

PRE-TRIB RAPTURE STUDY

Remember, these are my personal notes, very ruff, not organized and written as if to me. I am adding and subtracting to this all the time but this is what I have to now. I hope they help and will bless you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me. GBY.

Linda Kirby's Rapture study:

Latin "Rapturo"

Strong's Definition of harpazo:(Greek)

726 harpazo har-pad'-zo

from a derivative of 138; TDNT-1:472,80; v

AV-catch up 4, take by force 3, catch away 2, pluck 2, catch 1, pull 1; 13

1)to seize, carry off by force

2)to seize on, claim for one's self eagerly

3)to snatch out or away

End times is the time of Jacob's trouble, aka Israel's trouble. Jacob was renamed Israel by God. So, if there's no pretrib. rapture, that puts the church into the time of Jacob's trouble when that is wrong. The reason for the tribulation is for the salvation of the Jewish nation, not the church.

1 Corth.15:51-53

1st Corinthians 15:51-53 says 51; Behold, I shew 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 trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and we shall be changed. 53 for this corruptible must put on incorruption, this mortal must put on immortality. **1 Corinthians 15:52**

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump. Could this be that the rapture may happen on the Feast of Trumpets? (tekiah hagadolah, the last trump of the feast of trumpets. There are over 100 trumpets sounded and the last one is the "last trump"): for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.(Last trump mentioned here is the last trump of the feast of trumpets, not the last trump in Rev. (It's also, the trumpet of resurrection, not judgement. God's voice is that of a Trumpet (John says so in Rev.1 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,. So, God's voice will sound like a trumpet when He calls us to "come up hither". But that isn't the "last trump". Last trump is the feast trumpets. Numbers 10 also explains how and when and for what reason trumpets should be sounded. Besides, the book of Rev. wasn't written for about 40 to 70 yrs. After this passage was written so the last trump in Rev. wasn't even known yet. The people didn't know about John's revelation yet and not for a long time after this passage was written so it could NOT mean the last trump of Rev.)

Could this be after the final seventh trumpet of Rev 11:15? If we say it is referring to the last trump of the feast of trumpets then we are saying we know precisely the very moment Christ will return and we can't know that right?

Rev. 3: 10, 11: (This verse is my personal blessed hope)

Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep **you FROM** the **HOUR** of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth.

...I will keep you FROM (NOT THRU BUT FROM) the HOUR (BEFORE THE TIME OF TRIAL) of

trial (temptation, testing, peirasmovß)....this means He will not make us be IN the hour that is coming on the earth to test or try those who have not been saved. This is definitely pre-trib. (Strong's concordance #3986) Remember, this verse was written for the Philidelphia church, the perfect church so when He said 'you' He was talking about the perfect church...NOT everyone who claims to be a Christian. Post trib or mid trib do not take this verse literal and tends to twist it to mean something else. By the way, Paul taught us that if anyone, even the angels in heaven teach another gospel other than what he has taught us, we are to run from them for they will be acursed and if we even bid them God bless, we take part in that curse. So, by teaching another rapture doctrine, they are doing exactly what Paul was talking about. For, Paul was the one who taught us about the pre trib. Rapture!

"The hour of testing/temptation" is what my Bible reads. Could this mean that He is with us in spirit to keep us unwavering and strong in the end times?

In Rev. 22:

18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall **add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:** 19 **And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.**

So, if we just forget, throw out, disregard, twist, Rev. 3:10, then we are, in my mind, doing exactly what Rev. 22: 18,,19 is saying not to do at risk of damnation.

This starts the /Rosh Hashanah: **Isa. 26:1:** In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks.

- 2 Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. (God opens the gates so those who are His perfect bride, can enter/the rapture)
- 3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.
- 4 Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength:
- 5 For he bringeth down them that dwell on high; the lofty city, he layeth it low; he layeth it low, even to the ground; he bringeth it even to the dust.
- 6 The foot shall tread it down, even the feet of the poor, and the steps of the needy.
- 7 The way of the just is uprightness: thou, most upright, dost weigh the path of the just.

- 8 Yea, in the way of thy judgments, O Lord, have we waited for thee; the desire of our soul is to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee.
- 9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.
- 10 Let favour be shewed to the wicked, yet will he not learn righteousness: in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will not behold the majesty of the Lord.
- 11 Lord, when thy hand is lifted up, they will not see: but they shall see, and be ashamed for their envy at the people; yea, the fire of thine enemies shall devour them.
- 12 Lord, thou wilt ordain peace for us: for thou also hast wrought all our works in us.
- 13 O Lord our God, other lords beside thee have had dominion over us: but by thee only will we make mention of thy name.
- 14 They are dead, they shall not live; they are deceased, they shall not rise: therefore hast thou visited and destroyed them, and made all their memory to perish.
- 15 Thou hast increased the nation, O Lord, thou hast increased the nation: thou art glorified: thou hast removed it far unto all the ends of the earth.
- 16 Lord, in trouble have they visited thee, they poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them.
- 17 Like as a woman with child, that draweth near the time of her delivery, is in pain, and crieth out in her pangs; so have we been in thy sight, O Lord.
- 18 We have been with child, we have been in pain, we have as it were brought forth wind; we have not wrought any deliverance in the earth; neither have the inhabitants of the world fallen.
- 19 Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. (the first resurrection/rapture)

[Isa 26:20] Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. (this speaks of the rapture directly) He's saying for us to come thru the door (rapture) until the indignation (tribulation) be overpast. This is PRE TRIB. Without a doubt.

Could this mean to enter our homes/dwellings and wait out this terrible time? "Hide thyself"? Why would we have to hide ourselves if we were with the Lord?

