

EVIDENCE FOR A PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

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THE SEVEN YEAR TRIBULATION PERIOD

The tribulation is a time of judgment. Half the world will be killed, first a quarter of the people will die and then a remaining third die. Men will be tormented for five months with pain from the plague of the mark of the beast. Men will try to kill themselves to no avail. There will be supernatural beings such as the Antichrist and the two witnesses who have the power to command fire to come down from heaven.

From the signing of the seven year covenant until the Lord establishes His kingdom on the earth will be seven years of tribulation. The seven years are divided in two equal 1260 day periods. The first 1260 days will see the going forth of the four horsemen of the apocalypse and the anointing of the 144,000 Jews who go forth to witness that Yeshua is the Messiah. The second 1260 day period is called the “great tribulation” period, starting when the Anti-Christ stands in the Temple of God and declares himself to be God (2 Thessalonians 2:4). This seven year period is referred to as the time of Jacob's trouble by the Bible.

THE TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE

Where does this phrase originate? It refers to Genesis 29, where Jacob worked for seven years to marry Rachel, only to be tricked by Laban into receiving Leah, then having to work another seven years to marry Rachel. This phrase is used by Jeremiah to indicate the duration of seven years for the final judgment of God (Jeremiah 30:7), colloquially as the Tribulation period.

Jeremiah 30:7 Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.

PURPOSE OF THE TRIBULATION IS JUDGMENT

The purpose of the tribulation is judgment upon a wicked earth. In 1 Thessalonians 5:9, Paul tells us that God has not appointed His people unto wrath. The Church is in covenant with Yeshua and is not under condemnation; therefore the Church is not going through this period.

1Thess 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ

THE RAPTURE

Prior to the tribulation period and the revealing of the Anti-Christ, there will be a resurrection of all believers, from the time of Yeshua's resurrection until this point. These believers will be caught up in the air to meet the Lord. Keep in mind, this means billions of people will come out of their graves and rise up into the heavens. Then the believers who are alive during this time will also be caught up in the air to meet the Lord. This event is commonly referred to as the *rapture* of the Church.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Luke 21:34-36 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. ³⁵ For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

A common misconception associated with the catching away of the believers during the rapture is the phrase “in a twinkling of an eye” found in 1 Corinthians 15:52. However, this passage refers to the *changing* of believers' bodies

from mortal corruption into immortal, incorruptible perfection. The catching away of the believers described in 1 Thessalonians is an orderly ascension. There will be a loud trumpet blast, then those who are dead will rise, then those which are alive will rise to meet the Lord in the clouds. It is not an instant vanishing of people as typically portrayed. The rapture will be a very open and public act that will be witnessed by the entire world.

1 Corinthians 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

ANCIENT WEDDING PICTURES PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

From the pattern of the ancient wedding practices, we see that, like the bridegroom of ancient times, Jesus came to the home of His bride for the betrothal, made a covenant with His bride and sealed it with a glass of wine, paid the bride price with His life and sent His bride gifts of the Holy Spirit as a dowry. We, the betrothed (the Church) currently await the return of our Bridegroom to take us (rapture) to the wedding chamber, where we will spend seven years and celebrate the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, while the tribulation judgment occurs on earth. At the end of seven years, we will depart with our Bridegroom to return to earth. (See Weddings of Ancient Israel at www.ReturnToGod.com)

Briefly, the wedding ceremony occurs in two phases, the betrothal and consummation, followed by a celebration. During the betrothal phase, a young man desiring to marry a woman, would prepare a covenant (ketuvah) and present it to the her and her father at the woman's home. The covenant described the terms under which he would propose marriage and the bride price that the young man was willing to pay to marry the woman. If the bride price was agreeable to the woman's father, a glass of wine was presented to the woman. If agreed to the proposal, she drank the wine, indicating her acceptance. At this point, the young couple were betrothed, legally married, with the expectation that the marriage had not yet been consummated. At this point, the groom would return to his father's home to prepare a wedding chamber (chuppah) for his new bride. A typical betrothal period was a year. During the betrothal period, the Groom would be building his wedding chamber, the Bride would prepare a trousseau, her wedding dress, and make herself physically beautiful (mikveh) for her husband, as mentioned in the book of Esther. When the chuppah is complete, the father would determine when the groom could return for his bride. Romantically, the bridegroom would steal away his bride, like a thief in the night, taking her and returning to their wedding chamber. It would happen like this, as the bridegroom and his friends approached the bride's home, he would shout and blow the shofar, alerting his bride to quickly gather her belongings. He would stay some distance from the Bride's home, while his friends would go and snatch his bride and bring her to him. Then they returned to the groom's wedding chamber where the groom would give gifts to his bride for seven days. The bridegroom's friend would wait outside the door of the wedding chamber and when the marriage was consummated, the bridegroom would tell his friend through the door, and the friend would announce it to the assembled guests. The guests would celebrate the marriage supper for seven days until the newlyweds emerged, then the newlyweds would return to the bride's hometown to live.

