Sept 1, 2024

The Lord blessing to all of you and hoping you are enjoying the Labor Day Weekend with family and friends.

One of the topic Christians have different viewpoints is of the Rapture as to when it will occur? Being brought up in the Catholic Church, the word Rapture was never mention in church. After I got saved, I was shock to hear that one day the Lord would come down from heaven to take His believers up to heaven and I wanted to know when would this occur?

As a new believer, I was not aware there were three views. I thought everyone had the same viewpoint. Depending on what denomination you are affiliated with, the viewpoints as to when the Rapture will be its either Pre-Tribulation, Mid-Tribulation or Post Tribulation view.

On this **BSL,** it will be discussing the Mid-Tribulation view only because it would be to lengthily to cover it as one **BSL**. Next month, the topic will be Pre-Tribulation view and so on.

But keep one thing in mind, we as believers in Christ Jesus, he said it would happen, as to the time, it’s up to Him and all we have to do is to be ready. There might be more scripture on this **topic** and I welcome your suggestions.

So, let’s get started.

Your Brother in Christ, Tony Gonzalez

**1 Peter 3:15**

but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, **always being prepared to make a defense** to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

**Strengths and Weaknesses of the Mid-Tribulation Rapture**

**Bible Scripture Letter #51**

Mid-Tribulationism teaches that the rapture occurs at the midpoint of the tribulation. At that time, the seventh trumpet sounds, **Revelation 11:15**

* Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”

the church will meet Christ in the air, and then the bowl judgments are poured upon the earth **Revelation 15 – 16** in a time known as the great tribulation. In other words, the rapture and Christ’s second coming (to set up His kingdom) are separated by a period of three and a half years. According to this view, the church goes through the first half of the tribulation but is spared the worst of the tribulation in the last three and a half years. Very close to Mid-Tribulationism is the belief in a “pre-wrath” rapture, i.e., a belief that the church is caught up to heaven before the “great day of … wrath” comes. **Revelation 6:17**

* for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?”

 In support of their view, Mid-Tribulationists point to the chronology given in **2 Thessalonians 2:1-3**

* 1 Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers,
* 2 not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.
* 3 Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,

The order of events is as follows: 1) apostasy, 2) the revelation of the Antichrist, and 3) the day of Christ. The Mid-Tribulation view teaches that the Antichrist will not be decisively revealed until “the abomination that causes desolation” **Matthew 24:15**,

* “So, when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),

which occurs at the midpoint of the tribulation **Daniel 9:27.**

* And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

Mid-Tribulationists use **Daniel 7:25,**

* He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High,
    and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand
    for a time, times, and half a time.

which says the Antichrist will have power over the “saints” for three and a half years, to bolster their point—they assume this is the first half of the tribulation and that the saints spoken of are the church. Also, they interpret “the day of Christ” as the rapture; therefore, the church will not be caught up to heaven until after the Antichrist is revealed.

 Another foundational teaching of Mid-Tribulation is that the trumpet of **1 Corinthians 15:52**

* in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

is the same trumpet mentioned in **Revelation 11:15.** The trumpet of **Revelation 11** is the final in a series of trumpets; therefore, it makes sense that it would be “the last trumpet” of **1 Corinthians 15**. This logic fails, however, in view of the trumpets’ objectives. The trumpet that sounds at the rapture is “the trumpet call of God” **1 Thessalonians 4:16,**

* For the Lord, himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

but the one in **Revelation 11** is a harbinger of judgment. One trumpet is a call of grace to God’s elect; the other is a pronouncement of doom on the wicked. Further, the seventh trumpet in Revelation is not the “last” trumpet chronologically — **Matthew 24:31**

* And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

speaks of a later trumpet that sounds at the commencement of Christ’s kingdom.

 **1 Thessalonians 5:9** says that the church has not been appointed “to suffer wrath but to receive salvation.” This would seem to indicate that believers will not experience the tribulation. However, Mid-Tribulation interprets “wrath” as only referring to the second half of the tribulation—specifically, the bowl judgments. Limiting the word in such a way seems unwarranted, however. Surely the terrible judgments contained in the seals and trumpets—including famine, poisoned rivers, a darkened moon, bloodshed, earthquakes, and torment—could also be considered the wrath of God.
 Mid-Tribulation places the rapture in **Revelation 11**, prior to the start of the great tribulation. There are two problems with this placement in the chronology of Revelation. First, the only occurrence of the term “great tribulation” in the entire book of **Revelation** is in **7:14**, before the opening of the seventh seal. Second, the only reference to a “great day of wrath” is in **Revelation 6:17**

* for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?”

during the events of the sixth seal. Both of these references come too early for a Mid-Tribulation rapture, which is timed according to the seventh trumpet.
 And a final weakness of the Mid-Tribulation view is shared by the other two theories: namely, the Bible does not give an explicit timeline concerning future events. Scripture does not expressly teach one view over another, and that is why we have diversity of opinion concerning the end times and some variety on how the related prophecies should be harmonized.

*Source* : gotquestions.org