

Bible Trek Ministries

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The Rapture, Tribulation and the Jews

Explaining the Rapture is kind of like explaining the Trinity. Neither word is found in the bible yet the preponderance of evidence expounding on it convinces us that it is doctrinally correct. Yet, having said this, we know that there are lots of religions, sects and cults that say they believe in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob yet deny the Trinity. Although a false belief in the rapture is not so divisive that it will keep you from heaven (as a false belief in Jehovah will - without the belief in Jesus Christ), it still can be an explosive subject.

Understanding the Rapture requires a bit more information than just the few scriptures that relate specifically to the Rapture. Mostly, it requires understanding the Jews. When we understand what God has said about the Jews, what he is going to do for the Jews and how God intends to save the Jews, we find that the rapture fits perfectly into the plan. While I am not a scholar I will try to "fit it" so that it becomes understandable.

First, Let's understand Daniel's 70th week given in Daniel 9:24-27 (By the way, according to this scripture we are told to literally "understand this".)

*Dan 9:24 "**Seventy** 'sevens' Are Decreed For Your People And Your Holy City To Finish Transgression, To Put An End To Sin, To Atone For Wickedness, To Bring In Everlasting Righteousness, To Seal Up Vision And Prophecy And To Anoint The Most Holy.*

*Dan 9:25 "**Know And Understand This:** From The Issuing Of The Decree To Restore And Rebuild Jerusalem Until The Anointed One, The Ruler, Comes, There Will Be **Seven** 'sevens,' And **Sixty-Two** 'sevens.' It Will Be Rebuilt With Streets And A Trench, But In Times Of Trouble.*

Dan 9:26 After The Sixty-Two 'sevens,' The Anointed One Will Be Cut Off And Will Have Nothing. The People Of The Ruler Who Will Come Will Destroy The

The City And The Sanctuary. The End Will Come Like A Flood: War Will Continue Until The End, And Desolation's Have Been Decreed.

According to this scripture God has said that the Jews have **"Seventy 'sevens'** decreed to them or seventy sets of seven years. During this time they are to:

1. *To Finish Transgression*
2. *To Put An End To Sin*
3. *To Atone For Wickedness*
4. *To Bring In Everlasting Righteousness*
5. *To Seal Up Vision And Prophecy*
6. *And To Anoint The Most Holy.*

We know that the job is not finished because:

1. *To Finish Transgression*
2. *To Put An End To Sin*
3. *To Atone For Wickedness*
4. *To Bring In Everlasting Righteousness*
5. *To Seal Up Vision And Prophecy -*
6. *And To Anoint The Most Holy*

As we can see the Jews have a specific function in this world that they have not completed. They (the Jews) must complete this or God is a liar. Since this is given specifically to the Jews the Gentiles cannot fulfill this (anymore than the Jews can fulfill the great commission since that was given to New Testament believers).

In Daniel 9:25 we have a dual prophecy. It is given **specifically** so the Jews would know exactly when their Messiah would arrive. The first part of the prophecy is to declare when the first coming of the Messiah would happen. This was literally fulfilled to the day with **Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem;** Jesus followers were the ones who were crying out for him to be king not...the city. This fulfilled the prophecy in Zach 9:9.

Zech. 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

This is the official announcement from the OT that **the King has arrived**. The Jews had to pick the Passover lamb out on Sunday (the very day that the Lamb of God came into Jerusalem) in order to watch him for 4 days to be sure that he was "unblemished." They did the same w/ Jesus in the temple prior to his crucifixion.

