
“The Rapture of the Church”
This article dealt with four different views of when the rapture will occur. Those four views are Pre tribulation and the origin of the rapture debate, the second view discussed in this article was the Mid tribulation View then the Post tribulation View, and finally the partial rapture interpretation view was discussed. The author of this article was R.G. Clouse and this article is in the Elwell Evangelical Dictionary. I think this article did a fine job explaining the different views of the rapture. I feel as if this article did not necessarily try to influence the reader as much as it tries to give a fair and balanced view of the rapture. I would recommend this article to others to read to broaden there understanding of the rapture.

Ice, Thomas. The Rapture And The Second Coming: An Important Distinction. Http://www.acording2prophecy.org/rapsec.html

“The Rapture and Second Coming: An Important Distinction”
By Thomas Ice
In this article great effort is made by the author to make clear the distinctions between the first coming of Christ, the rapture of believers and the second coming of Christ. It was the opinion of the author of this article that those who believe in the post tribulation rapture of the church have a difficulty making their points clear. Also the author of this article believes that the Bible clearly teaches a pre tribulation rapture and he feels that those who believe in a post tribulation rapture have a difficult time explaining some scriptures in the Bible that deal with second coming of Christ. Some of the problems that the author feels that those who believe in post tribulation rapture must deal with are: the church being present the 70th week of Daniel even though the church was absent the first 69 weeks. Next, the author feels that those who believe in post tribulation rapture must deny the New Testament teaching of the immanency—which Christ could come at any moment. The third problem that the author sees with the belief of the post tribulation rapture is the idea, who will populate the millennium if the rapture and second coming occur at the same time. The fourth problem that author brings up is the issues of explaining the Sheep and goats judgment after the second coming in Matt. 25:31-46. The final issues that the author brings up are the issues of Christ’s Bride accompanying Christ back to earth. If the bride has not been raptured, yet how can it accompany Christ back to earth? I found this article very enjoyable to read. I felt that many good points were in the article that I had not considered before. I would recommend this article to others so that they can evaluate and make conclusions for themselves.

Rice, Fred W. The Not So Secret Rapture.

“The Not So Secret Rapture”
By W. Fred Rice
The purpose of this article is to point out that the rapture of Christ will not be a secret. The article takes issue with books like “Left Behind” which teach a secret rapture. It is the belief of the author that such teachings of a secret rapture contradict what the Bible has to say about the rapture. The idea of secret rapture is the idea that the Christian church will leave from earth and unbelievers will have no idea where the Christian’s have gone. The author gives the basic story of the Left Behind series. Then the question is asked what is wrong with this story and this teaching. The first issue brought-out was that Jesus told his disciples in Acts 1:11 that his second coming would be in like manner of his accession to heaven. Therefore, the idea is that Jesus disciples knew when he left earth. Next, the author contends that the rapture will be a noise event also accompanied by the resurrection of the dead. He uses I Thessalonians 4:16 to back his point about a noisy rapture. In addition, the author brings out the idea that the rapture will contain lighting using Matthew 24:21-31 to back up this point. Finally, the author contends that contrary to
the idea of the secret rapture is the idea that Antichrist will be know before the rapture of the church not after the rapture of the church. I found this article very thought provoking and made me rethink the idea of the Secret rapture.

Proctor, Paul. 2006 The Rapture Is Coming-Believe It Or Not. NewsWithViews.com February 8),
“The Rapture Is Coming-Believe It or Not”
By Paul Proctor: News with Views.com
The theme of this article was that the rapture is real and not a scare tactic. In addition, the author clearly proved that there is a difference between wrath and persecution. Every true Christian will endure persecution but it is the view of the author of the article that Christians will not endure the wrath of God, just as Noah and his family did not face the wrath of God. I enjoyed studying this article and found some interesting ideas in the article.

