



# When Does the Glory Return?

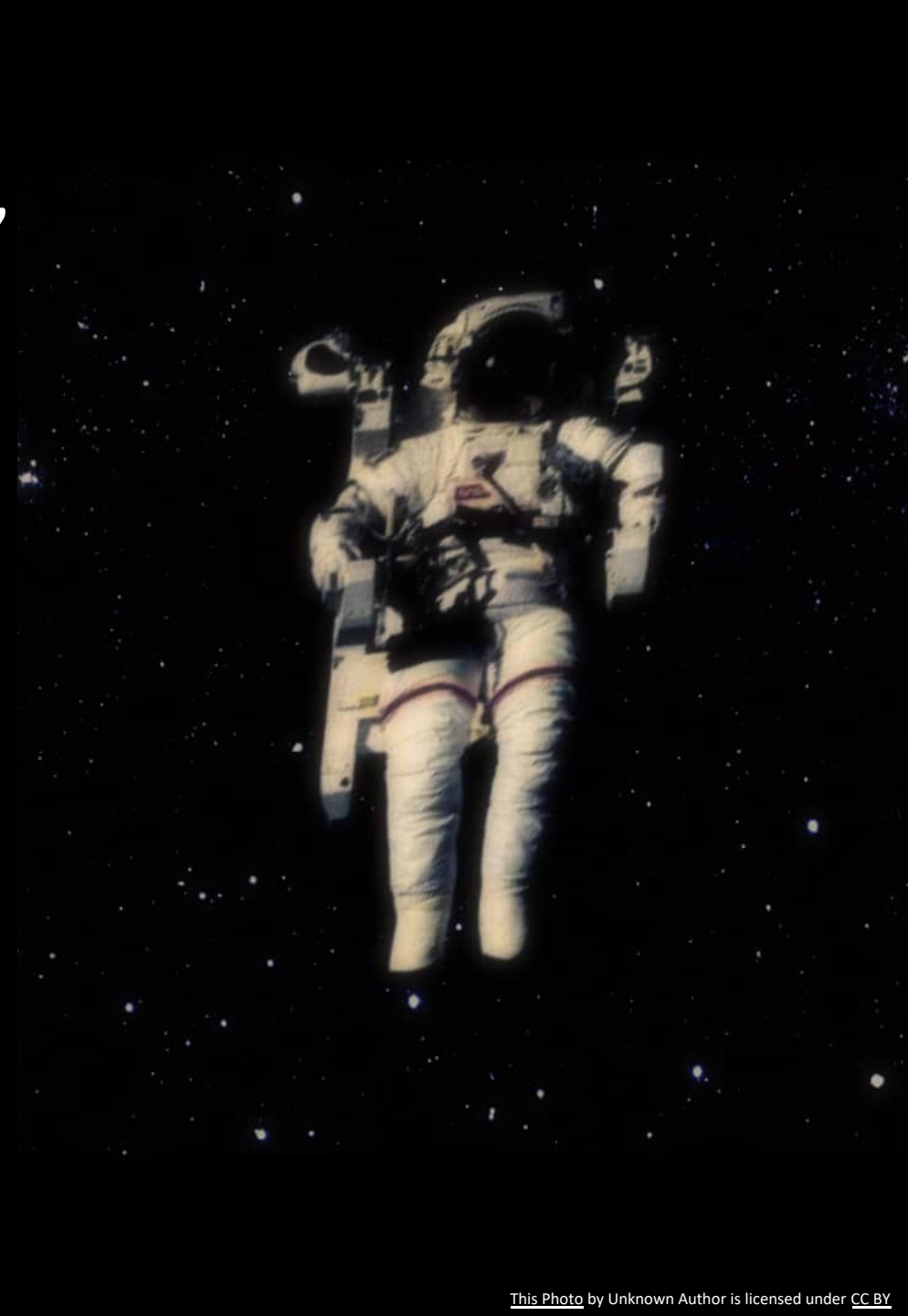
Ron Peri

# Adam Lost Man's Original Glory, Plunging us into Darkness

Adam lost fellowship with God and his glory

- His first awareness after he sinned was that he was naked (Gen 3:7)
- No covering of glory
  - Adam and Eve used fig leaves as a covering (Gen 3:7).
  - God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them (Gen 3:21)
- No human way back

