

# Preparing for the End Times

## Myths of a Pre-Tribulation Rapture

### 1 The Rapture Occurs Before Antichrist is Revealed

*“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day (of the LORD) shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and the man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition.”*

II Thess 2:3

The Sequence of Events:

LAST: The Day of the LORD

Before that:

The “falling away”

Man of Sin Revealed

These Two Events Happen at the Same Time.

“falling away” – *apostasia* = “falling away”, NOT the Rapture!

The “falling away” will be the result of the events leading up to (and including) the revealing of antichrist.

We are taught these things would happen after we were raptured

That is what will cause millions of “Believers” to doubt their faith

And turn away from God!

The “Apostate Church

### 2 God Has Not Appointed Us to Wrath

*“For God has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our LORD Messiah Yeshua.”*

I Thess 5:9

*“And to wait for His Son from Heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Yeshua, which delivered us from the wrath to come.”*

I Thess 1:10

Understand the difference between Tribulation (persecution by our fellow man) and the Wrath of God

Seal Judgments #1-5

Tribulation of Believers

Seal Judgment #6

“Signs in the Heavens”

Genesis 1:14

Seal Judgment #7

Silence of the Raptured Believers

Trumpet & Bowl Judgments

All the Wrath of God

### 3 The Restrainer Must First Be Removed

*“For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back (restrainer) will continue to do so until he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed.”*

II Thess 2:7-8a

Antichrist has many names ... but “Restrainer” is not one of them

This is NOT the Holy Spirit; He must be present during God’s Wrath.

So, who is the Restrainer?? Michael the Archangel may be a pattern

Daniel 10:12-13

### 4 The Open Door to Heaven

*“After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in Heaven; and the first voice I heard was, as it were, of a trumpet talking with me; which said, ‘Come up here, and I will show you things which must be hereafter.’”*

Revelation 4:1

The Rapture is clearly described:

Believers will be *harpazo* – “caught up

...to meet Yeshua “in the clouds”

Neither of these events are described here in Rev 4:1

An O.T. Look at the Rapture:

*"I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and was led into His Presence."*

Daniel 7:13

Here the saints are led from the clouds into the Presence of God  
Not directly to God as Rev 4:1 says

Rev 4:1 is a specific invitation to John  
Just as Ezekiel's Vision was to him  
And Paul's experience was to him

Ezek 1:3-4  
II Cor 12:3-4

None of these 3 events have any similarities to Paul's Rapture Descriptions

I Corinth 15  
I Thess 4

## 5 The Church is Not Mentioned After Revelation 4:1

Even though the word "church" is not mentioned, what is the "church" composed of? .... People!!

Seal #5 speaks of the "*souls of them that were slain*"

Revelation 6:9

The Saints are not to take the Mark of the Beast (during the Seals)

Rev 14:11-13

The "church" will persevere during the Seal Tribulations

II Thess 1:4-10

## 6 The Rapture Happens Before the 24 Elders & Their Crowns in Chapter 4

Compare Ezekiel's trip to the Throne Room (Ezek 1:4-14) with John's Vision (Rev 4)  
What is missing in Ezekiel that is present in Revelation?

So ... who are the 24 Elders??

They have Crowns ... so they must be Believers

Salvation = Faith + Nothing!

Crowns are our rewards for deeds on Earth:

**Crown of Glory:** For Faithful Servants

I Peter 5:4

**Crown of Rejoicing:** For Soul Winners

I Thess 2:19

**Crown of Righteousness:**

For Those Who Love His Return

II Timothy 4:8

**Incorruptible Crown:**

For Victorious Lives of Purity

I Corinth 9:25

**Crown of Life:** For Christian Martyrs

Rev 2:10

Three Raptures???

Hinted at .....

1) Old Testament Saints (Already Happened)

Luke 12:35-38

2) "*dead in Messiah shall rise first...*"

Matt 27:50-53

3) "*...then we who are alive ...*"

I Thess 4:16

I Thess 4:17

O.T. Saints' Rapture happened after Ezekiel's Vision

They are the 24 Elders with Crowns that John sees

Pre-Tribulation Proponents will argue against a Post-Wrath Rapture

And every one of their arguments apply to the Pre-Wrath View as well.

The key to understanding the fallacy of Pre-Trib is to understand the difference between:

**Tribulation** – man's persecution of his fellow man

**God's Wrath** – God pouring out supernatural events on the Earth

Not as punishment, but to force sinful mankind to turn to Him