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# THE RAPTURE!

Do we  
believe  
the Bible  
OR  
Do we  
believe  
Man?

*“Let God’s Word  
be true and  
every man a liar”  
(Romans 3:4)*

Dr. John H. Shepherd, Sr. (Pastor)

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## **Dedication**

This book is dedicated to our Heavenly Father, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit who gave the revelation of understanding so that these scriptures can be understood now that we are in the time of the end. Also, it is dedicated to the prophets of old and the disciples of Christ who paid the price to receive the Word so that we are able to have it for today to understand.

## **Special Thanks**

Thanks to a very special person whose help in the editing and the simplifying of the wording in this little book was greatly needed! I owe a lot of gratitude to Gloria Booth for her dedicated time in this area. I thank you, Gloria, from the bottom of my heart. God will bless you for the help you've been to me. Also, a special thanks to Pastor Wade Glover, a dear friend of many years who gave an outside view of this little book. Also, a special thanks to my daughter, Crystal Davis, who helped me look for details that might need more clarification.

## **Note**

Please, before reading this book, have your Authorized King James Version of the Holy Bible handy to follow along with the scripture references. All references in this book are from this version of the Bible. Many perversions of the Bible exist. I highly recommend the Authorized King James Version, not the New Kings James!

# A LETTER TO THE PASTOR

Pastor,

PLEASE, for the sake of those souls who God, our Father, has placed in your hands for proper teaching of His Word; teach them the truth! Their blood will be on your hands, and you will ONE DAY ANSWER TO GOD for what you have taught them. The revelation of truth that is in this little book on the rapture has been closed up and sealed until the time of the end.

*But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. . . . And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, Oh my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.*  
(Daniel 12:4, 8-9)

The subject of these verses is the rapture. According to Daniel, the true revelation about the rapture could not be understood until NOW! Why now? It is because we ARE in the time of the end!

When I was growing up, I was taught (like most Christians) that the rapture would happen at the beginning of Daniel's seventieth week of years (the seven-year tribulation period). I was also taught that Jesus comes before the antichrist is revealed; and we would be gone before the mark of the beast comes out. This sounded very good to me. At that time, I did not question that teaching. As I grew in the Lord and studied God's Word, I came to the understanding that my calling would be in the realm of prophesy. In the past fifty years of studying God's Holy Word, the Holy Spirit has opened my eyes to a much deeper understanding in the realm of prophesy.

*Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. (Matthew 24:45-46)*

Will you be that servant? Or will you be a servant of man teaching the doctrines of man?

*That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ. (Ephesians 4:14-15)*

Everything we teach God's children must line up with the Word of God! One day, if we teach lies and say it is God's Word; we might find ourselves spending an eternity with the father of lies, the devil. Think about it! Read this little book and look at the facts. If the facts don't line up with what you are teaching, don't call the truth a lie. Just change your teachings to the facts!

Tell your people that the proper understanding about the rapture has been closed up and sealed until the time of the end. That is why you did not understand just like Daniel did not understand. He was told that it would not be understood until the time of the end! Tell them that I was taught the same that you were taught; and I did not question my teachers the same way that you did not question yours! They did not know, I did not know; and you did not know! Thanks be to God we can see the truth now before it's too late. If your people love you as I am sure they do, they will understand and respect you for telling them the truth. They will stand behind you. If you love them, tell them the truth! God will be pleased! When you stand before Him one day, He will say: "Well done my faithful servant!"

If you don't tell them the truth, you are setting them up to be deceived! When the antichrist comes on the scene and claims to be God and deceives the world into believing he is God (II Thessalonians 2:9-12), your congregation will believe he is God because YOU taught them that Jesus comes first! So they will think this can't be the antichrist because our pastor taught us that Jesus comes first. When the antichrist comes on the scene and demands total allegiance to himself as God, and the apostate church calls upon the whole world to take the antichrist's seal in their right hand or forehead (Revelations 13:11-18); this will be the mark of the beast. Your people will take it thinking it is not the mark of the beast because YOU taught them that they will be gone before the mark comes out! This will be a nightmare for you and your congregation. Think about it! We are that generation that will see all things fulfilled (Matthew 24:32-34).

So please, for the love of your church body, tell them the truth at any cost! You will be so glad that you did when the time comes! When you stand before God, their blood will not be on your hands. Think of the peace of mind that brings. Then when you see them in heaven, they will say to you: "Thank you so much for loving us enough to tell us the truth!" Please pray and read this little book and swallow your pride for your congregation's sake if this is an issue for you. Remember, pride comes before a fall! Then, tell them the truth!

God Bless You,

JOHN

# A Letter to the “Church”

In general, the churches teach three different doctrines on the rapture of the church. The way they teach them and what they call them are summarized as follows:

1. **Pretribulation rapture** means that the rapture occurs at the beginning of Daniel’s seventieth (70th) week of years.
2. **Midtribulation rapture** means that the rapture occurs in the middle of Daniel’s seventieth (70th) week of years.
3. **Post-wrath rapture** means that the rapture occurs at the end of Daniel’s seventieth (70th) week of years.

I hope for a pre, I’m prepared for a post; and I believe according to scripture, it’s a mid! The word “rapture” is not used anywhere in the Bible! Rapture means what the Bible refers to in I Thessalonians 4:17 as “shall be caught up!” So the church uses the word rapture for this particular event. We will explore all three teachings and compare them to scripture.