Christ enters exactly to the day of this prophecy

1. The commandment to rebuild the walls was given by Persian King Artaxerxes Longimanus. The Royal Observatory, Greenwich, UK has computed this day as March 14, 445 BC.
1. From this commandment there is a period of 7 weeks ($7 \times 7 = 49$ years) and then 62 weeks ($62 \times 7 = 434$ years) for a total of 69 weeks ($69 \times 7 = 483$ biblical years)
2. This period of 483 days = 173,880 day
3. At the end of this period the Messiah will be cut off or killed.
4. The total # of days from March 14, 445 BC to April 6 AD 32 = 173,880 ...
Exactly to the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem.

$$7 \times 7 = 49$$

$$\underline{62} \times 7 = \underline{434}$$

$$69 = 483 \text{ or } 173,880 \text{ biblical days}$$

Note: according to this prophesy, the Messiah (Anointed One) had to come before the temple was destroyed. Since it was destroyed in 70 AD, even to a Jew this proves that Jesus could have been the Messiah.

The second part of this prophecy is that the fulfillment of God's promises to the Jewish people in the Abrahamic and New Covenants would also be known EXACTLY to the day. It would be given in the Old Testament so that the Jews could not deny that the prophecy was for them. The nation of Israel would be built in one day...not just any day, but the day that the prophecy in Daniel would give. Since the Jews kept such good records it was a simple matter to know this day.

God, Through The Prophet Ezekiel Said That For Israel's Sin She Would Have To Suffer 390 Years And For Judah's Sin 40 Years For A Total Of 430 Years.

Ezekiel 4:4-13

"Then lie on your left side and put the sin of the house of Israel upon yourself. You are to bear their sin for the number of days you lie on your side. [5] I have assigned you the same number of days as the years of their sin. So for 390 days you will bear the sin of the house of Israel.

[6] "After you have finished this, lie down again, this time on your right side, and bear the sin of the house of Judah. I have assigned you 40 days, a day for each year. [7] Turn your face toward the siege of Jerusalem and with bared arm prophesy against her. [8] I will tie you up with ropes so that you cannot turn from one side to the other until you have finished the days of your siege.

[9] "Take wheat and barley, beans and lentils, millet and spelt; put them in a storage jar and use them to make bread for yourself. You are to eat it during the 390 days you lie on your side. [10] Weigh out twenty shekels of food to eat each day and eat it at set times. [11] Also measure out a sixth of a hin of water and drink it at set times. [12] Eat the food as you would a barley cake; bake it in the sight of the people, using human excrement for fuel." [13] The Lord said, "In this way the people of Israel will eat defiled food among the nations where I will drive them."

Israel Was In Captivity For 70 Years So If You Deduct That You End Up With 360 Years Of Further Suffering. The Babylonian Captivity Ended In The Year 536 BC. However, Israel Did Not Repent After Her Captivity.

In Leviticus 26:18

" If after all this you will not listen to me, I will punish you for your sins seven times over.

God Told Israel That If She Did Not Repent God Would Prolong The Punishment 7 Times. 7 X 360 Years =2520 Biblical Years (Of 360 Days Each). 2520 Biblical Years X 360 Days = 907,200 Days Converted

To Our Calendar Of 365.25 Days = 2483.8 Years.
{Keep In Mind There Is Only 1 Year From 1 BC To 1
Ad) We Have:

536.0 BC (spring -actually March 14)

+2483.8

= May 14, 1948

...Or you can simply add the **907,200** days to the day Anterxexes declared the temple to be rebuilt and you get exactly the above. (see Armageddon, Appointment With Destiny and Final Warning both by Grant Jeffrey)

On May 14, 1948, The nation of Israel became a nation (contrary to the whole world and with a veritable army of Arabs who attacked the next day). God himself declares how preposterous this is yet he will do it. Note: this is ZION or Israel specifically.

Isaiah 66:8-9

Who has ever heard of such a thing? Who has ever seen such things? Can a country be born in a day or a nation be brought forth in a moment? Yet no sooner is labor than she gives birth to her children. Zion in [9] Do I bring to the moment of birth and not give delivery?" says the Lord. "Do I close up the womb when I bring to delivery?" says your God.

In other words, The prophecies in Daniel states that God will come to save his people not once but twice. The first time, he will be rejected and in doing so will fulfill lots of prophecies. The most important however is this. The penalty for sin is death and the Messiah had to be rejected and killed so that the penalty for sin would be paid. Jesus speaks specifically to this actual day in:

Luke 19:41-44

As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it [42] and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace--but now it is hidden from your eyes. [43] The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and

hem you in on every side. [44] They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

It is interesting to note that the famous Rabbi Mehumiah who lived 50 years before Christ concluded that based on Daniel's prophesy, the Messiah could not be delayed longer than 50 years (apud Grotium, de Ver. Relig. Christ. 1.5. sect 14).

The reason we have the Dead sea scrolls today is that the Essenes (a Jewish sect alive during Jesus life) were convinced that the Messiah was due, that the Pharisees and Sadducces in Jerusalem were a carnal church (much like today - looked religious but not) so they waited outside Jerusalem for the Messiah. They preserved not only the Torah (OT) but also the Talmud (Jewish commentary on the Torah) and we therefore have a set of scriptures ABSOLUTELY CONTEMPORARY to Jesus and we can compare our texts today with the original. In addition, they preserved other writings that specifically refer to Jesus including his crucifixion. Astonishing, they also refer to Jesus as the "Son of God" and the "Son of the most High" which because this was a Jewish group (monotheistic), would have been blasphemous and worthy of capital punishment.

The second time, God begins the fulfillment of the restoration of Israel by starting it EXACTLY to the day in Daniel 9:26.

Daniel 9:27 was fulfilled in 70 AD when Titus's army (but not Titus) razed the temple.

The question is "why doesn't the full 70 weeks take place in succession, as did the first first 62"? The answer is that God has given the timetable for the Jews specifically. It is not important that the time period's run successively only that the total prophesies be fulfilled. Not only has this prophecy been fulfilled to the letter but also to the day. The timetable for the Gentiles is also given in the bible but not specifically. Simply stated the Gentiles period is up when the:

Luke 21:24

They (the Jews) will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

God has given certain unalterable promises to the Jews. Things like being scattered through out the nations and being a thing of horror to all the nations.

However, when the time of the end is upon us God has given us specific signs that we can know for sure.

The Parable Of The Fig Tree.

Luke 21:15-31

*For I will give you **words** and **wisdom** that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. [16] You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. [17] All men will hate you because of me. [18] But not a hair of your head will perish. [19] By standing firm you will gain life.*

[20] "When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. [21] Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. [22] For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. [23] How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. [24] They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

*[25] "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. [26] Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. [27] At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. [28] **When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.**"*

[29] He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. [30] When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near.

*[31] Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the **kingdom of God is*** near.*

(Also in OT Judges 9:10,11, I Kings 4:25, **Jer. 24:1-3, Hosea 9:10**, Micah 4:4, Zach. 3:10, Joel 1:7, (Also Jer 24:1))

- Interesting to note that when Jesus was on this earth he told his disciples specifically to go ONLY to the nation of Israel and tell them "the kingdom of heaven is near." They were instructed specifically not to tell the Gentiles. I believe this is another small sign that this time is for the Jews only.

Fig Tree Is Mentioned 6 Times In The OT And Is **Always** Symbolic Of Israel.

Hosea 9:10

*"When I found **Israel**, it was like finding grapes in the desert; when I saw your fathers, it was like seeing the early fruit on the **fig tree**.*

Let's look at the former passage of scripture and paraphrase it now:

Luk 21:29 He Told Them This Parable: "Look At Israel (The Fig Tree And All The Trees).

Luk 21:30 When Israel becomes a nation (Sprouts,) You Can See For Yourselves And Know That this time Is Near.

Luk 21:31 Even So, When You See These Things Happening, You Know That The Kingdom Of God Is Near.

Today we would translate the passage in Luke this as...

Luk 21:20 "When You See Jerusalem become a nation where there was none and is Being Surrounded By "Arabs, Palestinians, Syrians, Iraqi's" You Will Know That Its Desolation Is Near.