[Isa 26:21] For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain. This is where the Lord will punish the earth in the tribulation.

"He comes out of His place to punish..." It does not say He comes out of His place for His bride. (just an observation)

1 Thes. 4: 15-18:

- 15 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.
- 16 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:
- 17 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.
- 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Strong's #726

1 Thessalonians 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up <726 harpazo> together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

1Thes.4 Christ is "appearing", not actually coming back. He appears in the clouds. While Rev. 19, he's coming back to fight the war clothed in his vestments for war. 2 Different occurrences. In 1 thes. he's a "deliverer" in Rev. 19, he's a warrior! 1 Thes. he's coming "for" the church while in Rev. 19, the church is his warriors coming back with Him. 1 Thes. he's coming as the bridegroom but in Rev. he's coming back as "the king of kings."

1 Thessalonians 1:9,10

"For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, [even] Jesus, which **delivered us from the wrath to come.**"

It doesn't say to keep us safe thru the wrath to come. It doesn't say to hide us from the wrath to come. DELIVER means to be taken out, removed to another place, to bring and hand over.

Could "wrath" here mean damnation as opposed to salvation?

Matt. 24: 40:

40 Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. 41 Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. This verse has been twisted to say that those who were taken were the sinners?? I don't think they read the entire bible or even the entire chapter of Matt. 24!! Jesus was just talking about how in Noah's day, no one was expecting the flood. He was giving the disciples examples of what it will be like at the coming of the Son of man. So, the one that is taken is the raptured saint. The one left is the sinner who will go thru the tribulation. Just as Noah was taken out of the flood, so will the one that is taken out of the field. There is another point that he was making in verse 40 and that is showing how things will be going on as usual, normal everyday life. The man is in the field working as usual. The woman is doing her daily chores also. Then suddenly, the one is taken and the other left.

There is no wars going on. No earthquakes or other "natural disasters" going on...just another day. That is how it will be at the rapture. No asteroid hitting and THEN the rapture. No tsunami hitting and THEN the rapture. No mega earthquake and no martial law...just your normal day as usual.

Matt. 25, the parable of the 10 virgins is a picture of the rapture. The virgins were all invited to the wedding. They were the bride so of course they were invited. Being the bride of Christ, we are all invited to the rapture. However, 5 foolish virgins had not enough oil in their lamps. Which means, they were half living in the world and half in Christ. They weren't baptized in the Holy Spirit. They got saved, but never got a relationship with Jesus. They fell back into their worldly life. They were what we refer to as lukewarm or carnal Christians...Christians in name only or those that got saved and fell for the lie that they could continue to sin and they will be fine! Well, when those 5 foolish virgins went to get more oil, Jesus came for his bride and shut the door. He raptured the 5 wise virgins. They were the ones who were in a deep, solid relationship with Jesus and kept their garments clean. The door is shut after the rapture...no more opportunity to get raptured, just like Noah's ark door was closed by God himself. No man could open that door either. So, when the foolish virgins returned to find the rapture had happened, they banged on the door and Jesus told them He never knew them. You may ask how could that be if they were the bride? Well, they were the ones who had a relationship with the world and NOT with Jesus. So, He never knew them.

Could it mean that the virgins (lukewarm Christians) had no more opportunity to get SAVED after the coming of the Lord? Door is shut.

Pre-trib rapture scripture:

Luke 21:36: Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy **to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.**

"Praying that you may be able to escape..." (NIV). Luke 21:9-28 - we will be persecuted *before* the coming of the Son of man and we will see earthquakes, famines and plagues. We will be betrayed by family members. People will faint from fear. Powers of the heavens will be disrupted - then people will see the Son of man coming on the cloud with great glory.

Romans 5:9: Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved **FROM** wrath through him. (FROM not through)

1Thess. 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our

Lord Jesus Christ (the entire 7 yrs of tribulation is wrath...yes, the last 3.5 yrs. Is the great tribulation and God's wrath, but He starts up the trib. With wrath, not blessings.)

Could "wrath" mean damnation as opposed to salvation?

Post tribbers believe the church will be protected thru the trib. But **Luke 21:35** says: 35 For as a snare shall it come on **all them** that dwell on the face of the **whole earth**. So, you can see that from this verse, **ALL** will be judged, no one will be protected throughout the **WHOLE earth**. So, how would the church be protected? By the PRE TRIB. Rapture, that's how! **Luke 21:36** Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted **worthy to escape all these things** that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.
(that's the bema seat)

2Peter 2:7-9: And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:
God took Lot & his family OUT of the city and UP on the mountain to catch them away from the destruction. The two angels told them to hurry and leave (thus the catching away) By them going UP on the mountain, is a picture of us being taken UP to the clouds.

Could this mean that the Lord will lead us to a safe place during the destruction as he did with Noah and Lot?

[2Thess 2:1] Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,
(The coming of our Lord Jesus, and our gathering together unto him is the rapture.)

[2Thess 2:2] That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. ("The day of Christ is at hand" refers not to the rapture, but to the day of wrath, the seven years

of tribulation. {Amos 5:18 below}The church of Thessalonica must have gotten a letter that said they were living in the tribulation--which is shaking and troubling news. They could not have thought that they were living in the rapture, or that it was "at hand" or "now" because the rapture happens suddenly, instantaneously. And if the report was that the rapture was "soon to come", that would not be shaking or troubling, but glorious and wonderful. The only option, for the verse to make sense, is that they thought that the rapture had passed, and that they were in the tribulation.) They were fearing this: **[Dan 7:21]** I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

Could this be comforting words so needed in a time of great tribulation?

