



The Rapture

- What it is
- 3 Major views for timing

The Day Prophesied by Jesus - Mathew 24:27-31

"For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather. "But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other."

The Snatching Away (Rapture) – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

“13 Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. 14 We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. 15 According to the Lord’s own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage each other with these words.”

The Snatching Away (Rapture) – 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

“51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed – 52 in a flash, 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.”

Rapture Timing – 1 Thess 4:17

Pre-Tribulation Belief

Belief

- **Believers are raptured before the tribulation**

Support

- View held by the Thessalonians in Paul's letters – 1 Thess
- 1 Thess 1:9-10, 5:9 – The church is not appointed to wrath
- 1 Thess 5:1-9-10 - Believers will not be overtaken by the Day of the Lord
- Rev 3:10 – Philadelphian church is delivered from hour of trial
- The Church does not appear after chap 3 of Revelation
- Patterned after others delivered from tribulation, such as Noah and Lot
- Rev 19 does not mention a rapture, even though that's where a post trib rapture would logically occur
- No clear purpose to have a rapture at the second coming
- At rapture unbelievers remain on the earth, at second coming believers remain on earth
- Matt 24-36-44 – People will be living their normal lives; this isn't true during the tribulation
- Supports Matt 24:36 – No one knows the day or hour – only possible with pre and mid point tribulations (7 year peace treaty signing starts literal 7 year tribulation)

- Belief
 - **Believers are raptured sometime during the tribulation, typically mid-tribulation** when the 7th trumpet sounds, just prior to the bowl judgements
- Assumptions
 - Trumpet of 1 Cor 15:52 is same as Rev 11:15 (not likely)
- Support
 - 2 Thess 2:1-4 – The day of the Christ will not come unless (until) the falling away occurs first
 - Chronology – 1. Apostacy. 2. Anti-Christ Identified. 3. Return of Jesus
 - Daniel 7:25 – Anti-Christ power over saints for 3 ½ years

Rapture Timing – 1 Thess 4:17

Post-Tribulation Belief

- Belief
 - **Believers are raptured just prior to the second coming**
- Support
 - 2 Thess 2:1-4 – The day of the Christ will not come unless (until) the falling away occurs first

Rapture Timing – 1 Thess 4:17

Pre-Tribulation

- **Believers raptured before tribulation**

Support

- View held by the Thessalonians
- 1 Thess 1:9-10, 5:9 – The church is not appointed to wrath
- 1 Thess 5:1-9-10 - Believers will not be overtaken by the Day of the Lord
- Rev 3:10 – The church delivered from hour of trial
- Church does not appear after chap 3 of Revelation
- “No one knows the day or hour changes with peace treaty signing (7 years exactly)
- Patterns after others delivered from tribulation, such as Noah and Lot
- Suddenness of appearing; life will be normal

Mid-Tribulation

- **Believers are raptured at the 7th trumpet, mid-way through the tribulation, sparing the church from the great tribulation**

Support

- Detailed support for pre-trib rapture not fully documented until 1800s – Was taught previously however.
- Rev 13:7; 20:9 - Not all saints will be raptured pre-trib (tribulation saints)
- John 6:10 – Believers resurrection will be at the last day

Post-Tribulation

- **Belief that rapture is just prior to the 2nd coming**

Support

- Ancient practice of meeting victors outside of the city and accompanying them in celebration

