

# The Blessed Hope!

**“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;” –(Titus 2:13)**

*Diamond & Nugget #59*



As we get closer to the end of time that God has allotted for man to rule and reign, fear and panic begins to sets in unexpected ways. The past fourteen months have been an excellent example of what insanity we are living in. It has been an awesome time to be alive provided you have a Biblical World View. Surprisingly, most churches do not have a Biblical World View and have no answers for their people than to be compliant citizens. I find that tragic but not all that surprising.

We are closing in on the window of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week prophecy; the soon unveiling of the Antichrist and his global one-world economy, a one-world political system, and a

one-world religious system (Pope Francis' Chrislam). The prelude that launched this early phase began with the fraudulent scandemic of Covid-19 in March of 2020, social distancing, face diapers, endless vaccines, booster shots, lock downs, downfall of the petrodollar; all instruments of breaking the human spirit, control, conditioning society to be compliant with their globalist leaders. There is no going back and whatever people saw as "normal" is gone forever. This was planned in 2010 at the Rockefeller Institute in what is called "Operation Lockstep".

Most Christian believers lack any real understanding of where we are in history, or where things are moving globally, or eternally. ***"Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you."*** -(Isaiah 35:4). Today there are so many naysayers within the body of faith that it is easy to become discouraged and without hope.

Satan has executed war on humanity, its first a spiritual war and the struggle is between Fear and Faith! Most shepherds are oblivious to how this war is being played out in the physical world. Unless one is familiar with the Big Picture, they are ill-prepared to provide their flocks clarity and guidance. War since the mid-20th century developed a name for this: Asymmetric warfare. Something that is asymmetrical is uneven, unequal, or imbalanced. Asymmetric warfare exists when two opposing armies are of unequal size or strength. It's a different way to wage war, when the sides of the conflict don't look the same. This is a spiritual war and we are dealing with a "bioweapon" that thrives on fear of the unknown, an invisible enemy if you can understand this. Soon believers will no longer have to ask the Apostle Peter's infamous question:

***"And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."*** -(2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:4).

The majority of the shepherds of the church reveal their ignorance regularly, and they quickly gravitate to an attack on the topic of the ***"Harpazo"*** or "Rapture" of believers. Chuck Baldwin has a web page in which he puts out a weekly piece for his followers. Chuck Baldwin was once a presidential candidate from Florida, but fell by the wayside for lack of funds, and then moved to Montana to start a church there. His April 29<sup>th</sup> post a week ago took a pot shot at the Scofield Bible, and the Pre-Tribulation Rapture. He blamed the church's many problems on C.I. Scofield and was promoting his 5-sermon DVD:

***"The propaganda and government overreach of the coronavirus is illustrative of the hideous damage being caused by C. I. Scofield's false prophecy doctrines. These messages show how the Church has lapsed into little more than a glorified special interest group (for Israel) and is unwittingly assisting the work of antichrist—which includes the phony Covid narrative of mask mandates and compulsory vaccinations.***

*Given that Franklin Graham and 95% of evangelical leaders SUPPORT the antichrist Covid vaccines, these five messages are a monumental wake-up call for evangelical Christians to turn from the lies and deception of Scofield Zionism (including the false, unscriptural "Rapture" theory) and return to "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."*

Chuck Baldwin graduated from Rev. Jerry Falwell's "Liberty University", which for some strange reason fails to explain Rev. Baldwin's lack of a Biblical World View and history. But Chuck Baldwin is a hero among those who reject the idea that God has a plan for believers in the Lord Jesus Christ that will provide them their "Red Sea" Exodus moment and deliverance from out of the jaws of defeat! That being the Pre-Tribulation Rapture or in Hebrew, the "**Harpazo**"! Chuck Baldwin seems to always ignore the Apostle Paul's words, and he is a lousy history student in his lack of understanding of Israel in the Bible.

The majority of Christianity today and that includes those on both sides of the issue miss the point when it comes to Israel today. The Bible notes four Biblical curses upon the Jews. Whether one is a Christian Zionist or an advocate of "Replacement" theology, God will deal with the modern day State of Israel after the Church is removed through the Rapture. From Pentecost until the Rapture, Christians have lived in the Age of Grace, the Dispensation of the Church! God has a time clock running parallel with the Age of Grace for the Nation of Israel. That said, it is important that believers recognize Israel has four curses hanging over its proverbial existence.

The Four Curses are:

- Curse of Disinheritance – (Luke 20:9-16)
- Curse of The Fig Tree – (Matthew 21:18-20)
- Curse of Desolation – (Luke 13:28-35)
- Curse of Deicide – (Matthew 27:17-25)

I do not want to spend a great of time on this point, I have written about this point in my series "**The Satanic Talmud & The Synagogue of Satan**" – Part 6. It is far more important than most Christian ministries recognize. The entire "Hebrew Roots" movement evades this subject like the plague, yet it will factor in a big way into Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week prophecy which is closer than you might understand. When the Antichrist inks the deal, originally called the Oslo Accords of 1993, with the "**many**", Christians will have been removed from this planet just prior to or at to its signing by the Antichrist. The Pre-Tribulation Rapture has both **Chronos** and **Kairos** moments in God's dealing with His "Chosen" people. God removes the Christians from this planet just before He turns to focus on dealing with Israel. Ezekiel 20 spells it out for Israel, and God minces no words, and takes Israel to the proverbial "wood" shed!

