

THE RAPTURE DEBATE

Introduction: the current theological scene on this question.

- I. The Views Concerning the Time of the Rapture
 - A. Partial rapture
 - B. Posttribulationism
 - C. Posttribulationism
 - D. Midtribulationism *Pre Wrath*
 - E. Pretribulationism
- II. The Meaning of the Word Rapture
- III. The Posttribulation Arguments
 - A. 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10 (cf. Rev. 6:10)
 - B. The same words are used for the rapture and the second coming; thus they are the same event
 - C. Saints are seen on the earth during the tribulation period
 - D. The church can be preserved from wrath while living through the time of the tribulation
- IV. The Alleged Origin of the Pretribulation Rapture
 - Cf. Dave MacPherson, The Incredible Cover-Up. Plainfield, N.J.: Logos, 1975.
 - And R.A. Huebner, The Truth of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture Recovered. Millington, N. J.: Present Truth Publishers, 1973.
 - A. The Allegation of MacPherson
 - B. The Answer
- V. The Pretribulation Arguments
 - A. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11
In 14th pres = certainty + imminency
Peri de occurs in Paul in 1 Cor. 7:1; 7:25; 8:1; 12:1; 16:1; 16:12;
1 Thess. 4:9; 4:13; 5:1
 - B. If the rapture is posttribulation, who will remain to populate the millennial kingdom?
 - C. Revelation 3:10
word of patient expectation Rev 11:9 2 Thes 3:5
Be. not if

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

- I. The Meaning of the Word
- A. Its derivation. rapio, to seize, to snatch. (1) An ecstasy of spirit or (2) removal from one place to another
 - B. The Use of harpazo. 13x in N.T. e.g., Acts 8:39; 2 Cor. 12:2-4. Removal.
- II. The Event Itself, 1 Thess. 4:13-18
- A. The Background, 13; cf. Acts 17:2. How many had died? Pagan view of death. "Sleep" to pagan was a euphemism. To bel. an assurance of awaking in res.
 - B. The Assurance concerning the dead in Christ, 14. 1st class cond. "bring with him" bec. they are in heaven.
 - C. The Details, 15-17.
 - 1. A command, 15
 - 2. Voice of an archangel. Michael (?), Dan. 12:1, OT saints raised here?
 - 3. Trumpet of God = 1 Cor. 15:52. ≠ Rev. 8; 11:15 (as midtrips say). ≠ Matt. 24:31 (as posttrips say).
 - 4. Resurrection.
 - 5. Catching up.
 - 6. Reunion with the Lord.
 - D. The Ramification, 18.
- III. Those Included, 1 Cor. 15:51-58
- A. Amil. All people (wicked not mentioned bec not the question) at end of time.
 - B. Premill (except partial rapture). All bel (this age or all time).
Corruptible refers to the dead and mortal to the living. Who will populate M?

THE DAY OF THE LORD

*1 Th 4:15, 8:1, 12:1, 16:1
1 Th 4:9 5:1*

- I. A definition: a time of God's special intervention.
- II. Its Facets
- A. Historical
 - 1. Intervention in the affairs of heathen nations (e.g. Egypt, Jer. 46:10)
 - 2. Intervention in the affairs of Israel (Zeph. 1:14-18--invasion of Scythians after death of Josiah).
 - B. Illustrative: an historical intervention which is a harbinger of the eschatological day of the Lord. Joel 2:1-11; Isa. 13:6-13
 - C. Eschatological
 - 1. Begins in midst of apparent peace, 1 Thess. 5:2.
Includes manifestation of man of sin, 2 Thess. 2:3-10.
 - 2. Includes trib. Jer. 30:7; Isa. 2:12-22; Rev. 6:12-17
 - 3. Includes coming of Christ, Joel 2:28-32
 - 4. Includes millennial blessing, Jer. 30:9; Isa. 19:23-25.
- III. Its Importance to the Rapture Question

THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

- I. Who? Rom. 14:10; 1 Cor. 3:11-12; 2 Cor. 5:10
- II. When? Post rapture. Gundry says postmillennial and = Gt. Wh. Th.
- III. Bases. 1 Cor. 3:13, 2 Cor. 5:10.
- IV. Results. Crowns in 1 Thess. 2:19; 2 Tim. 4:8; Jas. 1:12; 1 Pet. 5:4; Rev. 2:10.

THE DAY OF THE LORD

Definition: a time of God's special intervention.

Its Facets:

1. Historical
 - a. God's intervention in affairs of heathen nations.
On Egypt, Jer. 46:10, Ezek. 30:3. (On Babylon, Isa. 13:6.-illustrative?)
 - b. God's intervention in affairs of Israel.
Zeph. 1:14-18. Invasion of Scythians after death of Josiah.
Joel 1:15: an historical locust invasion.
2. Illustrative; i.e., an historical incident which is partial fulfillment of eschatological day of the Lord.
Joel 2:1-11. Historical invasion of locusts harbinger of armies of trib.
Isa. 13:6-13. Judgment on Babylon illus of judgment on future Babylon, Rev. 18.
3. Eschatological
 - a. Preceded by signs, 2 Thess. 2:2. Signing of covenant will reveal him. Apostasy, peace and safety, 1 Thess. 5:1-2, then signing.
 - b. Cataclysmic judgments, Isa. 2:12-22; Rev. 6:12-17. Trib. Jer. 30:7.
 - c. Coming of X. And this aspect of eschat. day of Lord preceded by signs, Joel 2:28-32.
 - d. Millennial blessing, Jer. 30:9. Isa. 12; 19:23-25.
Includes Trib (Jer 30:7), 2nd coming, & M. Includes manifestation of Man of Sin (2 Th. 2)

THE DOCTRINE OF ANTICHRIST

Meaning: one who opposes Christ under the guise of Christ.

- I. The Spirit of Antichrist, 1 Jn 4:3
Not human bec 3:24 ref to HS, so this superhuman spirit. False prophets inspired by demons.
- II. Present Antichrists
 - A. Their power, 1 Jn 4:3.
 - B. Their number, 1 Jn 2:18
 - C. Their time, last hour--entire age.
 - D. Their Associations, 2:19
 - E. Their Doctrine, 2:22; 2 Jn 7 (Teachers in group) 1 Jn 4:3
 1. Deny trinity, 2:23
 2. Deny reality of incarnation, 4:3 Peff ptc.
 3. Deny permanence of incarnation, 2 Jn 7 pres ptc. Basis for ethics, 2:6.
- III. Future Antichrist
 - A. At beg of Trib. "Protect the Jews!" Dan. 9:27
 - B. At middle of trib. "Worship Me!" Dan. 9:27; 2 Thess. 2; Rev. 13
 - C. At end of trib. "Conquer the World!" Dan. 11:40 ff. Rev. 19:20; 20:10.

Buswell, Archer, Peters

I. Views. Pre, mid, post, partial (pre+Rev 7:9,14;11:2;12:5;16:15;end) Seiss, Lang, Lee. Pasttrib (Payne, lookback on events and know. Now Pre-wrath (1½ before end).

II. Origin of pretrib. E. Irving, 1792-1834. Tongues, sinfulness of X's humanity. Eschat. 70th week not bet rap and 2nd. Unclear esch. M. Macdonald (1815-1840). Visions, tongues, Recd rapture at age 15 and to JND then. Elements of partial post mid. Confused. JND rap before 2nd 1830, 70wk bet by 1830.

III. Mid

Pro. Many sign events at middle and 2 parts often distghed. Rapture must be one of them. Trump 1 Cor 15:52=Rev 11:15
Con. Trump of 1 Cor of res and del. Rev of judgmt.
Wrath of men in 1st half; of God 2nd. Requires putting seals in 1st half bec 6:16-17.