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...” (Ro 3:23)







# But God Provided a Way

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“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the father except by me.” John 14:6

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup> And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, **he also glorified.** Romans 8:28-29

Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, **like the stars forever and ever.** Dan 12:3



# The Shekinah Glory Became A Man

In the beginning was the **Word (Shekinah Glory)**, and the **Word** was with God, and the **Word** was God. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. **The true light** that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

The Word became flesh and tabernacled among us. **We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father**, full of grace and truth. John 1:1-6

And the Glory of the Lord shone round about them. Luke 2:9







## Jesus' Purpose was to Share His Glory with us

- I have given them the glory that you gave me...

Jn 17:22

- He called you to this through the gospel, so that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Th 2:14

# We Will Be Like Jesus in Glory

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Phil 3:20-21





# When Will We be Glorified? At the Rapture

We know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 1 John 3:2

When Christ... appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Col 3:4

After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 1 Th 4:17



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# The Term "Rapture"

- The meaning in scripture is "being carried away physically" or "snatched up" (from Latin *rapere* as used in Jerome's 4<sup>th</sup> century Latin translation of the Bible)
- Rapture is used to describe the "snatching away" of believers at the Lord's coming
- When the rapture occurs, our bodies will be transfigured to immortal bodies, just like Jesus' body, they are able to ascend above the earth.
- **BUT FIRST...**





# The Gentiles Must Turn Control of Jerusalem Over to the Jews

They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. Luke 21:24

The world had to change for this prophecy to be fulfilled:

- 1918 (World War I) – Balfour Declaration  
= A land for the people
- 1945 (World War II/U.N. Mandate)  
= A people for the land
- 1967 (Six Day War)  
= Jerusalem settled by Jews
- 2019 (Recognition of Jerusalem by USA)  
= Jewish control recognized



