Schedule Us for One Service to Multi-Day Prophecy Conference
Prophecy Focus

THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

Scripture’s Most Compelling Argument

Richard R. Schmidt, D.Min.
The RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH is the next major prophetic event in God’s prophetic calendar.

The RAPTURE, or removal of the CHURCH AGE SAINTS, was NOT prophesied in the Old Testament. WHY?
UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

- The prophetic event immediately after the rapture of the church is the commencement of the 70th week of Daniel, or the 7-year TRIBULATION PERIOD (Daniel 9:27).

- There is a plethora of Scriptural material regarding the seven years of tribulation throughout the Scriptures.

- The Tribulation is the period that is designed to purge the earth of those who are against the coming King and prepare the earth for the SECOND COMING or SECOND ADVENT of the Lord Jesus Christ, the one and only true MESSIAH!
The Greek word from which we take the term “RAPTURE” appears in 1 THESSALONIANS 4:17, translated “caught up.” The Latin translation of this verse used the word rapturo.

The Greek word it translates is harpazo, which means to snatch or take away.
Elsewhere *harpazo* is used to describe how the Spirit caught up Philip near Gaza and brought him to Caesarea (*ACTS 8:39*) and to describe Paul’s experience of being caught up into the third heaven (*2 CORINTHIANS 12:2-4*).

Thus there can be no doubt that the word is used in *1 THESSALONIANS 4:17* to indicate the actual removal of people from earth to heaven.
The Rapture Of The Church Means The Carrying Away Of The Church Age Saints From Earth To Heaven.
PROPHETIC CHRONOLOGY

RAPTURE

- Tribulation
- Second Advent
- Battle of Armageddon
- Nations Judged
- Millennial Kingdom
PROPHETIC CHRONOLOGY

RAPTURE

Tribulation

Second Advent

Battle of Armageddon

Nations Judged

Millennial Kingdom

NEW TESTAMENT REFERENCES ONLY

OT And NT REFERENCES

(Prophetic events are depicted in a chronological order, starting from the Rapture and progressing through the Tribulation, Second Advent, Battle of Armageddon, Nations Judged, and finally the Millennial Kingdom.)
# The Chronology of the Three People Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adam</th>
<th>Abraham</th>
<th>Church Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3942 BC</td>
<td>1995 BC</td>
<td>AD 30/33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noah</td>
<td>David</td>
<td>1 Cor. 10:32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2885 BC</td>
<td>1034 BC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shem</td>
<td>Jesus</td>
<td>Gentiles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2384 BC</td>
<td>4 BC</td>
<td>2,000 YEARS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gentiles**: 2,000 Years

**Jews**: 2,000 Years

**Christian**: 2,000 Years & Counting
### WEEKS 1-69

| 69 Weeks x 7 Years | 483 YEARS |

#### GAP

| Week 70 TRIBULATION 1 x 7 = 7 Years |

#### MILLENNIUM 1,000 Years

### WHY the GAP in the Prophetic Time Table?

The GAP exists as the mystery kept secret from the foundation of the world by God (EPHESIANS 3:1-7; COLOSSIANS 1:24-29; ROMANS 16:25)

The GAP includes the CHURCH AGE in which we now live, which will end when the CHURCH is removed from this earth at the event termed the RAPTURE (1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18; 1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-54)

*Sir Robert Anderson, *The Coming Prince*
TIMELINE

Christ’s Bodily Resurrection “Firstfruits”

RAPTURE Church Age Saints BODIES Resurrected

Time Span NOT Revealed in Scripture

~CHURCH AGE~ CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

Antichrist CONFIRMS Covenant With Israel

2nd ADVENT of Christ Final Battle of Armageddon “FIRST Resurrection” JUDGMENT of Nations

7 YEAR TRIBULATION

3.5 Years 3.5 Years

Antichrist’s ONE WORLD System

1000 Year MILLENNIAL Kingdom
# TRANSITIONAL PERIOD – JUDAISM to Christianity

## ACTS 2-7
- **Jews & Proselytes**
- Men of Israel (Acts 2:10)
- Men of Judea
- all the house of Israel

## ACTS 8
- **Samaritans**
- Acts 8:25
- Ethiopian Proselyte
- Acts 8:26-40

## ACTS 9
- Saul Converted, Gentiles, Kings, Israel
- Acts 9

## ACTS 10
- **Gentiles**
- Acts 10:45

## ACTS 1:8
"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in, and in all JERUSALEM, JUDEA and SAMARIA, and to the END OF THE EARTH."

## Men of Israel
- Acts 3:12

## Hellenists
- Nicolas, a Proselyte (Acts 6:5)

## Captain of Temple
- Priests Sadducees (Acts 4:1; 5:24)

## Elders
- Children of Israel (Acts 5:21)
I. THE DISTINCTIVE TIME FOR THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE / Daniel’s 70 Week Prophecy (Daniel 9:24-27)

- A. First Period: 49 years = 7 Prophetic Weeks 445 to 396 B.C. (Daniel 9:25)
- B. Second Period: 434 years = 62 Prophetic Weeks 396 B.C. to A.D. 32 (Daniel 9:25-26)
- C. The Prophesied GAP: A.D. 32 - A.D. 70 (Daniel 9:26)
- D. The Mystery GAP: Present Church Age (Ephesians 3:1-7; Colossians 1:24-29)
- E. Third Period Future: 7 years = 1 Prophetic Week (Daniel 9:27)
DANIEL 9:24-27

