

21T07 The Great Escape (PreTrib Rapture) Part 4

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 we are continuing our discussion of the Great Escape or the doctrine of the PreTrib Rapture doctrine. And why this doctrine troubles me.

Just to recap of My first 7 reasons were,

- #1 [This doctrine makes me Very Sad](#) because if we are gone prior to the tribulation, who will be shepherding the new believers that come during the tribulation.
- #2 [Why is the book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ in the Bible?](#) If the Church is gone prior to the tribulation what is the purpose for the book of Revelation being an encouragement to the church
- #3 [How many second comings are there?](#) I believe in one 2nd coming but the PreTrib rapture requires Jesus to come twice, at the rapture before the Tribulation and for His triumphant return.
- #4 [How many mass resurrections will there be?](#) I believe in a First Resurrection for Believers to Glory and Second resurrection for non-believers to judgment. Pre-Trib Rapture doctrine requires another resurrection for the rapture prior to the First Resurrection of Revelation 20.
- #5 [Who are the Revelation Martyrs.?](#) These must be Believers but if we are raptured where do they come from and how do they get such strong faith to be martyred.
- #6 [What is the origin of PreTrib Rapture doctrine?](#) PreTrib Rapture doctrine appears to be a modern concept not a teaching that can be traced back to early church fathers.
- #7 [The PreTrib Rapture doctrine appears to be a Western concept.](#) The concept of the Great Escape is not encouraging to Christians already facing tribulation and dying for Christ.

So let's pick up our conversation with my last reason I don't believe the Great Escape doctrine.

My Reason #8. Rapture Scriptures. And there are only four primary scriptures on the Rapture Matthew 24:29-31; 1 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 shaken."**

³⁰*Then 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.* ³¹*And 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 ¹²*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.* ¹³*And 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! ¹⁷**For 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 ½ 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 it 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.

Let me close with a prayer.

Thank you Jesus for your word. I pray for understanding and clarity. I trust You Lord to reveal what we need to know and I will at peace with what You choose not to reveal. Please stop me from guessing but guide me to rely on your word alone. For I know it is sufficient for me, God.

Guide my words and speech to be in line with your will. I pray all these things to the Father in your name Jesus. Amen.

Thank you for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. Please look for next episode Part 5 of this series which will be our final episode on the Great Escape. If you liked the message, please click like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or mail me. I want your feedback so let me know what you think

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