## Do We Believe the Bible? Or Do We Believe Man?

In Romans 3:4 it states, “. . . *Let God be true, but every man a liar* . . . .” If man’s word contradicts God’s Word, what are you going to do? Will you accept man’s word or God’s Word? If you accept man’s word over the truth of God’s Word, II Thessalonians 2: 10-12 states that you will be damned for doing so. If we look back to verse 1 of chapter 2, we will find that Paul is talking about the event that we call “the rapture of the church.” Read this little book and learn what the Holy Bible says about the rapture.

# The Rapture

What does the Bible say about the rapture? When does it happen?

*Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, (not vanish) 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 (not vanish). (I Corinthians 15:51-52)*

I Thessalonians 4:14-17 further states,

*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.*

What does Paul call this event? In I Corinthians 15:51, he calls the rapture a “**mystery!**” When will this mystery occur? It will occur **at** the last or seventh trumpet. Revelation 10:7 says “**But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, (not after he sounds but shall begin to sound) the *mystery* (the rapture) of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.**” So what has the Bible said so far? It clearly states that the rapture happens at or just before the seventh trumpet begins to sound. (In Revelation 8:2 there are seven trumpets.)

# I have two questions:

## 1. When do we get our rewards as Christians?

Jesus says in Revelation 22:12, “*And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.*” In Matthew 16:27 Jesus says “*For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.*” In these two scriptures, it clearly states that we are given our rewards WHEN the rapture happens! **Remember this!**

## 2. When does God’s wrath come?

I Thessalonians 5:9 says, “*For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.*” This verse shows that the rapture must happen before God pours out His wrath. **Remember this!**

These scriptures show that we get our rewards when the rapture happens; and that God’s wrath cannot come until after the church is gone or raptured. Is any of this covered in the seventh trumpet?

*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. . . . And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged (this is the judgment seat of Christ for the believer), and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldst destroy them (God’s wrath) which destroy the earth.*(Rev.11:15, 18)

**What do we see here?** We see that we, the Christians, are receiving our rewards and that the wrath of God has come just as the scriptures say will happen when the seventh (last) trumpet sounds. This means that these events will happen after the rapture of the church! (Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 and Revelation 10:7.)

**If the rapture of the church occurs at the seventh trumpet, which it does, where does that place us in Daniel's seventieth (70th) week of years?** Daniel 9:27 says that the antichrist will confirm a covenant with Israel and the surrounding Arab nations. This covenant will be for a week of years or seven years. This is the seven-year period of time the church talks about referencing the rapture event. It begins with the antichrist confirming the covenant and ends with Armageddon and Christ's return to set up his earthly kingdom for 1,000 years.

Now, let's go back to Revelation 11:15 when the seventh trumpet sounds. According to Revelation 10:7 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, the rapture happens and is **finished just as** the seventh trumpet begins to sound. So if we back up a few verses, we should see the rapture happening! Revelation 11:11 states, "***And after three days and a 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.***" These are the two witnesses who Revelation 11:3-12 talks about. They have just finished prophesying for three and a half years, starting at the signing of the seven-year peace treaty spoken of in Daniel 9:27. In other words, the time is in the **middle** of the seven-year peace treaty, **not at the beginning**. The witnesses were dead in Christ. They stand upon their feet because the rapture is happening and is finished just as the seventh trumpet is about to sound. This is just like the Word of God said it would happen in Revelation 10:7! The rapture is in Revelation 11:12, "***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.***" (This event is in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.)

# This is the Rapture

To say that this event described in the last section is not the rapture would be calling God's Word a lie. You just read it for yourself. What does God's Word say? It might not fit into the doctrine of your church, but God's Word is the truth. What are you going to believe: the truth or a lie? If you are not convinced, read what Jesus said in Matthew 24:3-34 (READ IT!) and what Paul wrote.

*And with all deceivableness (don't be deceived) of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion (false belief), that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. (II Thessalonians 2:10-12)*

They refuse to believe the truth and persecute those who do. Paul is not talking to those who are already damned; but he is talking to the Christians who have salvation but could lose it. What is this lie or error that could damn their soul? What is this “pleasure in unrighteousness?” What is the truth that they do not believe? After an in-depth study of the scriptures, taking into consideration the subject (the rapture) and where we are in time; it is the time of the **RAPTURE** event.

† **The Lie** - When the mark of the beast comes out, our brothers and sisters in Christ will be told one of two things:

1. That it is **NOT** the mark of the beast because if it were, we would already have been raptured. So they take the mark, believing the lie that it is not the mark; therefore, their souls will be damned for doing so. Revelation 14:9-12 and 20:4 clearly state that **WHOSOEVER** takes the mark is damned forever. READ IT!

2. Many pastors will tell their congregations that it is okay to take the mark because they are sealed by the Holy Spirit; therefore, it will not damn them. Of course, this is another lie! Who do you think God is talking to in Revelation 14:9-12?

*And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. (Revelation 20:4)*

He is not talking to those who rejected Him and are already damned. He is talking to the Christians to tell them the consequences of taking the mark of the beast! We must get the victory over the mark. Revelation 15:2 says:

*And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.*

† **The Truth** - Those who do not have a love for the truth will refuse to acknowledge the truth. They will reject it and take the mark of the beast, giving their souls to the antichrist and damning themselves forever and ever!