TEN VIRGINS PARABLE PICTURE OF PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

The parable of the ten virgins gives us an insight into ancient Hebrew wedding customs and the rapture. It describes two groups of people, those who live a Holy Spirit (oil) filled life and those who do not. This parable is clearly a pre-tribulation context because the second group, those without *oil*, want to enter the wedding chamber, but are not allowed.

Matthew 25:1-13 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. 2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: (4) But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. 6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. 7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. (8) And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. 9 But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. (10) And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. (11) Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. (12) But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. (13) Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

If the church is raptured, why are saints referenced in revelation?

Revelation 13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

Post-tribulationists counter this argument by noting that while the word church does not appear in Revelation 4—18 that the word *saints* (holy ones) occurs several times in Revelation 4—18 and that this is a description of the church present on earth (Rev 13:7, 10; 16:6; 17:6; 18:24). The problem with this argument is that there were saints in the Old Testament, there are saints today in the New Testament church, and there will be saints in the future tribulation period. The use of the word *saints* to describe believers on earth during the tribulation period tells us that there will be believers on earth, but it does not prove that they are church age believers. The saints in Revelation are best described as tribulation saints who will be saved during the tribulation period after the rapture.

WEDDING AT CANA PICTURE OF RAPTURE

The wedding at Cana began Yeshua's miracles. It occurred on the third day, a allusion to Hosea 6:2. There are six water pots, a picture of six days or six thousand years of man. The servants take some of the wine out and show it to the groom, a picture of the rapture. Afterward, Yeshua manifested His glory to His disciples.

John 2:1-10 And the **third day** there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: 2 And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. 3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. 4 Jesus saith unto her, **Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.** 5 His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do *it*. 6 And there were set there **six waterpots** of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. 7 Jesus saith unto them, **Fill the waterpots with water.** And they filled them up to the brim. 8 And he saith unto them, **Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast.** And they bare *it*. 9 When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, 10 And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: *but* thou hast kept the good wine until now. 11 This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and **manifested forth his glory;** and his disciples believed on him.

Hosea 6:2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

YESHUA TELLS HIS DISCIPLES TO WATCH

Yeshua was telling His Talmidim (disciples) to watch for His return, not peace treaties and the rebuilding of the Temple. He tells His Talmidim to guard against their own sinful natures, to prepare themselves for His return, not the coming of the Antichrist.

Luke 21:34-36 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. 35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Mark 14:38 Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly *is* ready, but the flesh *is* weak.

Yeshua instructs His disciples to keep watch or they will be left behind with the hypocrites, those pretending to be His servants.

Matthew 24:46-51 Blessed *is* that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. 47 Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. 48 But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; 49 And shall begin to smite *his* fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; 50 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for *him*, and in an hour that he is not aware of, 51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

SYMBOLIC PARALLELS - NOAH AND LOT PICTURE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

Jesus compares the tribulation period to the times of Noah and Lot in Luke 17:24-30. The circumstances of Noah and Lot have the removal of the righteous prior to the judgment of the unbelievers. Noah's flood even has the righteous floating *above* the judgment.

Luke 17:24-30 For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day. 25 But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation. 26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. (27) They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. (28) Likewise also as it was in

the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; (29) But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. (30) Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

Peter reiterates that God removes His people prior to His judgment.

2 Peter 2:5-9 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; 6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned *them* with an overthrow, making *them* an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; 7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: 8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;) 9 **The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:**

The story of Abraham arguing with God over Sodom in Genesis 18 suggests that God will remove the righteous prior to destruction.

