

## The Rapture Debate in the Book of Revelation

### □ Introduction

- Review of various rapture views
- Areas not to be covered
- Areas to be covered

### □ Revelation 3:10

- Can the time of testing be some \_\_\_\_\_ for the Philadelphian church?
- Reasons for a \_\_\_\_\_ future time of tribulation/testing
  - ✓ Context – the future tribulation begins in the next chapter
  - ✓ The language is \_\_\_\_\_ involving the \_\_\_\_\_ not just the Philadelphia scene
- Who are the \_\_\_\_\_ for the time of testing?
  - ✓ The \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ This appears to be a \_\_\_\_\_ for unbelievers in the Apocalypse (see 8:13; 11:10; 13:12, 14)
  - ✓ Does not rule out those who come to faith during the tribulation being forced to \_\_\_\_\_ the time of testing
- Can “keep from” be translated “guard through?” (a post-trib gambit)
  - ✓ Lexical information
  - ✓ Argument from John 17:15 – Problems with this view...
    - It \_\_\_\_\_ that “keep from” in John 17:15 must be a reference to \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ since it is impossible to be removed from Satan’s influence & presence entirely
    - Two strategies for response
      1. Understand John 17:15 as kept from the realm or domain of Satan in an ultimate sense
      2. Note the differences between John 17:15 and Rev. 3:10 (using Robert Thomas)
        - (1) In John 17:15 the protection is from evil, but in Rev. 3:10, the protection is from a \_\_\_\_\_ in which judgment will fall on the earth
        - (2) In John 17:15 the disciples were already in the midst of evil, but in Rev. 3:10 the time of trouble is still \_\_\_\_\_
        - (3) In John 17:15 the spiritual realm of the evil one ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) is in view
  - ✓ Problems with “guard through”
    - What is the content of “guard through” in the trib? How can you describe it?
      - ✓ \_\_\_\_\_?
      - ✓ Protected from \_\_\_\_\_?
      - ✓ Kept from \_\_\_\_\_?
    - How does the promise of exemption apply to the Philadelphians ( \_\_\_\_\_ )?
      - ✓ If believers go through the tribulation, the passage is an \_\_\_\_\_ to the church at Philadelphia since they did not live to see the tribulation

### □ Prewrath and Mid-Trib Arguments from Rev 6

- Note diagrams from Mid-Trib & Prewrath Views
- Implication: Both 1prewrath and mid-trib views teach that the seals in Revelation 6 are not the wrath of God
- How do we respond?

1. Chapter 4 is part of the introduction to the tribulation period and is dominated by \_\_\_\_\_ from the throne of God
  2. All seven seals are broken by the \_\_\_\_\_ (note chapter 5)
  3. The Four Horsemen (first four seals) are introduced by the words of the \_\_\_\_\_ by the throne of God in heaven (6:1–7)
  4. The four plagues in the fourth seal (6:8) are described with language from \_\_\_\_\_ which is clearly the \_\_\_\_\_
  5. People appear to be \_\_\_\_\_ from the wrath of God (6:15-17)
- Argument about Cosmic Signs in Rev. 6:12-14 (correlation to Joel 2:30-31 & Matt. 24:29)
1. There are \_\_\_\_\_ cosmic signs in various eschatological passages that occur at \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., Isa. 13:10; Joel 2:30-31, 3:14-15; Eze. 32:7-8; Matt. 24:29; Rev. 6:12, 8:12, 9:1-2, 16:8)
  2. Moon like \_\_\_\_\_ (Rev. 6:12) is not the same as “the moon will not give its \_\_\_\_\_” (Matt. 24:29)
  3. Some passages like Joel 2:10 cite cosmic signs which appear to be part of a \_\_\_\_\_ and not an event like Matt. 24:29
  4. If there is a \_\_\_\_\_ between the rapture and the start of the tribulation, there is no \_\_\_\_\_ of events before the tribulation (especially see Joel 2:30-31)
- Buswell – Rapture in Revelation 11:12
- ✓ Picture of the ascension of the Two Witnesses points to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Church
  - ✓ Correlates with the \_\_\_\_\_ in the book of Revelation (cp. 1 Cor. 15:52; Matt. 24:31)
  - ✓ Responses
    - You cannot assume that the last trumpet in Revelation is the last trumpet in \_\_\_\_\_
    - The trumpet in Matt. 24:31 is \_\_\_\_\_ and thus later in time than Buswell’s view
- Archer – Rapture in Revelation 14:14
- ✓ The 144,000 in 14:1-5 represents \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ The blessing of 14:13 suggests a positive end for the saints which may make what follows (v. 14) a potential \_\_\_\_\_ passage
  - ✓ Responses
    - The 144,000 are clearly \_\_\_\_\_ based on Rev. 7:5-8
    - Rev. 14:14 begins a section on the gathering of people for the \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 19)
- **Post-Trib View and Revelation 19-20**
- The description of the Second Coming in Rev. 19:11-16 \_\_\_\_\_ with the rapture
  - The event following the associated judgments is the establishment of the \_\_\_\_\_ (Rev. 20)
  - Response
    - ✓ There is no rapture \_\_\_\_\_ in Rev 19
    - ✓ The immediate establishment of the kingdom on earth following the rapture contradicts \_\_\_\_\_
- **Conclusion**
- The rapture of the Church is not the \_\_\_\_\_ of the book of Revelation
  - However, the Apocalypse supports a \_\_\_\_\_ understanding of the timing of the rapture of the Church