Ben-Ariel, David. 2006 Don’t Fall for the Rapture!. EzineArticles(October, 17),
http://ezinearticles.com/?Don’t-Fall-for-the-Rapture!&id=331182 (accessed March 29, 2008)
“Don’t Fall for the Rapture!”
By David Ben-Ariel: Ezine Articles
As the title of this indicates, the author does not believe in the rapture. The writer of this article believes those who believe in the rapture take I Thessalonians 4:15-18 out of context. He believes that the dead are dead and buried and not in heaven or limbo. He believes that we will meet Christ in the air and rule with and under Christ. He believes that the only time the dead are resurrected, and join with the living to meet Christ is at His return-AT THE LAST TRUMP. The author of this article also believes I Corinthians 15:45-57 was taken out of context. It is the opinion of the author that the rapture is a religious lie, a vain tradition of men. That God has always protected those He chose to protect throughout history on earth. God is faithful and consistent. Although I do not agree with the opinion of the author of this article, I found it interesting to read the opinion of someone who has a different perspective.

“Double talk….How Many Second Comings”
By Tim Warner: The Last- Post-Trib Research Center
This article takes the approach and opinion that the Rapture will come after a period of tribulation. It is the opinion of the author that the Bible does not teach of two second comings of Christ. In addition, it is the opinion of the author that those who believe in pre tribulation rapture are not being true to scripture. He feels that those who believe in pre tribulation rapture have intruded on the passage and implied things that are not in the actual passage. I find it interesting that in this article that the author believes that the Bible teaches post tribulation rapture, where another article I read believed that the same exact passages clearly taught pre tribulation rapture. That is why I believe it is so important to study the Bible for oneself.

Reagan, David R. 2007 “The Mystery of the Rapture” Lamb &Lion Ministries
By Dr. David R. Reagan
Obviously, the title of the article lets the reader know what the article really is about. There are many mysteries when it comes to explaining and understand what goes into the rapture. Some of the mysteries discussed in the article were “Why isn’t the rapture specifically mentioned in Revelation?” “Isn’t a mid-tribulation Rapture inferred in Revelation?” For each of these questions the author would go into the Bible and examine what Scripture had to say or did not say. I found the article quite thought provoking. Although after reading the article, I must admit I still had many questions in my mind about the mystery of the rapture.
Strandberg, Todd. The Pre-Tribulation Rapture: Defense of the doctrine. BereanFaith.com 
“The Pre-Tribulation Rapture: Defense of the Doctrine”
By: Todd Strandberg

In this article, the author examines different events mentioned in the Bible and attempts to show how the pre tribulation view is best supported when dealing with the rapture. Some of the events discussed are the marriage supper of the lamb, the people of the millenium and the time of Jacob’s trouble. The author makes clear illustrations and arguments for why one should believe in pre tribulation rapture. I found it to be helpful and one that I would recommend to others.

Warner, Tim 2007 The Rapture and Resurrection Introduction. The Last Trumpet
“The Rapture and Resurrection”
By: Tim Warner

The purpose of the article was to prove that Post tribulation rapture is Biblical and that pre tribulation rapture is not biblical. The method that the author of this article uses in proving his point is to give a positive presentation of the biblical view from the scriptures. The next method used is to deal with the historical issues. A final method used is to present a rebuttal to all the major points used by pre tribulation believers. I found the arguments in the article to be very effective and well backed in scriptures. I would recommend this article to others to read and consider.

Conte J R., Ronald L. 2005 A Catholic View of the Rapture. Catholic planet (May 4)
http://www.catholicplanet.com/articles/article111.htm (accessed March 31, 2008)
“A Catholic View of the Rapture”
By: Ronald L. Conte Jr. www.catholicplanet.com

I found this article quite interesting. I must admit before reading the article I had never really thought of what the Catholic view of the rapture would be. The basic ideas I gained from this article were that there would be two raptures, the first at the end of the Antichrist’s reign of nearly seven years. The second rapture coming will occur centuries later at the time of the general resurrection. It was the belief of the author of this article that Christ will return in the Year A.D. 2437, at the end of the Antichrist reign, which is the last week of years of Daniel,’s seventy weeks of years. The Catholics believe in post tribulation rapture. Just as Christ suffered so, must the church suffer. In the view of the author of this article, the true meaning of the rapture is the sharing in the resurrection (the first resurrection and later, the general Resurrection) for those faithful who are still alive on earth in each of those times.

Bibliography


LaHaye, Tim F., Jenkins, Jerry B. Are We Living I the End Times? Wheaton: Tyndale House. 1999.


