

Philippians Series

Lesson #090

March 20, 2025

Dean Bible Ministries

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Mindset: “Payday Someday”

Philippians 4:4–5



- 1. Volition: making a decision to prioritize the spiritual life. And sticking with it.**
- 2. Reading the Bible: internalizing the Bible, studying under a pastor who teaches the entire counsel of God, and applying what we learn to our thinking, our speech, our actions as we walk by the Spirit.**
- 3. Prayer: constant communication with God. We are to:**
 - 1 Thess. 5:16, “Rejoice always,**
 - 1 Thess. 5:17, “pray without ceasing,**
 - 1 Thess. 5:18, “in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”**

Php. 4:4 ¶ “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

Php. 4:5 ¶ “Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

Php. 4:6 ¶ “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

Php. 4:7 “and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Php. 4:8 ¶ “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

Php. 4:9 “The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Php. 4:10 ¶ “But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity.”

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Php. 4:10, “But I **rejoiced** in the Lord greatly that now at last your **care [thoughtful concern]** for me has flourished again; though you surely did **care [think about me]**, but you lacked opportunity.”

What is the key idea here?

Rejoice, but more ...

Mental attitude; mindset; thinking

Php. 4:4, “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!”

Php. 4:5, “Let your gentleness be known to all men.

The Lord is at hand.”

ἐγγύς *eggus* near, at hand

γινώσκω *ginōskō*

3 sing aor pass

imperative

to know, come to know,

recognize

Php. 4:5, “Let your gentleness be known to all men.

The Lord is at hand.”

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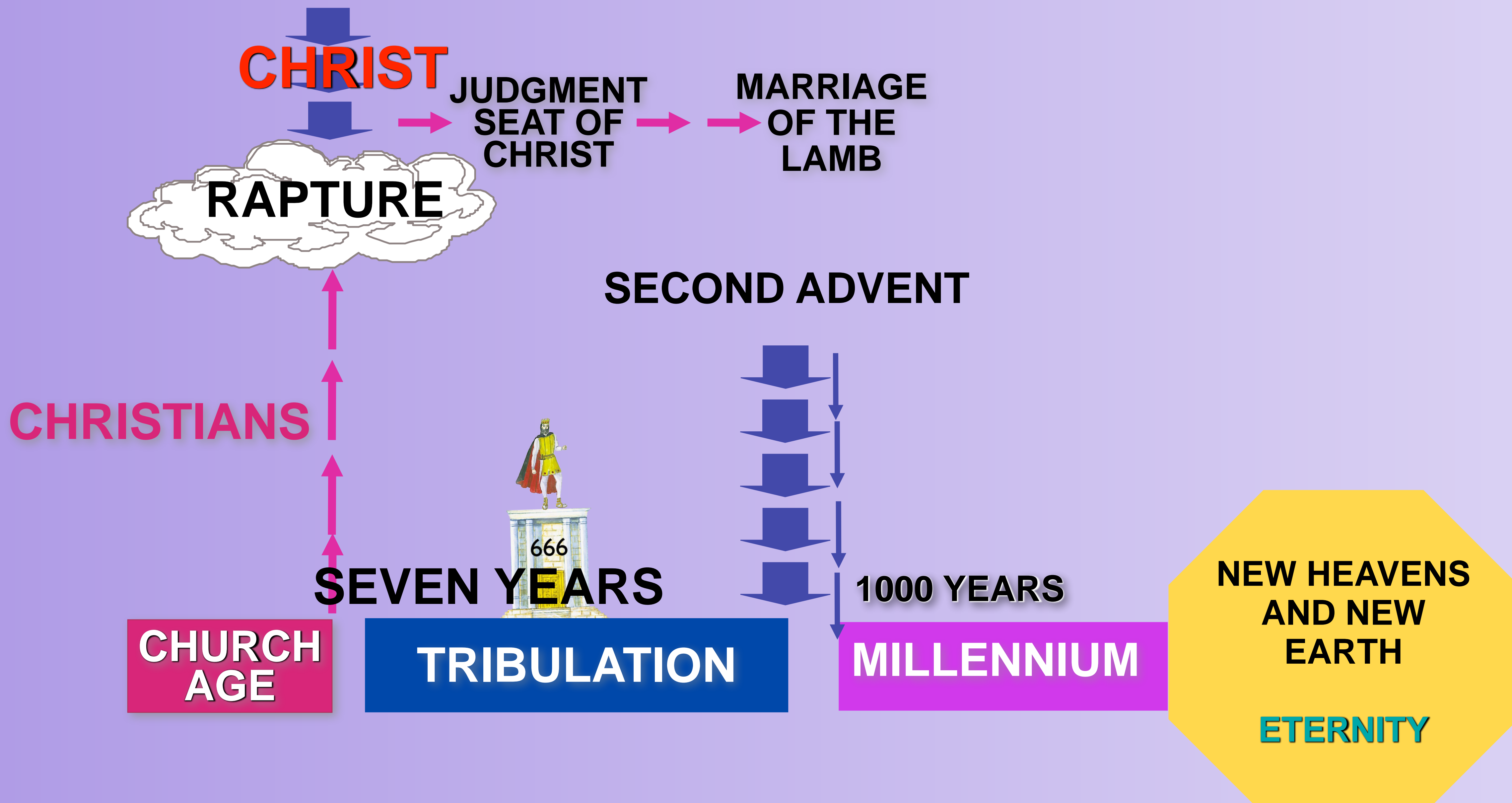
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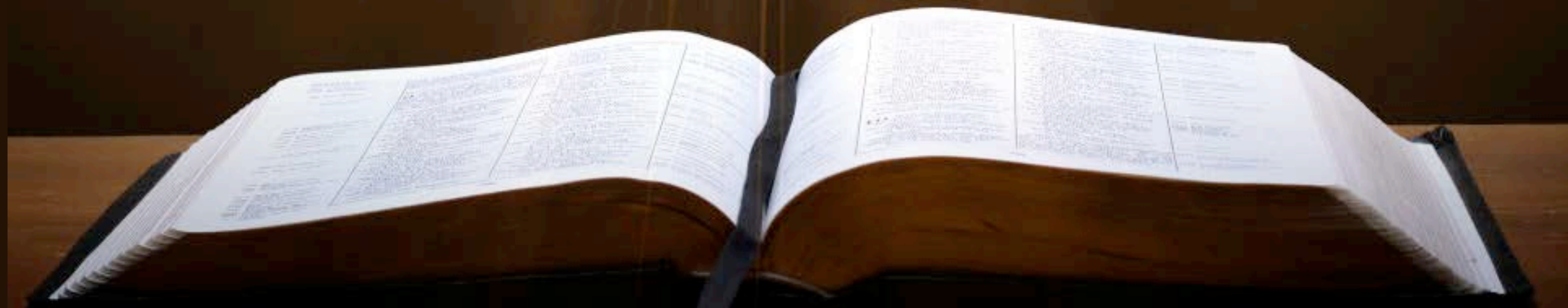
Living today in light of eternity (i.e., the Judgment Seat of Christ!)

PROPHETIC PANORAMA



**What the Bible Teaches
About**

**the Imminency of
the Rapture**



immanent /'ɪmənənt/

■ adjective existing or operating within.

▶ (of God) permanently pervading the universe. Often contrasted with transcendent.

—derivatives **immanence** noun, **immanency** noun

~OED

imminent

■ adjective

1 about to happen.

2 archaic overhanging.

—derivatives **imminence** noun, **imminently** adverb

~OED

Testimonies from the Early Church Fathers

Of a truth, soon and suddenly shall His will be accomplished, as the Scripture also bears witness, saying, “Speedily will He come, and will not tarry;” and, “The Lord shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Holy One, for whom ye look.”

~1 Clement

The last times are come upon us. Let us therefore be of a reverent spirit, and fear the long-suffering of God, that it tend not to our condemnation. For let us either stand in awe of the wrath to come, or show regard for the grace which is at present displayed—one of two things.

~Ignatius, *Ephesians 11*.

And therefore, when in the end the Church shall be suddenly caught up from this, it is said, “There shall be tribulation such as has not been since the beginning, neither shall be.”

~Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*.

2 Tim. 4:8, “Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.”

1. Definition of *rapture*.

Rapture: The Rapture is the next event in prophecy to take place. It is the event that ends the Church Age when the Lord Jesus Christ returns in the air for the Church and then takes the Church to be with Him in Heaven to be evaluated at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

The Rapture is the translation of all living believers from the earth at the end of the Church Age immediately following the resurrection of all dead Church Age believers; immediately following the Rapture, Church Age believers are evaluated at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

1. Definition of *rapture*.

Rapture: The Rapture is the “snatching up” of still living believers a nano-second after the resurrection of dead Church Age believers.

The English word “rapture” derives from the Latin verb, “*rapto*,” “to seize, snatch, carry away,” *Dictionary of Prophecy and End Times*.

The issue isn't *will there be* a rapture, but *when* will it be.

2. Definition of “imminency.”

Imminency: the “at-any-moment” return of Jesus Christ.

Not: “soon coming”

No prophecy needs to be fulfilled before the Rapture.

However, that does not mean that stage-setting, and perhaps some fulfillment, related to preparation for the Tribulation may be fulfilled, but is not required and is not an indicator.

2. Definition of *imminency* .

Imminency: the “at-any-moment” return of Jesus Christ.

OED: “hanging overhead, constantly ready to befall or overtake one; close at hand in its incidence.”

It is **certain** it will occur,

It is **uncertain** *when* it will occur;

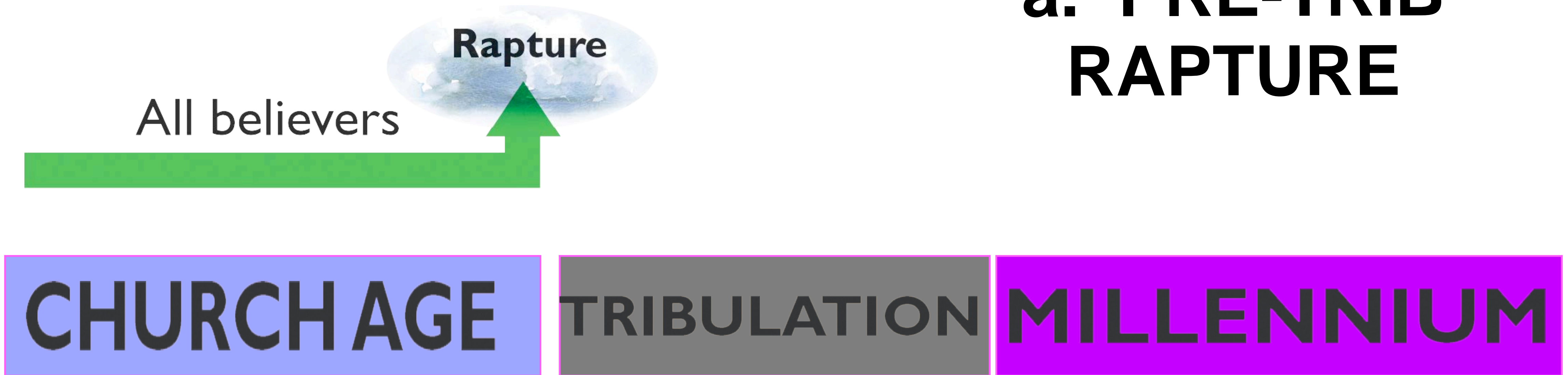
It is **NOT** contingent on any other events;

And NO prophesied event *necessarily* intervenes between the present time and the Rapture.