Genesis 18:23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

NOAH ENTERED THE ARK SEVEN DAYS PRIOR TO FLOOD

Yeshua likened His return to that of Noah's flood. People would be going about their normal days when suddenly He would appear, just like Noah's flood. This directly speaks of a surprise return, which precludes a post-trib rapture, as once the covenant is signed by the antichrist, we know exactly when Yeshua will return.

Scriptures in Matthew 24, Luke 17, and 2 Peter 2, indicate that the story of Noah teaches about the return of Jesus:

Matt 24:37 But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Matt 24:38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

Matt 24:39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Luke 17:26 And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

Luke 17:27 They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

2 Peter 2:5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

2 Peter 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

Those who deny the pre-tribulation rapture spuriously argue that Noah *went through* the tribulation of the flood, therefore the Church will go through the tribulation.

Peter speaks that God will "deliver the godly out of temptations" (2 Peter 2:9). This is a statement about how Noah's experience is a comparison to how the pre-tribulation rapture will deliver the righteous before the tribulation.

Noah is a type of the rapture before the seven year tribulation. God calls Noah into the ark seven days prior to the flood, i.e. judgment. Noah and his family went into the ark and God shut the door behind him. They floated above the waters which brought the judgment that came upon the world. Likewise, the pre-tribulation rapture will take believers up into heaven, through the "open door" above the earth where the judgment will occur.

Genesis 7:1 And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

Genesis 7:4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

Genesis 7:5 And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him.

Genesis 7:13 In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark;

Genesis 7:16 And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in.

Noah's ark is a type of heaven. In Gen 7:1, God calls to Noah from inside the ark, which is similar to "Come up hither" in Revelation 4:1. And the door is also a strong symbol of the rapture.

Revelation 4:1 After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Matthew 25:10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.

MISINTERPRETED “FALLING AWAY” TELLS OF PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

2 Thessalonians 2:3 is typically interpreted as the Church becoming non-believers and *falling away* from belief in Yeshua. However, there is strong evidence that the correct interpretation of this key phrase, *falling away*, is *departure*. The word translated as “falling away” is *apostasia*. “*Apo* means *from* and *stasia* means *spot*. What has happened is a semantic shift from the original meaning to a common English meaning. For example, the word, *awful*, used to mean *full of awe*. The semantics have shifted over time, so that it now means *terrible*. The word *apostasia* has, over time, come to mean *apostasy*, a falling away from faith. When you read this verse with this translation, it is a clear passage that tells us that the rapture of the church must come prior to the revealing of the Antichrist.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away[departure] first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; (4) Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

The very respected Geneva Bible (yr. 1587) translates this word as *departing*:

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Let no man deceiue you by any meanes: for that day shall not come, except there come a departing first, and that that man of sinne be disclosed, euen the sonne of perdition,

THE TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS IN HEAVEN HINTS OF PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

In Revelation 4:4-10, John is caught up to Heaven and sees the twenty-four Elders. The twenty-four Elders represent the Church. Therefore, the Church is in Heaven at this time, which is prior to the tribulation.

Rev 4:4-10 And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold. (5) And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. (6) And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. (7) And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle. (8) And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. (9) And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, (10) The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

The word “us” in Revelation 5:9-10 refers to the church. Of the twenty-four Greek manuscripts of the book of Revelation, twenty-three translate this word as “us,” only one translates it as “they.”

Revelation 5:8-10 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four *and* twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. 9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; 10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

FIRSTFRUITS RESURRECTION – HINT OF PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

Matthew 27:53 states that following Jesus' resurrection, many people were resurrected. These people went into Jerusalem and appeared to many others. Their resurrections testify of Jesus' resurrection and deity. It is no accident that Jesus rose on the feast of First Fruits because He fulfilled the Spring Feasts of Israel with His life. On the feast of First Fruits, it was the obligation of every Jew to offer the first of their harvest to the Lord. Jesus fulfilled this obligation by resurrecting people as His offering. The resurrection of these people may also be a hint to a pre-tribulation rapture. If we are to be consistent, why then would Jesus not wait until after the tribulation when all will be resurrected for judgment?

Mat 27:51-53 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; (52) And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, (53) And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.