At this point in time we are awaiting and watching for two events on the near horizon: Isaiah 17:1-2 and the war of Gog and Magog of Ezekiel 38/39. We think, but we cannot say with absolute certainty, these two events will swiftly bring our "departure"! For a decade now events have been centering and focusing on Syria and Iran. Events there

are gradually like a musical symphony crescendo-building to its musical climax. The U.S. has not changed its view about a regime change in Syria and as Israel and Iran continues their rhetorical 'war of words' that will eventually explode into a hot war.

I watch these two geo-political hot spots extremely closely. That said we are closing in on ***"The Blessed Hope"*** of Titus 2:13. ***"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;"*** The opposite of Fear is Love. Fear and Love are the unique primary existing emotions in the physical universe. And all the others are just variations of these two emotions. Love is the more powerful feeling in the world, while fear, is the more harmful. Love produces sure hope, comfort and security, while fear produces uncertainty, despair, discomfort, and insecurity.

You might have guessed that I was going to say Faith is the opposite of Fear. They cannot be opposites because fear is a feeling and faith is a choice and a gift from God. Feeling fear does not necessarily mean you have no faith. By remembering fear is something we feel, we can choose a right response when we experience it or are confronted by it. The opening passage of Isaiah 35:4 speaks to this point. I am stating here that you must individually act on that choice and gift from God. Everything comes down to Faith. I am not saying that faith is more important than the Spirit of God, love, or holiness, but the Bible itself is saying something significant.

The Bible speaks more of and about faith than anything else. Faith must be central to God's purpose methods. **501X** times the word Faith/Believe appears in the Bible whereas the word Love is found just **230X** times. This promise will carry us through the turmoil and trepidations being subjugated by Lucifer's lieutenants as we near the end of days. If you have read the end of the Book, you know "we" win! That is a comforting thought since most everything is outside of our control. I'm not being insensitive here by saying, enjoy the show! God gets all the glory and we get to see His mighty hands at work. The Pre-Tribulation Rapture will be God's attention-getter to the Jews. As Ezekiel 20 points out the Jews have defamed God's name! Read Ezekiel 20: 5, 14, 22, 34, & 44. The Jews forfeited the mission for which God "chose" them!

**"Harpazo"** is found **13X** times in the Bible. It means to be *"caught up"* or snatched up, In the Greek New Testament, the word **"harpazo"** is found a total of **17X** times in 13 different verses. Each time **"harpazo"** is used, this verb refers to a quick or sudden often violently physical *"snatching away"* or *"catching away"* of a person, a thing, or an idea. More important is the fact that in 5 of these 17 times **"harpazo"** is used in the New Testament **"harpazo"** ALWAYS refers to the literal physical (bodily) removal of a faithfully righteous human being from one place to another, or from one sphere of existence to another. The 5 times **"harpazo"** is used involving faithfully righteous people are when:

1. Philip is **harpazo'd** from the presence of the Ethiopian eunuch to a different location miles away -(Acts 8:39).

2. Paul is ***harpazo'd*** from the Earth to the Third Heaven -(2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12:2).
3. Paul is ***harpazo'd*** from the Earth to the Third Heaven; second reference -(2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12:4).
4. Bride of Christ is ***harpazo'd*** from the Earth to the clouds to meet Her Groom (Christ Jesus) in the air -(1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:17); the understanding here is that the Bride will be taken to Heaven to be with Her Groom.
5. Christ Jesus is ***harpazo'd*** from Bethany near the Mount of Olives to His Throne in Heaven -(Revelation 12:5; cf. Luke 24:50-51; Acts 1:9).

Each one of the above five supernaturally powerful acts of the Holy Spirit by which literal bodily removals of humans either from one place to another on Earth or from off of this Earth to Heaven proves that the Rapture is a biblically sound doctrine. In fact, the English words Rapture and Raptured actually are derived from the Latin verb rapio (catch up or take away), and rapio is used in the Latin Vulgate Bible (also referred to as The Vulgate).

The point here is that many of America's English words, like Rapture and Raptured, and etc., are derived from words found in the Latin Vulgate Bible—the most commonly used translation of the Holy Bible. St Jerome's late 4th-century A.D. revised Latin translation of the old Latin Biblical Texts became The Vulgate, and The Vulgate was used over 1,000 years before the Protestant Reformation started! In essence, no other Holy Bible translation has been used longer than the Latin Vulgate Bible, and that includes the Authorized King James Version!