What IS the "day of Christ" anyway, is it the rapture?

[Amos 5:18] Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light.
(This "day of the Lord" cannot be the rapture, because we look forward to the rapture. There are many other scriptures that say the same thing. The day of

the Lord is tribulation, also known as the time of Jacob's trouble, Israel's trouble not the church's trouble, the days of Awe.)

Could the "day of the Lord" be when the Son of man returns? Could this be trying to tell us that we should not want to hurry the day of the Lord because it is a very dark time for everyone.

[**2Thess 2:3**] Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day [tribulation--the day of Christ] shall not come, except there come a falling away [apostacy--or departure (some assume this means departure from the faith, but considering the context of this letter it can also mean departure from the earth, as in rapture. Proper Greek translation is "THE DEPARTURE")] first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Could "falling away" be a result of Christians leaving Christianity and falling for a new false religion? Those not wanting to have to go through the tribulation? Those who were expecting to be "rescued" from these coming things? Maybe they became tired of waiting and just gave up on Christ? They were not strong Christians?

(Now, if they were troubled that the rapture had passed, Paul is assuring the Church that they didn't miss anything, saying that that the tribulation that they feared is preceded by several important key events: First, the rapture, which reveals the antichrist...)

[**2Thess 2:4**] Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

(who doesn't even sit in the temple until 3.5 years into the tribulation... See Rev (which they didn't know at the time)-- But this is why this point, of the AntiChrist being revealed after the rapture--who goes on to sit in the temple, is proof that they hadn't missed the rapture. There is no antichrist revealed yet. This is also why the preterist view is dead in the water. Of course, they may say that one of the pagan rulers was the A/C but I don't recall them receiving the head wound and coming back to do the rest of the 3.5 trib.)

[**2Thess 2:5**] Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

[**2Thess 2:6**] And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. (In other words, the Christians in Thessalonica couldn't have missed the rapture, because there is no AntiChrist sitting in the temple, claiming to be God, who has yet to be revealed. And that the AntiChrist is still being held back by their presence in the world--since the rapture reveals the antichrist as in verse 3.) Take note here: The reason the restrainer and the A/C can't be on this planet at the same time, is because light and dark can't be in the same place at once. Also, because the restrainer is the Holy Spirit and God. Thus God will not beat himself up! If the saint who has the Holy Spirit is left in the tribulation, then the work Jesus did on the cross was not finished. He said, "it is finished". Well, not if the Holy Spirit...Jesus himself, has to go thru the trib. And be tortured and killed by the A/C. Then the A/C wins???? So, you see, the Post trib. Is a deception by Satan himself!

[**2Thess 2:7**] For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

(Christians are the "He" who letteth will let and will be taken out of the way. That is, whatsoever we bound on earth will be bound in heaven. And once we are removed/raptured, then the AntiChrist will have the freedom to fulfill his plans. After all, the gates of hell cannot prevail against

the Church; (**Mat 16:18**), and the Church is not destined for wrath (verse))

[**2Thess 2:8**] And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

[**2Thess 2:9**] Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

[**2Thess 2:10**] And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. I wonder if this could ALSO mean, those who did not receive the love of the truth about the pre trib. Rapture? I wonder because they allowed themselves to be deceived by another gospel, that they will be included in the trib.? Just wondering. [**2Thess 2:11**] And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: (so if the saints are here thru the trib. And they are filled with the Holy Spirit, why would God send himself a strong delusion?)

The scriptures tell the truth. We are all trying to understand it's meaning. Lets not damn each other please.

[**2Thess 2:12**] That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

[**2Thess 2:13**] But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: (so as you read more of these verses, you get the sense that Paul is telling them, because you didn't swallow the lie of Post trib, even tho there was no such thing as post trib. Back then, they would be raptured. After all, the subject of discussion was the pre trib rapture and deception and the trib.)

[**2Thess 2:14**] Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[**2Thess 2:15**] Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

[**2Thess 2:16**] Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,

[**2Thess 2:17**] Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.

Finally, yes, the pre-tribulation rapture doctrine is accused of being a "comfort doctrine"...

Well, it IS, the scriptures even say so. It's consolation, hope, comforting for believers.

Fear of the Lord is a good thing, but you should not let it affect your theology to the point where you are praying for the Lord to not come until after 7 years of tribulation!.... Also, being a post tribulationist, if you disbelieve Christ's ability to cleanse you of sin, and believe you need further cleansing through tribulation, being a post trib believer, there is plenty of extra time to repent, 7 years, and/or simply stand up for Christ and accept a beheading to achieve "trib saint status", which may give one a full license to sin all they want until that time, since the immanency of the rapture, which comes first, is removed. Perhaps the post tribulationists feel they deserve punishment for their sins, because they have a hard time accepting the free gift of salvation through Christ. I'm speculating that IF the post tribulationists really want to go through the tribulation, Christ may let them. With the post trib concept that we must be "tried in the fire" is annulling the crucifixion and resurrection. Christ already did the "trying" for us. They also say we have to prove we are worthy by going thru the trib. and being martyred. No, we prove ourselves everyday by walking close to God!! Not by being martyred! [**2Thess 2:3**] Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day [rapture--which they feared had already happened and they missed it] shall not come, except there come a falling away [they assume means "from the faith"--which, they say, includes false doctrine, such as pre-trib rapture teaching, which somehow leads one to worship Satan through complacency and laziness, but I've never seen how that is possible if one is truly focused on Christ and knows the Bible, since the Antichrist cannot deceive the elect--so their fears of the AntiChrist's deception are also baseless. Consider, Rev which says the fearful have their lot in Hell)] first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

2Thess 2:4] Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

[2Thess 2:5] Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

[2Thess 2:6] And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

[2Thess 2:7] For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

(Since this further explanation of Christians being removed disproves what they are saying, they say the "he" is undefined, and may mean "Michael, the chief/arch angel, whose removal allows for the rising of the Antichrist, although there is no other scripture anywhere in the Bible to support this teaching, other than the fact that Michael is a strong and powerful Angel, able to aid the delivering of a message to Daniel. Many believe the restrainer is the holy spirit and is in all of the church. So, the antichrist won't be revealed until the church is taken out of the way.) So, therefore, since the antichrist is revealed at the 7 year covenant, and he will need the 3.5 years just to solidify his world political power as well, the rapture MUST take place prior to the confirmation of the 7 year covenant, which represents the 7 year tribulation, or final week of Daniel's prophesy, the 70th week:.