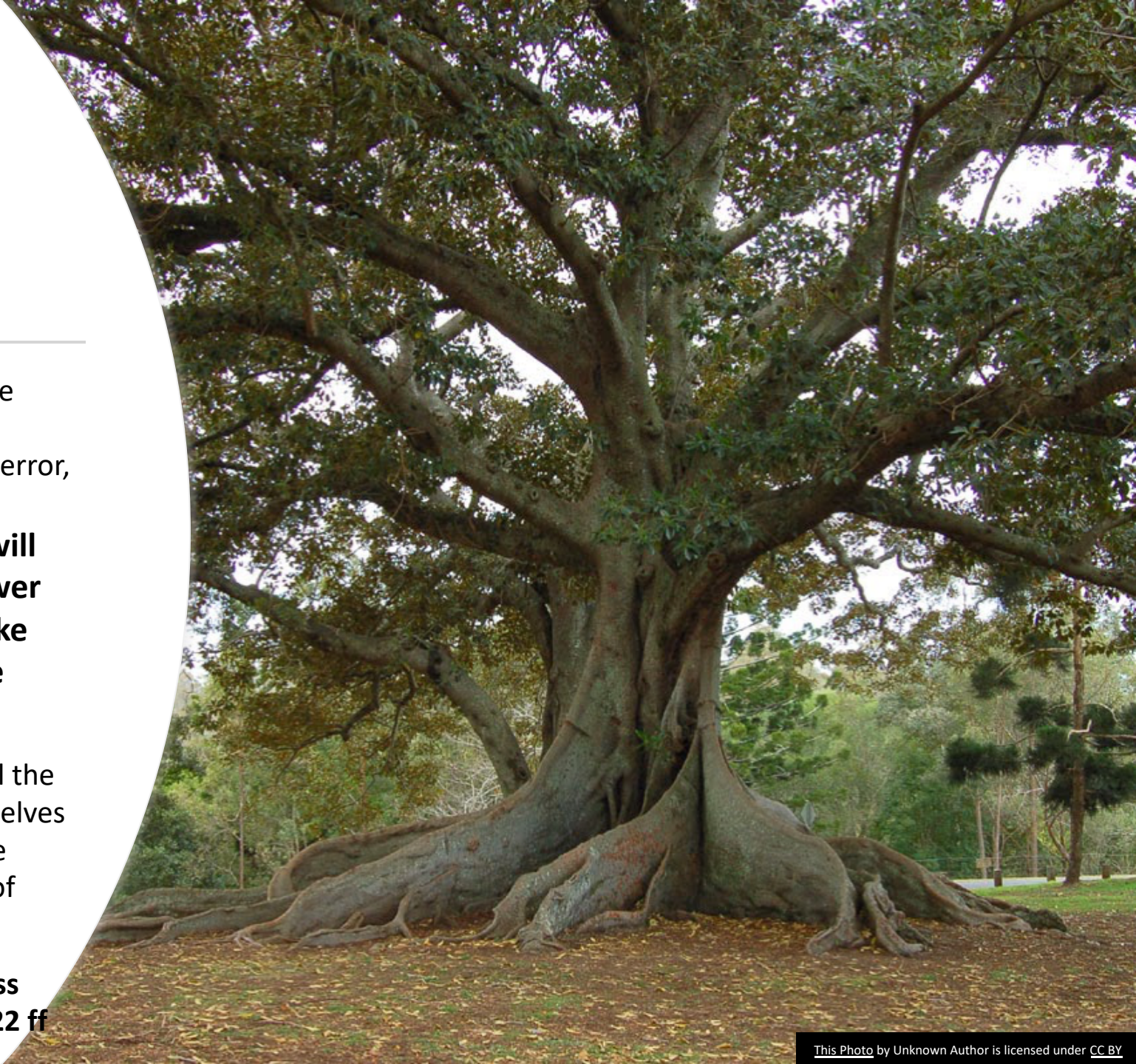


# Those born in 2019 and after will see the Lord

“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. **At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.**”

He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

**“Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Luke 21:22 ff**





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HOLY  
SPIRIT

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BAPTIZING them in the  
Make Disciples

THEREFORE

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Global Media Outreach  
Reaching the World Since 2004  
Gospel Visits as of 5/21/20

2,001,541,142

Indicated Decisions

229,594,452

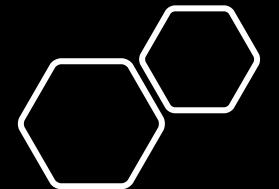
Discipleship Activity

258,550,196


“Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” Matt 24:12-13

The Great  
Commission Has  
Largely Been Fulfilled

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”  
Matt 28:18-20







Which Comes Next, the  
Great Tribulation or the  
Rapture?



# The Great Tribulation

- 7 years just prior to the Millennial reign of Jesus. The actual suffering begins after the abomination of desolation and the revelation of the Antichrist at the midpoint of the 7 years. “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation (*megas thlipsis*); they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Rev 7:14
- It is also called the “Time of Jacob’s Trouble” in Jeremiah 30:7





# The Great Tribulation

“So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination that causes desolation,’ spoken of through the prophet Daniel... How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. **For then there will be great tribulation (*megas thlipsis*),** unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

Matthew 24:15-21





# The Time of Jacob's Trouble

How awful that day will be!  
No other will be like it.  
It will be a time of trouble for Jacob,  
but he will be saved out of it.