49 YEARS = 7 WEEKS
434 YEARS = 62 WEEKS
7 YEARS = 1 WEEK

TOTAL: 490 Years  70 Weeks

Weeks 1-69  GAP  Week 70
69 Weeks x 7 Years  GAP  1 Week
= 483 Years  x 7 Years

Millennium
I. THE DISTINCTIVE TIME FOR THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE / Daniel’s 70 Week Prophecy (Daniel 9:24-27)

- A. First Period: 49 years = 7 Prophetic Weeks 445 to 396 B.C. (Daniel 9:25)
- B. Second Period: 434 years = 62 Prophetic Weeks 396 B.C. to A.D. 32 (Daniel 9:25-26)
- C. The Prophesied GAP: A.D. 32 - A.D. 70 (Daniel 9:26)
- D. The Mystery GAP: Present Church Age (Ephesians 3:1-7; Colossians 1:24-29)
- E. Third Period Future: 7 years = 1 Prophetic Week (Daniel 9:27)
**INTERLUDE ALLOWANCE**
Daniel 9:26

**GAP BETWEEN**
69th & 70th Weeks of Daniel

**CHURCH AGE**
Ephesians 3:1-7
Colossians 1:24-29
Romans 16:25,26

**CHURCH REMOVED**
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
1 Corinthians 15:50-54

**DANIEL 9:25**
69 Weeks = 483 Years

**DANIEL 9:25**
7 Weeks = 49 Years

**JEWISH PEOPLE IN BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY**

**JERUSALEM & TEMPLE PLUNDERED**
A.D. 70

**Revelation 4 - 19**

**Christ’s Millennial Kingdom**
Revelation 20:1-7

**Dan. 9:27**
1 Week = 7 Year Tribulation

**DANIEL’S 70 WEEK, 490 YEAR PROPHECY**

**DANIEL 9:25**
62 Weeks = 434 Years

**69 Weeks**
483 Years

**3.5 Yeas**

**62 Weeks**
434 Years

3.5 Years
COMPARISON OF RAPTURE POSITIONS

Daniel’s 70th Week

PRETRIBULATIONAL RAPTURE POSITION

MIDTRIBULATIONAL RAPTURE POSITION

POST TRIBULATIONAL RAPTURE POSITION

PREWRATH RAPTURE POSITION

FIXED EVENTS

BEGINNING BIRTH PANGS

THE GREAT TRIBULATION

(Persecution by Antichrist)

3½ YEARS

7½ YEARS

7-YEAR TRIBULATION PERIOD

WRATH OF SATAN

(sometime during this period)

WRATH OF GOD

WRATH OF GOD

WRATH OF GOD

1000-YEAR MILLENNIUM

BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

75 DAYS
II. THE DISTINCTIVE TRANSITION OF THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE
(1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18)

■ A. The Solace of the Rapture
   (1 Thessalonians 4:13-15)

■ B. The Sounds of the Rapture
   (1 Thessalonians 4:16)

■ C. The Sequence of the Rapture
   (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)
UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY of the Current Church Age Saints by Jesus Christ

▪ JOHN 14:1-4
1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you 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 to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.
4 And where I go you know, and the way you know."
15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep (Dead).

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY of the Current Church Age Saints by Jesus Christ

1 THESSALONIANS 4:15-18
UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY
of the Current Church Age Saints by Jesus Christ
II. THE DISTINCTIVE TRANSITION OF THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE
(1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18)

- A. The Solace of the Rapture
  (1 Thessalonians 4:13-15)
- B. The Sounds of the Rapture
  (1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- C. The Sequence of the Rapture
  (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)
RAPTURE-1 THESALONIANS 4

- The Return of Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- The Resurrection of Church Age Saints (1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- The Rapture/Catching Away of the Saints (1 Thessalonians 4:17)
- The Reunion with Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:17)
- The Reassurance of Comfort / Encouragement (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
T I M E L I N E

Christ’s Bodily Resurrection “Firstfruits”

RAPUTURE Church Age Saints BODIES Resurrected

Time Span NOT Revealed in Scripture

~CHURCH AGE~ CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

Antichrist CONFIRMS Covenant With Israel

2nd ADVENT of Christ Final Battle of Armageddon “FIRST Resurrection” JUDGMENT of Nations

7 YEAR TRIBULATION

3.5 Years 3.5 Years

Antichrist’s ONE WORLD System

1000 Year MILLENNIAL Kingdom
II. THE DISTINCTIVE TRANSFORMATION IN THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

(1 CORINTHIANS 15:50-54)

■ A. The Mystery of the Rapture
   (1 Corinthians 15:51)

■ B. The Metamorphosis During the Rapture
   (1 Corinthians 15:51-54)

■ C. The Marvelous Victory of the Rapture
   (1 Corinthians 15:54)
1 CORINTHIANS 15:50 - 53

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep (DIE), but we shall all be changed—

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.
Christ's Bodily Resurrection “Firstfruits”

RAPTURE Church Age Saints BODIES Resurrected

Time Span NOT Revealed in Scripture

CHURCH AGE CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

Antichrist CONFIRMS Covenant With Israel

2nd ADVENT of Christ Final Battle of Armageddon “FIRST Resurrection” JUDGMENT of Nations

7 YEAR TRIBULATION

3.5 Years 3.5 Years

Antichrist’s ONE WORLD System

1000 Year MILLENNIAL Kingdom
ZECHARIAH 14:4
4 “And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south.”
UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY of the Current Church Age Saints by Jesus Christ

Looking east across the roofs of the Old City of Jerusalem

Mount of Olives

Splits North

Splits South
UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

The Rapture

and the Second Coming
Prophecy Focus

THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

Scripture’s Most Compelling Argument

Richard R. Schmidt, D.Min.
Schedule Us for One Service to Multi-Day Prophecy Conference