

The 'Rapture' (The Day of the Lord)

Assertions/Conclusions of this Article

That the 'rapture' is actually the Day of the Lord spoken of in the New Testament and that it will be towards the end of the 7 year tribulation....the great tribulation that has never been and never will be again....and just before God's wrath is poured out.

Supporting Evidence

THE FIRST THING THE READER MUST DO HERE IS MAKE CLEAR DECISIONS...

- Has the end of the age/world happened already?
- Has the greatest tribulation ever to occur happened already?
- Has Christ already come and gathered His elect? (if so, why is the church still here?)
- Do you believe what your preacher told you to believe, or do you believe what Jesus said?

The events laid out by Jesus concerning the end of days are historical...not about what religion one belongs to, what belief one has, the color of ones skin or anything else...this is simply what He says is going to happen at the end of time. False ones will say "this is to the Jews"....and I say, so what? Will muslims and atheists not see the same exact end of things with Jesus coming and gathering the elect? This foretelling of future is the same end regardless.

Gospel of Mark

And He was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, **Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things are about to be fulfilled?**" And Jesus, answering them, began to say: "Take heed lest anyone deceive you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I AM,' and they will deceive many. But whenever you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be disturbed; for these things must occur, but the end is not yet. For nation will be raised up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines and disturbances. These are the beginnings of birth pangs. But take heed to yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils, and you will be flogged in the synagogues. You will stand before rulers and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them. And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all the nations. But whenever they lead you forth to deliver you over, do not worry beforehand as to what you will say, nor rack your brains. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak this; for it is not you who is speaking, but the Holy Spirit. Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and will cause them to be put to death. And you will be hated by all on account of My name. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. **"So whenever you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where he must not"**--he who reads, let him understand--"then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. And let him on the housetop not go down into the house, nor enter to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not return to the things behind, to take his garment. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight does not take place in winter. **For in those days will be tribulation, such as there has not been the like from the beginning of creation which God created until now, and never again shall be.** And unless the Lord had cut short the days, no flesh would be saved; **but on account of the elect, whom He chose, He cut short the days.** Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, there He is!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will arise, and they will give signs and wonders in order to lead astray, if possible, **even the elect.** But you take heed! See, I have foretold to you all things. **"But in those days, after that tribulation,** the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its radiance; and the stars of heaven shall be falling out, and the powers in the heavens shall be shaken. **And then they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. And then He will send His angels, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the extremity of earth to the extremity of heaven.**

(Mar 13:3-27)

Gospel of Matthew

And as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, **Tell us, when shall these things be? And what shall be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the world?** And Jesus answered and said to them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many will come in My name, saying, I am Christ, and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled, for all these things must occur; but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines and pestilences and earthquakes in different places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then they will deliver you up to be afflicted and will kill you. And you will be hated of all nations for My name's sake. And then many will be offended, and will betray one another, and will hate one another. And many false prophets will rise and deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many will become cold. But he who endures to the end, the same shall be kept safe. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be proclaimed in all the world as a witness to all nations. And then the end shall come. **Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place** (whoever reads, let him understand). Then let those in Judea flee into the mountains. Let him on the housetop not come down to take anything out of his house; nor let him in the field turn back to take his clothes. And woe to those who are with child, and to those who give suck in those days! But pray that your flight is not in the winter, nor on the sabbath day; **for then shall be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world to this time; no, nor ever shall be.** And unless those days should be shortened, no flesh would be saved. **But for the elect's sake, those days shall be shortened.** Then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ! Or, There! Do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders; so much so that, if it were possible, they would deceive even the elect. Behold, I have told you beforehand. Therefore if they shall say to you, Behold, He is in the desert! Do not go out. Behold, He is in the secret rooms! Do not believe it. For as the lightning comes out of the east and shines even to the west, so also will be the coming of the Son of Man. For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered. **And immediately after the tribulation of those days,** the sun shall be darkened and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from the heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man shall appear in the heavens. And then all the tribes of the earth shall mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of the heaven with power and great glory. **And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.**
(Mat 24:3-31)

Jesus Disciples ask Him about the end of the age...of the world...of perpetuity....of time.
Jesus goes on to tell them about the things they will endure.

He tells them when they see the Abomination of Desolation, which Paul writes to the Thessalonian church about when encouraging them that that day has not yet come....

He tells them about the greatest tribulation that has ever occurred and ever will occur...and he makes it clear that they WILL be part of this tribulation...otherwise why tell them they are going to endure it and must endure to the end if they are just raptured out prior to it happening?

As you see above the Elect are very much mentioned after the great tribulation happens...and for their sake those days will be shortened.

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As for more details about the timing of the Day of the Lord, Paul says the falling away must come first. And the man of sin will go into the Temple and declare himself God. This gives us more information as to what signs to expect BEFORE Christs return. This is the Abomination of Desolation, see Mark above... "So whenever you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where he must not"

Now, brothers, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we beseech you, not to be quickly shaken from your mind, nor be disturbed, neither by spirit nor by word nor by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ has come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for that day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is unveiled, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or every object of worship, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.
(2Th 2:1-4)

The church was way too young at the point where Paul is saying this for it to have already had a great falling away, so this is not about those days as some suppose in some religious circles.

The day of the Lord comes, for His own this is good, for the rest, it is destruction and wrath. Here again we see the Day of the Lord comes, then sudden destruction comes on the rest. His elect are called out, then horrors come to those who remain on earth.

For you yourselves know accurately that the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety! Then sudden destruction comes on them, as travail upon a woman with child. And they shall not escape. But you, brothers, are not in darkness, that the Day should overtake you like a thief. You are all the sons of light and the sons of the day. We are not of the night, or of darkness.
(1Th 5:2-5)

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a rushing noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat. And the earth and the works in it will be burned up.
(2Pe 3:10)

Resurrection of the dead and calling up of living in Christ on the Day of the Lord...

But we would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning them that fall asleep; that ye sorrow not, even as the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also that are fallen asleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we that are alive, that are left unto the coming of the Lord, shall in no wise precede them that are fallen 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 that are alive, that are left, shall together with them be caught up 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.
(1Th 4:13-18)

And I say this, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I speak a mystery to you; we shall not all fall asleep, but we shall all be changed; in a moment, in a glance of an eye, at the last trumpet. **For a trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall all be changed.** For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. But when this corruptible shall put on incorruption, and when this mortal shall put on immortality, then will take place the word that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory?" The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the Law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. So that, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not without fruit in the Lord.
(1Co 15:50-58)

The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before that great and glorious **Day of the Lord.**
(Act 2:20)

