

END TIMES Q & A

"Live ready, not worried. Live for Jesus today."



- FCC holds to a Pre-Tribulation timeline
(Other viewpoints: Mid-Trib, Pre-Wrath, Post Trib)

Essentials vs Non-essentials

- **In essential beliefs — we have unity.**

"There is one Body and one Spirit...there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of us all..." Ephesians 4:4-6

- **In non-essential beliefs — we have liberty.**

"Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters... Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls... So then each of us will give an account of himself to God... So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God." Romans 14:1,4,12,22

- **In all our beliefs — we show charity.**

"...If I hold in my mind not only all human knowledge but also the very secrets of God, and if I have the faith that can move mountains — but have no love, I amount to nothing at all." 1 Corinthians 13:2

Heaven's Timeline

(Based on Scripture & graphic from "What Happens Next" book by Max Lucado)

1. Old Testament - Jesus - Church Age: God's plan unfolds through covenants and prophecy (Daniel 9). Jesus' life, death, and resurrection fulfill God's promise of redemption.
2. Rapture of the Church: Believers are caught up to meet Christ before the 7-year Tribulation (1 Thess. 4:13–18).
3. Tribulation (7 Years): A time of judgment, deception, and redemption through Christ. 144,000 Jews serve as witnesses (Rev. 7).
4. Return of Christ: Jesus returns with His saints to defeat evil and establish His kingdom (Rev. 19).
5. Millennium: Christ reigns on earth in peace for 1,000 years. Satan is bound (Rev. 20:1–6).
6. Final Judgment: Satan is released briefly, then destroyed. The Great White Throne Judgment follows (Rev. 20:7–15).
7. Eternal State: A new heaven and earth—perfect fellowship with God forever (Rev. 21–22).

Submitted Questions & Quick Answers

SALVATION, READINESS & DAILY FAITHFULNESS

- *What happens if I'm not a fully devoted Christian when the end happens?*
Salvation = faith (Eph 2:8–9). Devotion impacts reward (1 Cor 3:15).
- *How do I prepare without becoming paranoid or fearful of the end times?*
Be faithful—not fearful. Fix hope on Jesus (Titus 2:13). share the Gospel (Titus 2:13; Matt. 24:44).
- *Can someone lose their salvation? How?*
Believers are secure (John 10:28). False converts fall away (1 John 2:19).
You can't LOSE it, but you can LEAVE it.
- *Is the sinner's prayer / verbal confession enough if someone isn't baptized?*
Confess + believe saves (Rom 10:9). Baptism follows faith in obedience (Acts 2:38).
- *Can God still use me if I have wasted most of my life or didn't take my faith seriously until now?*
Yes—God restores what was lost (Joel 2:25).

RAPTURE, HEAVEN & JUDGMENT

- *Will we have free will in heaven or the new heaven and new earth?*
Yes—without sin nature (Rev 21:27). True freedom.
- *What happens to hidden or unconfessed sins—will God judge them at the Judgment Seat of Christ?*
Sins forgiven; works evaluated for reward (2 Cor 5:10).
- *Why does heaven have gates if they never close?*
Symbol of eternal welcome + safety (Rev 21:25).

ISRAEL, COVENANTS & DANIEL

- *Are the Israelites from the Old Testament the same people as modern day Jews?*
Yes. Scripture affirms God's covenant people Israel exists continuously (Romans 11:1–5).
- *Does Genesis 12:2 refer to the modern state of Israel?*
The promise ensures Israel's ongoing existence; God's covenant blessing remains (Genesis 12:2–3).
- *In Daniel 9, why do we believe there is a pause between week 69 and week 70?*
After Messiah is 'cut off,' the final 7 years are still future (Dan 9:24–27). This gap is where the Church Age fits.
- *If Messiah's death ends sacrifice (Dan 9:26), why does Daniel 9:27 shift to an Antichrist covenant instead of Christ's covenant?*
Because the covenant is broken and leads to an abomination (Matt 24:15; 2 Thess 2:3–4).
- *How did the Rapture and Second Coming become understood as two events instead of one?*
Darby (1800s) defined Rapture (1 Thess 4:16–17) and Second Coming (Rev 19:14) separately; grew via Scofield Bible.
- *Dispensationalism is new. What are possible flaws or tensions in this interpretation?*
Recent system (1800s), literalism criticism. Must submit to Scripture above systems.

