

## Rapture

God has given us a few passages to show us how he will return for his children in the future. We don't have to lack knowledge when He's told us what will happen.

The word "rapture" itself is not found in the Bible but is derived from the Latin word "rapturo," which translates the Greek word "*harpazo*," meaning "to seize" or "to snatch away."

**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17** : "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will be the first to rise. After that, we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord."

The above verse tells us that this will be a future even where God will come back, the dead Christians will be resurrected, and those that are still alive will meet Him in the air.

**1 Corinthians 15:51-52** : "Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed."

Is this one of the same trumpets from Revelation? If so, which trumpet? When does this happen? This is where the main 3 beliefs split that are believed in the church.

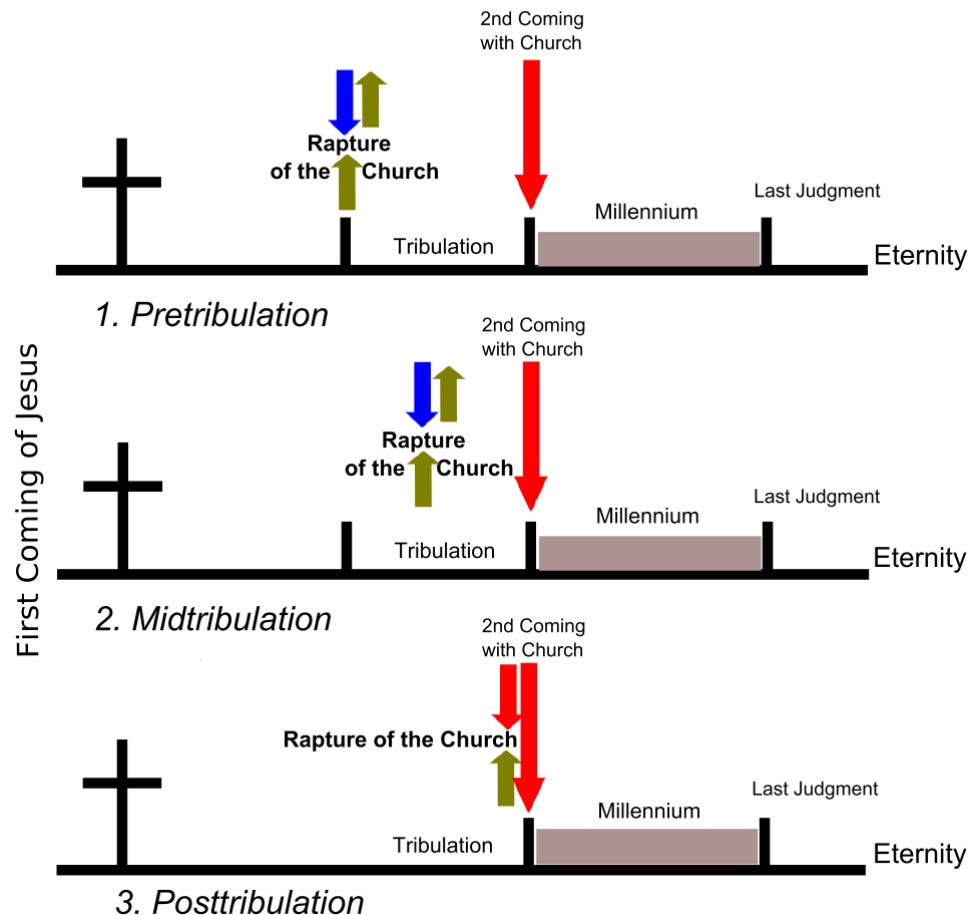
**Pre-Tribulation:** With this view, it holds that the Rapture will occur before the Tribulation (the seven scrolls\trumpets\bowls and 3.5 year\42 month reign of the Antichrist in Revelation), sparing believers from the coming wrath. It is supported by passages such as [Revelation 3:10](#), which promises deliverance from the "hour of trial."

This one makes the most sense to me. ***Why would God have us go through the same plagues\judgments as unbelievers before He comes back?*** The left behind movies are based on this view.

**Mid-Tribulation:** The belief that the Rapture will occur midway through the Tribulation, aligning with the sounding of the seventh trumpet in [Revelation 11:15](#). The main argument against this is what I just mentioned. Christians would go through the same seals\trumpets like unbelievers on the earth but wouldn't experience the 7 bowls or the Antichrist reign.

**Post-Tribulation:** Belief that the Rapture will occur at the end of the Tribulation, coinciding with the Second Coming of Christ. It is often linked with [Matthew 24:29-31](#), where Jesus describes His return after the Tribulation.

## Comparison of Christian Tribulation Views



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rapture#/media/File:Tribulation\\_views.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rapture#/media/File:Tribulation_views.svg)

What happens after the rapture? **The Judgement seat (Bema Seat)**

Directly after the Rapture, while the 7 Year Tribulation is occurring on Earth, we will receive a judgment for our deeds, motives, and faithfulness to God during our lives.

**No one is condemned or sent to hell here.** Instead, believers will receive eternal rewards (often described as crowns) or suffer the loss of rewards for wasted opportunities.

- The Victor's Crown: ([1 Corinthians 9:25](#)) Awarded for exercising self-control, spiritual discipline, and mastering the flesh.
- The Crown of Rejoicing: ([1 Thessalonians 2:19](#)) Often called the "soul-winner's crown," given to those who lead others to Christ and disciple them.
- The Crown of Righteousness: ([2 Timothy 4:8](#)) Awarded to believers who eagerly anticipate and love the return of Jesus Christ.
- The Crown of Life: ([James 1:12](#); [Revelation 2:10](#)) Given to those who persevere through trials, suffering, and persecution for their faith.
- The Crown of Glory: ([1 Peter 5:4](#)) Given to leaders, elders, and shepherds of the church who faithfully and humbly guide their flock.

The Fire Test ([1 Corinthians 3:11-15](#)): Our works on earth will go through a fire, where works for God will appear like gold, silver, and precious stones and survive. Works that were worldly will appear like wood, straw and hay that will burn up.

Afterwards, we'll spend our days in Heaven until Christ brings down the New Heaven and Earth. We have no reason to fear or live in confusion when we know our Lord will return for us. We are responsible for using the time left to spread the gospel and avoid sin.

## References

- <https://harvest.org/resources/gregs-blog/post/chronology-of-end-times-events/>