So then, believers who doubt that the idea of a Rapture is in their English translations of the Holy Bible need to understand that it is from the Greek New Testament manuscripts that St. Jerome, scholar/translator, originally renders the Latin rapiemur (the first person plural future passive indicative tense of rapio) from the Greek *harpagesometha* (the first person plural future passive indicative tense of harpazo). Furthermore, in the English versions of 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:17, rapiemur has been translated from Latin into English as either "*we shall be snatched,*" or "*we shall be grabbed,*" or "*we shall be carried off,*" and so forth. Similarly, *harpagesometha* has been translated from Greek into English as "*we shall be caught up*" or "*we shall be taken away,*" and etc. Moreover, as already mentioned, with every Latin and English translation of *harpagesometha* the meaning of this Greek verb always connotes a catching or taking that will be a violent, sudden event!

The point to this brief Greek/Hebrew grammar lesson is that, as far as the meaning and tense of the Latin word rapiemur are concerned, this word is in agreement with the Greek word *harpagesometha*, since *rapiemur* and *harpagesometha* are the same tense and they both mean the same thing - a sudden and physical withdrawal; a seizing; a snatching, and so forth. So then, there can be no denying that English words like rapt, raptly, raptness, rapture, raptured, rapturous, rapturously, rapturousness, raptor, and so

on, undisputedly are derived from rapio's verb forms such as rapere, rapui, raptus, rapiemur, rapturo, and etc. Moreover, since rapio's verb forms are accurate translations of the Greek "**harpazo's**" verb forms, then it doesn't matter if someone uses the KJV's "caught away" or "caught up" or if he/she uses the word "raptured," or "snatched away," or "taken up," or "plucked," or "taken by force," and so forth, because they all mean the same thing—a very sudden nonconsensual seizure.

Thus, language in this case shouldn't be used as a barrier to understanding a concept that most definitely is found in the Word of God - that concept being the Rapture. Put differently, the Greek, Latin, and English words used in 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:17 all describe exactly how quickly the living Bride of Christ's fleshly Body will be removed from this Earth and how fast that fleshly Body will be changed into a spiritual Body, so it doesn't matter if one particular English word is or isn't in the English version of the Holy Bible someone is using. What should matter most is whether the concept of a Rapture is in the Word of God. Based on the words used in the ORIGINAL language of the New Testament, which is Greek, the concept of a Rapture most definitely is in the Word of God.

Do not let anyone deceive you, there will be a Rapture, and this promise is reason to be comforted in spite of all the chaos around today. Critics are either ignorant of what the Bible really says about the Rapture, or they derive pleasure in upsetting the body of Christ believers with disconcerting babble. Below are all of the New Testament verses in which the Greek verb "**harpazo**" is used.

***"and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."*** ~ (John 10:28-29)

***"And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing."*** ~ (Acts 8:39)

***"And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne."*** ~ (Revelation 12:5)

***"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."*** ~ (Matthew 11:12)

***"When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side."*** ~ (Matthew 13:19)

***"When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone."*** ~ (John 6:15)

***“But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.” ~ (John 10:12)***

***“And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain, fearing lest Paul should have been pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring him into the castle.” ~ (Acts 23:10)***

***“I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.” ~ (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12:2)***

***“How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.” ~ (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12:4)***

***“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.” ~ (1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:17)***

***“and others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.” ~ (Jude v. 23)***

These verses are interesting in that, first off, Jesus Christ is saying that He is the ONE who will “*pluck*” (pull, take by force, or snatch/catch up) His Body of Believers or Bride out of harm’s way (the Tribulation Period) so that His Bride will be with Him in Heaven. The Power (force) He will use to “*pluck*” (pull, take, snatch, or catch up) His Body of Believers or Bride is the Power of Almighty God, which means the Power of God’s Holy Spirit.

Thus, the word “*pluck*”, which in John 10:28-29 has been translated from the Greek word ***harpazo***, should remind believers in Christ Jesus that, while Jesus Christ eventually will “*pluck*” them out of this world, He also has promised to keep them secure while they are in this world. The Lord has said that while His disciples, believers, followers are on this Earth NO ONE would be able to “*pluck*” them out of His hands nor out of the Father’s hands.

Secondly, the phrase “***caught away***,” in Acts 8:39, also has been translated from the Greek word “***harpazo***”. In this case, “***caught away***” refers to what happened to Philip, an evangelist. He is raptured from the southern desert surrounding Samaria to Azotus (Ashdod), after salvation had come to the Ethiopian eunuch. This Philip is one of the seven men who, because they were of honest report, full of the Holy Spirit, and wisdom, initially were selected to serve tables and superintend the distribution of food -(Acts 6:3). Therefore, the interesting thing here is that Jesus Christ has said ONLY He would do the plucking (“***harpazo’ing***” or rapturing), so it is ONLY the Lord via the Holy Spirit who has “***harpazo’d***” Philip from one place in Israel to another location.

Then too, in Revelation 12:5, the phrase “**caught up**” also has been translated from the Greek word “**harpazo**”. Here “caught up” refers to Christ Jesus’ Ascension, which takes place 40 days after His resurrection and 10 days before the Day of Pentecost, when for the very first time in Christ-followers’ history the Holy Spirit is poured out on the 120 Upper Room Jewish disciples. This verse is a symbolic presentation of what actually happened in Acts 1:9, when while the Lord is blessing His disciples He suddenly is taken up or carried up -(cf. Luke 24:50-51). So then, the interesting thing here is that since NO ONE can “pluck” any of the Lord’s followers out of His hand or out of the Father’s hand, then the ONLY ONE who is catching up (**harpazo’ing** or rapturing) the Lord is the Father via the Holy Spirit.