† **The Pleasure in Unrighteousness** - These same people will take great pleasure in persecuting the true Christians who have rejected the antichrist and his mark. This is the pleasure in unrighteousness in II Thessalonians 2:12.

*Hosea 4:6 “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee...”*

Your eternal soul is in jeopardy. Please read the scriptures. Learn the truth and don't compromise the Word of God for anyone. Eternity awaits your decision. **DO NOT** make the wrong one!

# What about the Pretribulation Rapture? Is it Scriptural or Unscriptural?

Remember that only one rapture of the saints occurs as is stated in Revelation 20:6. Although several Bible verses talk about the day of the Lord (the rapture), this does not mean that there is more than one rapture event. All of the scriptures describe the one rapture.

Let's take a look at the only two scriptures used in the teaching of the pretribulation rapture of the church.

† Revelation 4:1-2

† II Thessalonians 2:7-8

Now, let's look at Revelation 4:1-2!

Pastors who teach the pretribulation rapture say that “come up hither” in verse 1 is the rapture of the church. Let's take this verse apart, and see if this is true or false.

*After this I (John) looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I (John) heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me (John); which said, Come up hither (here), and I will shew thee (John) things which must be hereafter. And immediately I (John) was in the spirit; and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. (Revelation 4:1-2)*

What did we just read in these two verses? Did it sound like the rapture of the church? Or did it sound like John was taken up to heaven while in the spirit to be shown the things of the future so we

would have it for today? It takes a wild stretch of the imagination to say this is the rapture of the church in these two verses. Read it again and take a close look at what is being said. The teaching that Revelation 4:1 is the rapture of the church is FALSE, DECEIVING and MISLEADING! John is being spoken to here, not the church! **THOSE ARE THE FACTS!**

Now, let's look into the other scripture verses that are used to teach a pretribulation rapture.

*For the mystery of iniquity (lawlessness) doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. (II Thessalonians 2:7-8)*

Pastors who teach a pretribulation rapture say the “**he**” in verse seven is the Holy Spirit. And “**he**,” the Holy Spirit, is called off the face of the earth back to heaven. So this would mean that everyone “**he**” (the Holy Spirit) is in (meaning those who are saved) at that point in time, “**he**” (the Holy Spirit) would take with Him. In other words, this would be the rapture of the church. They also teach that the “**he**” is removed at the beginning of the seven-year peace treaty. What is wrong with this teaching? **EVERYTHING!** It is false, contradicting, and misleading! **WHY?** This teaching says that Jesus comes first before the man of sin (antichrist) is revealed! They use II Thessalonians 2:7-8 to teach this. **He**, the Holy Spirit, would be removed in verse seven meaning that the rapture has occurred. And the wicked being revealed in verse eight is the antichrist being revealed after the rapture. It is true that the antichrist is being revealed in verse eight. But it is not true that this occurs after the rapture. What is wrong with this teaching? You cannot have it both ways. The Bible does not contradict itself. In order for this teaching to be true, it would cause the Bible to contradict itself in the same chapter.

Let's look at the first four verses in II Thessalonians 2.

*Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him. (The topic here is the rapture.) That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ (rapture) is at hand. (II Thessalonians 2:1-2)*

The Thessalonian Christians were concerned that the rapture was about to happen so they quit their jobs and stayed on their faces before God because they were afraid that they might miss it! They misinterpreted Paul's first letter. So he was trying to correct them on this matter.

***Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day (the rapture) shall not come, except there come a falling away FIRST, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition (the antichrist must also be revealed first). 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. (II Thessalonians 2:3-4)***

In other words, II Thessalonians 2:3 says that some Christians will fall away from scriptural truth before the rapture happens. Verse three says the antichrist must **also** be revealed before the rapture. In fact, the antichrist will reveal himself in the temple of God. REMEMBER what verse three and four said: the church will experience deception and "falling away" first; and the antichrist will be revealed first before the rapture will happen. These verses are clear and easy to understand. These first four verses of II Thessalonians 2: 1-4 contradict the teachings of pretribulation rapture pastors' perspectives on verses seven and eight. The Bible does not contradict itself so their interpretation of II Thessalonians 2:7 is **WRONG!**

What is verse seven saying? First, we need to look at the time period of when the “**he**” is being removed. Verse seven says that just as soon as the “**he**” is taken out of the way, (verse eight) “**then shall that Wicked be revealed. . .**” This means that the man of sin (the antichrist) stands in the temple of God, showing “**himself that he is God**” (as stated in verse four). This is the “**abomination of desolation**” spoken of by our Lord and Savior Jesus in Matthew 24:15 referring to Daniel 9:27. READ IT! This is how the antichrist reveals himself! So we know **when** the “**he**” in II Thessalonians 2:7 is being removed. Just as soon as the “he” is removed, the abomination of desolation happens. Daniel 9:27 states that the abomination of desolation happens in the **middle** of the seven-year peace treaty, **not the beginning**. So the **he** is removed in the middle. We just showed scripturally that the **he** is removed in the middle of the seven years. We can’t base church doctrine on wishful thinking. It must be based on cold, hard scriptural evidence. **ASK YOUR PASTOR** what scriptural evidence he has that the **he** in verse seven is removed at the beginning of the seven years! If he refers to 1 Thessalonians 5:9 “for God hath not appointed us to wrath...” as his scriptural evidence, show him Daniel 9:27 “... ***and that determined shall be poured upon The desolate.***” This is God’s wrath, which clearly shows that God’s wrath is not poured out until the middle of the seven-year peace treaty. So who or what is this “**he**” in verse seven (II Thessalonians 2:7)? It cannot be the rapture because this happens **after, not before**, the man of sin is revealed. Read II Thessalonians 2: 1-4 again. God’s Word speaks for itself. The “**he**” is **not** the Holy Spirit because the Holy Spirit has always been present throughout all of God’s creation. He always has been and always will be. God says the universe itself cannot contain Him and the Holy Spirit is here to draw, convict and save souls throughout the tribulation and the great tribulation. The “**he**” in verse seven (II Thessalonians 2:7) is **a restrainer of lawlessness**, representing the governments of the world that are restraining lawlessness in the world (without them we would have total chaos). And they will continue to do so until the antichrist removes them and puts his puppets in their place. (**This will bring about total chaos**). Then, the wicked one in verse eight of II Thessalonians 2 (the antichrist) will reveal himself. No contradiction in this chapter of God’s Word is found with this understanding!

