

THE PROPHECIES OF END TIMES
05 – DIFFERENT VIEWS OF THE END TIMES

WHAT HAPPENS BETWEEN DEATH AND THE RAPTURE?

This body is our temporary home – 2 Cor. 5:6-8

When we die our spirits go into the presence of God – Luke 23:43, Acts 7:59

There are two components to our existence – our physical bodies and our spiritual bodies.

At death our physical bodies will “sleep” until they are transformed and reunited with our spirit at the rapture.

DIFFERENT VIEWS OF THE END TIMES

Most disagreements come from the timing of the Rapture.

Shared Points

Jesus will come again for those who are saved.

We are called to be ready at all times.

No one knows the day or hour.

THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

Also known as Dispensational Premillennialism

- Christ will rapture the church before the Great Tribulation.
- The Great Tribulation will include natural disasters, war, and great persecution for Christians
- Many Jews will turn to Christ.
- Israel is the Nation of Israel not the church.

Supporting Scripture: Revelation 3:10, Genesis 15:18-21

Arguments Against:

- It teaches two “second comings” of Christ.
- It is a newer belief (1830’s)
- No direct teaching in Scripture

THE MID-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

The church will be part of the tribulation, but the wrath of God will not happen until about ½ way through. That is when the church will be raptured.

THE POST-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

Also called Historical Premillennialism

- The Church has replaced Israel.
- The Church will go through the Great Tribulation.
- Israel's disobedience caused them to lose God's promise.
- The Church is the true Israel today.
- Christ comes once.
- The wrath of God will be confined to unbelievers.

Supporting Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, Revelation 2:22-23, Revelation 13:7, Genesis 22:17-18, Romans 9:6-8

Arguments Against

- Second coming of Christ doesn't mention a Rapture.
- God's wrath in the Great Tribulation appears to be Global.

THE POST-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

- The belief that Christians will remain on the earth during the great tribulation.
- The tribulation will purify the churches by rooting out false believers.
- The second coming of Christ will precede the millennium.

Prominent Believers/Scholars

<p>Early church fathers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Papias• Justin Martyr• Irenaeus• Lactantius	<p>Modern Supporters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Dockery• John Warwick Montgomery• George R. Beasley-Murray• Robert Gundry• George E. Ladd
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AMILLENNIALISM

The belief that Jesus will come again someday, but there is no literal thousand-year rule by Jesus on earth.

Rather, the millennium symbolizes Christ's reign in the lives of his people from the beginning of the church until his second coming.

The great tribulation represents disasters, wars, and persecutions that have occurred throughout church history.

Prominent Believers/Scholars

Augustine (possibly the first amillennialist) Martin Luther John Calvin E.Y. Mullins	Abraham Kuyper G.C. Berkouwer Herschel Hobbs Stanley Grenz J. I. Packer
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POSTMILLENNIALISM

Postmillennialism is the belief that the second coming of Christ will occur after the millennium.

A period of great tribulation may precede the millennium.

The millennial reign described in Revelation 20:1–6 represents a long time period when, through the preaching of the gospel, most of the world will submit to Christ.

Some view the tribulation as a brief time of persecution that occurs immediately before the millennium.

Others believe that “great tribulation” describes the seven years of the First Jewish-Roman War which culminated in AD70 with the destruction of the Jewish temple.

Prominent Believers/Scholars

Jonathan Edwards B.B. Warfield Augustus H. Strong Charles Hodge	R.L. Dabney Loraine Boettner R.C. Sproul
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