Chuck Baldwin and the many critics of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture always focus their “strawman” arguments of attacking the messengers John Nelson Darby and C.I. Scofield relative to Dispensational theology. It is their signature rebuttal in their attempt to discredit the Pre-Tribulation Rapture. The ignorant Bible reader simply says the word “Rapture” is not in the Bible. But as I have just covered we know it is in the Bible. They must think the Bible was originally written in English. My point is that the concept of what God has in store for followers of Jesus Christ as Lord is full of hope, and that’s why Paul’s letter to Titus calls it “**The Blessed Hope**”. Eight years ago I wrote the article “**Rapture vs The Second Coming: Two Separate Events**”. it is found on my archived page at <http://jesusisthewaythetruththelife.com.node/22>

That article contained the following 32 distinctions that help to grasp the differences between these two great future events. Keep in mind that the RAPTURE happens BEFORE the 7-year Tribulation period; and then after the 7-years the glorious SECOND COMING (glorious appearing) of our great Lord, King and Savior will happen, when the entire world beholds Him. I know of no other list that notes more distinctions than that included in this article below. Some sites may list ten, sometimes fifteen, but this list is exhaustive, and I can say that I am always on the alert for something that may have been missed. As you can see, contrary to Chuck Baldwin’s statement about the Rapture being unbiblical, he has no basis for that statement, and simply is wrong on the facts.

<b><u>The Rapture</u></b>	<b><u>The Second Coming</u></b>
At the Rapture, Jesus comes FOR His Church. (John 14:1-3, 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17)	At the Glorious Appearing (Second Coming), Jesus comes WITH His Church. (Zechariah 14:5, Colossians 3:4, Jude 14,

	Revelation 19:14)
At the Rapture, Christians are caught up to meet Jesus in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)	At the Glorious Appearing, Jesus' feet touch the earth (Zechariah 14:4, Revelation 19:11-21)
At the Rapture, Christians are taken up but unbelievers are left behind. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)	At the Glorious Appearing, the unsaved wicked (tares) are taken up, but the righteous (wheat, i.e., the tribulation saints) are left behind. (Matthew 13:28-30)
At the Rapture, Jesus will gather His Bride, the Church, unto Himself in preparation of the Marriage of the Lamb. (Revelation 19:6-9)	At the Glorious Appearing, Jesus will execute judgment on the earth and establish His Kingdom. (Zechariah 14:3-4, Jude 14-15, Revelation 19:11-21)
The Marriage of the Lamb takes place in Heaven AFTER the Rapture of the Church. (Revelation 19:6-9)	War on earth comes AFTER the Marriage of the Lamb at the Glorious Appearing when the King of Kings and Lord of Lords lays the smackdown on evil! (Revelation 19:11-21)
The Rapture will happen in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye (Blink. It's over!). (1 Corinthians 15:52)	The Glorious Appearing will be a slow coming. Everyone will see Jesus coming with great power and great glory! (Zechariah 12:10, Matthew 24:30, Revelation 1:7)
At the Rapture, only those who are looking for Him (Christians) will see Him. (1 John 3:2, 1 Corinthians 15:52)	At the Glorious Appearing, every eye will see Him and those who have rejected Him will wail. (Revelation 1:7)

<p>At the Rapture, Jesus will descend from Heaven with a shout (calling for the saints at the resurrection). (1 Thessalonians 4:16)</p>	<p>At the Glorious Appearing, no shout is mentioned, although the Lord does slay the wicked with the sword of His mouth. (Revelation 19:11-21)</p>
<p>The <u>"First Resurrection" of Revelation 20:6 includes 5 separate resurrections</u>. At the Rapture, the third of these resurrections occurs. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 1 Corinthians 15:51-54. The First Resurrection is only for born-again believers, that is, Christians.)</p>	<p>At the Glorious Appearing of Jesus Christ, the final of these 5 (of the First Resurrection) will happen. (Daniel 12:2 contrasts the saved with the unsaved, speaking of both the First and the Second Resurrection. The Second Resurrection is only for the unsaved damned.)</p>
<p>The Rapture can happen at any time...maybe even now which is why we are to be WATCHING for the return of Jesus Christ! (Revelation 3:3, 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6)</p>	<p>The Glorious Appearing will occur at the end of the seven-year tribulation period. (Daniel 9:24-27, Matthew 24:29-30, 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8)</p>
<p>At the Rapture, no angels are sent to gather the Church.</p>	<p>At the Glorious Appearing, angels will be sent to gather people together for judgment. (Matthew 13:39, 41 &amp; 49, Matthew 24:31, Matthew 25:31, 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10)</p>
<p>At the Rapture, those who died in Christ will return with Jesus to recover their resurrected bodies. (1 Thessalonians 4:14-16)</p>	<p>At the Glorious Appearing, Christians will return with Jesus already in their resurrected bodies, riding on white horses wearing white linen. (Revelation 19:11-21)</p>

