

Evidence for a pre-Tribulation Rapture

Part 3 – Time Gap

Text: 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Cor 3:13

- 1) Notice The Church - In the key section on Tribulation teaching, Revelation 4-18, there is silence about the church.
- 2) Notice The Difference Between Rapture and Return (1 Thess. 4 and 1 Cor. 15 vs. Matt. 24-25 and Rev. 19)
- 3) Notice 1 Thessalonians
 - a) The Promise of Deliverance (1 Thess. 1:9-10)
 - b) The Presentation of Order (1 Thess. 4:13-5:9) Rapture Comes First
 - c) The Pronouns of Contrast (1 Thess. 5:1-5)
 - d) The Promise of Deliverance (1 Thess. 5:9-10)
- 4) Notice Revelation 3:10-11 - The Lord promises to keep His people not just from testing, but from the very time of testing.
- 5) Notice a Gap of Time is Needed...
 - a) **For the _____ Seat of Christ (1 Cor. 5:10; 1 Cor. 3:9-15)**
 - i) The _____ at this judgment (2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:11-15)
 - ii) The _____ of the judgment (1 Cor. 3:10-15)
 - (1) The purpose of the Bema Judgment is not to _____ believers. (Heb. 8:12; 1 John 1:7)
 - (2) The purpose of the Bema Judgment is to _____ faithfulness. (1 Cor. 3:9-15)
 - (a) How we treat others (Heb. 6:10; Matt. 10:41-42)
 - (b) How we exercise God-given authority (Heb. 13:17; James 3:1)
 - (c) How we employ God-given ability (Matt. 25:14-29; 1 Peter 4:10)
 - (d) How we use our money (1 Tim. 6:17-19; 2 Cor. 9:6-7)
 - (e) How we handle persecution (Matt. 5:11,12; 1 Peter 4:12,13; Rom. 8:18; Rev. 2:10)
 - (f) How we run our particular God-given race (1 Cor. 9:24; Phil. 3:13-14; Heb. 12:1; Phil. 2:16)
 - (g) How effectively we crucify our flesh (1 Cor. 9:25-27)
 - (h) How faithful we were to witness for Christ (1 Thess. 2:19-20)

- (i) How genuine we are in light of His imminent return (2 Tim. 4:8)
 - (j) How faithful we are to the Word of God and the flock of God (1 Peter 5:2-4; 2 Tim. 4:1,2; Acts 20:26-28)
- (3) Note: good works with wrong motives are _____ (Matthew 6:2)
 - (4) The purpose of the Bema Judgment reveals our _____ in the Millennial reign of Christ (1 Cor. 6:1-2; Matt. 19:28-30; Matt. 25:14-29)
 - (5) Q: Is it possible to _____ rewards? (2 John 1:8; Col. 2:18)
- iii) The _____ of the judgment (1 Cor. 4:5)

- b) **For there to be _____ and _____ (Matthew 25:31-46)**
 - i) If the Rapture happens in conjunction with the Second Advent, as post-Tribulationists say, and all living believers are caught up to heaven to meet Jesus – then who are the sheep on earth when Jesus returns?
 - ii) The sheep are people _____ through the course of the Tribulation period and _____ to talk about it!
 - iii) Many will be saved but later _____ during the Tribulation (Rev. 6:9-11)
 - iv) The fact there will be believers on earth requires a time gap.

What difference does it make?

- a) The Rapture Has a Converting Influence on Seeking Hearts
- b) The Rapture Has a Caring Influence on Soul-Winning Hearts
- c) The Rapture Has a _____ Influence on Sinning Hearts (1 John 3:2-3; Rom. 13:11-14)