21T07 The Great Escape (PreTrib Rapture)

Hello my friends. Thanks for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. Get your coffee or tea, and Get comfortable so we can talk. If anything I say gives you wisdom, then its from God. All the nonsense is from me. I'm not claiming any special revelation. I just want to share my thoughts on the topic.

Today I want to discuss the Great Escape or the doctrine of the PreTrib Rapture.

I want to start by telling you I'm not an expert on this doctrine. There are many schools of thought on End Times or eschatology.

Some believe PreTrib Rapture, others MidTrib Rapture, others post trib, pre-wrath, and there are many others. But for today, I want to concentrate on PreTrib Rapture.

Now let's remember none of these doctrines or beliefs impact Salvation in any way. This is a gray-area in the Bible, meaning the bible does not specifically address any of these doctrines beyond a doubt. No one can be 100% sure of any of these viewpoints. And in reality it does not matter. But, if we fight about these gray-area topics and it causes us to defame each other, if it causes division in our fellowship, then it's not of God and our words and actions are unworthy of our Lord.

Full disclosure I do not personally believe in the Great Escape doctrine. I have several reasons why I do not believe the doctrine of PreTrib Rapture. And today I'm going to share these. I don't expect you to change your mind because of what I say. I'm not trying to convince you.

Before we start I want to remind everyone we should always understand who wrote the book in the bible we are reading, when was it written, to who it was written, and why was it written. As well as, what was happening historically to the writer and the people he was writing to. You need to have an understanding of history and culture when it was written to understand symbolism and word usage. You have to see it from their perspective and culture, not ours.

I also have a couple of basic principles I apply when reading and studying the bible. First, read the bible as a child with no preconceived ideas. Just let the text speak to you. I personally believe we should always start with the words of Jesus then interpret other books and verses such that they do not conflict with the words of Jesus. I believe the bible in inerrant. Meaning I don't believe there are any conflicts or contradictions. The message of the Bible is without error. Now Translations may have errors or poor word use. So we can't necessarily trust the specific words in our English translations. But we can use multiple translations and language tools to better understand the authors original intent for a sentence within the context they were writing.

So, I believe any discussion of End Times should center around the words of Jesus captured in the Gospels and the Revelation of Jesus Christ. I will leave it to you to understand the background of Revelation and the other books we will be referencing. Please take the time to do it. This way your mind can be focused on the author's intent or Jesus' intent instead of the topic you are studying. So, I'm going to follow these rules as we review my reasons I don't believe in the Great Escape doctrine.

My Reason #1. This doctrine makes me Very Sad. I was in the hospital with complications from COVID recently. I was struggling to breath and felt like I was going to die. While I was in the hospital, Jesus and I

had many long conversations. I emerged from the hospital with a different perspective on life and a new purpose from God. That is to love people. I was being urged to show the light of Jesus to this dark world. I was asked to do my part to reach and grow believers into true followers of Christ. The reason I bring this up, was in the middle of this life changing exchange with Jesus. I suddenly thought about the PreTrib Rapture Doctrine and it literally made me cry. If this is true, how sad this is, I thought. At the very moment the world needs us the most, the Church will be taken away. Who will Feed the New Sheep during the tribulation if all the believers are gone? Even the thought of this makes me Very Sad. As a Christian, I believe it is not about my comfort, it is about God's plan. That's why missionaries go to remote places to reach people for Jesus. It's not about their comfort. That's why my family goes to the Philippines, to reach and grow believers in Christ. It's not easy, in fact it is often miserable but this is what God wants us to do as a family. It's not about my comfort, in fact I'd lay down my life to do what Jesus is asking me to do. I know as a Christian that it is an honor and privilege to serve my Lord. Death does not scare me because I know I have eternal life. Go ahead threaten me with heaven. I'm ready to go home to heaven. But while I'm here I'm going to live like I know what comes next. So, yes, I find the idea of the "PreTrib Rapture" or what I call the "Great Escape" at odds with what Jesus teaches us in the bible and what He urges us to do. John 21:15-17 is where Jesus tells Peter "to take care of His sheep, to Feed His sheep." If we are taken, then how can we do this. Who will take care of the new vulnerable Christians in the middle of these trials spoken of in the book of Revelation?

