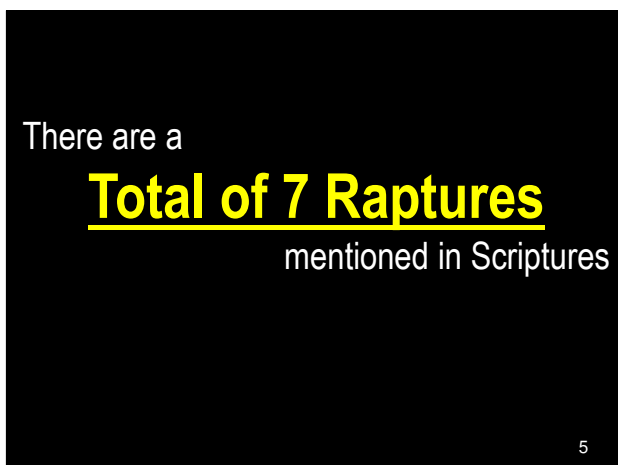


Different Views to Timing of Rapture

- Do **not be dogmatic**.
- Do **not part fellowship** just on this.
- The main thing is the **REALITY** of the rapture - the 2nd coming.
- Therefore, it is more important to **walk** closely with God, to fulfill our **personal destiny** and be **ready** for His coming.
- They are **all partly true** but **assume one rapture** when there are several.

4



There are 7 Different Raptures

The word **"RAPTURE"** does not appear in our Bible Translations.

It is perfectly usable.

6

Different phrases used in the Scriptures:

John 14:3 - received unto the Lord
 1 Thessalonians 4:16 - caught up to meet the Lord in the air
 [Gk-Harpazo - seize - catch - pluck - take by force]
 2 Thessalonians 2:1 - gathered together

7

The First Rapture

ENOCH

Genesis 5:24

And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

8

The Second Rapture

ELIJAH

2 Kings 2:11

Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

9

The Third Rapture

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

(Preceded by His Resurrection)

Acts 1:9

Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

10

The Fourth Rapture

THE RAPTURE OF THE SAINTS

(The Righteous Ones **BEFORE** the 7-year Tribulation Period - Daniel's 70th Week)

11

The Catching Away [**Rapture**]
 of the Over-Comers and OT saints before
 the 7 years Tribulation Judgment.

Why is this so?

12

The Lord always
rescues the righteous before His judgment
i.e. the righteous saints are always saved,
preserved, rescued from God's judgment.

This is a **Principle** throughout Scriptures

13

A. Genesis 6-8 before the great flood,
 the Lord rescued Noah and his family.
 He would have rescued all who heard and
 responded to Noah's preaching but none
 did.

14

B. Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 18-19

The Lord revealed to Abram
 what He was going to do

The Lord will always spare the righteous.
 In the end, there's only one righteous i.e. **LOT**

15

C. Israel at the Red Sea

Exodus 14

The Red Sea was parted for Israel.

The Red Sea thereafter was God's judgment
 on Pharaoh and the armies of Egypt

16

1 Thessalonians 5:9

For God did **not appoint us to wrath**, but to obtain
 salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 5:9

Much more then, having now been justified by His
 blood, we shall **be saved from wrath** through Him.

17

2 Peter 2:9

... the Lord knows how to **deliver the godly**
out of temptations [tribulations] and to reserve
 the unjust under **punishment** for the **day of**
judgment

1 Thessalonians 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.

The **Fourth Rapture****THE RAPTURE OF
THE SAINTS***Other Reasons for this position*

19

Cycles and Patterns of God's dealings

A. **7 Feasts of Israel**

1. The Passover - 1 Corinthians 5:7
2. Unleavened Bread - John 6:35
3. First Fruits - 1 Corinthians 15:20
4. Pentecost - Acts 2:1-4

20

Cycles and Patterns of God's dealings

A. **7 Feasts of Israel**

5. Trumpets - 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
- 1 Corinthians 15:20
6. Atonement - All Israel will be saved
7. Tabernacles - God dwelling with us

