



At the crucifixion of Jesus, so many people—including the disciples—were confused, disappointed and disturbed. They didn't have understanding of Christ's plans as Messiah and King. Today there is much confusion about the Rapture, Tribulation, and The Second Coming of Christ.

Q & A WITH BILL SLININGER

I. THE RAPTURE IS IMMINENT (can happen at any time).

- A. No signs before it occurs
- B. Happens for both those alive and those in the grave who are in Christ

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 (NLT) ¹³ And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died. ¹⁵ We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. ¹⁷ Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.

The Rapture of the believers is going to be a glorious event! Our thoughts can only begin to imagine the joy of meeting our Savior in the air. Being reunited with loved ones, trading our earth suits for incorruptible bodies!

C. Timing of the Rapture

1. Post-Tribulation Rapture (at the end of tribulation)
2. Pre-Wrath Rapture (at about 3/4 of the way)
3. Mid-Tribulation Rapture (at the midpoint of Tribulation)
4. Partial Rapture (only the devoted miss the Tribulation)
5. Pre-Tribulation Rapture (before Tribulation begins)

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10 (NASB) ⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him.

D. Significant Events of the Rapture

1. Christ comes in the air
2. Christ comes for all His own
3. Ends the Church Age
4. Everyone is changed

1 John 3:2 (NCV) Dear friends, now we are children of God, and we have not yet been shown what we will be in the future. But we know that when Christ comes again, we will be like him, because we will see him as he really is.



5. Only the believers hear and see Him
6. It takes place quickly
7. We will be with Christ forever

1 Corinthians 15:51-53 (NKJV) ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 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 incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

Jesus is looking forward to the Rapture, just like us! We are always in His heart. In our victories, we're in His heart. In our moments of weakness, we're in His heart. He's wanting us in His presence even more than we desire to be with Him!

John 14:1-3 (NKJV) "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And 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*.

There are twenty-one judgements coming in the Tribulation intensifying as they progress:

II. TRIBULATION JUDGEMENTS

A. Seal Judgements

1. White Horse...Global false peace
2. Red Horse...Global war, killing, bloodshed
3. Black Horse...Global famine, pestilence and scarcity
4. Pale Horse...Global death (1/4 of mankind will be killed by the sword, famine, plagues and wild beasts).
5. Altar of Souls...Global persecution (The cry of the Martyrs)
6. Global Earthquake...The sun turns black, the moon turns blood red, asteroids fall to earth, the sky recedes, mountains / islands removed from their places, great changes in the earth and the solar system (across the whole planet)...**This is the beginning of the Great Tribulation**
7. Time of Silence... 1/2 hour of total silence

B. Trumpet Judgements

1. Hail/Fire...1/3 of the earth, trees and all vegetation are burned up
2. Huge Asteroid...crashes into the sea destroying 1/3 of the ships and 1/3 of the sea dies
3. Blazing Comet...resulting in 1/3 of the rivers are poisoned and fresh water becomes bitter (Wormwood) causing death of many
4. Solar Smiting...1/3 of sun, moon and stars are struck...1/3 of day and night is without light
5. Satan releases hordes of demonic locusts to torture for five months
6. Four Angels Loosed from Euphrates killing 1/3 of mankind
7. The Kingdom of God and the Bowl Judgments announced

C. Bowl Judgements



1. Ugly, painful, malignant sores and boils
2. All of the seas turn to blood and the sea creatures die
3. All the rivers and fresh water turn to blood
4. The sun scorches people with fire and people curse God
5. The kingdom of the antichrist is plunged into darkness
6. The Euphrates River dries up
7. Final pronouncement: Greatest of all earthquakes...a new look for Jerusalem (split in three) ...all the cities on the whole planet collapse...a cup of wrath for Babylon (the One World religion called the Harlot)...all islands and mountains are gone...massive hailstones 100 lbs. each

III. THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Jesus is ready to rule and reign on earth at the end of Tribulation. His mercy has reached the stopping point for an unbelieving humanity. There is no more grace for the sin of the world; the time of His wrath is ending. Rejection of Him has found its limit. Without an end, no one would survive!

Matthew 24:21-22 (NIV) ²¹ For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. ²² “If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened.