[Dan 9:24] Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. **[Dan 9:25]** Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

Satan receives power just as God's wrath is being poured out in full, the last half of the 3.5 years of tribulation...

Here are a few verses that show the rapture takes place *prior* to the wrath of the tribulation: There are many more verses that talk about the rapture, but I'm only listing a few that show "PRE" tribulation below:

[Isa 26:20] Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. This shows Jesus is taking the church out by talking about the chambers, and shutting the doors. If you recall, the wise virgins were taken into the chambers and the door was shut so the unwise virgins couldn't get in. When Noah got into the ark (a chamber of sorts) God closed that door too, so no one could get in. **[Isa 26:21]** For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain. **[Isa 57:1]** The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.

[Mal 3:16] Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

[**Mal 3:17**] And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and **I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.**

[**Pss 97:10**] Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; **he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.**

[**Luke 21:36**] Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted **worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.**

[**1 Thessalonians 1:10**] And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even **Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.**

[**1 Thessalonians 5:9**] For **God hath not appointed us to wrath**, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

Rom 5:9] Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be **saved from wrath** through him.

[**2Pet 2:9**] **The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations**, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

[**Rev 2:22**] Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, **except they repent** of their deeds.

[**Rev 3:10**] Because you have kept my word of patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial which is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell upon the earth. Post tribbers think the church will be kept safe thru the trib. And that's not what this verse is saying. It says He will keep them **FROM** the **HOUR** ...not THROUGH the trib. Since the saints are getting killed throughout the trib. I would say that God didn't keep that promise and that's impossible.

[**Revelation 4:1**] After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, **Come up hither**, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. (A type of rapture when John was called up) The church is not mentioned anymore until the end of the book.

[**Rev 8:13**] And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth [those not raptured] by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!

[**Rev 19:1**] And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven [the raptured], saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

Finally, read all of **Psalm 27**, which is supposed to be read daily, every day for 30 days, during the 30 day time period of repentance that come prior to the Feast of Trumpets, also known as 'the last trump' the 'day that no man knows but the father', the day that comes 'like a thief in the night', also known as the 'wedding of the messiah', --and the Church is the Bride of Christ (**Ephesians 5**)

[**Pss 27:1**] The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

[**Pss 27:2**] When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

[**Pss 27:3**] Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

[**Pss 27:4**] One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

[**Pss 27:5**] **For in the time of trouble (Hebrew means, the day of evil) he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle (Hebrew is tent) shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock. (Hebrew: he will take me out and put me in the rock (tent or Christ))**

[**Pss 27:6**] And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

[**Pss 27:7**] Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

[**Pss 27:8**] When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek. [**Pss 27:9**] Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

[**Pss 27:10**] When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

[**Pss 27:11**] Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies. [**Pss 27:12**] Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.

[**Pss 27:13**] I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Pss 27:14] Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

And there are many, many more verses that show that God saves his people during all kinds of trouble and tribulation. In fact, you could say that God's mercy and deliverance is a major theme of the Bible. There are no less than 6 examples of the pre-tribulation rapture in Genesis alone;

(Noah and Lot are only two). See

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Cottage/1651/rapturegarden.htm>

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Cottage/1651/numbers.htm>

Not to mention the examples from the stories and accounts of Joshua, Esther, Ruth, David, Sampson, Jacob, and more!

1. Joshua marches against Jericho with trumpets, and the walls fall down, and the people rise up to enter the city to conquer it, symbolic of entering New Jerusalem, or going up in the rapture.

(Joshua 6)

2. Esther, the bride, marries king Mordechi, who, through marriage, is exalted, enabling her to aid and intercede on behalf of the Jews before their tribulation at the hands of Haman, who is defeated. (**Esther**)

3. Ruth, a woman/bride, a gentile, who is so dedicated to Naomi and says "whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God" is redeemed by her

kinsman Boaz, who redeems both the dead and Ruth; as at the resurrection/rapture by Christ. (**Ruth**)

4. David reigns for 33 years, and hides away from Saul for 7.
5. Sampson has a marriage feast with Delilah for 7 days, representing the 7 year trib. **Judges 14:1-18**
6. Jacob's first marriage, to Leah, is consummated on the first night of the bridal week, which lasts 7 days—for the seven year tribulation. **Genesis 29:22-28** More!

