OLD TESTAMENT SAINTS (Dan. 12:1-2, Isa, 26:19, Jn. 5:28-29a) This resurrection is only "first" (Rev. 20:5) in the sense that it will be before the resurrection of the wicked (Rev. 20:12-13). The resurrection of martyrs and OT saints will occur after the Second Coming (Rev. 19:11-21) and prior to the Millennium (Rev. 20:2-6). Concerning the timing of the OT saints resurrection, Dan, 12:1 makes it clear that it will happen after the "time of distress."

EZEKIEL 38 & 39 prophesies about a great military invasion against Israel by countries such as Iran, Libya, Sudan, Turkey, and Russia. This battle will most likely happen during the first 3.5 years of the Tribulation when Israel is dwelling in the land securely and at peace (see Ezek. 38:11,14). See p. 347 in Things to Come by Dwight Pentecost where he discusses the problems with the view that this battle occurs prior to, or at the end of, the Tribulation.

#### A BIBLICAL TIMELINE OF END TIME EVENTS

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Knowing that Christ could come at any time, the Bible instructs believers to be 1. Evangelizing the world (Colossians 4:3-5, Mark 16:15) 2. Patient and Steadfast (James 5:8) 3. Kind (James 5:9) 4. Prayerful (1 Peter 4:7) 5. Faithful in assembling together and encouraging one another (Hebrews 10:24-25) 6. Conducting themselves in holiness and godliness (2 Peter 3:11, 14 and 1 John 3:2-3) 7. Joyfully confident (Titus 2:11-13)

**CRUCIFIED FOR OUR** THE CHURCH AGE SINS. From Pentecost (Acts 2:1) A.D. 30-33 (Isa. 52:13-53:12;

**JEWS RETURNING TO** HOMELAND (Ezek. 38:8, Jer. 30:1-3 32:37-38,41)

ROMANS DESTROY THE JEWISH TEMPLE A.D. 70 (Dan. 9:26, Matt. 24:1-2, Luke 21:20-24). Jews scattered throughout world.

The Bible teaches that those who have died as believers are "present with the Lord" (2 Cor. 5:8 and Phil. 1:21-24) but their bodies will be resurrected at the time of the rapture when "the dead in Christ will rise." (1Thes, 4:16)

RESURRECTION

BELIEVERS

OF CHURCH-AGE