Jeremiah 30:7

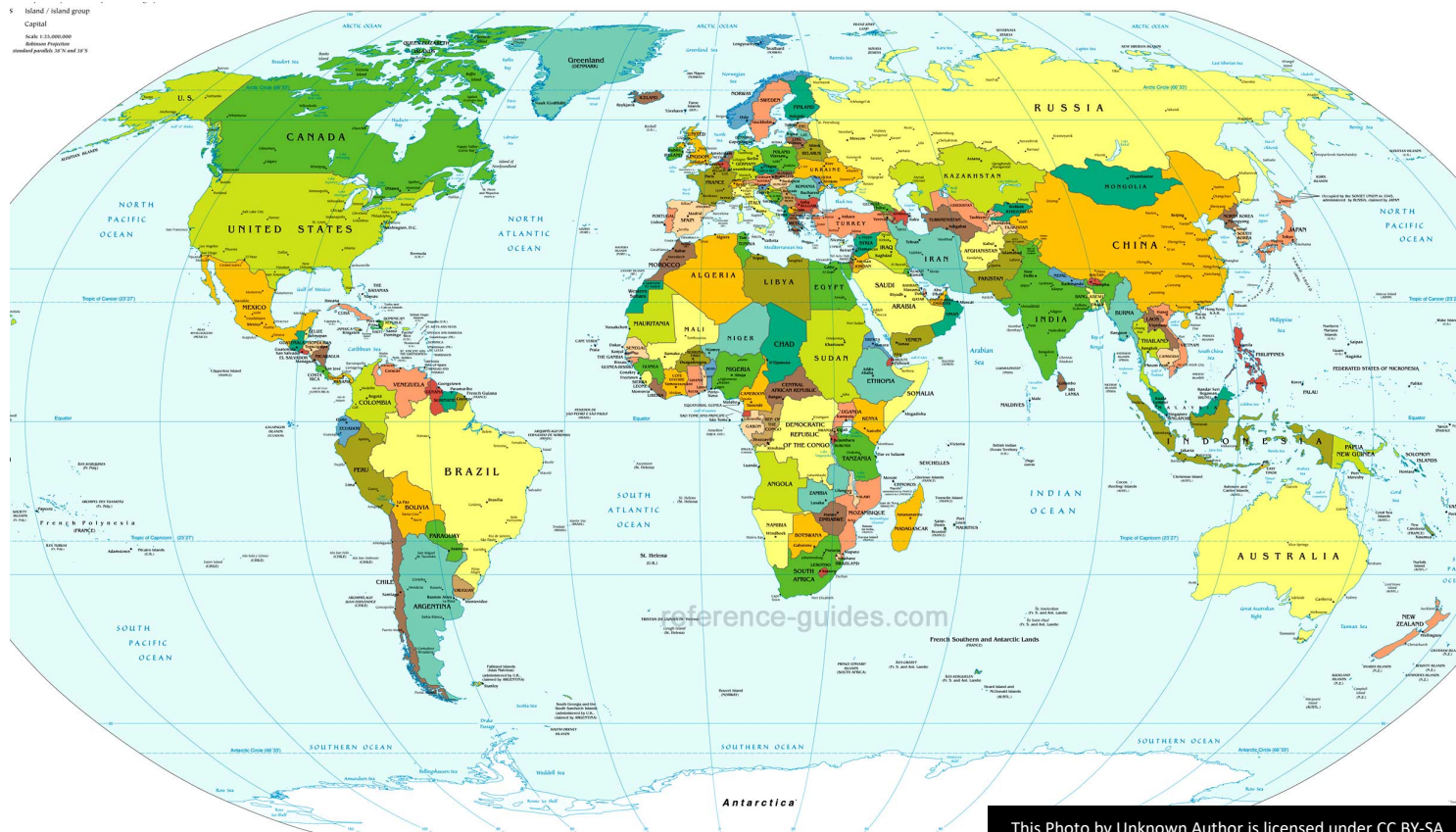




# The Great Rapture Debate

- Christians disagree on when the rapture will take place relative to the Great Tribulation:
- Will it occur before, during or after the Great Tribulation?