If you study the Feast of Trumpets, and the Jewish Wedding Ceremony, and compare with all the verses of the Rapture, you will see that they coincide, and show that the rapture is prior to the seven year tribulation, and will likely occur on the Feast of Trumpets, the first of the three Jewish festivals of the Fall, which have never been fulfilled, and all speak of Christ's second coming. The first 4 Jewish feasts have already been fulfilled when Christ came the first time and when he poured out the Holy Spirit on the Church at Pentecost. About 300 scriptures show the Rapture is connected with the Feast of Trumpets. See

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Cottage/1651/trumpets.htm>

Do you mock the pre-trib rapture, and demand to know where this promise is in the Bible? [**2Pet 3:3**] Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

[**2Pet 3:4**] And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. [**Rom 5:8**] But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. [1John 1:8] If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [**1John 1:9**] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[**Rom 10:9**] That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

[**Rom 10:10**] For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Mat 10:32] Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

ALL WHO HAVE TAUGHT THE RAPTURE THRU OUT TIME:

All these taught pretrib. Philip Doddridge (1738) James Macknight (1763) Thomas Scott (1792) Epistle of Barnabas (AD 100) Irenaeus (AD 202) Hippolytus (2nd Century) Justin Martyr (AD 100) St. Victorinus (270) Manuel de Lacunza (1731 - 1801) Ephrem the Syrian (306 373) Brother Dolcino (d. 1307) Increase Mather (1639-1723) Edward Irving (1816) Peter Jurieu (1687) John Gill (1748) Morgan Edwards Founder of Brown U. (1742) Hugh Latimer (d. 1555) and Apostle Paul taught it too.

Ephraem the Syrian said in 373 AD -

"For all the saints and Elect of God are gathered, prior to the tribulation that is to come, and are taken

to the Lord lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins."

Jesus himself taught the rapture. (I've mentioned it below someplace with scripture)

Irenaeus in: Against Heresies: "...WHEN in the end the Church shall be suddenly caught up from this, it is said, there shall be tribulation such as not been since the beginning...". The above quote comes from Irenaeus in the SECOND CENTURY... Darby was MUCH LATER. much, much later 16 CENTURIES LATER.

Justin Martyr in: Dialogue With Trypho: "...after we knew the truth of God, are testified to by God, that, together with the most righteous, and only spotless and sinless Christ, we are taken away out of the earth. For Isaiah cries,..." [then Isaiah 57:1 is quoted which says] "Behold how the righteous perishes, and no man lays it to heart; and righteous men are taken away, and no man considers it that the righteous is taken away FROM THE EVIL TO COME." The Holy Spirit taught me this one = Isaiah 57:1 = THE BRIDE... showing me that those RIGHTEOUS are the RIGHTEOUS BRIDE taken FROM the EVIL TO COME... that's when the H.S. showed me the souls under the altar are there because ALL EARTHLY graves have ALREADY been emptied DURING THE TRIBULATION when these souls forfeit their OWN lives FOR CHRIST. They can NO LONGER go to earthly graves for the earthly graves NO LONGER contain ANY of the RIGHTEOUS DEAD who were called to Heaven at the COME UP HITHER of Rev 4:1. Praise the Holy Spirit sent to teach us ALL TRUTH!

This was written by Kevin Kellet:

The rapture (pre-tribulation) of the Church is a very significant event in the mind of God. Look at the words "to meet the Lord in the air..." The word meet in this verse is only used several times in the Bible; as it refers to meeting someone of Great Significance. That is how much God is looking forward to meeting us, his Bride, The Church. In recent years, many opponents of the pre-tribulation rapture have made a dogmatic assertions that this view was never taught before 1820 AD. There have been attempts to attribute the origin of this view to John N. Darby. There has been found an ancient citation from a sermon ascribed to Ephraem of Nisibis (306-373 A.D.). Ephraem of Nisibis was the most important and prolific of the Syrian church fathers and a witness to early Christianity on the fringes of the roman Empire in the late fourth century. These sermon below are deemed to be some of the most interesting apocalyptic tests of the early Middle Ages. A translation of the sermon includes the following segment: "For all the saints and Elect of God are gathered, prior to the tribulation that is to come, and are taken to the Lord lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins..." - Ephraem of Nisibis (306-373 A.D..). This text was originally a sermon called: "The Last Times, the Anti-Christ, and the end of the

World." There are four existing Latin manuscripts (the Parisinus, the Augiensis, the Barberini and the St. Gallen) ascribed to St. Ephraem [or] St. Isidore. Some scholars believe this text was written by some unknown writer in the sixth century and was derived from the original Ephraem. The sermon describes the events of the last days, beginning with the rapture. then the first half of the completion of the seventieth week of Daniel, then the Great Tribulation of 3 1/2 years duration under the antichrist's rule, followed by, the Second Coming of Christ. In Ephraem 's book 'The Book Of the Cave Treasures,', written about 370 A.D., he expressed his belief that the 69th week of Daniel ended with the rejection and crucifixion of Jesus the Messiah. This of course does not prove that the pre-tribulation view is correct; only that it was held (by some) in the early centuries and was not unique to the revival on the 1830s. It simply documents that this view was held by a remnant of the faithful from the beginning until today. Also Consider: The epistle Barnabas of Arabia [100 A.D.], The book of Enoch, Irenaeus wrote, 'Against Heresies' considering this matter. Hippolytus, a disciple of Irenaeus [Second Century], Justin Martyr, in his Dialogue w/Trypho. John Nelson Darby 1800-1882: "The Father of Modern Dispensationalism." John was a scholars scholar. He spoke a least seven languages including Greek and Hebrew. Mr. Darby spent three month in bed (1827) that transformed him from a trinity college "master scholar" to the "Father of Modern Dispensationalism." Darby stated: "Israel would return to the land and become filled with the Holy Spirit." At that time this view was not popular or accepted. In the very year of his death, the first Aliyah brought eleven Russian Jews to Israel (1882). In another email I detailed the sequence of events that occurred from this first immigration until the Nation of Israel was born (May 14, 1948). John Gill 1748 A.D.. New Testament Commentary; John Gillum 1610 A.D.. 'The display of Heresies', Phillip Doddridge 1738 A.D.. These man wrote commentaries or books regarding the pre-tribulation rapture of the Church.