My Reason #2. Why is the book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ in the Bible? If you believe in the PreTrib Rapture, what is God's purpose for including the Revelation of Jesus in the Bible. Revelation is the only book in the bible that Jesus specifically tells us we will be blessed if we read and study. Let's read Revelation 1 (NKJV) ¹The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, ²who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. ³Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

Jesus believes the contents of this book is important for believers to read and study. Why? The book of Revelation is meant to be a book of encouragement to Christians. At the time the book was written, Christians were under intense persecution and tribulation. Do you think the concept of the "Great Escape" from their trials would have been an encouragement to them.? Probably, Think about it for a second. Then why is the PreTrib Rapture not mentioned in the book of Revelation. You can look for it but it is just not there. So to me this omission seems odd, if this is truly God's plan. Why is the PreTrib Rapture omitted from His Revelation about end times?

My Reason #3. How many second comings are there? I'm an engineer and scientist. Mathematics teach us about a sequence of events and there can only be one "second". You have a first, a second, a third, a fourth and so on. I have always been taught that the return of Jesus to earth in is bodily form will be the second coming. So how many times will Jesus be coming back?

I'm going to leave it up to you to answer this question. I simply used the BibleHub tool and searched for Jesus second coming. Here are several scriptures you should read and study. Read the whole chapters at least to get the context. Revelation 1:7 & 22:12; *Matthew* 16:27, 24:27, 24:42-44 & 26:64, John 14:3, Acts 1:10-11, Hebrews 9:28, and 1Thessalonians 4:16-17. There are others but I think if you look at all of these and read at least the full chapter for context, you will get a picture of the Lord's return according to the bible. Any interpretation must agree with all of these scriptures not just a few.

I do not believe in a secret 2nd coming for the "rapture", then after some years He will come again for the 2nd second coming that is written about in Revelation. I believe there is one second coming which is both our time to be caught up to meet him in the clouds and when He comes to begin is earthly reign and defeat the anti-christ and godless men.

My Reason #4. How many mass resurrections will there be? I'm not talking about past history. I'm asking in the "End Times" how many resurrections will there be.

I was always taught there would be two. First Resurrection for believers prior to the millennium and the Second Resurrection for unbelievers to face great white throne judgment prior to being cast into the lake of fire.

So how can the dead in Christ be resurrected during the Great Escape or rapture of the church prior to the Great Tribulation. Then when are the martyrs of the tribulation to be resurrected. These can't both be the first resurrection and take place at different times. One before the tribulation and one after the tribulation. Let's read what it says in Revelation 20:4-6 (NKJV) ⁴And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. <u>This is the first resurrection</u>. ⁶Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

If the church is not included in this "First resurrection" as it is written about in Revelation 20, then it would appear we will not have any part in the Millennium reign with Christ. Again, this made me sad when I thought about it. Or is there another first resurrection? I'm going to leave it up to you to answer that question. Here are the scriptures I think you should read and study about the future resurrections. Read the whole chapters at least to get the context. John 5:29, 6:39-40, & 11:25, Matthew 22:31, Hebrews 6:2, 1 Corinthians 15:42, and Revelation 20:6. There are others but I think if you look all at these and read at least the full chapter for context, you will get a full picture of the future resurrections according to the bible. I'd like to look further at one of these John 6:39-40 (NKJV); ³⁹This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. ⁴⁰And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and <u>believes in Him may have everlasting life;</u> and I will raise him up at the last day."

The word translated as "last" in English comes from the Greek word "eschate". (es ked). The Greek word means last, at the last, finally or till the end. This is the root word of eschatology which is the study of "end times". The word is used 11 times in bible and in each case it is translated as "last."

Last is a very final word. Last is defined as coming after all others in time or order, or final in the Websters dictionary. So, "last day" must mean the last day of some period. When someone is telling you a story and they say this is the last time I ever saw them. Do you expect that they will start up again talking how they met them again the next day for lunch? So, Last means last.

Now I have heard all the arguments on both sides. And it's up to you what you will believe. I just don't see two resurrections of believers in the bible. So, if the resurrection of believers is before the tribulation in a

PreTrib rapture. What of the martyrs of the tribulation and Revelation 20? I'm not trying to convince you. All I'm saying is these things must be reconciled when you are considering a doctrine in the gray-areas. I'm only sharing my journey and my opinions and concerns about this particular doctrine.

