



Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations" (Matt 28:19)

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A ministry of the
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

Lee Swor, Pastor

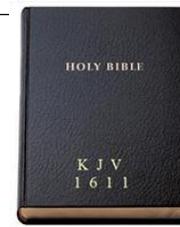


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Bible Prophecy

The Rapture

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1 The 4:15-17

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.

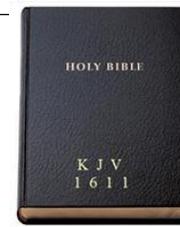
10) The Rapture begins what is called “the day of (the Lord Jesus) Christ”

- The expression appears a total of 7x in its various forms
- This prophetic “day” extends from the Rapture to the Revelation
- It includes the Rapture, the judgment seat of Christ, the Tribulation, and the battle of Armageddon

1 Cor 1:8

Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that ye may be* blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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1 Cor 5:5

To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

2 Cor 1:14

As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also *are* ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.

Phl 1:6,10; 2:16

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

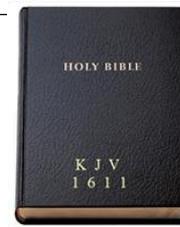
That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;

Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

2 The 2:1-2

Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

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 is at hand.



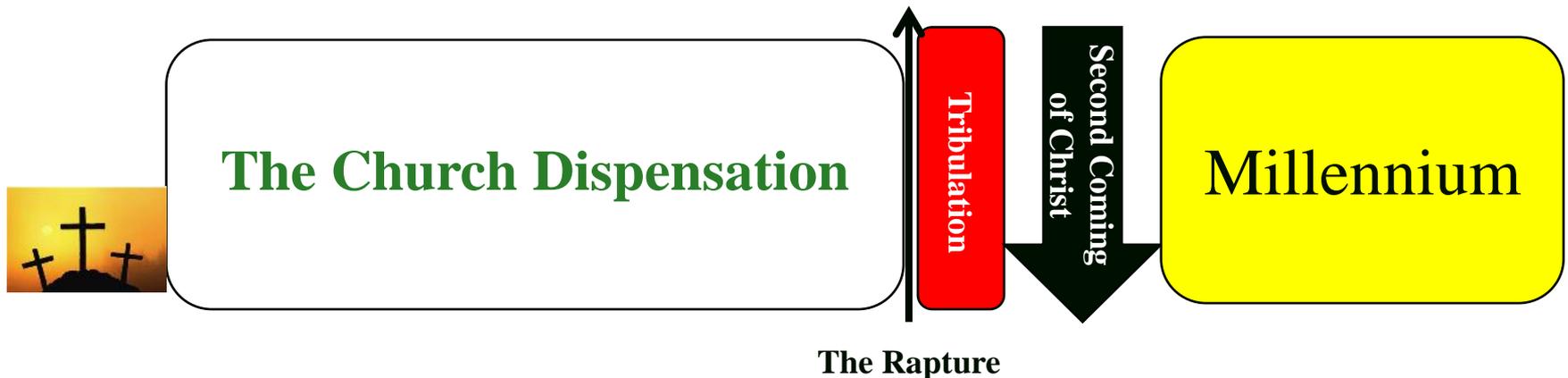
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II. Perspectives On The Rapture

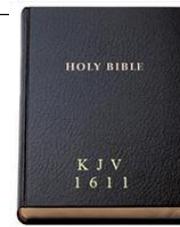
- There are four interpretative schools regarding the timing and placement of the Rapture of the Church in respect to the Tribulation

1. **Pre-Tribulation View**

- The Rapture of the Church occurs **BEFORE** the Tribulation
- The Church will go through **NONE** of the Tribulation



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1) The doctrine of Imminency supports the Pre-Tribulation view

1 The 1:10

And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

Tit 2:13

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

2) Direct statements support the Pre-Tribulation view

1 The 1:10; 5:9

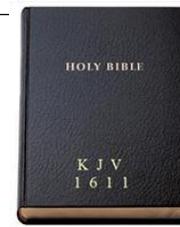
And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