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All Agree: Fulfilling the Great Commission Comes First

All agree that the Great Commission is fulfilled prior to the Rapture and the Great Tribulation.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

Matthew 24:14

# The Three Main Views



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- **Pre-Tribulation Rapture** – immediately prior to the great tribulation
- **Mid-Tribulation Rapture** – some time during the great tribulation
- **Post-Tribulation Rapture** – immediately after the great tribulation



## Case for Pre-Trib Rapture

The belief that Jesus can return at any moment flows from that belief that the church will escape God's wrath:

- 1 Thess 1:10 – “and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead —Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.”
- 1 Thess 5:9 – “For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- The Church is to be kept from the hour of trial: Rev 3:10 – “Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.”

## Case for Mid-Trib Rapture

- Much like Pre-Trib, Mid Trib proponents believe that Christians avoid God's wrath.
- Points out that all the rapture passages have a trumpet, which Paul (1 Cor 15:52) calls the "last trumpet."
- The last trumpet in the Bible is the seventh in Revelation, which is in the midst of the tribulation period. Rev 11:15
- The Anti-Christ must be revealed first. This event seems to happen during the tribulation in 2 Thess 2:1-4 (Next slide)



# The Anti-Christ Revealed Before the Rapture

Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us—whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter —asserting that the day of the Lord has already come. Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for **that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.** He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

2 Thess 2:1-4

## Case for Post-Trib Rapture

“Immediately after the tribulation (thlipsis) of those days  
“the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’ Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. (Matt 24:29)

Post-Tribulationists believe this describes the Rapture noting that the only explicit timing of Jesus’ return vis-à-vis the great tribulation is the one that comes “immediately after the tribulation of those days” in Matthew 24:29



# The Major Passages on the Rapture and the Tribulation

- Rapture:
  - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
  - 1 Corinthians 15:50-54
- Tribulation:
  - Matthew 24:9-28

(Scriptures are on following slides)

# The Rapture in 1 Thessalonians

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Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. **For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.** After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up ["raptured"] together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 Thess 4:13-18



# The Rapture in 1 Corinthians

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I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed — in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

1 Cor 15:50-54

# The Tribulation in Matthew 24:9-28

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- Persecution of believers (9-14)
  - Believers hated, killed
  - False prophets, increased wickedness
  - Gospel to all the nations
- Abomination of desolation (15-25)
  - Command for believers to flee Jerusalem
- Coming of Christ (26-28)
  - Unmistakable, like lightning, the sign of the vultures



# Is it the Rapture in Matthew 24:29-31?

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“Immediately after the distress of those days “the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’

“Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

Matt 24:29-31

Are These  
Verses Both  
Speaking of the  
Rapture? Post-  
Tribs say "Yes",  
Pre-Tribs say  
"No"

- Lord comes from heaven, with loud command, with voice of archangel, with trumpet call of God, dead in Christ & those still alive caught up to be with him.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- Son of Man coming on clouds, sends his angels with loud trumpet call, gathers his elect.

Matthew 24:29-31



Compare 1  
Thess  
Chapters  
4&5 with  
Matthew 24

	<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>I Thessalonians 4 and 5</b>
The Lord Returns	24:30	4:15
Noticeably	24:27,24:30	4:16
With Angels	24:31	4:16
Trumpet Sounds	24:31	4:16
Believers gathered	24:31	4:15-17
Time Unknown	24:36	5:1
Compared to a thief	24:43-48	5:2
Compared to birth pains	24:8	5:3

## Regardless of Timing, We are Transfigured at the Rapture

Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed (allosō – to exchange one form for another). **In a flash**, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will all be changed. I Cor 15:51-52

Now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. I John 3:2

**And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.** I Cor 15: 42





# Regardless of Timing, Be Ready!



“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

Luke 12:35-40