B. **Law of Harvests and First Fruits**

21

c. Stages of a **Jewish** Wedding

1. Bridegroom leave father's house to home of bride. Jesus left heaven to earth.
2. Jewish bridegroom negotiate with bride's father to determine the dowry (MOHAR) Jesus paid with His own Blood and Life to purchase the church (Bride)

22

c. Stages of a **Jewish** Wedding

3. ❖ Upon payment of dowry marriage covenant is established. Similarly the church is sanctified and set apart for Christ.
- ❖ Now husband and wife.
- ❖ Bride declared sanctified i.e. set apart for bridegroom.

23

c. Stages of a **Jewish** Wedding

4. As symbol of covenant, groom and bride drink a cup of wine over which a betrothal benediction is pronounced. The Holy Communion is a symbol of the covenant between Christ and the church.
5. Groom then leave bride's home to return to his father's house for 12 months. Similarly the Lord Jesus ascended to heaven to the Father's House with the church here on earth.

24

c. Stages of a Jewish Wedding

6. During this period of separation, bride prepares for her married life and groom prepares living accommodation in his father's house where he will bring his bride to.
- John 14:2 - Christ is preparing accommodation in the Father's House for the church.

25

c. Stages of a Jewish Wedding

7. The groom's father decides the day and hour for the groom to go and take his bride.
- No one knows the day and hour of the rapture of the church except the Father God.

26

c. Stages of a Jewish Wedding

8. The groom's arrival at the bride's house will be:
- ✓ at night
 - ✓ with his male entourage
 - ✓ with a torchlight procession
 - ✓ With a shout and blowing of trumpets.
 - ✓ The shout would forewarn the bride of the bridegroom's coming.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:16

27

c. Stages of a Jewish Wedding

9. The groom will then "capture" his bride together with her female attendants.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:17 • John 14:2-3
- The enlarged wedding party will return from the bride's home to the groom's father's home.

28

c. Stages of a Jewish Wedding

10. Upon arrival at the groom father's home, the wedding party would find the wedding guests had assembled already.
- Similarly the whole of heaven awaits the rapture of the church plus the OT saints.
11. The bride and groom would then go to the bridal chamber (CHUPPAH) to consummate the marriage.
- The spiritual union of Christ and the church.

29

c. Stages of a Jewish Wedding

12. ➤ After the marriage was consummated, the groom would announce the news to the wedding party waiting outside the chamber, who will pass on the news to the wedding guests.
- The feast then begins for the next 7 days.

30

c. Stages of a **Jewish** Wedding

- 13.** During the 7 days of the wedding festivities (the 7 days of CHUPPAH), the bride remains hidden in the bridal chamber.
- Marriage Supper of the Lamb.
 - 7 days = 7 years where the church is hidden in heaven.
 - 7 years tribulation on earth.

31

c. Stages of a **Jewish** Wedding

- 14.** End of 7 days, groom brings his bride out of the bridal chamber with her veil removed so that all can see the bride.
- End of 7 years, Christ brings the bride in His Second Coming at the conclusion of the 7 years tribulation period in full view of all who are alive.

32

Cycles and Patterns of God's dealings

- D. Not 1 rapture but **several**.
- E. The **differences** in God's Dealings with Israel, Gentiles and the Church.
- F. **Typologies** in Scriptures
e.g. Song of Solomons, Judges, Genesis ...

33

THE RAPTURE OF THE SAINTS

1 Corinthians 15:52

in 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.

34

THE RAPTURE OF THE SAINTS

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

16For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **17**Then 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.

35

This Rapture is preceded by the Resurrection of the Dead in Christ who will join the Living Body in Christ.

This company of people that has been raptured is also mentioned in **Revelation 4 and 5**

36

Description of this company:

- A. They are the **over-comers** who heard the midnight cry of the Lord's coming representing the 5 wise virgins [Matthew 25].