☞ The Fig Tree Is Israel Who Came To The Holy Land Given In The Abrahamic Covenant On May 14, 1948. **According to God the Generation Who Is Alive At This Time Will See The End Of Time!**

[Matthew 24:3-25

*As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "**when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"***

Note: Three questions are asked and Jesus answers all three.

[4] Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. [5] For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. [6] You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. [7] Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. [8] All these are the beginning of birth pains.

(note: Birth pains are very clear signs IN ADVANCE that a birth will take place. They start slowly and then intensify. I believe the word picture here is intentional)

[9] "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. [10] At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, [11] and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. [12] Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, [13] but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. [14] And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

*[15] "So when you see standing in the holy **place 'the abomination that causes desolation,'** spoken of **through the prophet Daniel--let the reader understand--** [16] then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. [17] Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. [18] Let no one in the field go back to get his*

cloak. [19] How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! [20] Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. [21] For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now--and never to be equaled again. [22] If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. [23] At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. [24] For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect--if that were possible. [25] See, I have told you ahead of time.

through the prophet Daniel—Direct reference to Dan 9:24-27

Note: Some people think that this refers to the dispersion in 70 AD when the Jews were persecuted and put to death. However, there was **NO** Abomination that causes Desolation then (in Daniel's time not at this time) so this is a FUTURE desecration of the temple (which of course has not yet been built). In addition, the horror is also future because of:

Revelation 3:10

*Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to **come upon the whole world** to test those who live on the earth.*

As stated this has to "**come upon the whole world**" which at the time of the dispersion, which while horrible, was geographically constrained to Jerusalem. As shown the 62 weeks and the 7 weeks are literal time periods, fulfilled in exact days. However, God has stated in these same prophecies that the Jews have 70 sevens. This last seventh (taken in context this has to be literal days just as the rest of the prophecy is given)) must take place or God will have lied about the time allotted to the Jews.

So, Two Very Critical Things Have To Happen before The last seven-year period. They Are:

1. Jews Must Be Re gathered Into Israel And Must Be In Control Of Jerusalem
2. The **Rapture** of the Church Will Occur To End The Church Age (the Times of the Gentiles) And Allow God To Take The Jewish Nation Off The Shelf And Deal Strictly With Them.

The First has happened - The Second Has Not

1) Jews Must Be Re gathered Into Israel And Must Be In Control Of Jerusalem . This is prophesied in the following:

Abrahamic:

Ezekiel 20:34-37

I will bring you from the nations and gather you from the countries where you have been scattered--with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and with outpoured wrath. [35] I will bring you into the desert of the nations and there, face to face, I will execute judgment upon you. [36] As I judged your fathers in the desert of the land of Egypt, so I will judge you, declares the Sovereign Lord. [37] I will take note of you as you pass under my rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant.

Ezekiel 20:41-42

I will accept you as fragrant incense when I bring you out from the nations and gather you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will show myself holy among you in the sight of the nations. [42] Then you will know that I am the Lord, when I bring you into the land of Israel, the land I had sworn with uplifted hand to give to your fathers.

Note: These scriptures are all written in FUTURE tense AFTER the Jews have been scattered, In order to come under the bond of the covenant the Jews must accept the Messiah Jesus. Since they don't do that now, something major has to occur to bring them under the bond of the covenant. God says he will execute judgement on them to turn them and bring them under the New Covenant – This is the last 7 years. When the last seventh is complete

HAS GOD BROUGHT THEM OUT OF THE LANDS WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN SCATTERED?

Once back in the land they will never again be taken out according to God!

Zech. 12:3

On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.

*They must be in possession of the City of Jerusa
(The Name Israel Is Mentioned 17 Times In Later Days - Israel Was Not Possible
Until 1948, Jerusalem Was Not Possible until June 6, 1967) **PROPHESY**
FULFILLED IN THIS GENERATION*

☞ Eze 20:37 SAYS*And I Will Bring You Into The Bond Of The Covenant.*

Q. **Which Covenant? (given also in Ezekiel)**

Ezekiel 36:25-28

*I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. [26] **I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you;** I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. [27] **And I will put my Spirit in you** and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. [28] You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God.*

A. New Covenant AND THIS REQUIRES ACCEPTING JESUS AS THE MESSIAH!

The following verses show that it is indeed the NEW Covenant that God is talking about (not just the Abrahamic (referring to being back in the land):

Jeremiah 31:33

*"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel **after that time,**" declares the Lord.*

"I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Hebrews 8:10

*This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel **after that time,** declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts.I will be their God, and they will be my people.*

Hebrews 10:16

*"This is the covenant I will make with them **after that time**, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."*

☞ **Q. Do The Jews Accept The New Covenant Now??**

No. So Something **Major** Has To Happen To Change An Entire Country's Heart.

This is the KEY to understanding the horror of the last seven year period. God is allowing Satan a "Free hand" in the world because the Jews must not be in a position of self-reliance. They must come to the point of relying on GOD...accepting the new covenant!

☞ Not only are they coming back - but also they are returning in **THE EXACT ORDER** as prophesied in:

ISA 43:5 Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east (China) and gather you from the west. (USA)

ISA 43:6 I will say to the north, (Russia) 'Give them up!' and to the south, (Ethiopia) 'Do not hold them back.' Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth--

ISA 43:7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

2) The Rapture of the Church (*The Great Escape*)

1 Cor. 15:51-53

*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. [53] For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.*

A Mystery...Something That Was Veiled Or Not Revealed In The OT.

And We Will Be Changed.....

1 Thes. 4:13-16

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. (A Resurrection)

1 Thes. 4:17-18

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.

Luke 21:32-36

"I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. [33] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

[34] "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap. [35] For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. [36] Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

☞ If it were not possible to escape it, God would not have asked us to pray that we will escape it. Specifically a worldwide disaster (v35).

Matthew 24:36-44

"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. [37] As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. [38] For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; [39] and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. [40] Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. [41] Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

[42] "Therefore keep watch, because **you do not know on what day your Lord will come.** [43] But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. [44] So you also must be ready, **because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.**

Q. Is There An OT Reference??.....

Isaiah 57:1

*The righteous perish, and no one ponders it in his heart; devout men are taken away, and no one understands that **the righteous are taken away to be spared from evil.***

☞ **Q. Why Are We Taken Away???** "**To Be Spared From Evil.**" (Also In Psa 12:1) (also why God takes some Christians early – they are raptured through death).

Isaiah 26:19

But your dead will live; their bodies will rise. You who dwell in the dust, wake up and shout for joy. Your dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead.

+ There are 4 other circulated theories for the timing of the rapture: Mid tribulation rapture, Post tribulation rapture, pre wrath rapture and NO RAPTURE. I believe scripture points to a "Pre tribulation rapture." Only God knows. Anyone who sets dates is being unbiblical since the bible clearly states that no one but God knows the time.

☞ Why Do We Know We Escape The Tribulation?

*Romans 5:8-9 But God Demonstrates His Love For Us In That When We Were Yet Sinners Christ Died For Us. Much More, Having Been Justified By His Blood, We Shall Be **Saved From The Wrath Of God Through Him.***

*I Thessalonians 5:9 For **God Has Not Destined Us For Wrath** But For Obtaining Salvation Through Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*I Thessalonians 1:9-10 ...ye turned to God from Idols to serve the living and true God; and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from **the wrath to come.***

What wrath?

Rev. 6:16-17

*They called to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the **wrath** of the Lamb! [17] For **the great day of their wrath** has come, and who can stand?"*

The tribulation is a period of time that God has destined to bring the Jews into **a personal relationship** "with the Messiah. Christians already have a "**personal**

relationship" with the Messiah so there is no reason for us to go through this terrible time.

Rev. 3:10

*Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial **that is going to come upon the whole world** to test those who live on the earth.*

☞ Nowhere in the Bible are there ANY instructions about how the church is to endure the Tribulation Period, nor is it mentioned when Christ himself taught about the Tribulation in Matthew 24. The only church that is mentioned in the bible that is operating on earth during the Tribulation period is the FALSE CHURCH!!!

Someone will have to come up with a plausible explanation for the instantaneous disappearance of millions of Christians.

2 Thes. 2:5-11

Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? [6] And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. [7] For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. [8] And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. [9] The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, [10] and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. [11] For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie.

Q. Who is the secret power of lawlessness already at work? A. the Devil himself

Q. Who is "him"? A .the Anti Christ

Q. Who is holding "him" back? (or who in this world has the power to hold back Satan?)

*A. Only the Holy Spirit ...who dwells where now? **In Christians- any one who has accepted the new covenant !** To take the Holy Spirit out is to literally take Christians out of the world!*

*You or I do not have the power to "hold back Satan", only God does! Therefore the only restraint for Satan must be the other power working in the world - the opposite of the "secret power of lawlessness", God through his Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's function now is to "convict people of sin" and be "The Comforter". However, the Holy Spirit is part of God who is OMNIPRESENT which means that **After the rapture**, God will still be working in the world because his desire is that no one will perish.*

*☞ Note the lawless one (the Anti Christ) will **not be revealed** until **After the Holy Spirit is removed** (rapture).*

Christians before the rapture will probably not know who this Antichrist is. But I believe he is alive today waiting for the world to turn upside down and ready for his brand of government.

*☞ **What Is The Lie?***

4 Times it is Mentioned In The Bible (Romans 1:25, John 8:44, Eph 4:22,24, Genesis 3:5)

"You can be like God"

The Lie Is...Man Becomes God, The Truth Is ...God Became Man

Hitler said " Tell a lie, tell it often enough, and the people will believe it."

God Is Specifically Dealing With The Jews At This Time-

1. Abrahamic Covenant (Land forever)
 1. Davidic Covenant (One king (not Prime Minister or President) over them-the Messiah)
 2. New Covenant (Holy Spirit indwelt)

If God does not fulfill these covenants he would be a liar. During this "seventh" an Anti Christ will take world power and will in the middle fulfill literally the prophecy of Daniel 9: 26:

Daniel 9:27

*He will confirm a covenant with many for **one 'seven.'** In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an **abomination that causes***

desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

Also "The day of the Lord" is the time of tribulation. It is talked about in the Old Testament FOR THE JEWS:

Isaiah 13:6, 13:9, Jer. 46:10, Ez 13:5, 30:3, Joel 2:1, 2:11, 2:31, 3:14, Amos 5:18, 5:20, Obediah 1:15, Zeph. 1:7, 1:14, 14:1, Mal 4:5,
In the New Testament in:

Acts 2:20

The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

2 Thes. 2:2-6

...not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. [3] Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day **will not come** until the rebellion **occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed**, the man doomed to destruction. [4] He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

[5] Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? [6] And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time.

NOTE: As already shown, the restrainer or Holy Spirit will be removed FIRST and then the "Man of Lawlessness" or Anti Christ will be revealed. Clearly this shows that the "Day of the Lord" -the last 7 year period has not occurred since the Anti-Christ has not been revealed and the last great apostasy has occurred.

1 Thes. 5:2

for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

2 Peter 3:10

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

None of this has happened so we can see that the tribulation is a FUTURE EVENT!

We can see then that the Rapture is the event that sets up the circumstances necessary to usher in the Anti-Christ. This is at the start of the Tribulation and is specifically to bring the Jews under the bond of the Covenant. Christians are under the New covenant and do not need to get a relationship we already have. Additionally, God poured out his wrath on the Body of Christ when Jesus was on the cross. He was the substitute. When Jesus said, "It is finished" he meant IT IS FINISHED. God cannot pour his wrath out on the Body of Christ (believers who are now alive) again since it was finished at the cross.

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