My Reason #5. Who are the Revelation Martyrs.? We are told in Revelation that there will be many martyrs during the Great Tribulation, let's read Revelation 6:9-11 (NKJV) the Fifth Seal ⁹When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. ¹⁰And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" ¹¹Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, <u>until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.</u>

Would a new believer really have the faith to be killed for Christ? I doubt it. You typically need time to grow as a believer before you have this kind of Faith. I know I needed a long time to reach that point. So, if there are no mature believers to support and nurture these new believers, then what. I thought to myself, if God is calling me to take care of His Sheep, I would not want to be taken early. Jesus has been preparing me, and us the church to engage the world not run away from it when we are needed most.

My Reason #6. What is the origin of PreTrib Rapture doctrine? I was surprised to learn that this doctrine of the Great Escape was a modern Christian doctrine. What I mean is there is no evidence this doctrine was taught in church history prior to 1857. Most attribute JN Darby as the first to talk about this. Some believe Darby was influenced by Margaret Macdonald who as a teen-ager had a dream in 1830. But latter Macdonald claimed not to believe in pretrib rapture but in fact she believed in a post-trib, pre-wrath rapture. Now people will argue about the exact origins of this doctrine which is sometimes referred to as dispensational pretribulation rapture. But, regardless of its exact origin, this doctrine was not taught in churches prior to 1857 when Darby began preaching about it. By all historical accounts it appears this doctrine was one of the first study Bibles with commentary footnotes and references. The Scofield Bible promoted dispensationalism, PreTrib Rapture as well as the Gap Theory of Creation and other doctrines which were not widely accepted prior to 1909. Do your own research. When someone references a source, go find the source and so on. Don't just take someone's word for it. Test it for yourself.

So, regardless of your belief on this topic, it appears the doctrine of PreTrib Rapture is a modern concept not a teaching that can be traced back to early church fathers.

My Reason #7. The PreTrib Rapture doctrine appears to be a Western concept. If you look at churches around the world, this concept is mostly taught in protestant evangelical churches originated from the US or Europe, or influenced by them. It is not a popular doctrine in countries were Christians are facing Trials today. What about the people when John wrote Revelation? They were being killed for their faith. The concept of the Great Escape would not be encouraging to these Christians because they were already facing tribulation and dying for Christ. Future Christians be spare such trials might have been discouraging.

The real question you need to be asking is. Is the American Church, the western church ready to die for Christ.? Or do the people expect to be spared hardships if they are Christian. If so why, when so many around the world face persecution and death for their belief in Jesus. Why would we in the west believe we will not face hardships for our beliefs. I am sadly convinced this is appealing to us because we don't like the idea of facing trials and tribulations for Christ. We like our comforts, we have been living in societies

were we are not threatened. But that does not seem to match what Jesus told us in John 16:33 (NKJV) ³³These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

To be a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, you have to do something or you are not following. It's not just a mental exercise. It's an action. I fear this doctrine and others like it encourage Christians to be complacent. Don't rock the boat, so to speak. Don't engage and God will protect us from harm. And in the end we will be part of the Great Escape from trials and tribulations. And what if The Great Tribulation comes and the Great Escape doesn't. Are we preparing Christians for the troubles and trials and persecution which is coming, or are we preparing them to fail the tests at the end? If the Great Escape happens great, but we still should be focused on preparation and engagement until the end, NOT a rescue from troubles. This is just my opinion but to me right or wrong, this seems like a doctrine that does not help to build Christians. It does not help me to follow Christ or do what He asks. It does not encourage me to engage the world in ways that might result in my loss of comfort or even my loss of life, liberty or freedoms. Just think about it. I'm not saying I'm right or wrong. Only what should be our focus, this doctrine or what Christ wants us to do. I leave it up to you.

My Reason #8. Rapture Scriptures. And there are only four primary scriptures on the Rapture Matthew 24:29-31; I Corinthians 15:50-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 2 Thessalonians 2:1–12. So let's take a look at each of these.

Starting with the words of Jesus from Matthew 24:29-31 (NKJV), Listen to how Jesus lays out the timeline of events. ²⁹"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Here Jesus lays out a timeline in v29 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken."