Ezr 7; Neh 2:5



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Daniel 9-11
Matt 24

$-7y$ →

1000y Millennium

1w

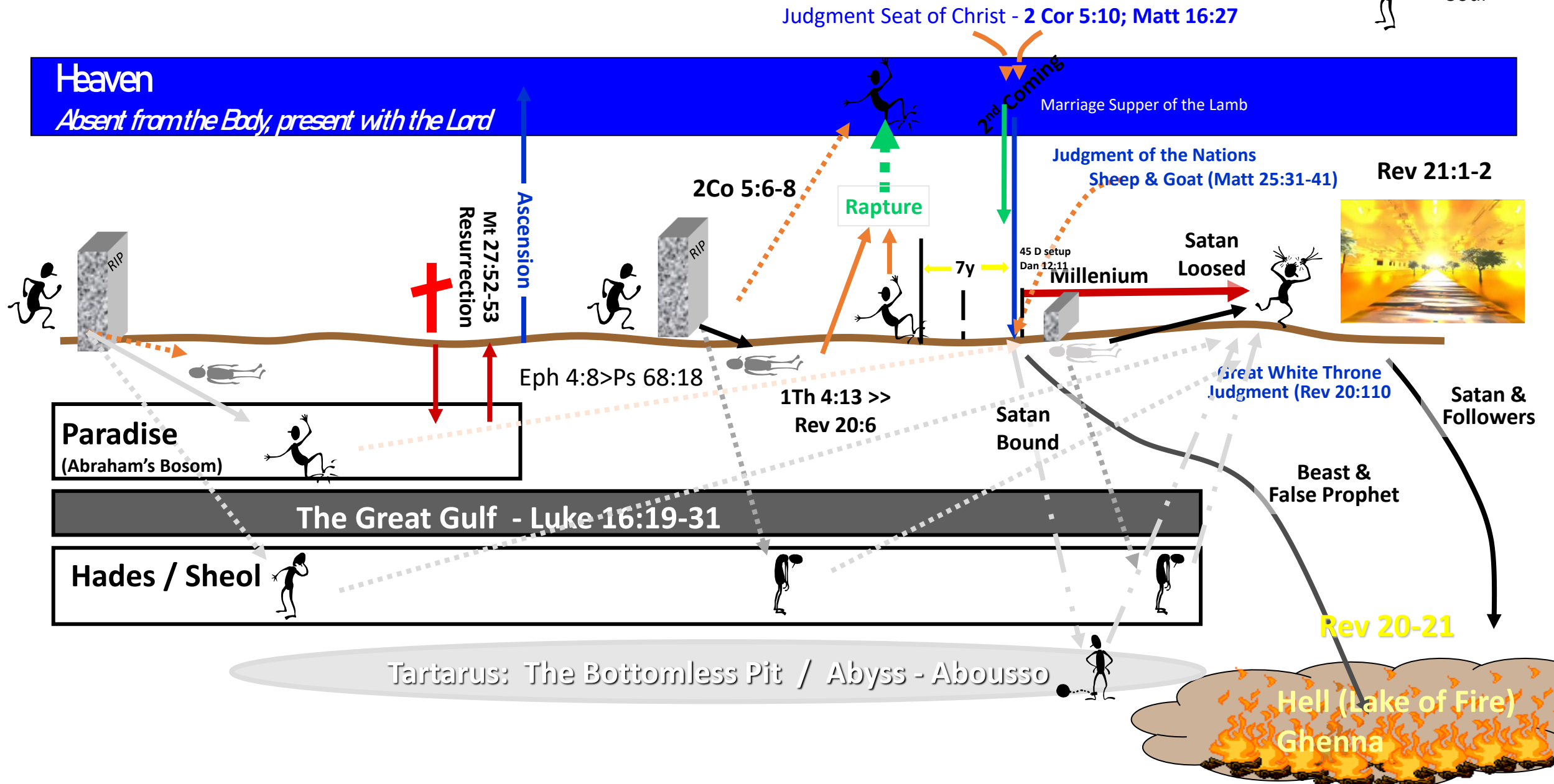
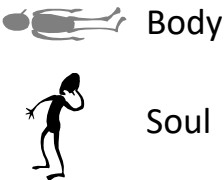
A/C Rule, Temple Desecrated, 666

Messianic
Rule
Established
Forever



1 Unit (week -7 days) = 7 Years

Body and Soul Transitions (DRAFT)





- Do Not Be Afraid – God
- 300+ Times in the Bible