At the Rapture, Jesus doesn't return riding a white horse.	At the Glorious Appearing, Jesus will return riding a white horse. (Revelation 19:11)
The Rapture will bring with it a message of hope and comfort. (1 Thessalonians 4:18, Titus 2:13, 1 John 3:3)	The Glorious Appearing will bring with it a message of judgment. (Joel 3:12-16, Malachi 4:5, Revelation 19:11-21)
World is deceived. (2 Thessalonians 2:3-12)	Satan is bound. (Revelation 20:1-2)
Focus: Lord and Church. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)	Focus: Israel and Kingdom. (Matthew 24:14)
No signs precede Rapture. (1 Thessalonians 5:1-3)	Signs precede Second Coming. (Luke 21:11,15)
Tribulation begins.	Millennial kingdom begins.
Manifestation of Antichrist. (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4)	Manifestation of Jesus Christ. (Malachi 4:2)
Jesus claims His bride.	Jesus comes with His bride. (Revelation 19:6-14)
Marriage Supper Of The Lamb follows the Rapture. (Revelation 19:9)	The Great Supper of the wicked follows the Tribulation. (Revelation 19:17)
The world will not see Jesus at the Rapture; but rather, believers ascend go to meet Him in the air. (1 Thessalonians 4:17)	Jesus will descend bodily and visibly for all to see, just as He ascended bodily and visibly. (Acts 1:9-11)

<p>The Judgment Seat Of Christ follows the Rapture. (2nd Corinthians 5:9-11)</p>	<p>The Judgment of the Nations follows the Tribulation (Matthew 24:32-46)</p>
<p>Believers receive a new, immortal, glorified body fashioned like unto the Lord's. (Philippians 3:21; 1 Corinthians 15:51-54)</p>	<p>Saints saved during the Tribulation enter into the Millennial kingdom with their earthly bodies. (Isaiah 65:20)</p>
<p>The Antichrist is revealed after the Rapture. (2 Thessalonians 2:8)</p>	<p>The Antichrist is defeated and cast into the Lake of Fire at the Second Coming. (Revelation 19:20)</p>
<p>Israel is persecuted during the Tribulation. Two-in-three Jews in Israel are killed. (Zechariah 13:8-9)</p>	<p>Israel is regathered. (Jeremiah 23:5-8)</p>
<p>The timing of the Rapture is unknown. It is a secret. No man, nor the angels, not even the Son, know when this time shall be (Mark 13:32). Only a pretribulation Rapture position supports this vital Biblical truth.</p>	<p>The timing of Christ's Second Coming is known, which is at the culmination of the 7-year Tribulation (or, Daniel's 70th week). The Rapture starts the calendar clock for Daniel's 70th week.</p>
<p>World government (New World Order) follows the Rapture. (Revelation 13:15)</p>	<p>Christ's reign and government follows the Second Coming. (Daniel 2:34-35)</p>
<p>The <u>Lord</u> gathers the saints (2nd Thessalonians 2:1)</p>	<p>The <u>angels</u> gather the saints (the elect, Matthew 24:31)</p>
<p>Both the <u>living and the dead</u> saints are gathered (1st</p>	<p><u>Only the living</u> saints are gathered (Matthew 24:31)</p>

Thessalonians 4:16-17)	
The <u>trumpet shall sound multiple times, and at THE LAST TRUMP (trumpet blow), we (believers) shall all be changed, glorious resurrected with an incorruptible body (1st Corinthians 15:52; 1st Thessalonians 4:16)</u>	The Lord's voice is <u>as a trumpet (Revelation 1:10-11)</u> . There is no trumpet mentioned at Christ's Second Coming.
World famine, pestilence, war and sorrow follow the Rapture. (Matthew 24:6-10; Luke 17:31)	World peace follows Christ's Second Coming when He reigns from Jerusalem (Isaiah 11:6)

There are five views on the Rapture teaching; however, logic and analysis of Scripture overwhelmingly supports the Pre-Tribulation Rapture. Christians have many views about the appearing of Christ depending upon their denomination theological doctrines. These are called "Pre-Tribulation," "Mid-Tribulation," "Mid-Wrath," "Post-Tribulation" and "Amillennial (meaning no Rapture)."

Last year Klaus Schwab introduced the New World Order, through his Great Reset, as the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution. Herr Schwab heads the global group known as the World Economic Forum. Its web site is huge, it reveals their master plan of returning the world to what history scholars would call "Neo-Feudalism". This "new" feudalism is one in which you will own nothing and like it. Herr Schwab has repeated this statement often, "you will own nothing and like it". In the case of Klaus Schwab himself, it appears that he has helped to launder relics of the Nazi era, i.e. its nuclear ambitions and its population control ambitions, so as to ensure the continuity of a deeper agenda. While serving in a leadership capacity at Sulzer Escher Wyss, the company sought to aid the nuclear ambitions of the South African regime, then the most Nazi adjacent government in the world, preserving Escher Wyss' own Nazi era legacy.

