

A study of "RAPTURE" and tribulation quoting many famous Bible teachers. Did Jesus say the Church would be Raptured out of the Tribulation?



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RAPTURE OR RESURRECTION? There is a big difference between the "rapture" and the "resurrection." There are thousands of people who think that the "rapture" idea, with driverless cars and crashing airplanes, is nothing but an emotion packed made up story with no Bible basis. But all Christians agree that there will be a "resurrection" in the future. The sensational display of the terror filled tribulation really has nothing to do with when the "resurrection" will take place. We are convinced that the Bible teaches that the "resurrection" will take place at the end of the tribulation, not before it.

There will not be a rapture before the tribulation. There won't be a rapture, ever. The resurrection will be at the end of the trouble. Let us get this straight: There is no scripture anywhere that proves that the rapture comes before the tribulation. The notes in the Scoffed Bible are the biggest offender and have done the most to project the error. I changed my mind, after Bible study (not Scoffed note study), and I began to teach Christians to get ready for trouble. God never promised to send us Christians His wrath (wrath is for the unbeliever) but He did promise to send us tribulation.

AN ERROR

An erroneous prophetic view was circulated claming that the coming of Christ was not one event. It was divided into two stages. Christ will come **twice** from heaven to earth, but the first time only as far as the air. The first descent, it is said will be for the purpose of removing the Church from the world, and will occur **before** the Great **Tribulation** under

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antichrist. This is erroneously called, "The coming for His Saints" or "Secret Rapture."

The second erroneous part of the Secret Rapture theory is said to take place when Christ appears in glory and destroys the antichrist. This is called, "The coming with His saints."

TIMING

After many years I discovered that nearly all Bible students believe that the "resurrection" takes place after the tribulation.

AFTER THE TRIBULATION!

Jesus placed the sign of His second coming "immediately AFTER the tribulation of those days." (Matt. 24:29) The Bible DOES NOT say the Christians will be raptured FIRST when two are in the field, one taken and one left. (Matt. 24:40-41) However, it is clear that the children of the wicked one are taken FIRST from reading Matthew 13:24-43.

I blindly followed my denominational teaching by proclaiming that it would be first the rapture then secondly the appearance of the antichrist. But I discovered that the scripture really says, "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition." (II Thes. 2:3). The scripture says plainly, FIRST the antichrist then second the resurrection. The word "rapture" cannot be found in the Bible. Look it up and see! We have added that to our Christian vocabulary; God did not put the rapture in His word.

CHURCH IS NOT READY YET Jesus Christ is going to present a glorious church without spot, or wrinkle. (Eph. 5:27) It is obvious that the church is not ready for His coming according to that standard. There is yet much perfecting of the church to do, first, before Jesus comes. It is a very grave error to tell Christians that they will escape the **tribulation**. Christians will escape the **wrath**, not the **tribulation**.

MORE BIBLE TRUTH

In studying 2 Thes. 2:7, Dr. Oswald J. Smith said, "'He who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way,' I learned from the Greek, that the second 'he' is the antichrist, and that the Greek does not say 'taken out of the way,' but 'revealed in the midst,' or 'born out of the midst.' In other words, lawlessness will be restrained until the appointed time for the lawless one, the antichrist, to appear. There is no mention of the Holy Spirit at all. That is a Scofield Bible assumption. The Holy Spirit and the church remain to the **end** of the age."

SUPPER FOR SEVEN YEARS? Some people mistakenly teach that after the **rapture** we will all go to the marriage supper of the lamb, and we will be there for seven years, eating and enjoying ourselves while God punishes the world. A close analysis of the scripture in 1Thes. 4:17 shows that the word "meet" was only used in two other places, in scripture. In both places it means 'returning with' and not 'remaining at' the place of meeting. There is no scripture anywhere in the Bible that says we will remain for seven years in the air.

I have been taught that the Greek word 'parousia' always referred to the **rapture** and that other words were used for the Coming of Christ in glory after the **tribulation**. But I found that this also is not true. 'Parousia' is used for the coming in glory in 2 Thes. 2:1."

I BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION I believe that the dead saints will be resurrected at the end of the tribulation and we who are alive will meet them. Since the resurrection occurs after the tribulation, then every born again believer in Jesus Christ needs to be awakened to this truth. They need to prepare and perfect themselves, through the word, by the Holy Spirit. Your hope of being taken out and away from the bad things may let you down and you may not have the power (Holy Spirit) to go through the trouble. Of all the people I know, not one person has ever found a single scripture that says we will be **raptured before** the **tribulation**. Can you? When scripture conflicts with tradition, which should we believe? Change your mind like I did!

Some evangelicals hand out a newspaper type tract showing shocking pictures of horror and havoc after a supposed **rapture**, but the paper is repulsive to Bible students because no scripture is given to prove the ideas.

PROTECTION DID JESUS SAY THAT THE CHURCH WOULD BE RAPTURED BEFORE THE TRIBULATION?

HE DID NOT!!!

He said, "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil." (John 17:15)

SUPERNATURAL PROTECTION Noah was not raptured out of the flood water; he went through the water. God said, "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." (Isaiah 43:2) Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego saw the fourth man and went through the fire. They were not raptured out. Daniel was not raptured out of the Lion's den; he went through it.

God has established a pattern of providing supernatural protection for His people so that they had the power to go through the test, not out of it. Why would He change his pattern for the last great **tribulation**? God said, "Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. There shall no evil befall thee." (Psalm 91) A mighty supernatural deliverance was wrought by God by protecting all His children in Egypt.

THROUGH, NOT OUT They went **through** the LAST SEVEN plagues but Israel did not suffer from them. (Exodus 8:22-23, 9:4)

When we study how God poured out his wrath in Egypt during the LAST SEVEN plagues we notice an amazing parallel to when God will pour out his wrath during the LAST SEVEN vials of wrath (also seven trumpets) of the book of Revelation.

Just as God protected His people from His wrath in Egypt, He will also protect His people from His wrath in the **end** time. But it should be noted; his people always go through it, not out of it.



Now that I understand about the resurrection, I'm going to really study the Bible and learn what I need to know, in order to go through tribulation victoriously.

FIGHT

Some of our friends did not like the idea of going through the **tribulation**, so they began to wonder if we who believe in a **post-tribulation resurrection** were really saved. Now look, salvation does not depend on what you believe regarding the **rapture** or **tribulation**. Salvation has to do with believing on Jesus Christ and following Him. I am saved in spirit, I am being saved in my soul and by the grace of God I will be saved in my body, all through Jesus Christ! Furthermore, this does not question your salvation, either.

One denomination will not extend the right hand of fellowship to you unless you agree with them in their mistaken idea about the **rapture**.

Now I see that many Christians really believe that their leaders are infallible and that their denomination cannot make a mistake.

I have now seen that denominationalism is a great enemy to the cause of Christ. People who think that their own denomination is "the greatest" are badly deceived and they do much to hurt real Christianity. Two things which are enemies to the cause of Christ are the 1.) traditions and 2.) commandments of the church. People mistakenly think that what the "church" said is what Jesus said, but there is a big difference. I did not know this until I started to study the "**rapture** question," and now I see that it applies to a whole lot more beside **rapture**.

I discovered that people hate each other and fight each other because of their disagreement about the "**rapture**:" Brothers, this should not be going on. The most shocking thing that this study has shown me is that Christianity is presently divided over issues which, though important, should not be important enough to make Christians hate each other. Now, I have seen that everyone in my city who names the name of Jesus Christ is my brother and is in the "real Church" no matter what he believes about the **rapture**.

Some people who had dreams or visions of the **rapture** were so completely disarmed

by the barrage of scriptures showing the errors of the newspaper tracts and their visions that they retaliated with rage. This shows me that present Christianity must go through more changing and come into love, not hate. We have got to come to the idea that everyone who names the name of Jesus Christ is a Christian, no matter what they believe regarding the **rapture**. We have allowed our different denominational leaders to brainwash us into thinking that unless everyone agrees with our group, they are in danger.

Really, the person who is in danger is the one who thinks he is right and has not changed much lately.

CHANGE YOUR MIND

Thousands of Christians are changing their minds about the "**rapture**" of the church. We used to think that the "**rapture**" would take place **before** the **tribulation**. Now, we see that the Bible shows that the **resurrection** will be at the **end** of the time of trouble. But not everyone agrees. Some denominations still hold strongly to their traditions about the "rapture" in spite of all the Bible evidence to show that it will be at the end of the tribulation. Some people know more about prophecy from listening to a quartet sing "I'll Fly Away" than from Bible study, but things are changing. I found that there are many Bible students who believe that the resurrection will take place at the end of the tribulation. But I was shocked to find that a few people actually consider us as their enemies after we changed to believe the Bible, not their tradition.

WHO SAID SO?

A great churchman, Dr. OSWALD J. SMITH (TORONTO), said, "Now, after years of study and prayer I am absolutely convinced that there will be **no rapture before** the **Tribulation**, but that the Church will undoubtedly be called upon to face the antichrist, and that Christ will come at the **close** and not at the beginning of that awful period." He said, "I have always held (in the past) the view that the **rapture** precedes the Revelation by some seven years."

Something changed the mind of that great Bible student and preacher.

He went on to say, "I believed the other theory simply because I was taught it by W. E. Blackstone in his book "JESUS IS COMING" the "SCOFIELD REFERENCE BIBLE" and Prophetic Conferences and Bible Schools; but when I began to search the scriptures for myself, I discovered that there is not a single verse in the Bible that upholds the **pre-tribulation** theory, but that the uniform teaching of the Word of God is a **post-tribulation rapture**." Search the scriptures for yourself and your mind also will be changed.

A man from England, Edmund Shackleton, wrote a book, "WILL THE CHURCH ESCAPE THE GREAT TRIBULATION?" Any one who reads the book will be convinced that there will be no resurrection before the tribulation.

Rev. Pat Robertson, a famous radio and TV personality on the east coast, has spent many hours on his own stations telling his audience that they would have to be prepared because they will go through the **tribulation**, not out of it.

HISTORY OF THE RAPTURE THEORY (FALSE)

Mr. Edmund Shakleton opened his book with the statement, "All who held the premillennial Coming of Christ were -- of one mind on the subject ----- (until circa. 1830).

Mr. H. A. Baker wrote, "For eighteen centuries the fundamental principle of **tribulation** to glory was the universal belief of the truly born again members of the Church."

Dr. Oswald J. Smith said, "The new pre-tribulation rapture teaching was first

proclaimed as a direct revelation by a woman (Margaret Macdonald) in Edward Irving's church, and then taken up by John Nelson Darby (and the Scofield Reference Bible) in direct contradiction to the teaching of the Church for eighteen hundred years.

H. A. Baker said, "Beginning with the Irvingite woman, then propagated by John N. Darby about 1830, this new <u>doctrine</u> has come down to us until it has become popular. GEORGE MULLER opposed it; so did Benjamin Wills Newton; so did Dr. S. P. Tregelles and other Brethren."

FAMOUS CHURCHMEN AGREE Dr. Henry W. Frost, former Home Director of CHINA INLAND MISSION, wrote a book MATTHEW 24 AND THE REVELATION. It argues conclusively for a POST-TRIBULATION rapture. Here is a list of Bible teachers who have written to show that we will go through the tribulation: 1.) David Baron, 2.) Dr. Bergin, 3.) Dr. Horatius Bonar, 4.) Charles T. Cook, 5.) Charles R. Erdman, 6.) W. J. Erdman, 7.) Bishop Frank Houghton, 8.) Dr. Campbell Morgan, 9.) Dr. Adolph Saphir, 10.) Dr. A. B. Simpson, 11.) H. W. Soltan, 12.) Dr. J. W. Thirtle, 13.) Henry Varley, 14.) Nathaniel West, 15.) Lennard Darby, 16) Norman S. MacPherson.

Other famous men who have taken this position are George Muller, John B. Scruby, Norman Douty, George Ladd (Fuller Theological Seminary), and J. Barton Payne (Wheaton College).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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RAPTURE! PROPHECY OR HERESY and also THE \$10,000 CHALLENGE H. Speed Wilson, Col. USMC (Retired), C/O DARING BOOKS, 913 TUSCARAWAS ST N W CANTON OH 44702 Heart of America Bible Society, **Publications on Rapture**. David MacPherson, 5528 Lydia St.Kansas City, Missouri 64110.

Biblical Research Institute. Ed Sanders, write: Prof. Art Katterjohn, c/o Wheaton College.

TELL IT LIKE IT WILL BE. Norman Spurgeon MacPherson, 516 Doe Lane S.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87123.

ONE SHALL BE TAKEN. Bill Britton, P. O. Box 707, Springfield, Missouri.

THE SECRET RAPTURE BLESSED HOPE OR HERESY? Lennard Darby, 6561 Fauntleroy Way, S.W. Seattle, Washington 98116.

TRIBULATION OR RAPTURE-WHICH?

Oswald J. Smith, D.D. (Toronto). The Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony, Secretary: George Fromow, 9 Milnthorpe Rd., Chiswick, London, W.4.

THE RAPTURE-WHEN? Arthur Katterjohn, 220 East Union, Wheaton, Illinois 60187.

PLAIN SPEAKING ON THE RAPTURE QUESTION. Orson P. Jones, Grace Baptist Church, 3844 Georgia St. San Diego, California.

EVEN SO, COME, LORD JESUS. Pastor William G. Lowe, Scripture Truth R. D. 1, Box 36-C, Narrowsburg, New York 12764.

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WHO SAID RAPTURE?

DAVID PAUL EBAUGH, David Ebaugh Bible School, 102 Park Terrace., Harrisburg, PA 17111. Order four of these for \$1.00.

THE TEACHER

David Ebaugh applies the tools of engineering, his former occupation, to cast a penetrating light on BIBLE prophecy. His views and insights are novel. Ebaugh started teaching the BIBLE on a part-time basis in 1960, when he first began to notice the key to the book of Revelation, which has opened many other doors to scripture. In 1968 he left his profession of Electronic Engineering to devote full-time to BIBLE study and teaching. He was ordained to the ministry in 1972. Formerly a submarine sailor, Ebaugh received engineering training from the US Navy, and received his engineering diploma from the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers in NYC. He has made significant inventions in typewriters for IBM. He set up production lines for missiles, and flight simulators for an Aerospace company. Ebaugh is a senior member of American Society of Tool and Manufacturing Engineers, Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Society of American Value Engineers, Institute of Industrial Engineers.

Ebaugh graduated from the Shortridge **BIBLE** School in 1947. His full financial support has come from **BIBLE** teaching since 1968.

David Ebaugh and Betty LeTourneau were married in 1950. They have four children and ten grandchildren.

Ebaugh's biographical record appears in Marquis:

- 1. WHO'S WHO IN FINANCE AND INDUSTRY, and in
- 2. WHO'S WHO IN THE EAST, and in
- 3. WHO'S WHO IN RELIGION.
- 4. WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA

THE SCHOOL

Thousands of students actively search the **BIBLE** for ideas that uncover the enigma of the Christian life using Ebaugh's audio and video cassettes, and books, and lectures. The school has no bricks and mortar, but operates mainly by mail. Ebaugh travels extensively, lecturing throughout the US, and in foreign countries. There are five main areas of investigation into the scriptures: 1.) SPIRIT, SOUL and BODY, 2.) NAMES OF GOD, 3.) LAW OR GRACE, 4.) REVELATION PROPHECY, 5.) IMMORTALITY.

The scriptures are probed and examined in an effort to produce attitude changes that prepare the student for the manifestation of the Sons of God. Theology is examined from many sources which include, but are not limited to the ethos of Fundamental, Evangelical, Pentecostal, and Charismatic beliefs. Faith in God, belief in Jesus Christ, and sensitivity to the leading of the Holy Spirit are all emphasized. The school teaches that the HOLY BIBLE contains patterns and ideas that are supreme and are the final authority. Cassette tape lessons were made during actual live teaching sessions in Hershey, Baltimore, West Chester, Washington, DC, Harrisburg, and many other locations. One book of each title is given free on the request of anyone who needs financial assistance. A publication named the MONARCH is mailed free on request. The mailing list is never sold or rented for any reason.

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