THE SHEEP AND THE GOATS:

Post tribbers always use this verse but they never thought it thru. If all Christians are raptured at post trib. then who are the sheep? All "sheep" were raptured so there are no christians left on earth to be the sheep in this parable. Because the sheep are the ones who go into the millennium to repopulate the earth.

REPOPULATION AT THE MILLENNIUM:

Also, who would populate the new earth during the millennium to marry and have babies if all the saints are taken at post trib.? It's the trib. saints, mostly Jews, who populate the millennium so they can't be raptured and get new heavenly bodies cuz those bodies don't have babies.

REV. 19: NO RAPTURE DISCRIBED!! If there were a post trib. rapture, wouldn't there be mention of it in Rev. 19? This chapter also talks about the angels coming down with Him. That would be the raptured saints, us, "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. etc".... there is no mention of the rapture before that second coming. We would have to go up then come right back down. No time for the Bema seat, no time for the marriage supper. Just up then back down. Also, there's no instructions to the

saints who will be post trib raptured on how to survive til the rapture at the end of the Trib. If He will protect them until the end, surely there would be mention on how to survive. No mention of survival. The trib. saints will die during the trib. Not all but most. So, this again disproves the post trib. rapture, cuz He said he would protect us from the hour of trial.

1 Thessalonians 5 (KJV)

5 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. (He's talking to the saints who know the signs God has sent so they know perfectly that day.)

3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. (He's talking about those who were left behind, not deemed worthy to be raptured. Notice he's saying "them" all the time here...but below he's talking about "you, brethren".)

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

Mark Biltz says because those who know the signs and the seasons (correct translation would be moeb/feast days or devine appointments) see all the signs God has sent us on the feast days, aka; blood moons, solar eclipse, know that it is time for the Day of the Lord. But, those who do not know the signs will be taken as a thief in the night.

5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. (He's saying we are children of the light, meaning we know the signs in the heavens that God has sent us to warn of his coming. Only the children of darkness, who has not wanted to study and watch and be aware, will be taken by surprise)

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

God Hath Not Appointed Us to Wrath

In 1 Thessalonians 5:9, Paul assures us that God has not appointed His people to wrath. This wrath is plainly God's anger that will be poured out during the tribulation. Pre-trib believers interpret this as meaning that Christians will be removed from the earth. Post-trib believers tell a different story. They describe this as meaning that God will protect Christians during the tribulation and pour this wrath out on the unbelievers only. This idea runs against the statement made in Revelation 13:7, in which the Antichrist is given power to make war with the saints and to overcome them. A post-trib view would make God's promise of protection from wrath into a lie. In years past, it was possible to think of being

protected from the guns and swords of that day. Today, when any major war would involve nuclear and chemical weapons, it's impossible to expect that same kind of protection. When Nagasaki, Japan was bombed during World War II, the bomb exploded over a Catholic church. Everyone who was in the center of the explosion died--both Christians and non-Christians. The only way to validly interpret God's promise of protection from wrath is by viewing 1 Thessalonians 5:9 as the bodily removal of the Church from this world.

AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH..... People say Noah went thru the flood but was protected, so we will be that way too. We will go thru the tribulation but be protected. this is WRONG! Noah was a "type" of the Jew, they will go thru the trib. but will be protected in Petra. The church is the type of Enoch who was translated and didn't die. He was raptured before the flood, before Noah's judgment. Enoch was born & translated on the feast of Shavout.

Also, we don't have to go into the trib. to "prove" ourselves worthy! It is not of works that we will be saved, but faith. Jesus didn't die on the cross just to say "it is finished if you show me your works to prove you are worthy".

Also, they were eating and drinking and marrying in Noah's and Lot's day right up til the moment they left..Noah, in the ark, and Lot went up on the mountain. If post trib is correct, I can't imagine people eating, drinking, marrying when all hell has broken out on earth, people dying of starvation cuz they didn't take the mark. People being killed by the AC. People being killed by fire and brimstone, floods, earthquakes, pestilence, plagues, wars, thirst, asteroids, mountains falling in, islands sinking, you name it, it's happening...so how can that verse be right? Or are they just erasing it out of the bible?

The Jewish wedding points to a pre-tribulation rapture.

Rev. 19:7-8

7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

This is a Jewish wedding. Perry Stone's video on the rapture is very good and goes too fast for me to take notes so here's the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1y5GOxRFccs>

God Takes an Inventory

In **Revelation 7:3**, an angel descends to earth and seals the servants of God. Two bits of information about this sealing highly disclaim a post-trib viewpoint. The first item is the number of people sealed: 144,000. The second one is that all those who are sealed are from the 12 tribes of Israel. For the events in Revelation 7:3-8 to be true in a post-trib interpretation, either the Church has turned against God or God has turned against the Church. A post-tribber could write a thousand-word commentary about why the Church doesn't need to be sealed. Instead of trying to argue about why the Church is not mentioned or sealed, a pre-trib proponent could just say, "We're already in heaven."

2 Peter 1:10-11 -- Therefore, brothers, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble. For in this

way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly supplied to you.

Matthew 7:21-23 (HCSB) 21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord!' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to Me, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in Your name, drive out demons in Your name, and do many miracles in Your name?' 23 Then I will announce to them, 'I never knew you! Depart from Me, you lawbreakers!'

(these two above verses are just some of the scripture showing how one must be in order to be deemed worthy to be raptured.)

