

WILL THE CHURCH GO THROUGH THE TRIBULATION?
(7 reasons for a Pre-Tribulation Rapture)

I. DEFINING IMPORTANT TERMS OF PROPHECY

II. DISTINGUISHING THE TWO PHASES OF CHRIST'S 2nd COMING

III. DISCOVERING THE TRUTH OF THE RAPTURE (1 Thess. 4:13-18)

IV. DECLARING THE PROPHETIC VIEWS ON THE RAPTURE

A. Several PROPOSED VIEWS of the Rapture.

1. _____ —this view teaches that the church will be translated before the Tribulation begins.
2. _____ —this view teaches that the church will be raptured 31/2 years into the Tribulation period.
3. _____ —this view teaches that the church will be caught away after the Tribulation period.
4. _____ —this view teaches that only certain believers (i.e. the spiritual Christians) will be raptured before the Tribulation, while carnal ones must go through it.
5. _____ — this view teaches that the church will go through most of the Tribulation period, being raptured before the wrath of God is poured out on the earth.

B. Some Proper Questions About This Issue

1. Why are there various & conflicting views about this issue?
2. Does it really matter if the Church escapes the Tribulation or not?
3. Will the church go through “tribulation”?
4. Can one have biblical certainty regarding the “timing” of the rapture?

V. DISCERNING THE TIMING OF THE RAPTURE

A. Examining the Evidence...

The church will not go through the rapture ...

1. Because believers in Christ have been specifically promised “*salvation*” from the coming _____ of the Tribulation period. (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

* Is there “wrath” in the first half of the tribulation? (Rev 6)

2. Because of the “Restrainer” who is the _____ to be taken out of the way

requires for the church to be removed from the earth as well. (2 Thessalonians 2:1-10)

* If these believers had expected to go through the Tribulation (which they didn't), why were they so shaken by this false teaching?

3. Because believers have been promised to be “_____ from the _____ temptation.” (Revelation 3:10-11)

* How is “from” and “hour” to be understood?

4. Because of the usage of the word “church” and the chronology of its use in the book of_____.

- How is the word “church” distributed in this book?

(Dan 9:24-27) 5. Because the church has no _____ or _____ in any of the 70 weeks of Daniel.

- What must the believer distinguish regarding this?

6. Because if the rapture does not take place until the end of the tribulation, how will the Millennial earth be populated with people in _____ ? (Isaiah 65:20; Rev. 20:7-10)

- What view best answers this issue?

7. Because if the rapture must be preceded by signs, fulfilled prophecy, etc. connected to the Tribulation period, the Lord's return for His church cannot be _____.

- Some passages that teach immanency:

B. Applying The Answers.

1. Who cares if the Church goes through the Tribulation or not?

2. What does all this mean to you personally & practically?