Then, through the World Economic Forum, Herr Schwab has helped to rehabilitate eugenics-influenced population control policies during the post-World War II era, a time when the revelations of Nazi atrocities quickly brought the pseudo-science into great disrepute. Herr Schwab spear-heads a group of world celebrities, to name a few like the House of Rothschild, Prince Charles of Wales, Bill & Melinda Gates, Ted Turner, founder of CNN, Pope Francis to launch their technocratic New World Order of global government.

The vaccines for the faux Covid-19 virus are the transitional phase of the "Mark" of the Beast of Revelation 13:17. The shots are not vaccines, rather they are "gene" therapy

that re-writes your DNA to accept the (intended to trick your God-given immune system) Bill Gates “QuantumDot: Hydrogel ID2020”. The virus/vaccines are intended to re-write your DNA that will transform humans into cyborgs, part man ~ part machine artificial intelligence (AI), which will be controllable by the Antichrist system that is emerging presently on the scene in Europe. To receive any of the Covid-19 shots is to submit to the power of the Antichrist system! This is something you do not want to take. There is no way to reverse it once you have voluntarily submitted to receiving the “Mark” of the Beast found in Revelation 13:17; 14:11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; and 20:4!

The pandemic was planned with the sole purpose of subjecting humanity to a New World Order of unprecedented tyrannical control by the super-rich elite. As things will get worse, this “Diamond & Nugget” will be very important for your sanity and so I urge you to read it often to uphold your Faith. Do not expect others to understand what is taking place in the world. I have thirty years studying what is coming. Share it with your loved ones and co-workers as a ray of hope in a world that is full of despair, and darkness!

### **Dr. John Walvoord’s 50 Arguments For A Pretribulational Rapture**

John F. Walvoord wrote the little book, *‘The Rapture Question’*. In 1979, published by Zondervan Press. It was reprinted in 1994, and I believe it is still in print. Dr. Walvoord was president of Dallas Theological Seminary from 1952-1986. When you mention Dispensational theology, Dr. Walvoord immediately for many is the first one that comes to mind. He authored thirty books and I know I have at least eighteen of them.

Ninety percent of Christians are unlikely to be familiar with John F. Walvoord and many who may read my articles who identify with the United Methodist Church will not recognize the name; however, Dr. Walvoord’s defense of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture is without question, the voice of scholarly authority.

By way of conclusion and summary, Dr. Walvoord points out some fifty arguments for the Pre-Tribulation Rapture. It is not presumed that the statement of these arguments in themselves establishes their validity but rather that the previous discussion supports and justifies this summary of reasons for the Pre-Tribulational view.

For the sake of brevity, as differentiated above the term Rapture or translation is used for the coming of Jesus Christ for His church, while the term Second Coming is uniformly used as a reference to His coming to the earth to establish His millennial kingdom, an event that all consider post-tribulational. While the words rapture and translation are not quite identical, they refer to the same event. By the term rapture, reference is made to the fact that the church is “caught up” from the earth and taken to heaven. After a “seven” year Tribulation period, Christ’s Second Coming will be followed with a 1,000 year Millennial reign under His rule in peace and harmony. Raptured believers return in their glorified new bodies with the Lord Jesus Christ.

By the term translation the thought is conveyed that those who are thus raptured are transformed in their physical bodies from natural and corruptible bodies to spiritual, incorruptible, and immortal bodies. Strictly speaking, the dead are raised while the living are translated. In common usage, however, this distinction is not normally maintained.

In the discussion, the Post-Tribulation view is considered the principal contender against Pre-Tribulationism and is primarily in mind in the restatement of the arguments. The Post-Tribulation view is the dominant view held by 85% of Protestant churches, and 100% of Orthodox and Roman Catholicism. The other positions, however, are also mentioned insofar as they oppose Pre-Tribulationism on some special point. The early Christian community were Pre-Tribulation in belief up to about the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> Century A.D. During the later portion of the 4<sup>th</sup> Century A.D. the influence of Rome became the dominant voice of the institutional church. As they say, Rome never changes, and they reject the Pre-Tribulation Rapture since it does not fit with the Roman Catholic doctrine on Purgatory. Purgatory is an important cash-cow for the Vatican.

When the Reformation began in 1517, Protestantism retained most of the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. So mainline Protestant churches such as the Anglican, Episcopal, United Methodist, Church of Christ, Christian Church, United Presbyterian, Reformed Presbyterian, all officially held the same views as the Roman Catholic Church, and particularly on Eschatology and Last Days. These mainline denominations are adherents of Covenant/Reformed theology, and are opposite of Dispensational theology. The typical Protestant in mainline denominations is largely unaware of their theological roots and this came as a result of the deal Lyndon B. Johnson arranged with the Protestant churches in the 1950s.

Prior to 1954, there was no such thing as a 501(c)(3) church. All donations, contributions, gifts, etc. given to churches were automatically tax-deductible under the old English common law, known as the "Law of Charities." Then in 1954, Lyndon Baines Johnson (D-Texas) sponsored legislation which brought churches under the new 501(c)(3) section of the Internal Revenue code.