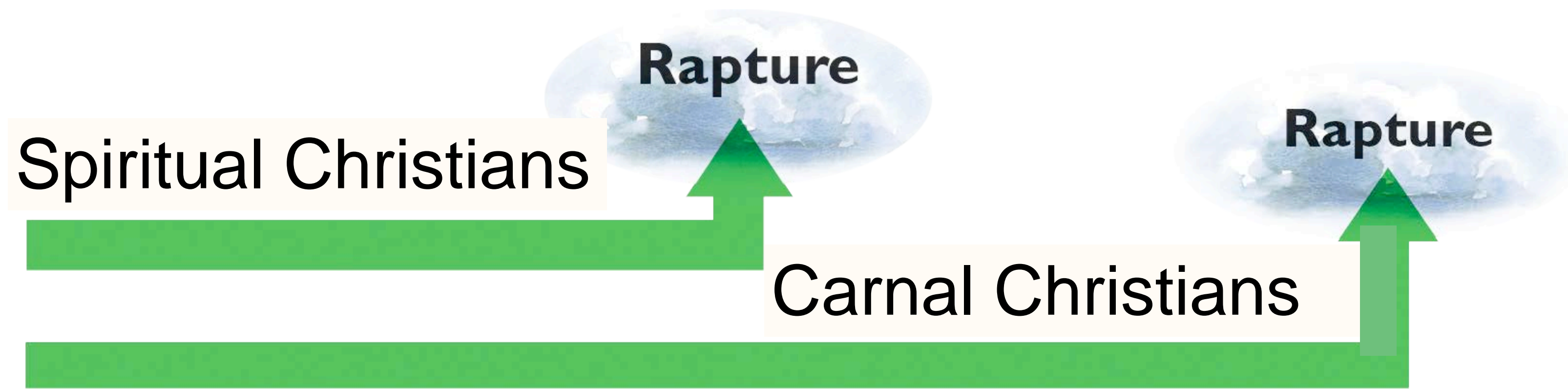
3. The doctrine of imminency is important to understanding the Pre-Tribulation return of Jesus Christ at the Rapture.

4. The four views on *when* the Rapture will take place.

a. PRE-TRIB RAPTURE



The Rapture will occur *before* the Tribulation and will include all Church Age believers.