- A. The whole world will know

Revelation 1:7 (NIV) “Look, he is coming with the clouds,” and “every eye will see him, even those who pierced him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.” So shall it be! Amen.

- A. Jesus as a conquering King of kings and Lord of lords

1. Jesus defeats His enemies with the Spoken Word

Revelation 19:11-16 (NIV) ¹¹ I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

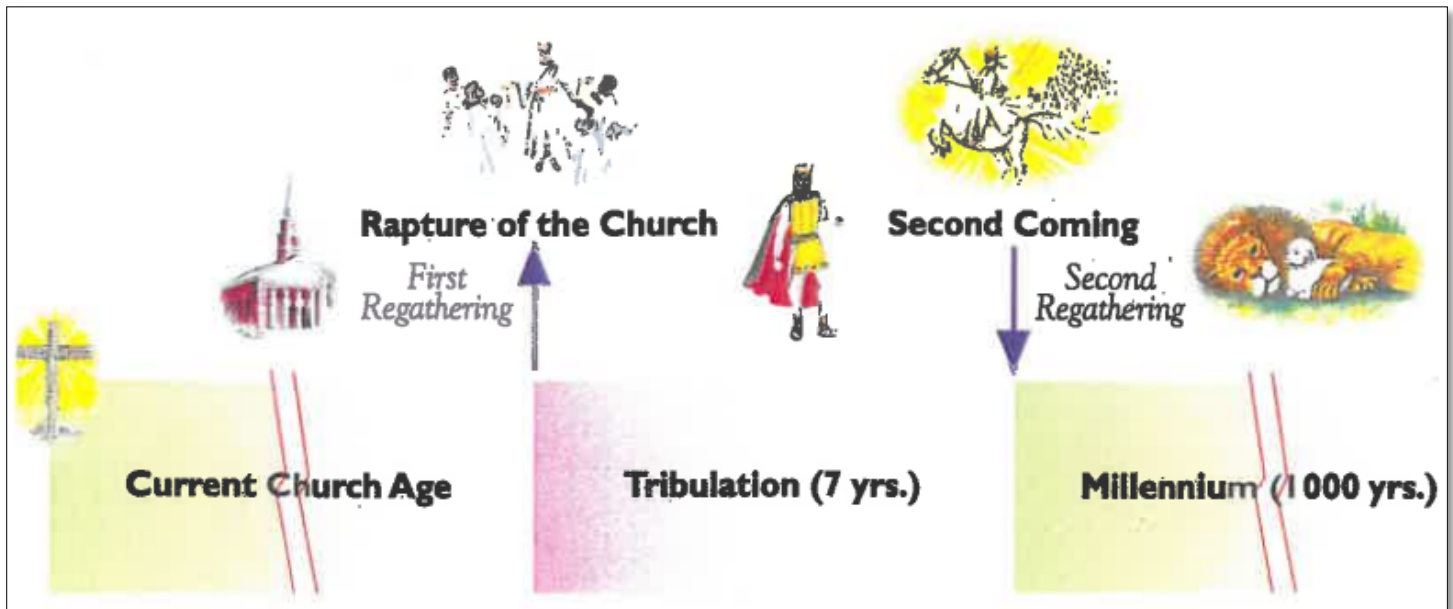
2. Battle of Armageddon (blood as high as a horse’s bridle [4 ft. deep] for nearly 200 miles)...angelic harvest of the righteous and the unrighteous. The presence of Jesus renders the Antichrist powerless
3. Unbelievers are removed from the earth
4. Jesus, because of His great love for us, will take His throne
5. A 75-day interval between the end of Tribulation until the Millennium begins
6. Satan is bound until the Millennium ends
7. The Second Coming will be followed by a time of peace

IV. Why is it important to have some understanding of the End Times?



- A. It helps us remain steadfast
- B. It helps keep us hunger spiritually
- C. It helps us reach the lost
- D. It helps us appreciate receiving communion together

REVELATION TIMELINE



ADDITIONAL END TIMES RESOURCES AND GROUPS

Web Resources:



End Times Tuesday (6:30-8:00pm) Small Group:



End Times Thursday (1:00-2:30pm) Small Group:

