

PARTIAL RAPTURE CONCEPT

- I. Definition. the viewpoint that only those believers who are "watching" and "waiting" for the Lord's return will be found worthy to escape the terrors of the tribulation by being taken in the rapture.
- II. Exponents of the View
Robert Govett originated, 1835, Entrance into the Kingdom. The Apocalypse Expounded by Scripture.
G.H.Lang, The Rev of JC.
G.H.Pember, The Great Prophecies of the Centuries.
J.A. Seiss, The Apocalypse. Witness Lee group.
- III. Theological Framework of View
- A. Sal by grace and eternal security held, but insecurity passages are interpreted like Arminians, except danger facing the bel who falls away is not eternal perdition but millennial disinheritation. Every bel has right to inherit kgdom, birthright can be forfeited thru disobedience, like Esau. Lang, Firstborn Sons, pp. 46, 59, 89, 93.
- B. Emphasis on practical sanct and holiness. Bapt of HS connected with power for witnessing. Filling, indwelling only for some Xns.
- C. Dead in X who are not overcomers will be raised at last res after M. 1st Res is res of reward. Second includes both bel and unbel (immature bel).
- IV. Chronological Outline of View
- A. Beg of trib--trans and res of spiritually mature saints.
- B. Trans of other ch age saints who were unprepared for initial rapture and who are raptured at various intervals during trib.
1. Rev. 7:9, 14
 2. 11:2 2 witnesses
 3. 12:5 man child
 4. 16:15 a rapture to deliver the watching ones from battle of Armageddon
 5. Final rap at same time as completion of res of reward
- C. At close of M, res of bel of missed the res of reward + res of unbel. Go into everlasting kgdom but missed mill kgdom.
- V. Biblical Evidence
- A. Bel must endure suffering before reigning. Lk 22:28-30; Acts 14:22; Rom 8:16-17 Col 3:24; 2 Thess 1:4-5. Must either suffer now or with the world by and by. Govett Some identify trib with fire of 1 Cor 3:12-15. Rev 3:5 may refer to a temporary blotting out during period of reward others enjoy.
- B. 1st res is a prize. Mk 10:30; Matt 19:28-9; Lk 9:62; 20:35; Phil 3:11-14 Rev 2:11; 3:5. Phil 3 refers to P's desire for reward or to see Lord's coming.
- C. Bel can forfeit birthright. 1 Cor 6:9-10; Gal 5:19-21; Heb. 12:14ff.
- D. Not all regenerated bel are in body. Bapt is for effective witnessing.
- E. Translation is a reward, Matt 24:40-41; 25:1-13; 1 Cor 9:27; 2 Tim. 4:8; Tit 2:13; Heb 9:24-28; Rev. 3:10.
- VI. Some Problems
- A. All, 1 Cor 15:51-52 B. Baptism, 1 Cor 12:13 C. Ch not subject to wrath
D. Trib never spoken of as time of chastening for ch or saints. Jacob's trouble.
E. Rapture is not reward for loving his appearing, but crown, 2 Tim. 4:8.