Book of Rev. was written in 95 AD, 25 yrs. after the 70 AD temple was destroyed .So the preterist view that the Trib. was done back in 70 AD falls apart. Preterists believe since Rev. 11 describes the temple, then it "had" to have been in 70 AD. But, no, it's talking about the temple yet to be rebuilt.

Col. 2:16, 17...Feasts of Israel are a shadow of things to come....the fall feasts are prophetic things to come. The best description for how important the feast days are in relation to the rapture is best viewed on one of Perry Stone's videos:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4CHWUiVUQKc&list=WLzJQr2gRSy3xD7-yRSFoONdqfcYG8gZIN>

He lays this out so well and it's way too much to write here.

Matthew 16:16-18

Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

The gates of hell shall not prevail against the church so why would the church go thru the trib.?

Titus 2:13

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

(the blessed hope is the rapture of the church to be with Jesus forever. It says, "glorious

"appearing"...not return,as in the second coming, but APPEARING. That is what Jesus will do,

APPEAR IN THE CLOUDS AND BRINGS US TO HIM at the rapture.) John 14

1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye 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 unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Jesus, himself, is telling us not to be troubled, upset, scared, worried, cuz if we believe in Him we believe in God the Father. He says he has prepared a place for us in His Father's house (which by the way, is how the jewish weddings are, the groom prepares a place for the bride in his father's house and we ARE His bride.)

Jesus further says He will come again to receive us unto Himself so we can be with Him there. Now, this passage can be taken as rapture or as, at death as so many people believe this to mean. It's showing He is coming for us. That coming for us to me, would indicate a rapture rather than a death. At death we go to him in spirit first. But at the rapture we go as a whole. He comes for us at the rapture, at a death, we GO TO HIM. Different thing there.

Oftentimes, people who make the argument against the Pre-Trib rapture will say, "the Bible does not say anywhere that the Church will be raptured before the Tribulation." And that it correct, it does not state that directly. But, the Bible says many things indirectly that need to be inferred. For example, nowhere in the Bible does it say that we are not to commit abortion.

But if we read "Thou shall not kill", we can safely infer that since you would have to kill to abort, that God would be against abortion. But by the same token, nowhere in the Bible does it say that the Church will go through the Tribulation, either.

Christ's resurrection is a type of the rapture. Since it is, it can also answer a trivial question most people ask....do we leave our clothes, etc. behind when we are gathered up? I suggest that since Christ left behind his burial wrappings and went into the clouds with a white gown, we too will leave our clothes, glasses, etc. behind too. Speaking of His ascending into the clouds...that is yet again, another picture of our meeting Him in the clouds at the rapture. Christ was the first fruits and he raised the dead when he ascended into heaven. Just as He will raise the dead in christ first at the rapture.

THE 144000 ARE RAPTURED DURING THE MIDDLE OF THE TRIB. (Perry Stone's teaching)

Ex. 19 is a picture of the rapture of the church!

rapture and the first fruits: best video ever on this as it relates to the rapture is Perry Stone: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4CHWUiVUQKc&list=FLe3xBIUeuhZjsxfOsjtbtrw>

FEAST LAWS:Ex 23: 16,17

- 16 And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.
- 17 Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before the Lord God. **Lev. 19: 9,10**
- 9 And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest.
- 10 And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the Lord your God. **Lev. 25:3,4**
- 3 Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof;
- 4 But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the Lord: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard.
- 1 Corinthians 5:8 (KJV)**

8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Num. 10:4

4 And if they blow but with one trumpet, then the princes, which are heads of the thousands of Israel, shall gather themselves unto thee.

SPRING FEASTS:

PASSOVER=barley..March or early April. The day we are saved.

UNLEAVENED BREAD=rid of sin

FIRST FRUITS= brought to the temple of the Lord from the first of the ripened harvest. The first fruits were taken from the field first and that made the rest of the field sanctified. Fruits represent the souls of the earth.

PENTECOST=wheat. Wheat represents the children of the kingdom.(Matt.13:38) The church had not been born yet. He was talking about the remnant in Israel, the separation of the wheat (saved) & tare(wicked) (Matt. 13: 24-30).(feast of shavout)

FALL FEASTS:

FEAST OF TRUMPETS/ROSH SHASHANA/JEWISH NEW YEAR

YOM KIPPUR/DAY OF ATONEMENT for Israel specifcly

FEAST OF TABERNACLES/LAST FEAST=final ingathering...,represents all the gathering of the entire year. Praying for rain the following year. The priests atoned for the nations of the world. This feast will be mandatory during the millennium.

The harvest is a picture of the rapture : Marking of the fruit(us), gathering(taking us up), then presenting to the priests(christ in the rapture)

These 7 feasts are centered around agricultural and rain seasons. Spring harvest is barley. Early summer harvest is wheat. The last harvest/fall is grape harvest, Aug., Sept, Oct. during rain seasons. They were

to be attended by all men over 20 yrs. of age (20 is the age one went into the military) **Ex. 34:22**

22 And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year's end.

Ex. 23:17

17 Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before the Lord God.

So, 3 times they were to appear before to ascend to Jerusalem. 3 times they were to ascend to the temple and 3 times it was to happen during the main feasts. The feasts of Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles all men had to attend.

Passover= Christ was crucified. This represents your salvation. Pentecost= when the church was born Tabernacles= the resurrection of the dead.

So, just like those men who had to appear before the temple, we have to appear before the lord for our salvation(Passover), to get the holy spirit (Pentecost) and when we are raised from the dead, we appear before the Lord (Tabernacles).

Lev. 19: 23, 25:

23 And when ye shall come into the land, and shall have planted all manner of trees for food, then yeshall count the fruit thereof as uncircumcised: three years shall it be as uncircumcised unto you: it shall not be eaten of.