The words, “We are not appointed to God’s wrath,” are usually added somewhere in the teaching! This is taught by pastors who believe in the pretribulation rapture. They say that the church is not spoken of anymore after the third chapter of Revelation because the church has been raptured. However, they need to read Revelation 22:16: “*I Jesus sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.*” This is well after the third chapter! Christ is coming after a church that has been tried by fire, made pure, white as snow, without spot or wrinkle.

*And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, it is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.* (Zechariah 13:9)

The next verse in the next chapter, Zechariah 14:1, states “**Behold, the day of the LORD cometh.**” The day of the LORD is the rapture. This means, **after the purification of the church, the rapture happens.** What kind of church will He have when that has been done? He will have a church of **saints**. **Saints** are spoken of throughout the book of Revelation. This means that the church is still here. Who are the saints if they are not the church? The pastors who teach a pretribulation rapture say that those saints, who **are** talked about after the third chapter, are the tribulation saints who get saved after the rapture.

How could this be if the Holy Spirit is not here to draw them? Remember, **pretribulation teachings** say that “the Holy Spirit will be called back to heaven” when the rapture occurs. But scripture teaches that you cannot get saved without the Holy Spirit to draw you. So how could there be tribulation saints after the rapture? **They are simply wrong!** These teachers are filled with fear, refusing to acknowledge the truth. The end result will be that they will take the mark of the beast and go to hell. They do not have a love for the truth; therefore, they are blind to it. **Read II Thessalonians 2:1-12!**

They also say we are not appointed to God's wrath so this is why the rapture is a pretribulation event. It is true that we are not appointed to His wrath. I Thessalonians 5:9 states, "***For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.***" We will be raptured before God pours out His wrath, but God's wrath is not poured out until the second half of the seven-year peace treaty (Daniel's 70th week of years). Read Daniel 9:27! Some teach about a seven-year tribulation period in which the whole seven years is God's wrath. THIS IS NOT SO! Some teach that the first half is tribulation (3 ½ years); and the second half is great tribulation which is the wrath of God. This is close to the truth but still not so! Daniel's seventieth (70th) week of years is broken into three parts, and they are as follows:

† The first 1260 days is the tribulation of the church.

† The next 75 days are shortened days. Read Matthew 24:22 and Revelation 8:12! This is the great tribulation of the church. At the end of these 75 shortened days, the church is raptured. Also read Revelation 7:9-17 and Daniel 12:12-13! I WILL EXPLAIN: Jesus said in Matthew 24:22 that He would have to shorten the days for the elect's sake. (We are His elect as in Colossians 3:12, Romans 8:32-33, Luke 18:7-8 and Titus 1:1.) The reason Jesus said He would have to shorten the days for the elect's sake is because He knew that 1,335 days were prophesied from the signing of the peace treaty (Daniel 9:27) to the time of the rapture (Daniel 12:12); and He would not change Bible prophecy. Jesus knew that He would have to take time away so that the antichrist would **not** have enough time to kill every Christian on the face of this earth before the rapture. So Jesus said He will shorten the days, not take away from the 1,335 days. In other words, He will literally shorten the length of those 75 days.

*And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.* (Revelation 8:12)

The only way a third part of the sun, moon, stars, night and day can be cut is by speeding up the earth's rotation to a sixteen-hour day instead of a twenty-four-hour day. This is how Jesus will shorten those days for the elect's sake. By doing this, Jesus will take twenty-five days of time away from the antichrist in the great tribulation period of the church. But He will still fulfill the 1,335 days prophesied in Daniel 12:12.

† Then, the 1,185 days that are left in the second half of Daniel's seventieth week of years is God's wrath! When this happens, the church is already gone!

These are the facts. Read God's Word for yourself, and study His Word so you will **not** be deceived by anyone! If we read on to II Thessalonians 2:9, it states very clearly that the Lord's coming (the rapture) happens after (not before) the antichrist is revealed. "**Even him** (Jesus Christ), **whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.**" The conclusion can only be that the pretribulation rapture IS A LIE!! It will not happen! It sounds good but is not scriptural. For myself, I refuse to believe it. **What about you?**

# What about the post-wrath rapture?

Scripture also does not support a post-wrath rapture. Revelation 14:14-20 clearly explains that the rapture happens before the wrath of God is poured out. Beginning at verse 14, “*And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.*” Jesus always referred to Himself as the “Son of man” (see Mark 10:45). And when the rapture does happen, we will ascend up into a cloud as stated in I Thessalonians 4:17!