Rev 3:10

Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

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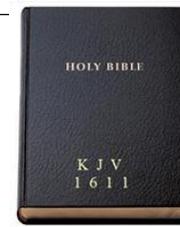
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- 3) Descriptive accounts support the Pre-Tribulation view
 - Enoch (a type of the Church) was translated before the Flood (Gen 5:24; Heb 11:5)
 - John (a type of the Church) was translated to heaven (Rev 4:1) before any of the Tribulation judgments in Revelation (Rev 6:1-19:10)
- 4) Daniel's 70th Week supports the Pre-Tribulation view
 - The entire seven year Tribulation (Daniel's 70th week) is the final part of a 490 year divine plan directed to ISRAEL not the Church

Dan 9:24

Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

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- The Tribulation is the time of JACOB'S trouble not the Church's

Jer 30:7

Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of **Jacob's trouble**; but he shall be saved out of it.

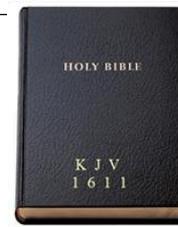
- The purpose of the Tribulation is to purge and purify ISRAEL not the Church

Eze 20:38

And I will **purge out from among you** the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD.

Zec 13:8-9

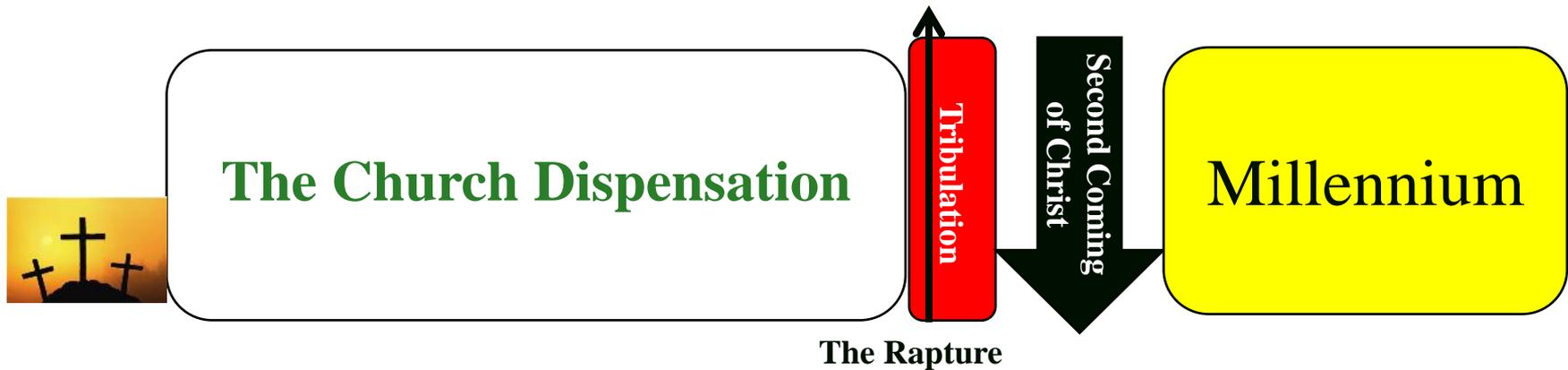
And I will bring the third part through the fire, and **will refine them** as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It *is* **my people**: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.



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2. Post-Tribulation View

- The Rapture of the Church occurs **AFTER** the Tribulation
- The Church will go through **PART** of the Tribulation, up to the sixth seal
- Based on a misunderstanding of what constitutes the “wrath of God”

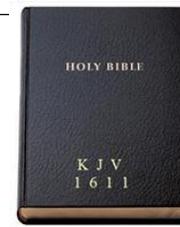


1 The 1:10; 5:9

And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which **delivered us from the wrath to come.**

For God hath **not appointed us to wrath,** but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

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Rev 6:12-17

And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

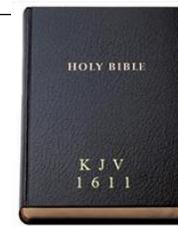
And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