24 But in the fourth year all the fruit thereof shall be holy to praise the Lord withal.

25 And in the fifth year shall ye eat of the fruit thereof, that it may yield unto you the increase thereof: I am the Lord your God.

This is the fruits that were harvested and brought unto the Lord as well. In ancient Israel there were 7 types of fruit found. The fruit represents the souls on earth that need to be saved. The grapes represents judgement that is coming to the nations,(Rev. 14)

IN THE HARVEST:

Marking=mark the first fruits. You mark the first fruits with a reed that was tied around it.

Harvest= harvesting the fields. Then you gather the first fruits in a bundle. Then you present the first fruits at the temple. gleaning= the corners remain(they are left for the poor and for the travelers/strangers, widows) Marking the christians who will be gathered at the rapture/or presented to Christ/the priest in heaven. (there is a principle in the bible where a day =a yr...find it in the Israelites had to wonder the desert for 40 yrs. which was 1 yr. for the 40 days they searched the land in unbelief.. Also, when Jacob worked for Rachel. 7 yrs. 2 times. (a week each time=7 yrs. each time)

God's patterns are perfect. HE NEVER BREAKS A PATTERN OR CYCLE/PICTURE!!!

First fruits of the barley is us at the rapture & first fruits of the wheat 50 days later is the 144000 being taken up. Rev. 14:15 speaks of that harvest.(it's half way thru the trib.)

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. **Rev. 4:1** is a picture of the church being caught up. Rev. 14 is the rapture of the 144,000 (halfway thru the trib.) at the end, the angels are brought down to gather the "elect" or the saved saints who remain, together to take them to Jordan for protection.

People say 50 days for the 144000 to evangelize isn't much time. You must understand, lots of horrible things have been happening so that in itself, along with the rapture, has done a lot of their job for them. People are "ripe" for turning to Jesus. It doesn't take much at that point if they are going to go, it's then or never!! **Colossians 1- 13**

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus our brother,

2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints, 5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

6 Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:

7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; 8 Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

- 10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- 11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;
- 12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:
- 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:
Jesus said in **John 4**:
- 35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.
- 36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.

A Post-Tribulation rapture fails to answer nine (9) questions. [thanks Rob Kirby]

The answers to those nine questions leads us to a belief in a Pre-Trib Rapture.

Question #1: If the rapture occurs at the second coming, who will populate the millennium?

According to the post-tribulation rapture theory, at the second coming all Christians will receive resurrected bodies and all lost people go to the lake of fire. Who will be left to repopulate the world during the millennium? Because people in their resurrected bodies can't reproduce (**Matt. 22:30**), it will require people in their natural bodies.

(Answer: These are people saved after the rapture.)

Question #2: Why is the rapture missing from **Revelation 19:11-23**?

Rev. 19:11-23 gives a description of the second coming, yet the rapture isn't mentioned. **Zechariah 14:1-7** also describes the second coming, but there is no mention of a rapture or resurrection. Some may call this an argument from silence, yet this silence speaks quite loudly.

This is biggest event in the history of the Church, where hundreds of millions of people are resurrected and it's not mentioned in **Revelation 19 or Zechariah 14**. Why?

(Answer: It's not mentioned because it doesn't happen at that time.)

Question #3: Who is gathered first, the wicked (**Matt. 13:30, 49**) or the righteous (**1 Thess. 4:16-17**)? Both can't be gathered first.

(Answer: These are two events separated in time.)

Question #4 Since Christians will be rewarded (crowns) at the Rapture (**2 Tim. 4:8, 1 Pet. 5:4, Luke 14:14**), "How can the 24 elders in Heaven already have their crowns (**Rev. 4:4-10**) if the rapture hasn't taken place?"

(Answer: The rapture must have taken place)

Question #5: Why do the sheep and goats need to be separated if they are already separated by a rapture at the second coming (**Matt. 25:31-33**)?

(Answer: The rapture doesn't occur at the second coming, so the sheep and the goats will need to be separated.)

Question #6: At the end of the millennium, where do the non-Christians come from (**Rev. 20:7-10**)?

(Answer: These are the people born during the millennium. They are the descendents of those who have entered the millennium in their natural bodies.)

Question #7: How can Jesus return from the wedding if the wedding hasn't taken place (**Luke 12:36**)?

(Answer: The wedding, or marriage of Christ to His Church, has already taken place.)

Question #8: Who is the "one who restrains" that must be taken out of the way before the antichrist is revealed (**2 Thess. 2:7**)?

(Answer: The Church is the biggest hindrance to the Antichrist coming to power.)

Question #9: Jesus promised He would prepare a place for Christians in heaven, then would return to take us there (**John 14:2-3**). According to the post-tribulation theory, Jesus returns to earth and stays here with the Church. Why would Jesus prepare a place for us in heaven and then not take us there?

(Answer: A post-tribulation rapture cannot explain **John 14:2-3** In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. 3 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..**) (my comment:) Jesus said he goes to prepare a place for us then He said He would come again to RECEIVE us. That doesn't mean we die, it means we go to Him, thus He "receives" us...by receiving us, we will be with Him...he said 'that where I am'..He said He would come in the clouds, so that's where He will be and we will be there also cause that's where He is when He receives us.

One last thought: The Holy Spirit is inside the true Christian. So, why would God beat himself up? Why would Jesus have to suffer thru the tribulation when He suffered on the cross and said, "it is finished"? If Light and dark can't be in the same place, it seems taking the true Christians out of the tribulation before it

happens would explain why the comforter would be taken out so Satan/darkness, can have his 7 yrs reign on earth.

THE END...for now