*And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest (the saints, those who are saved) of the earth is ripe (is ready). And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped (the rapture just happened). And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth (the unbelievers, those who are damned), and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs. (Revelation 14:15-20)*

This is clearly the wrath of God. Reread Revelation 14:16 which is clearly the rapture happening, and verses 17 through 20 are clearly the wrath of God happening. Verses in Revelation 14:14-20 show the order of the rapture and the wrath of God. The rapture happens first, and the wrath of God happens second. This is not complicated. You just read it! Which event comes first: the rapture or the wrath?

I believe what confuses Bible scholars about this is that they see that the fifth and sixth trumpets are the wrath of God. The seventh trumpet is the rapture. So naturally, they think that the rapture occurs after God's wrath is poured out. Anyone who studies these scriptures **without** seeing the transaction that takes place in the sixth seal would think that this is a post-wrath rapture. John had to see clearly what transpired in each of the seven seals, trumpets and vials so we would have it in writing for today. I will explain **a revelation!**

The fifth and sixth trumpets sound **before** the seventh trumpet. The angels of God come to earth to pour out the wrath of God, which are the seven vials. (Read Revelation 7:1-4.) The angel in the sixth seal ascends from the east (where Israel is) and cries with a loud voice to the four angels that came to pour out the wrath of God on the earth and said, "Wait, don't pour out God's wrath until the 144,000 Jews of the twelve tribes of Israel have been sealed in their foreheads!" In the meantime, the seventh trumpet sounds and the rapture happens (read Revelation 7:1-17). Then, the fifth and sixth trumpets that had already sounded but were held back by the angel in the sixth seal are now released to do what they came to do which was to pour out the wrath of God. **The rapture happens first; and then, the wrath happens next!** Just like the scriptures show in Revelation 14:14-20 and Revelation 11:18!

Daniel 9:27 explains the layout of the events the way they will unfold in Daniel's seventieth (70th) week of years. This begins when the seven-year peace treaty is signed with Israel.

*And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.* (Daniel 9:27)

Now, I will explain the meaning of Daniel 9:27. “*And he* (the antichrist) *shall confirm* (ratify) *the covenant* (a binding agreement or, in this case, the peace treaty) *with many* (Israel and the surrounding Arab nations) *for one week* (of years or seven years): *and in the midst of the week* (3 1/2 years into the peace treaty) *he* (the antichrist) *shall cause the sacrifice* (the daily sacrifice) *and the oblation* (offering) *to cease* (to stop), *and for the overspreading of abominations* (evil deeds) *he* (the antichrist) *shall make it desolate* (a ruin), *even until the consummation* (the rapture), *and that determined* (decided upon) *shall be poured* (God’s wrath) *upon the desolate*” (seat of the antichrist).

*Note:* Consummation in this verse means perfection. This is talking about the rapture. When this event happens, our corruptible or imperfect nature will put on incorruption, which means perfection. At the time of the rapture and at this time only, we will be changed or perfected as stated in I Corinthians 15:51-54. READ IT!

**REMEMBER,** we are not appointed to God’s wrath as stated in I Thessalonians 5:9. We will answer to God one day about what we did with His Word. I trust that you will make the right decision, accept the facts of God’s Holy Word and reject false teachings. The decision is up to you and you alone. I hope this has been of some help to you in your understanding of God’s Holy Word.

# The Unveiling: The Rapture, the Main Event!

God's Word describes the rapture in vivid terms.

*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. (I Thessalonians 4:14-18)*

In verse 16, we see that our Lord comes with the trump of God, not blowing the trump. The Trumpet blows after the rapture. Read also Revelation 10:7 and Revelation 11:11-18. Scripture states that we, the brethren, will know when the rapture is going to happen!

*But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they (Israel and the world or those who don't know Christ!) shall say, *Peace and safety*; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child (see Revelation 12:1-5 and Revelation 7:4-9); and they shall not escape. **But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.** (I Thessalonians 5:1-4)*

**Does God's Holy Word say that we, the Christians,  
will know when the rapture is going to happen?  
Yes or No?**

Most churches teach that the rapture (the day of the Lord) will come as a thief in the night to the church. In other words, no one will know when the Lord is coming for His church. They say that this is what the Bible teaches, and I have heard this my whole life. **This teaching is WRONG!** The Bible **does** teach that the day of the Lord (the rapture) will come as a thief in the night to the world or to those who don't know Christ as their savior.

*For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they (the world) shall say, *Peace and safety*; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. (I Thessalonians 5:2-3)*

But the next verse in I Thessalonians 5:4 clarifies, “***But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day (the rapture) should overtake you as a thief.***” So the Word of God makes it very clear that we, the true Christians or the “brethren” **will know** when our Lord and Savior Jesus is coming for us!

Do any scriptures or sacred writings in God's Holy Word tell us **exactly to the day** when the rapture will happen? **Yes!** Do not be in doubt. Read the scriptures in the next section, and you will see for yourself. It is not what I am saying. It is what God's Word is saying!

