



# *The Rapture*

*The Five Major Positions*



# The 5 Major Rapture Positions (Theories)

1. Pre-Tribulation Rapture
2. Mid-Tribulation Rapture
3. Post-Tribulation Rapture
4. Partial Rapture (happens throughout)
5. Pre-Wrath Rapture (between the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Seal)

# Post Tribulation

The Church will go through the entire Tribulation period...will be caught up to be with Jesus when he returns to stop the tribulation

- In his book *“The Approaching Advent of Christ”* Alexander Reese, writes: “The Church of Christ will not be removed from the earth until the return of Jesus Christ at the end of the tribulation. The Christians in that generation will be exposed to the final afflictions of Antichrist.”

# Post Tribulation

**Based, in part, on the following Scripture passages.**

**Matthew 13:27-30** So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? <sup>28</sup> He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? <sup>29</sup> But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.



# Post Tribulation

**Based, in part, on the following Scripture passages.**

➤ **Matthew 24:15-22** When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) <sup>16</sup> Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: <sup>17</sup> Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: <sup>18</sup> Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. <sup>19</sup> And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! <sup>20</sup> But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: <sup>21</sup> For then shall be great tribulation, <sup>h</sup>such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. <sup>22</sup> And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.



# Post Tribulation

## *The Scriptural difficulties*

1. **The Post Trib. Position denies the differences between the Church and Israel.**
2. **The position also rests upon a denial of the nature and the purpose of the tribulation period.**

**Daniel 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.

# Post Tribulation

## *The Scriptural difficulties*

➤ **Rev. 6:15-17** And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; <sup>16</sup> And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: <sup>17</sup> For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?



# Post Tribulation

## *The Scriptural difficulties*

**3.** Post Trib. position must deny the differences between the Rapture of the Church and the Return of Jesus Christ. Rev. 19.

**4.** Post Trib. Position must also deny the doctrine of Imminence: Jesus' return for his church at any moment.

**5.** Post Trib. denies any future fulfillment of Dan 9:24-27



# Post Tribulation

## *The Scriptural difficulties*

**Dan 9:24-27** 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. <sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof *shall be* with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.



# Post Tribulation

*The Scriptural difficulties*

Post Trib. Does not use a literal hermeneutic. So, much of what we call future...they say is all history.



# Pre Tribulation

**The Church...The entire body of Jesus Christ will by resurrection and translation (being changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye) be caught up; removed from this earth before the Tribulation begins.**

# Pre Tribulation

***This position rests on one major premise  
The literal interpretation of God's Word.***

- Pre Trib. sees distinct differences between the Church and Israel.
- That God has a specific divine plan for Israel and has a specific divine plan for the Church
- Pre Trib. sees the church as a mystery not revealed in the Old Testament
- Pre Trib. sees a gap between the 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel.
- Pre Trib. Sees that gap as the Age of Grace; or the Church Age



# Pre Tribulation

## *The Nature of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel The Tribulation Period*

➤ It is a period of God's wrath:

➤ **Rev. 6:15-17** And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; <sup>16</sup> And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: <sup>17</sup> For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?



# Pre Tribulation

## *The Nature of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel* *The Tribulation Period*

- 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; <sup>10</sup> And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.



# Pre Tribulation

## *The Nature of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel The Tribulation Period*

- It is a period of judgment:
- **Rev. 14:6-7** And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, <sup>7</sup> Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.



# Pre Tribulation

## *The Nature of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel The Tribulation Period*

- It is an hour of trial:
- **Rev. 3:10** Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.



# Pre Tribulation

## *The Nature of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel The Tribulation Period*

- It is a day of darkness:
- **Joel 2:1-2** Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: For the day of the LORD cometh, for *it is nigh* at hand; <sup>2</sup> A day of darkness and of gloominess, A day of clouds and of thick darkness, As the morning spread upon the mountains: A great people and a strong; There hath not been ever the like, Neither shall be any more after it, *Even* to the years of many generations.

# Pre Tribulation

## *The Church's position in Jesus Christ*

- The church is the body of Jesus Christ, Jesus is the head. (Eph 1:22; Eph 5:23; Col 1:18)
- The church is the bride, Jesus is the bridegroom. (1 Cor. 11:2; Eph 5:23)
- Jesus is the foundation of the Church: the Chief Cornerstone: (1 Cor. 3:9; Eph. 2:19-22)
- Hence: there is a unity between Jesus and his body, his bride; his church.

# Pre Tribulation

## *The Church's position in Jesus Christ*

- The true believer is a part of Jesus Christ. There is no separation from him.
- *Hebrews 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*

# Pre Tribulation

## *The Church's position in Jesus Christ*

- To persecute or send judgment on the church is to persecute and send judgment on Jesus Christ himself.
- Acts 9:3-5 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: <sup>4</sup> And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? <sup>5</sup> And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: *it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.*



# Pre Tribulation

## *The Church's position in Jesus Christ*

- **John 5:24** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.
- **Romans 8:1** *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

# Pre Tribulation

*How many times will Jesus Christ suffer for sin?*

➤ 1 Peter 3:16-18 Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. <sup>17</sup> For *it is better*, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

# Pre Tribulation

*How many times will Jesus Christ suffer for sin?*

- **Exodus 17:6** Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.
- **1 Cor 10:1-4** Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; <sup>2</sup> And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; <sup>3</sup> And did all eat the same spiritual meat; <sup>4</sup> And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

# Pre Tribulation

## *The Church's position in Jesus Christ*

- If the church; the actual body of Jesus Christ; his bride; goes through the tribulation; any of the tribulation...then that would actually go against the Word of God.
- Hebrews 9:24-28 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: <sup>25</sup> Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; <sup>26</sup> For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup> And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: <sup>28</sup> So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.



# Pre Tribulation

## *Put it all together*

- Jesus Christ suffered the entire wrath of God for sin; God poured out his judgment upon Jesus Christ on the Cross at Calvary. Jesus paid the price for all sin; the price was his shed blood.
- Jesus will only suffer the wrath of God almighty ONE time.
- The church is the body of Jesus Christ
- The church is promised no condemnation
- The Tribulation period is clearly a time when the Lord God will pour out his wrath...his judgment and wrath upon sin...on all who dwell upon the earth.



# Pre Tribulation

*Put it all together*

- Whatever happens to the church happens to Jesus Christ himself because we are his body.
- If the Lord God leaves the church here on the earth for even one day of his wrath being poured out...that would mean that Jesus would suffer the wrath of God again for sin.