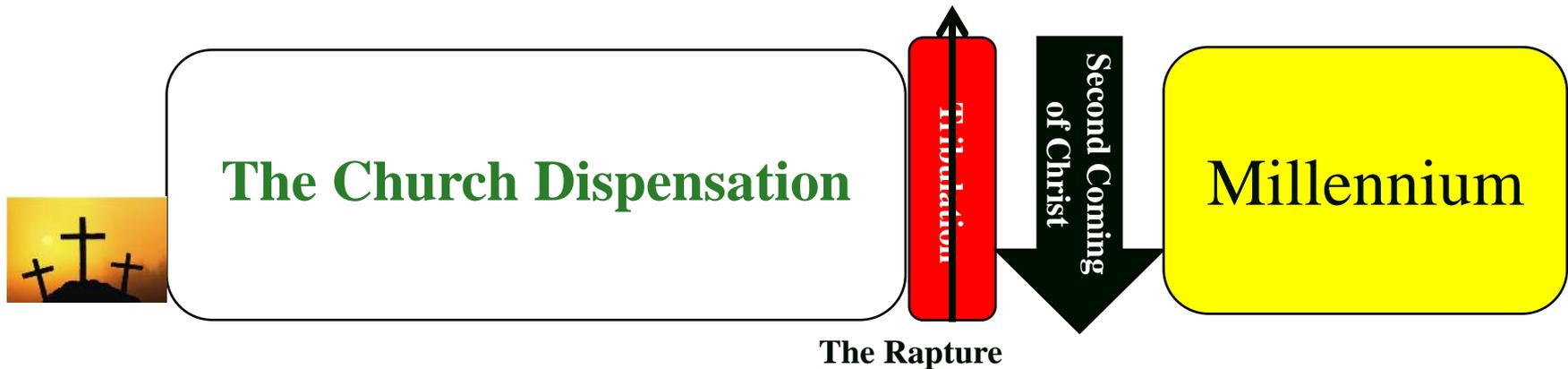
For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

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3. Mid-Tribulation View

- The Rapture of the Church occurs AFTER the Tribulation
- The Church will go through HALF of the Tribulation, up to the seventh trumpet
- Based on a misunderstanding of what constitutes the “trump of God”

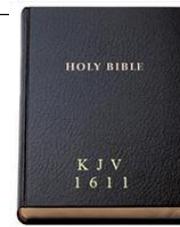


1 The 4:16-17

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.

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1 Cor 15:51-52

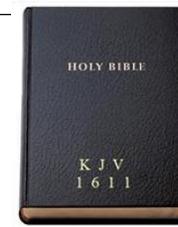
Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

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.

Rev 11:15

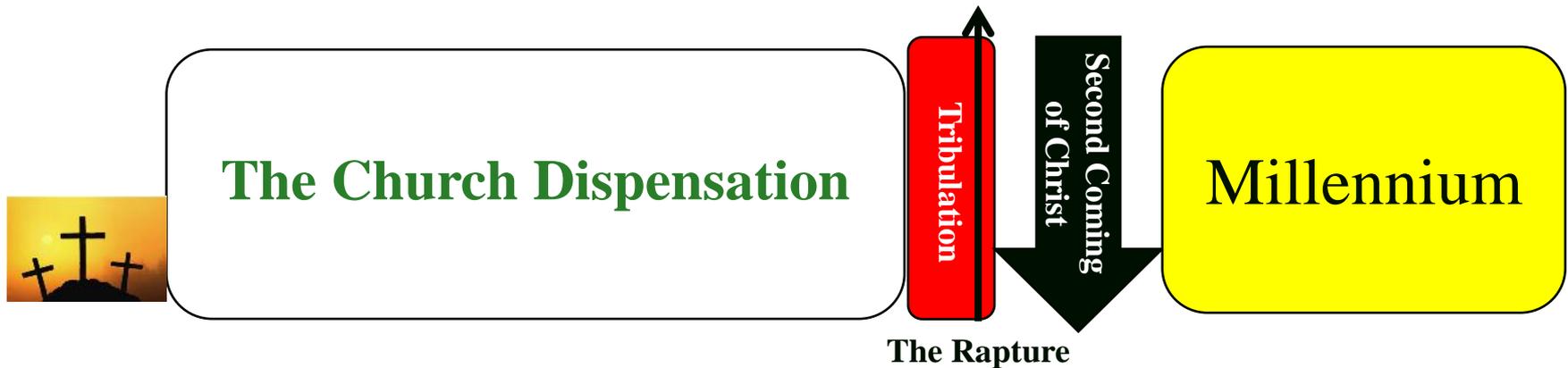
And **the seventh angel sounded**; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