# The 12th Chapter of Daniel

This chapter will lay all loose ends to rest. It will lay out all the facts right down to the day of the rapture! Before we go into the meat of this chapter, you have to realize that according to Daniel 12:4, 9 the revelations that will be revealed were closed up and sealed till the time of the end. We are now in that time of the end. This is the time for these revelations to be revealed. This whole chapter is about the rapture of the church. It starts off with the rapture happening. Then, it covers the rapture event two more times, starting at the beginning of Daniel's seventieth (70th) week of years. The scripture goes into greater detail each time. The third and final time, it goes right to the day of the rapture. **This has to be understood!** We cannot know the day of the rapture **until we know the start date of Daniel's seventieth (70th) week** which will be the date that the seven-year peace treaty is signed with Israel. **This has not happened yet!**

We will take this chapter verse by verse, bringing out the meaning so that you will have a full understanding of what is being said!

*And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.* (Daniel 12:1)

This verse is talking about the rapture event itself and the time of trouble we get raptured out of will be so great that there has never been such a time of trouble as this since there was a nation. Jesus talks about this same time of trouble in Matthew 24:21. (See Appendix A.) In Daniel 12:1, this time of trouble is the start of the great tribulation period of the church because the devil has just been

cast out of the second heaven down to the earth (Revelation 12:9). He, then, literally will possess the antichrist. His angels that are cast out with him will take control over the heads of governments throughout the world. That is when the one world government comes into full power under the antichrist. He, then, forces the mark of the beast on the world through the apostate church (Revelation 13:11-18).

Now, as it says in the middle of Daniel 12:1, ***“and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.”*** This book is the Lamb’s book of life. The rapture is happening! Part of this time of trouble is the great tribulation period of the church, a period of 75 shortened days (see pages 16 and 17). (Read Matthew 24:22 and Revelation 8:12.) Daniel 12:2 says, ***“And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth (this means those who are dead in Christ) shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.”*** (Remember, those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life includes those who are alive at the time of the rapture. Some of those people who are **alive** at the time of the rapture and go in the rapture will face shame and everlasting contempt because this deals with marriage. So this event is the rapture happening, which is also known as the resurrection of the saints (read Revelation 20:6). Some will have everlasting life, and some will suffer shame and everlasting contempt or damnation. Now, everyone who is raptured will not stay in heaven. This verse makes it clear! I explain this in more detail in Appendix B.

Next, verse three specifically talks about the rapture event. We see that the rapture has happened in the verses we have already read. So Daniel 12:3 adds, ***“And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.”*** Look at how bright the stars are and the firmament. Paul says in I Corinthians 15:38-46 that God gives each of us a resurrected, glorified body according to how we have pleased Him. Salvation is a free gift but we get our

rewards according to our works in His service. He gives us a body according to how we pleased Him in our works and service to Him.

Next in Daniel 12:4 we read, ***“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.”*** This clearly states that we are in the time of the end. Today, we “run to and fro;” and knowledge and the access to it has greatly increased. Again, listen to what he told Daniel in verse four: ***“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end. . . .”*** What is the topic here? What has been discussed so far? The topic is the rapture event itself. Gabriel is telling Daniel, right after Michael makes his stand in Daniel 12:1 (or 75 days later as we will see), the rapture happens. The understanding of what was said would be closed up and sealed until the time of the end! We are in that time of the end NOW! In chapter twelve of Daniel, scripture talks about the rapture event three different times. It covers this event in more detail each time as we will see as we proceed through this chapter. It is obvious that this chapter covers the rapture event, starting with the beginning of Daniel’s seventieth (70th) week which begins with the signing of the seven-year peace treaty. The first three-and-one-half (3½) years goes to the time of the rapture. This will come out as we move along in this chapter. (See Appendix C.)

*Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river. And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders? And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished. (Daniel 12:5-7)*

Revelation 10:6 states that when there is “time” no longer, the rapture will happen (see Revelation 10:7)! In other words; the “time, times and an half” in Daniel 12:7 is up. Now remember that this “time, times and an half” represents the first three-and-one-half (3 ½) years of Daniels 70th week. The “time” is the first year and the “times” is two years which equals three years and the “half” is the half year which brings the total to three and one-half (3½) years into Daniel’s seventieth (70th) week.

The meaning of Daniel 12:7 can best be explained this way: “. . . *And when he* (the antichrist) *shall have accomplished to scatter the power* (or to stop the gospel from being preached) *of the holy people* (those covered with the blood of Jesus, the Christians) *all these things shall be finished.*” This means that we are 3½ years into Daniel’s seventieth (70th) week, and the rapture has happened. Verse eight continues, “*And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?*” In verse seven, Daniel has heard this for the second time. The first time was from verses one to four and he did not understand. He was told to shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end. And in verse seven, the angel tells him a second time; but he still does not understand. Then Daniel says, “*O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?*” But the response in verse nine is: “*And he said, Go thy way Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.*” Gabriel made that same statement to Daniel in verse four. Every time that statement was made to Daniel, scripture goes into greater detail about the same event. That event is the rapture itself!

In verse ten, Daniel is told, “*Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.*” What is happening here in verse ten? We are being told that the

first three-and-one-half (3½) year period of “time, times, and an half” (in verse seven) is the time of purification of the church. (See Appendix D.) Next, verse eleven states, “*And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.*” It is very important that you understand what is being said in this verse. In the Authorized King James version of the Bible, the word “*that*” is italicized. When the Bible was translated into English from the original Hebrew about 400 years ago, all words that were added by the translators were *italicized* in order to provide clarity. In other words, the translators stayed true to God’s Word by italicizing all words that they added. (Remember that these words were closed up and sealed till the **time** of the end!) By adding the word “that,” the meaning of this verse was very complicated to see. So if you have the Authorized King James version of the Bible that has the *italicized* words in it, you can see it for yourself! In most cases, these italicized words are very helpful. They were added to give you a better understanding of the verse. In Daniel 12:11, the word “sacrifice” was added after the word “daily” to clarify for the reader that it was a daily “sacrifice.” Adding the word “sacrifice,” which was not in the original text, took nothing from this verse but helped it! By adding “sacrifice,” it added an understanding to it.

But when they added “that” after the word “**time**” at the beginning of Daniel 12:11; it made the reader think that it was saying that the 1,290 days were after, not before, the abomination of desolation event. This gives this verse a completely different meaning of understanding and places the rapture at the end of Daniel’s seventieth (70th) week of years! This contradicts other scripture. Therefore, we will leave “that” out of the sentence and watch the true meaning of this verse come forth. Before we do this; however, you must understand the meaning of “**and from the time**” in Daniel 12:11! “*From the time*” is the same “*time*” in verse seven.

This is the starting point to go forward to the “abomination that maketh desolate.” Daniel 9:27 states that the abomination of desolation happens in the midst of the week or the middle of the seven-year peace treaty. This proves that “**time**” in verse eleven is the same “**time**” as in verse seven. Remember, Daniel is being told the same thing over again, but in more detail! Gabriel is referring to the time in verse seven here in verse eleven! When you start at the beginning of the seven-year peace treaty and go forward a “**time**” (one year), times (two years), and an half (one-half year), it places us in the middle of the week of years. That is when the “abomination that maketh desolate” happens, according to Daniel 9:27. In other words, verse eleven is saying that from the “**time**” (in verse seven) or the beginning of the seven-year peace treaty going forward to the “abomination that maketh desolate” in verse eleven, we will be one thousand two hundred and ninety days into the peace treaty! This puts us in the middle of the week of years! The abomination of desolation is when the antichrist stands in the temple of God and claims to be God (see II Thessalonians 2:4). This happens in the midst of the week of years according to Daniel 9:27.

Daniel 12:11 says that 1,290 days into the seven-year peace treaty; the antichrist will stand in the temple of God and claim to be God. This is the abomination of desolation Jesus spoke of in Matthew 24:15, referring to Daniel 9:27 and Daniel 12:11. With this understanding, we will read Daniel 12:11 with the word “that” left out of the sentence. Remember, this word was added 400 years ago and confuses the meaning of this verse. So verse eleven should read, “***And from the time*** (remember that the “time” is the starting point in verse seven going forward 1,290 days) ***the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.***” Do you see it now? If you don’t, ask God to help you!

Verse twelve in Daniel 12 continues, ***“Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days”*** (1,335 days). This means that we should not be deceived! Do **not** worship the antichrist and take his mark, the mark of the beast! WHY? The reason is that those people who wait and continue forward another 45 shortened days to the 1,335th day (from the date of the signing of the peace treaty) will be blessed because the rapture will happen at that time! (Read Revelation 20:6)! Then, Daniel 12:13 clarifies!

***“But go thou thy way till the end be: For thou shalt rest, (meaning Daniel will die and rest in the Lord) and stand in thy lot (the lot of his inheritance, his rewards) at the end of the days!”*** In other words, the only way Daniel or any Christian can receive their rewards is at the rapture (read Revelation 22:12 and Matthew 16:27)! Daniel is told that he will receive his rewards when the 1,335 end-time days are completed. This is why they that wait and come to the 1,335th day are blessed! They are raptured at that time, along with Daniel and all other Christians who have died and have been resting in the Lord! All Christians will receive their rewards at that time and will be blessed (as in Revelation 11:18 and Revelation 20:6)! This is the end of this matter!

God bless you, in His love,

**John**

## Appendix A

The great tribulation begins exactly 1,260 days into the seven-year peace treaty, leaving another 1,260 days left or 42 months (read Revelation 13:5-7 and Revelation 12:6-9) before the seven years is fulfilled. The reason it will be such a great time of trouble is because Satan and one third of the angels that rebelled with Satan against God have just been cast out of the second heaven down to the earth (Revelation 12:4). The wrath of God is about to be poured out! This is the stand that Michael is making in Daniel 12:1. You can find the same event in Revelation 12:7-13.

*And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. (Revelation 12:7-13)*

The “man child” is the church. As we read on, this becomes very clear.

*And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time (3 1/2 years), from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman (Israel), and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. (Revelation 12:14-17)*

We also see verse seventeen repeated in Revelations 13:5-7. Read it! We have the testimony of Jesus Christ, and we keep the commandments of God. We are that man child, the remnant of her seed. The Jews do not have the testimony of Jesus Christ, and they reject Jesus. We are birthed out of Judaism. This is why we are the seed of the woman, who is the twelve tribes of Israel. Read Revelation 7:4-8. We are that man child to whom she gives birth in Revelation 12:5. And in Revelation 7:9, the man child appears before the throne! When we are caught up in the rapture to meet our Lord in the air, where do we go? We go before God who is on His throne. And after God’s wrath, we will come back with Christ to rule and reign with Him 1,000 years as described in Revelation 20:4.