As a part of this legislation, churches would incorporate, and having that status, they could not be sued in a legal action. This was promoted as a "benefit" to the churches. The churches never bothered to look to the Scriptures and previous law to find out that churches could not be sued. They relied instead on advice from lawyers and the "legal profession" who recommended acceptance of this new "benefit." And why not? Anything involving more "legality" does nothing more than advance the status, importance, need, and employment of this questionable profession. It is a fact, that today most all of the "churches" who have been sued in a court action have been "incorporated churches."

Lyndon B. Johnson cut a deal with the Protestant church leaders in writing the legislation of the tax-exempt 501(c)3 act. President Johnson promoted the IRS code change but in exchange, churches were obligated to give up something: not to teach about Bible Prophecy, among other stipulations silencing the church on a number of issues like politics. I wrote about this specific topic in an article two or three years ago.

Here is Dr. John Walvoord's list of 50 reasons that support the Pre-Tribulation Rapture doctrine:

### **Historical Argument**

1. While Post-Tribulationism appeared as early as 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2, many in the early church believed in the imminency of the Lord's return, which is an essential doctrine of Pre-Tribulationism.
2. The detailed development of Pre-Tribulational truth during the past few centuries does not prove that the doctrine is new or novel. Its development is similar to that of other major doctrines in the history of the church Hermeneutics.
3. Pretribulationism is the only view that allows literal interpretation of all Old and New Testament passages on the Great Tribulation.
4. Pre-Tribulationism distinguishes clearly between Israel and the church and their respective programs.

### **Nature of the Tribulation**

5. Pre-Tribulationism maintains the Scriptural distinction between the Great Tribulation and tribulation in general that precedes it.
6. The Great Tribulation is properly interpreted by Pre-Tribulationists as a time of preparation for Israel's restoration -(Deuteronomy 4:29-30; Jeremiah 30:4-11). It is not the purpose of the Tribulation to prepare the church for glory.
7. None of the Old Testament passages on the Tribulation mention the church - (Deuteronomy 4:29-30; Jeremiah 30:4-11; Daniel 8:24-27; 12:1-2).
8. None of the New Testament passages on the Tribulation mention the church - (Matthew 13:30, 39-42, 48-50; 24:15-31; 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 1:9-10, 5:4-9; 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:1-11; Revelation 4-18).
9. In contrast to Mid-Tribulationism, the Pre-Tribulational view provides an adequate explanation for the beginning of the Great Tribulation in Revelation 6. Mid-Tribulationism is refuted by the plain teaching of Scripture that the Great Tribulation begins long before the seventh trumpet of Revelation 11.
10. The proper distinction is maintained between the prophetic trumpets of Scripture by Pre-Tribulationism. There is no proper ground for the pivotal argument of Mid-Tribulationism that the seventh trumpet of Revelation is the last trumpet in that there is no established connection between the seventh trumpet of Revelation 11, the last trumpet of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:52, and the trumpet of Matthew 24:31. They are three distinct events.

11. The unity of Daniel's seventieth week is maintained by Pre-Tribulationists. By contrast, Post-Tribulationism and Mid-Tribulationists destroy the unity of Daniel's seventieth week and confuse Israel's program with that of the church.

### **Nature of the Church**

12. The translation of the church is never mentioned in any passage dealing with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ after the Tribulation.

13. The church is not appointed to wrath -(Romans 5:9; 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians. 1:9-10; 5:9). The church therefore cannot enter "the great day of their wrath" -(Revelations 6:17).

14. The church will not be overtaken by the day of the Lord -(1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:1-9), which includes the Tribulation.

15. The possibility of a believer escaping the Tribulation is mentioned in Luke 21:36.

16. The church of Philadelphia was promised deliverance from "***the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth***" - (Revelation 3:10).

17. It is characteristic of divine dealing to deliver believers before a divine judgment is inflicted on the world as illustrated in the deliverance of Noah, Lot, Rahab, etc. -(2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 2:5-9).

18. At the time of the translation of the church, all believers go to the Father's house in heaven -(John 14:3) and do not immediately return to the earth after meeting Christ in the air as Post-Tribulationists teach.

19. Pre-Tribulationism does not divide the body of Christ at the Rapture on a works principle. The teaching of a partial rapture is based on the false doctrine that the translation of the church is a reward for good works. It is rather a climactic aspect of salvation by grace.

20. The Scriptures clearly teach that all, not part, of the church will be raptured at the coming of Christ for the church -(1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:51-52; 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:17).

21. As opposed to a view of a partial rapture, Pre-Tribulationism is founded on the definite teaching of Scripture that the death of Christ frees from all condemnation.

22. The godly remnant of the Tribulation is pictured as Israelites, not members of the church as maintained by the Post-Tribulationists.

23. The Pre-Tribulational view, as opposed to Post-Tribulationism, does not confuse general terms like elect and saints, which apply to the saved of all ages, with specific terms like church and those in Christ, which refer to believers of this age only.