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4. Pre-Wrath View

- The Rapture of the Church occurs **AFTER** the Tribulation
- The Church will go through **MOST** of the Tribulation, up to the vial judgments
- Based on a misunderstanding of what constitutes the “wrath of God”

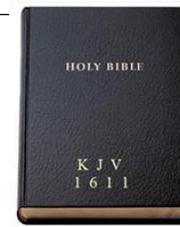


1 The 1:10; 5:9

And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which **delivered us from the wrath to come.**

For God hath **not appointed us to wrath,** but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

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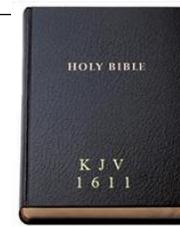
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Rev 15:1; 16:1

And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.

And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.

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III. Phases Of The Rapture

John 11:25-26

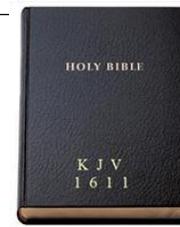
Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

1. The Transformation

- The saints are CHANGED; there is a RESURRECTION
- The change takes place in a moment, **“in the twinkling of an eye”** (i.e.- one billionth of a second) (1 Cor 15:51-52)
- It is a change from corruption to incorruption and from mortality to immortality (1 Cor 15:53)
- It consists of the dead in Christ and those who are alive and remain at the time of the Rapture (1 The 4:16-17; John 11:25-26)

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- The resurrection of the dead in Christ is the second of the three stages of the first resurrection, and includes Church saints and possibly the rest of the OT saints not resurrected after the resurrection of Jesus

1 Cor 15:22-23

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

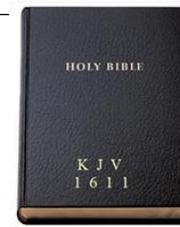
Matt 27:52-53

And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.

- Those who are alive and remain includes the SAVED and the SAFE; those who RECEIVED Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and those who REMAIN in a state of innocence (e.g.- children under the “age of accountability”; those who were born with severe mental retardation; the unborn)

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Num 14:30-31

Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, *concerning* which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

But **your little ones**, which ye said should be a prey, **them will I bring in**, and they shall know the land which ye have despised.

Deu 1:39

Moreover **your little ones**, which ye said should be a prey, and **your children, which in that day had no knowledge between good and evil, they shall go in** thither, and unto them will I give it, and they shall possess it.

Rom 5:13; 7:9

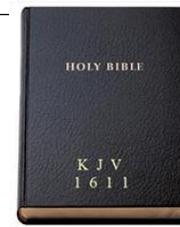
(For until the law sin was in the world: but **sin is not imputed when there is no law.**

For **I was alive without the law** once: but **when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.**

2. The Translation

- The saints are CAUGHT UP; there is a REMOVAL
- TRANSLATION= “the act of removing or conveying from one place to another; removal; the act of turning into another language; interpretation”

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IV. Place Of The Rapture

1. **In The Clouds**- the first heaven; lower atmosphere
2. **In The Air**- this is Satan's domain (Eph 2:2)

Acts 1:9-11

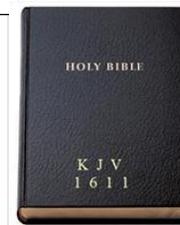
And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and **a cloud received him** out of their sight.

And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, **shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go** into heaven.

1 The 4:17

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.



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