## Appendix B

In Mark 10:8-9 Jesus says, “*And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.*” God sees a married man and woman as one flesh. He honors marriage in the natural realm, as He states in His Word! But in the heavenly realm, He does not as in Mark 12:25, “*For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven.*” We will be as the angels are. This means that there is no marriage or given of marriage in heaven. Jesus said that.

So when the rapture happens (Daniel 12:2), we are in the natural realm; and God honors marriage in the natural realm. Therefore, He does not see a man and a woman as two people when they are married. God sees them as one person. So when the rapture happens, God will take them both to heaven if one of them is saved! This only pertains to those who are alive in Christ at the time of the rapture. It does not apply to those who are dead in Christ at the time of the rapture. God’s Word says in I Corinthians 7:39 that their death frees them from the bonds of marriage.

This is why the Bible says that a married couple should not be unequally yoked. If one spouse is saved and the other is not, the blood of Christ covers them both in the natural realm because they are seen as one person in the eyes of God! Read I Corinthians 7:12-17 for a clearer understanding. But when the transaction takes place from the natural realm to the heavenly realm after the rapture, the spouse who was unsaved loses the blood covering of Christ they had possessed because of the spouse who was saved. In Matthew 22:11-14, the king came in to see the guests who were invited to the wedding. This means that the Christians are the body of Christ, not the bride. The twelve tribes of Israel have always been the chastened wife of Jehovah throughout the Old Testament and will be Jehovah’s wife in the end! Read Revelations 21:9-12

and Revelation 7:2-8. The wedding has not taken place yet, but it is about to! The bride is not invited to the wedding. She is the reason for the wedding, and her groom is Jesus Christ with the Christians as His body. The guests are His raptured body of believers in heaven who He is looking over. The king sees a man who is not wearing a wedding garment, which is the blood covering of Christ! He asks the man how he came without a wedding garment. The rapture has happened, and they are in heaven. This man symbolically represents a multitude of people, not just one person. In the same way, the body of Christ represents a multitude of people, not one person. They were speechless because they did not know how they got there.

The king said to bind his hands and feet and take him away and cast him into outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. They were there because God honors His Word. In other words, God honors the natural realm married couple as one--not two--separate individuals. So an unsaved spouse is in heaven because they are married to a blood-covered Christian. If they are married, He sees them as one body. So when He takes the saved person in the rapture, He also takes their spouse. If one of them is saved, and one is not saved; the blood covering remains on both until they enter into the heavenly realm. In the heavenly realm, all marriages are annulled. In the rapture, they travel at the speed of thought. As they leave this natural realm, they both go up into the glory cloud. (Read Revelation 11:12!) Then in an instant, God transfers them to heaven. At that point, the blood covering from the spouse comes off. In heaven, no giving or honoring of marriage exists. So this is how the person was at the wedding without a wedding garment, the blood covering of Jesus. I hope this explanation will give you a better understanding of Daniel 12:2, “*And many . . . shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt*” (damnation).

## Appendix C

Chapter twelve of the book of Revelation covers the second half of the seventieth (70th) week of years described in Daniel 9:27. This week of years, or seven years, is divided into two three-and-one-half-year parts (3½ years plus 3½ years equals the seven years). In Daniel, which is the revelation book of the Old Testament, chapter twelve covers the first half of Daniel's seventieth (70th) week. Daniel 9:27 explains the seven-year peace treaty or the "covenant." Now, what I want you to see and remember is this: when Michael makes his stand in the first verse in chapter twelve of Daniel and when Michael makes his stand in the seventh verse of chapter twelve of Revelation, it is the same event!

We are in the very center of the middle of the seventieth (70th) week of Daniel. The only difference is that when Michael makes his stand in chapter twelve of Daniel (because he lacks understanding of why he cannot know when all this will happen), Gabriel goes into more detail about the rapture event. He goes back to the beginning of Daniel's seventieth (70th) week; and then, he goes forward to the middle (Daniel 12:7). Then, he explains the rapture event right to the day in Daniel 12:12-13. Chapter twelve of Revelation starts in the middle and, then, goes toward the end of Daniel's seventieth (70th) week. This is something you can briefly study for yourself, and you will see it. Keep in mind that Daniel's seventieth (70th) week of years is the last seven years of this age before Christ sets His kingdom upon earth for 1,000 years!

## Appendix D

The Bible talks about the purification of the church in Zechariah 13:9.

*And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God... Behold, the day of the LORD cometh.*  
(Zechariah 13:9, 14:1)

The “day of the LORD” is the rapture! Also notice in Daniel 12:10, **“Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried...”** Jesus is coming after a church that is pure, white as snow, without spot or wrinkle and tried as gold is tried by fire. This is the purification of the church. At the same time, the great falling away will take place as described in II Thessalonians 2:3, which will separate the goats from the sheep. The goats will become the apostate church of satan because they fall away from the gospel of Christ, the truth. They fall away to a perverted gospel that is not the truth! Some of the perverted Bibles are coming into existence now! They will be known as the politically correct Bibles. The sheep are the true Christians who have a love for the truth and the truth is in them! This is the pure church without spot or wrinkle that Christ is coming for in the rapture. The wicked will become more and more wicked, but none of the wicked will understand. The wicked will be totally blind to what is going on. But the wise will understand. The true Christians will have a short timer’s calendar counting down to the day of the rapture. Why? Because of what the next three verses say in Daniel 12:11-13.