JOEL 2 SPEAKS OF THE LORD'S ARMY TOGETHER WITH HIS RAPTURED BRIDE

The phrase, "let the bridegroom go forth from his chamber, and the bride out of her closet," refers to the rapture. Anytime the bridegroom goes out to meet the bride, the text is referring to the rapture. Additionally, verse 15 announces this event with a trumpet blast.

Joel 2:15-16 Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: 16 Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.

CHURCH RETURNS WITH YESHUA

Revelation 17:14 and 19:14 specifically state that the church returns with Yeshua at the second coming.

Revelation 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

Revelation 19:14 And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

TWO WITNESSES SERVE PRIOR TO GREAT DAY OF THE LORD

Malachi 4:5 specifically states that the two witnesses will witness BEFORE the GREAT DAY OF THE LORD. Revelation 11:11-15 identifies that the two witnesses will be raptured after the second woe and prior to the third woe, the seventh trumpet. The seventh trumpet contains the seven bowls of wrath.

Rev 11:3 And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

Malachi 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

Revelation 11:11-15 And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. 12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. 13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. 14 The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly. 15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

MATTHEW 24:44 REFERS TO THE RAPTURE, NOT THE SECOND COMING

Jesus said: "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" (Matthew 24:44). The only time frame when Believers will not be expecting Jesus to return is before the tribulation because once the anti-christ confirms a covenant with Israel, everyone who reads the Bible will know that Jesus will come in 3.5 years from that point.

THE RAPTURE WILL OCCUR ON THE FEAST OF YOM TERU'AH (TRUMPETS)

Although, "Rosh Hashanah" (head of the year) is not used to reference this feast in the Bible, however it does appear in Ezekiel 40:1. The significance of this feast is that it will be this feast in which the rapture occurs. It is also the next feast to be fulfilled by Yeshua. This feast is referred to by at least four names:

Yom Teruah means "the day of the awakening trumpet blast" - Numbers 29:1

Yom Ha-Zikkaron means "the day of remembrance" of "memorial of triumph" or "shout for joy."

Yom Hadin - This is another rabbinic name and tradition which means "the day of judgment."

Zicharon Truah - Means "memorial of triumph" or the "shout for joy." This phrase is found in Leviticus 23:24 and the literal meaning is "a remembrance of blowing." The phrase, "shouting for you" is found in Job 38:7 where all the sons of God shout for joy.

Rabbinic Judaism teaches that God created the heavens and the earth on the Feast of Trumpets so it was on this occasion that the angels shouted for joy.

One of the most important observances of this holiday is hearing the shofar. A total of 100 notes are sounded each day. There are four different types of shofar notes: **tekiah**, a 3 second sustained note; **shevarim**, three 1-second notes rising in tone, **teruah**, a series of short, staccato notes extending over a period of about 3 seconds; and "**tekiah gedolah**" (literally, "big tekiah"), the final blast in a set, which lasts (perhaps) 10 seconds minimum.

MINOR POINTS

MISSING CHURCH HINTS OF PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

The word "Church" is mentioned 22 times in Rev. 1-3, but is not mentioned again until Rev. 22:17, which is the return of the Church and Yeshua to earth.

SOME TANAK ("OLD TESTAMENT") VERSES THAT SUPPORT A PRE-TRIB RAPTURE

Isaiah 26:19-21 Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. 20 Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. 21 For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

Psalms 27:5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

Zephaniah 2:3 Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD'S anger.

Psalms 83:3 They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones.

ROMAN INHERITANCE SCROLL

The doubly inscribed scroll resembles a Roman will or contract deed, with the details inside and a summary on the outside, then sealed with seven seals. The seals are placed throughout the scroll so that as each seal is broken, a portion of the hidden text is revealed but the rest remains closed off. In Romans times, the witnesses who must certify the Will place their seals upon it. In the case of the scroll in Revelation, these are the pastors of the seven churches.

THE SEVENTH LINEAGE IS RAPTURED

Enoch was the seventh in lineage from Adam through the line of Seth. Enoch did not die, but was raptured. Enoch's son, Methuselah, lived 969 years and the year he died the flood came. This is a picture of the seven thousand year plan of God.

- 1) Adam
- 2) Seth
- 3) Enosh
- 4) Cainan
- 5) Mahalaleel
- 6) Jared
- 7) Enoch

Jude 1:14-15 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, 15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

Genesis 5:24 And Enoch walked with God: and he *was* not; for God took him.