³⁰Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and **then all** the tribes of the earth will mourn, and **they will see the Son of Man coming** on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹And He will send His angels with a **great sound of a trumpet**, and they will **gather together His elect** from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

This is a very close parallel to Revelation 6. Revelation 6 is the breaking of the Sixth Seal ¹²I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a **great earthquake**; and the **sun became black** as sackcloth of hair, and the **moon became like blood**. ¹³And the **stars of heaven fell to the earth**, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. ¹⁴Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. ¹⁵And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! ¹⁷For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

I'll let you be the judge but if Matthew 24 is talking about the rapture of the church and it appears to be a parallel event with Revelation 6, then where does Matthew 24 fall in the Revelation timeline or End Times Timeline. The event in Revelation 6 is well into the tribulation. In fact, this event is near the end of the tribulation, just before the wrath of God is poured out on the world in the form of the 7 bowls starting in

Revelation 16. I'm not trying to interpret these scriptures with deep unseen meanings. I'm just reading them as a child of God and saying they appear to be talking about the same event. Not two separate events separated by nearly 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years.

The next rapture scripture is 1 Corinthians 15:50-54. Again I encourage you to read at least the full chapter 15 in your own study to establish the context of Paul's writing. As you listen to Paul. Pay attention to the timeline and what will happen.

Let's read it together 1 Corinthians 15:50-54 (NKJV). ⁵⁰Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. ⁵¹Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but **we shall all be changed**— ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet**. For the **trumpet will sound**, and the **dead will be raised** incorruptible, and **we shall be changed**. ⁵³For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. ⁵⁴So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

v51 is the so called rapture verse. And it says "We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed". This does not reference us being caught up into the clouds to meet Christ, so it's not really a rapture scripture. But is does talk about us receiving our eternal body and that some Christians will still be living when this happens. These verses go further and establish the moment this happens. v52 "at the last trumpet". The word translated as "last" in English comes from the Greek word "eschate." Again, last is a very final word. If you saw Part 2 of this series. We discussed that "last" is defined as coming after all others in time or order, final. So, "last trumpet" infers there have been other trumpets before this one but this is the last trumpet. When someone says Last or lastly. You don't expect more after that.

Revelation also has Trumpets. Seven trumpets to be exact. So in Revelation the final trumpet would be the 7th. Same end time events. If the rapture takes place before the tribulation at the "Last Trumpet" then what trumpets came before. Or then if it's the last trumpet then why are the 7 more trumpets in Revelation. This does not make sense if you believe the PreTrib Rapture.

Next let's read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NKJV) ¹³But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have **fallen asleep**, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. Remember in these verses Paul is using "Sleep" as a metaphor for "death." Someone who has fallen asleep means someone who has died.

Let's continue ¹⁵For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. Paul is telling us that believers who are dead already will be resurrected first before we who are still alive receive our heavenly bodies.

¹⁶For the Lord Himself will <u>descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and</u> <u>with the trumpet of God</u>. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Paul is telling how Jesus will come. It sounds like a major event that no one will miss. He will descend with a "shout", "archangel voice", "trumpet of God". There appears to be a parallel to this in Revelation 19:11-17 (NKJV) which is the second coming of Christ ¹¹Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹²His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. ¹⁷Then I saw <u>an angel</u> standing in the sun; and <u>he</u> <u>cried with a loud voice</u>, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God,

So I'll leave it to you to evaluated but here in Revelation is the triumphant 2nd coming of Christ. And I believe Paul is referencing the same triumphant event which is announced by a shout, an angel voice, and a trumpet.

Let's continue with 1 Thessalonians 4:17 ¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain **shall be caught up together** with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words.

Now verse 17 is definitely the rapture. Rapture means to be caught up. But when does it take place? I just read Paul's letter in conjunction with the words of Jesus in Matthew and Revelation. I believe Paul is talking about the same triumphant 2nd coming of Christ.