TRIBULATION

- *Who are the 144,000 in Revelation?*
Jewish believers sealed as witnesses during the Tribulation (Rev 7:1–8).
- *In the trumpet judgments, why are only one-third of trees/sea destroyed? Why not all?*
Partial judgment = mercy + warning (Rev 8–9).
- *Why does Revelation describe judgment as 'bowls' being poured out?*
Final rapid judgment of God (Rev 16).
- *Is the woman hiding in Revelation 12 Mary?*
Symbol represents Israel; Mary is part of the fulfillment (Rev 12:1–6).

MILLENNIUM & SATAN

- *Why will God release Satan again after locking him up for 1,000 years?*
Reveals true heart condition—those who reject Christ still rebel (Rev 20:7–10).
- *At the start of the Millennium, are the only non-resurrected believers the 144,000 and their converts?*
Tribulation survivors enter Millennium in mortal bodies; resurrected saints reign (Rev 20:4).
- *If the earth is at peace in the Millennium, what will believers reign over?*
Nations & justice administration (Isa 2:2–4).

FINAL JUDGMENT & ETERNAL STATE

- *What happens to the souls of unbelievers when they die? Do they stay in the ground until judgment?*
Their souls go to Hades; resurrection later (Luke 16:23).
- *Please differentiate Hell, Hades, and the Abyss/Bottomless Pit.*
Hades=temp. Abyss=demonic prison. Hell (Lake of Fire)=final (Rev 20:14–15).
- *Differentiate Heaven and Paradise.*
Paradise = with Christ now (Luke 23:43). Heaven = eternal home (Rev 21:1–4).
- *Will unbelievers also receive resurrected bodies?*
Yes—for judgment (John 5:28–29).
- *Are there levels or degrees of punishment in hell?*
Judgment seems to be experienced differently for different people (Rev 20; Luke 12:47–48).
- *Will the Church fight at Armageddon?*
We return with Christ; He wins (Rev 19:14–16).

Scriptures to Remember

- 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 – The Rapture
- Revelation 19:11–16 – The Return of Christ
- Revelation 20:1–6 – The Millennium
- Revelation 20:11–15 – The Final Judgment
- Revelation 21–22 – The Eternal State

The seven churches described in Revelation 2-3 are seven literal churches at the time that John the apostle was writing Revelation. Though they were literal churches in Asia Minor at that time, there is also spiritual significance for churches and believers today. The first purpose of the letters was to communicate with the literal churches and meet their needs. The second purpose is to reveal seven different types of individuals/churches throughout history and instruct them in God's truth. The seven churches are as follows:

- (1) Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7) - the church that had forsaken its first love (2:4).
- (2) Smyrna (Revelation 2:8-11) - the church that would suffer persecution (2:10).
- (3) Pergamum (Revelation 2:12-17) - the church that needed to repent (2:16).
- (4) Thyatira (Revelation 2:18-29) - the church that had a false prophetess (2:20).
- (5) Sardis (Revelation 3:1-6) - the church that had fallen asleep (3:2).
- (6) Philadelphia (Revelation 3:7-13) - the church that had endured patiently (3:10).
- (7) Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-22) - the church with the lukewarm faith (3:16).

Resources:

- Book: "What Happens Next" by Max Lucado
 - www.gotquestions.org
 - <https://davidjeremiah.blog/the-revelation-prophecy-timeline>
 - Book: "*Dispensational Truth*", Clarence Larkin's - 1918
 - Book: "Charting the End Times: A Visual Guide" by Tim Lahaye
 - RightNow Media: Various video teaching on End Times and book of Revelation
- Text "FCCGIFT" to 49775 to get RightNow Media*

"Therefore encourage one another with these words." – 1 Thessalonians 4:18