### **Doctrine of Imminency**

24. The Pre-Tribulational interpretation teaches that the coming of Christ is actually imminent.

25. The exhortation to be comforted by the coming of the Lord -(1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:18) is very significant in the Pre-Tribulational view and is especially contradicted by most Post-Tribulationists.

26. The exhortation to look for **“the glorious appearing”** of Christ to His own -(Titus 2:13) loses its significance if the Tribulation must intervene first. Believers in that case should look for signs.

27. The exhortation to purify ourselves in view of the Lord’s return has most significance if His coming is imminent (1<sup>st</sup> John 3:2-3).

28. The church is uniformly exhorted to look for the coming of the Lord, while believers in the Tribulation are directed to look for signs.

### **The Work of the Holy Spirit**

29. The Holy Spirit as the restrainer of evil cannot be taken out of the world unless the church, which the Spirit indwells, is translated at the same time. The Tribulation cannot begin until this restraint is lifted.

30. The Holy Spirit as the restrainer must be taken out of the world before “the lawless one,” who dominates the tribulation period, can be revealed -(2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:6-8).

31. If the expression **“except there come a falling away first”** (KJV) is translated literally, **“except the departure come first,”** it would plainly show the necessity of the Rapture taking place before the beginning of the Tribulation.

### **Necessity of an Interval Between the Rapture and the Second Coming**

32. According to 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:10, all believers of this age must appear before the judgment seat of Christ in heaven, an event never mentioned in the detailed accounts connected with the second coming of Christ to the earth.

33. If the twenty-four elders of Revelation 4:1-5:14 are representative of the church as many expositors believe, it would necessitate the rapture and reward of the church before the Tribulation.

34. The coming of Christ for His bride must take place before the Second Coming to the earth for the wedding feast -(Revelation 19:7-10).

35. Tribulation saints are not translated at the Second Coming of Christ but carry on ordinary occupations such as farming and building houses, and they will bear children - (Isaiah 65:20-25). This would be impossible if all saints were translated at the Second Coming to the earth, as Post-Tribulationists teach.

36. The judgment of the Gentiles following the Second Coming -(Matthew 25:31-46) indicates that both saved and unsaved are still in their natural bodies. This would be impossible if the translation had taken place at the Second Coming.

37. If the translation took place in connection with the Second Coming to the earth, there would be no need of separating the sheep from the goats at a subsequent judgment, but the separation would have taken place in the very act of the translation of the believers before Christ actually sets up His throne on earth -(Matthew 25:31).

38. The judgment of Israel -(Ezekiel 20:34-38), which occurs subsequent to the Second Coming, indicates the necessity of regathering Israel. The separation of the saved from the unsaved in this judgment obviously takes place sometime after the Second Coming and would be unnecessary if the saved had previously been separated from the unsaved by translation.

### **Contrasts Between the Rapture and the Second Coming**

39. At the time of the Rapture the saints meet Christ in the air, while at the Second Coming Christ returns to the Mount of Olives to meet the saints on earth.

40. At the time of the Rapture the Mount of Olives is unchanged, while at the Second Coming it divides and a valley is formed to the east of Jerusalem -(Zechariah 14:4-5).

41. At the Rapture living saints are translated, while no saints are translated in connection with the Second Coming of Christ to the earth.

42. At the Rapture the saints go to heaven, while at the Second Coming to the earth the saints remain on the earth without translation.

43. At the time of the Rapture the world is unjudged and continues in sin, while at the Second Coming the world is judged and righteousness is established in the earth.

44. The translation of the church is pictured as deliverance before the day of wrath, while the Second Coming is followed by the deliverance of those who have believed in Christ during the Tribulation.

45. The Rapture is described as imminent, while the Second Coming is preceded by definite signs.

46. The translation of living believers is a truth revealed only in the New Testament, while the Second Coming with its attendant events is a prominent doctrine of both Testaments.

47. The Rapture concerns only the saved, while the Second Coming deals with both saved and unsaved.

48. At the Rapture Satan is not bound, while at the Second Coming Satan is bound and cast into the abyss.

49. No unfulfilled prophecy stands between the church and the Rapture, while many signs must be fulfilled before the Second Coming.

50. No passage dealing with the resurrection of saints at the Second Coming ever mentions translation of living saints at the same time. The Blessed Hope of the return of the Lord for His church is a precious aspect of faith and expectation. While learned and devout saints have not always agreed as to the content of this hope, the present discussion has attempted to justify this important aspect of truth. May the promise of our Lord ***"I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am"*** -(John 14:3) bring comfort and hope to us in a modern world as it was intended to do for the disciples in the upper room on that dark night before the Crucifixion. ***"The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!'...He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming soon'"*** -(Revelation 22:17, 20).

Dr. John F. Walvoord had a brilliant mind, not to mention his knowledge of the Bible, and we would be hard-pressed to find an equal today. His command of the Scriptures made him a favorite speaker/debater during his years as president of Dallas Theological Seminary and later in retirement

Blessings, be watching and stay alert!

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