37

Description of this company:

- B. They are the **crystal sea** company.

Revelation 4:6

Before the throne there was a **sea of glass, like crystal**. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

38

Description of this company:

- B. They are the **crystal sea** company.

Sea = a great mass of people

Crystal = flawless

i.e. right standing with God and in fellowship with Him

i.e. the Bride of Christ and the OT righteous saints

39

Description of this company:

- c. They have **Robes** of **Righteousness**.
 d. They **sing** the **new song** [Revelation 5:9].
 e. They will **reign** with **Christ** on the earth [Revelation 5:10].

This is the reward of the over-comers, of the faithful and wise servants of God [Matthew 24-25].

40

As long as we, the church company are here on earth:

- i. There is **NO** Tribulation Judgment Period yet.
- ii. There is **NO** Manifestation of the Anti-Christ.
- iii. There is **NO** mark of the beast.
- iv. The Church on earth **reigns** with Christ to bind and to loose.
- v. The works of the evil one are **restricted**.

41

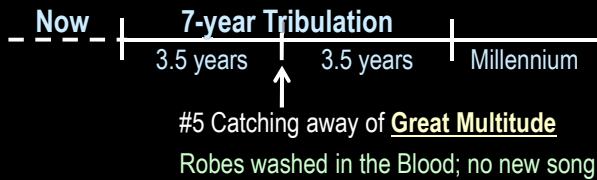
The Fifth Rapture

THE MID-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

(This rapture is in the middle of the 7-year Tribulation Period mentioned in **Revelation 7:9-17**)

42

The Different Raptures



43

Mid-Tribulation Rapture

This is the Rapture of the Multitudes of Gentiles and Jews who will be saved from the very successful evangelism ministry of the 144,000 Jewish Evangelists.

44

Revelation 7:9

After these things I looked, and behold, **a great multitude** which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands

45

Revelation 7:13-14

13Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "**Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?**"
14And I said to him, "Sir, you know."
So he said to me, "These are the ones who **come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

46

This **Mid-Tribulation Rapture** is different from the earlier Rapture of the Righteous Dead:

- A. It does **NOT** have the accompanying resurrection mentioned in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.
- B. The Lord Jesus did **NOT** meet them in the air.
- c. They did not sing the new song **BUT** only the song of Moses and the Lamb.

47

This **Mid-Tribulation Rapture** is different from the earlier Rapture of the Righteous Dead:

- d. They were snatched from the earth to escape the wrath of the devil.
At Mid-Tribulation, the Anti-Christ breaks the Covenant with Israel ...
- E. They have Robes of Righteousness washed in the Blood of the Lamb [**Revelation 7:14, 1 John 1:9**].

48

This **Mid-Tribulation Rapture** is different from the earlier Rapture of the Righteous Dead:

F. They are:

1. people saved during the 1st 3½ years
2. **possibly** Christians who were not raptured at the beginning of the 70th week, but who, during the 3½ years, repented and returned to the Lord [robes washed in the Blood].

49

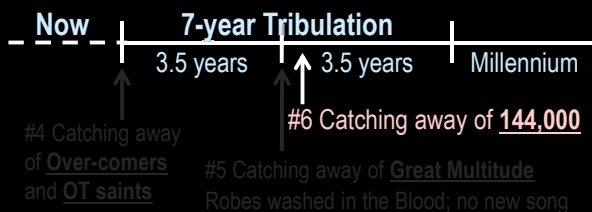
The **Sixth Rapture**

Of the 144,000 Jews

(Revelation 14:1-5)

50

The Different Raptures



51

The Rapture Of the 144,000 Jews

Revelation 14:1-5

1Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. **2**And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. **3**They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.

52

The Rapture Of the 144,000 Jews

Revelation 14:1-5

4These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being first fruits to God and to the Lamb.

5And in their mouth was found **NO** deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

53

The Rapture Of the 144,000 Jews

This is the catching up of the 144,000 Jewish Evangelists.