IV. Post

Pro. 2 Thes 1:5-10. Release of Xns from persecat same time as X's coming to judge unbel=posttrib.
Can only include Xns alive at rap. ? not release but vindication of suff bel. Some released by death, others by pretrib rap; others at end of trib. Numbers of times God will vindicate His people. End of trib an impt one bec rebellion, AntiX. OK to ask about vind, Rev 6:9 Similar voc, Saints in Rev not strong. Cataloging vs characterizing voc.
Con. Parents of M. Pre-sheep and Jewish survivors of Ex 20 All saved removed at 2nd. Pop of M Jew and Gent, Isa 9 Jewish from 144000 not saved till after post rap. Bur Rev 7:2,3. Gentile from Matt 24:40-41.
Pre: taken into judg; left for blessing of kgdom.
Post: taken in posttrib rap; left for judg (only part judge so some left in unress bodies for parenting)
Ans: Luke 17:24-27. Where taken. Where vultures are. Must move Matt 25:31 to end of M to have sheep on earth and in this judg. Otherwise already raptured at 2nd. Passage must describe millennial conditions.
Pretrib. Pro. Rev 3:10. Local only? Selective? (bec many will die during trib even by Marv's view). From mean preservation while in? See Acts 15:29; Jas 5:20. From hour. Peri de: 1 Co 7:1,25; 8:1; 12:1; 16:1,12; 1 Th 4:9; 5:1

I. Author. Friends of Is, 16 yrs. Zion's Hope. PCB, DTS 3yrs.

II. Scheme

4 seals 1st half. Middle bet 4-5th. 5th, 6th in Great Trib 6th announces Day of Lord which is 7th about half thru last 3½ yrs. Before 7th Cosmic disturb; Elijah, Wrath of God; Rev 7; Last trump, Man Sin. R says convergy. I say Crowd.

III. ? of Day of Lord beginning.

R's view. 6th seal announces. 7th begins. Midd of 2nd half. Only refers to events of judgme surrounding 2nd coming. Not at beg of 70th. Not incl M. In that day not exact. 2 Pet 3:10 not at end of M unless another day of Lord. Wrath of God. 1st 5 seals wrath of man. Trumpet from rapt to 30 days before 2nd. Bowls in those 30 days. Peace and safety is Is's cry during shortened Gt Trib (bet midd and prewrath rap) thinking God is about to intervene but He won't till 2nd. 70th week not shortened but Gt Trib is so can drop 1 3/4 yrs of day of Lord into 70 week. Aor Rev. 6:17=about to begin. ~~Always~~ "virtually perfect sense of aor elthen here can hardly be questioned" "Alluding to whole series of events past" expressed by perfect in Eng.

Day includ M. Isa 2:2,11,12. Isa 4:1,2 both use in that day. However, not crucial to position.

Peace, cf Rev 6:4. Day comes 1 Th 5:2.

2 Pet 3:10. Heavens, elements with which universe is made by fire, earth burned or laid bare (some texts). More extensive than Armageddon.

Day historical, Joel 1; illustrative; Joel 2; prophetic, Is 2

IV. Rev 3:10

Only to ch at Phila; otherwise non lit int. Letters ref to 1st C and Gt Trib. Phil 4:13,19; 1 Cor 10:13 only to 1c? 1 Th 4 only to Thess ch.(?) Temptatn is tempt to defect during Gt Trib under AntiX.