b. PARTIAL RAPTURE

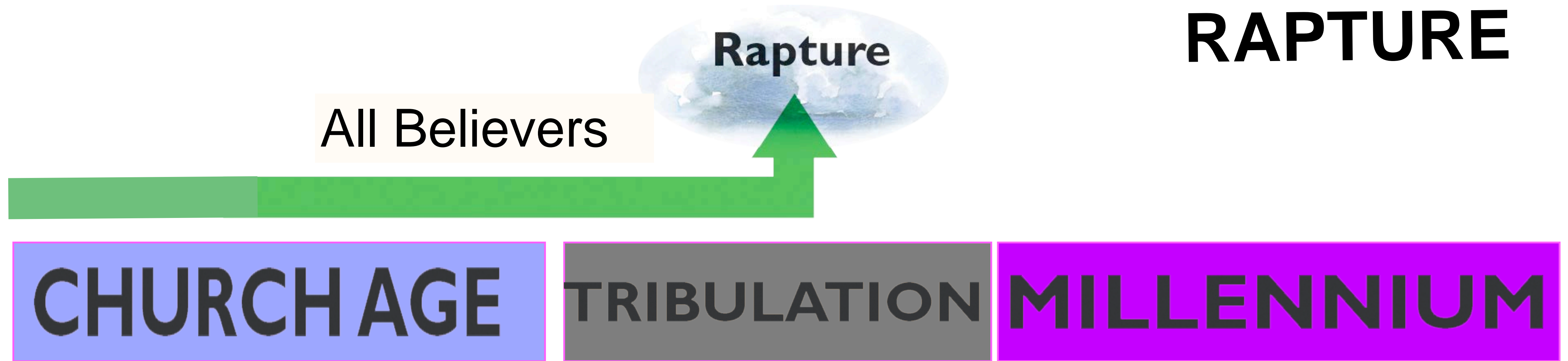
CHURCH AGE

TRIBULATION

MILLENNIUM

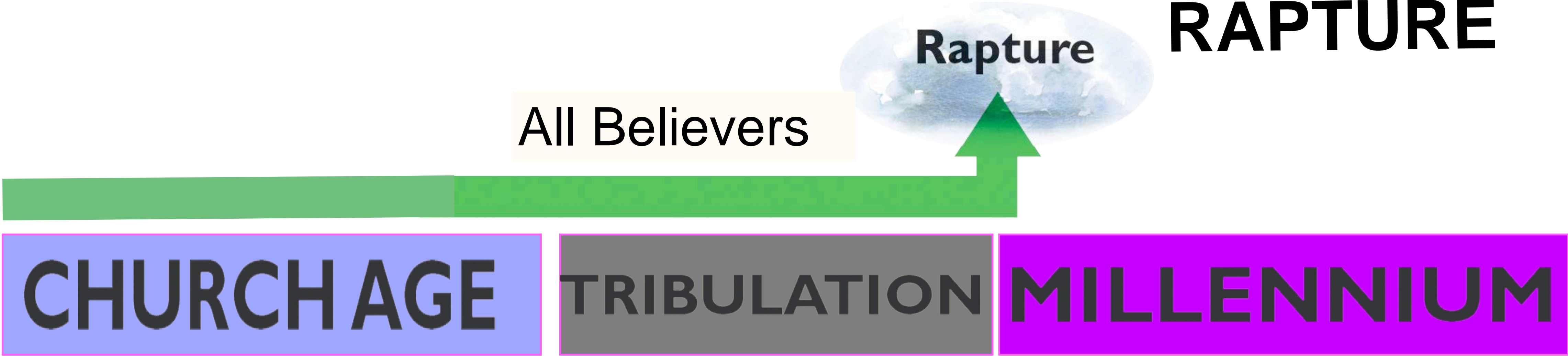
At the Rapture, *only faithful, totally dedicated Christians* will be caught up, leaving carnal Christians behind to be chastened by the Tribulation.

C. MID-TRIB RAPTURE



The Rapture occurs in the middle of the Tribulation, thus *believers endure the first half.*

d. POST-TRIB RAPTURE



The Rapture occurs at the end of the Tribulation, *forcing all believers to endure the entire seven years of wrath.*

5. The purpose of the doctrine of imminency is to keep each believer in a constant state of expectancy, looking, waiting, watching, hoping for the return of Christ that we might be ready, prepared, that we might not be ashamed at His coming (1 John 2:28).

1 John 2:28, “And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.”

6. Believers are to look for the *blessed hope*.

a. We are to LOOK for the Savior.

Heb. 9:28, “so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.”

Titus 2:13, “looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,”

6. Believers are to look for the blessed hope.

b. We are to WATCH for the Savior,

1 Thess. 5:6, “Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.”

Luke 12:37, “Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them.”

6. Believers are to look for the blessed hope.

c. We are to WAIT for the Savior.

1 Cor. 1:7, “so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ,”

1 Thess. 1:10, “and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

7. That there is no prophecy between the baptism of the Spirit and the Rapture means that the Rapture is imminent.

The Church Age was a “mystery,” a previously unrevealed fact in the Old Testament, so there is no prophecy related to the Church Age ending that must be fulfilled.

It could occur at any time; no one knows the day or the hour.

8. The resurrection of the Church, like our dying, is completely out of our control. Just as we have no control over the time and manner of our death, so we have no control over the time and manner of the Rapture.

9. The resurrection of the Church is totally beyond our control because resurrection is the Lord's victory.

1 Cor. 15:57, “Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

10. While the Rapture is imminent, the Second Advent is not.

Before the Second Advent occurs, there are many prophecies which must occur, e.g., the Rapture, the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Tribulation, the antichrist, the seal, trumpet, and bowl judgments, Rev. 6–19.

11. The Rapture could have occurred at the time of James or Paul because no prophecy had to be fulfilled before the resurrection occurs.

12. Distortion of the imminency of the Rapture results in instability and foolish explanation or speculation about the time of the Rapture; hence, James gives us an admonition in James 5:7–8.

James 5:7, “Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain.

James 5:8, “You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.”

ἐγγίζω *eggizō* 3 sing perf act indic to bring near, come near

13. Key Passages:

Rev. 3:10, “Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from [*ek* “out from”] the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.”

1 Thess. 1:10, “and to wait for His Son from [*ek*, ‘out from’] heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who delivers us from [*ek*, ‘out from’] the wrath to come.”

2 Pet. 3:3, “Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts,

2 Pet. 3:4, “and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.’ ”

John 14:1, “Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

John 14:2, “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

John 14:3, “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”

Rev. 22:12, “Behold, I am **coming quickly**, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.”

ταχύς *tachus* swift, quickly, soon