This is about 6 months after the Mid-Tribulation Rapture of the Great Multitude.

The Great Multitude are Gentiles that have been saved during the first three-and-half years of the 7-year Tribulation Period.

54

The Rapture Of the **144,000** Jews

After the saved multitude have been raptured, it will be followed by the rapture of the 144,000 Jewish Evangelists:

- A. They will have finished their ministry on the earth.
- B. They will be caught up and they will join the Church Company for the Marriage Supper.
- C. They will sing the new song.
- D. They will have all the rights and the privileges, all the rewards of the Church Company.

55

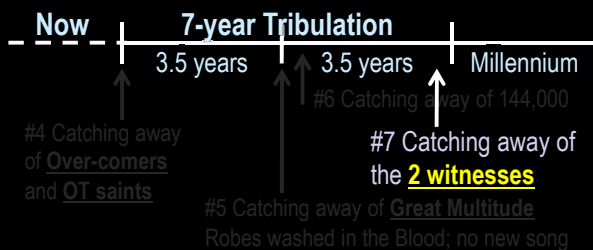
The **Seventh Rapture**

Of the 2 Witnesses

(This will happen on the Last Half-Day at the end of the 7-year Tribulation Period)

56

The Different Raptures



57

The Rapture Of the **2 Witnesses**

Revelation 11:3-12

3And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.” **4**These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.

58

The Rapture Of the **2 Witnesses**

Revelation 11:3-12

5And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. **6**These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

59

The Rapture Of the **2 Witnesses**

Revelation 11:3-12

7When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. **8**And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

60

The Rapture Of the 2 Witnesses

Revelation 11:3-12

9Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. **10**And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

61

The Rapture Of the 2 Witnesses

Revelation 11:3-12

11Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. **12**And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.

62

The Rapture Of the 2 Witnesses

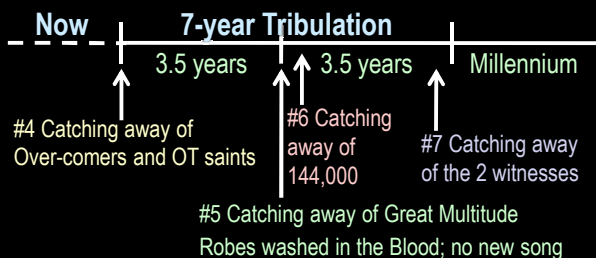
They will have a very successful ministry with signs and wonders.

The Lord will allow them to be killed by the Anti-Christ on the 4th Last Day, they will resurrect after being dead in the streets of Jerusalem for three-and-half days.

They will then be caught up to heaven.

63

Summary - The Different Raptures



64

Summary of the 7 Raptures

1. Enoch
2. Elijah
3. The Lord Jesus Christ
4. Catching away of the Church / OT Saints
5. The Great Multitude at Mid-T [Revelation 7]
6. The 144,000 after Mid-T [Revelation 14:1-5]
7. The 2 Witnesses on the day before Christ's Second Coming [Revelation 11:3-12]

65

- During the 7 Years Tribulation, the Gospel is continuously Preached!
- At the start of this 7 years, the 144,000 Messianic Jews to the whole world resulting in the salvation of the Great Multitude.
- Followed by the Two Witnesses.
- And the Ministry of the **ANGELS**.

66

Revelation 14:6

Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue and people

67

The End-Time Harvest : 3 Phases

1. Brought in by the Church prior to being caught away / rapture.
2. Result of ministry of the 144,000 during the first 3½ years of the Tribulation.
3. The Ministry of the Angels during the second half of the Tribulation.

68

CONCLUSION**Ezekiel 18:23**

Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord GOD, and not that he should turn from his ways and live?

69

CONCLUSION**Ezekiel 18:32**

For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies, says the Lord GOD. "Therefore turn and live!"

70

CONCLUSION**Ezekiel 33:11**

Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?'

71

CONCLUSION**2 Peter 3:9**

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

72