Next let's read 2 Thessalonians 2:1–12 (NKJV) but before we start let's understand Paul's purpose in writing. Most study bibles title this section "The Great Apostasy" or "Great Falling Away". Paul is not intending to focus on the rapture in this text. Let's read ¹Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and **our gathering together to Him**, we ask you, ²not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Again Paul is referring to our gathering or the rapture here, even though rapture terminology is not used in these verses. But we need to assume the Thessalonians have read 1 Thessalonians before this. Let's continue with v3,

³Let no one deceive you by any means; for <u>that Day will not come unless</u> the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, Paul is laying out a timeline again. Paul says don't be deceived, that day will come after the man of sin is revealed and "the falling away". That day has to refer to the gathering of v.1 or the rapture but if the man of sin is revealed first, then the tribulation will have already started. Let's continue with v.4

⁴who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. ⁵Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? ⁶And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will <u>consume with the breath</u> **of His mouth** and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

In verse 8, Paul is making reference to the triumphant 2nd coming when Jesus' very word will defeat the forces of darkness. In Revelation the metaphor used is "from His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword". Let's continue with v9-12

⁹The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the

love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹And for this reason God will **send them strong delusion**, that they should believe the lie, ¹²that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

v.11 is another reference to the deceptions people will have at the end times. And God will give them *"Strong Delusion"* so they will continue to believe the lie they have been believing.

And I'll suggest we should look an additional couple scriptures at least. Revelation 1:7 (NKJV) ⁷Behold, He is coming with clouds, and **every eye will see Him**, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

Now Revelation 1 is definitely talking about the 2nd coming of Jesus and that everyone on earth with know and mourn. This is Jesus' triumphant return to earth.

I'm going to conclude with Revelation 22:18-19 (NKJV). This is a very solemn warning that Jesus ends the book of Revelation with.

¹⁸For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: <u>If anyone adds to these</u> <u>things</u>, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹and <u>if anyone takes away from the</u> <u>words</u> of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

We need to take Jesus' warning seriously. These are very grave consequences. I for one, want to make sure I revere the Jesus' words in His Revelation. I don't want to teach anything that might conflict with the message of Revelation. Jesus meant Revelation to be an encouragement to the church. He wanted us to be prepared for trouble and the coming tribulations. Revelation and the Gospels are messages of preparation and engagement, not escape.

So, I'm not trying to sway your opinions. Like I said this is not about Salvation or Living in the Kingdom of God. It is truly a gray-area and not worth fighting about. But while I was in the hospital having my conversations with God. I felt so very saddened when I thought about this doctrine of the PreTrib Rapture. I felt sad because it does not appear to be in line with what Jesus is trying to have us do and learn in the bible. I'm willing to die for Christ and I know new believers faced by trials need other more mature believers to help them or the world will eat them up (Ref. Parable of Sower in Matt. 13:3-9). We need shepherds, friends and community to strengthen us against this world as we follow Christ. You cannot follow sitting down. Being a Follower of Christ is work. Follow is an action word and requires us to do something or we are not following. It's not just a mental exercise. It's an action.

I fear this theology and others like it encourage Christians to be complacent. Don't rock the boat so to speak. Don't engage and God will protect us from harm. And in the end we will be Part of the Great Escape from trials and tribulations. And what if The Great Tribulation comes and the Great Escape doesn't. Are we preparing Christians for the troubles and trials and persecution which is coming or are we preparing them to fail the tests at the end? If the Great Escape happens great, but we still should be focused on preparation and engagement until the end, NOT a rescue from troubles.

This is just my opinion but to me right or wrong, this seems like a doctrine that does not help to build Christians. It does not help me to follow Christ and do what he asks. It does not encourage me to engage the world in ways that might result in my loss of comfort or even my loss of life, liberty or freedoms. Just think about it. I'm not saying I'm right or wrong. Only what should be our focus, this or what Christ wants us to do. I leave it up to you.

Let me close with a prayer.

Lord God thank you for your revelation to encourage us to be prepared and engage. I know only you know the truth about these future events. I trust you Lord. I pray for those that teach and myself, may we not use ideas or hypothesis that violate your warning in Revelation.

Merciful father, guide my words and speech to be in line with your will and your words. May my words be from you father. And I pray all these things to the Father in your name Jesus. Amen.

I'm going to share some LINKS with you, below this video or on our website,

Before The Wrath (Official Full Trailer) <u>https://youtu.be/h1irWOiD_Ac</u> "A Galilean Wedding: Picture of the End of the World" <u>https://youtu.be/JbO-BvyRVDU</u> MercyMe - I Can Only Imagine (Official Music Video) <u>https://youtu.be/N_Irrg_opng</u>

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See you next time at the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.