V. Some ? about R's teaching.

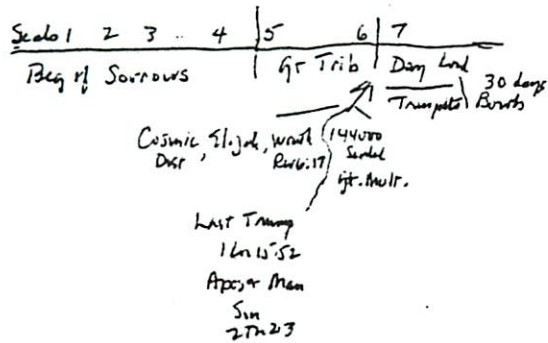
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~~Yet says righteous raptured at~~

2. Ch will remain on earth till end of age Mt 28:20) = ~~and~~ ~~inside~~ 70 th wk. ie when 7th seal opened.

3. Apostasy and rev of man sin has to be inside 70wk. R makes rev of man sin to Is. But Thess doesn't say that and written to Gentile ch. Apos is abandonment by Jews of their cov rel during 1st half.

Concl. Little better than post trib except a little more time to get all crowded in before 2nd. Many int doubtful and forced, then builds on them.



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part 1

ev6

hour

The Pre-Wrath Rapture of the Church: Is It Biblical,
Paul S. Karleen

Lk 21:23. Orge on Jewish people and before cosmic signs of v 25 and 6th seal. So wrath before 6th seal and before Rosenthal's day of Lord begins.

R bel that Joel relates to D Lord. 2:31 cosmic; 2:32 blessing. Same in 3:13 followed by 18 "that day". Same. Zeph 3:8 R says refers to D Lord, 124, 13. But vv 12-13 describe blessing.

Isa 34:8 and 35:1-6 no indication of diff time. 35:5 begins with Heb az=at that time. Same.

Hag 2:7a judgmt; 2:7b blessing.

Zech 12-14. Judgmt and blessing in same day.

2 Pet 3:10. R says Day L cannot be time of blessing. See above. R says must have 2 days but this not position of pretib. It's R's creation. 129. Why can't Peter be incld rapture, thief, to creation of new H and E. R says only 1 day bec def article, 129. Not nec. Uses of D of L in OT Isa 2:12; 13:6; 13:9; Ezek 13:5; 30:3; Joel 1:15; 2:1; 2:11; 2:31; 3:14; Amos 5:18; Obad 15; Zeph 1:7; 1:14; Zech 14:1; Mal 4:5. No art in any of these ref. R says 2 Pet 3:10 is nonannihilative judgmt during d L before M. Elements=basic elems. Next prob end of v. (1) will not be found. (2) be burned up. 13 says rtness dwells. Not so in trib or even M.

1st 5 seals under God's control like Job's troubles. Note: X opens scroll in ch 5. Scroll contains events, not show security of bel. R 144. R: God's wrath begins 7th seal 172. Yet under 6th people know wrath has come, 170.

Aorist in 6:17 about to come-R. But 11:18; 14:7, 15; 18:10; 19:7 refer to events already present, esp 18:10. 5:7; 7:13; 8:3; 17:1, 10; 21:9 all refer to event prior to time of speaking.

Labor pains. R: 1 Th 5:3 refers to mild 1st half of 70th but Mt 24:8 to hard labor. But same word, odin so how diff. Mt later so to keep wrath out of 1st half.

Trumpets not same. 1 Cor 15:52=1 Th 4:16=rapture. Joel 2:1 warning to prepare for war. Rev 8:7 intro 7, not 1 trump. R says rap at 7th seal=1st trump. But last trum in 7th at beg of bowls and that's too late. Not Zech 9:14 for trum at 2nd coming. All trumpets not same.

Multitude of ch 7 is "true church" 185.

p 196 on very day Noah entered ark judgmt fell. Thus rap and wrath begin same time. But Gen. 7:7 says rain began 7 days after Noah entered.

Apostasy is Jewish=falling away from their covenant.
Bec has to be same as Acts 21:2 which is Jewish: R.

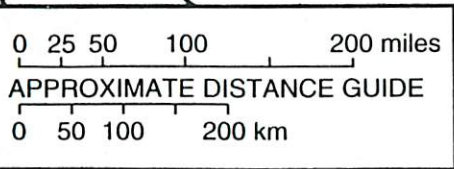
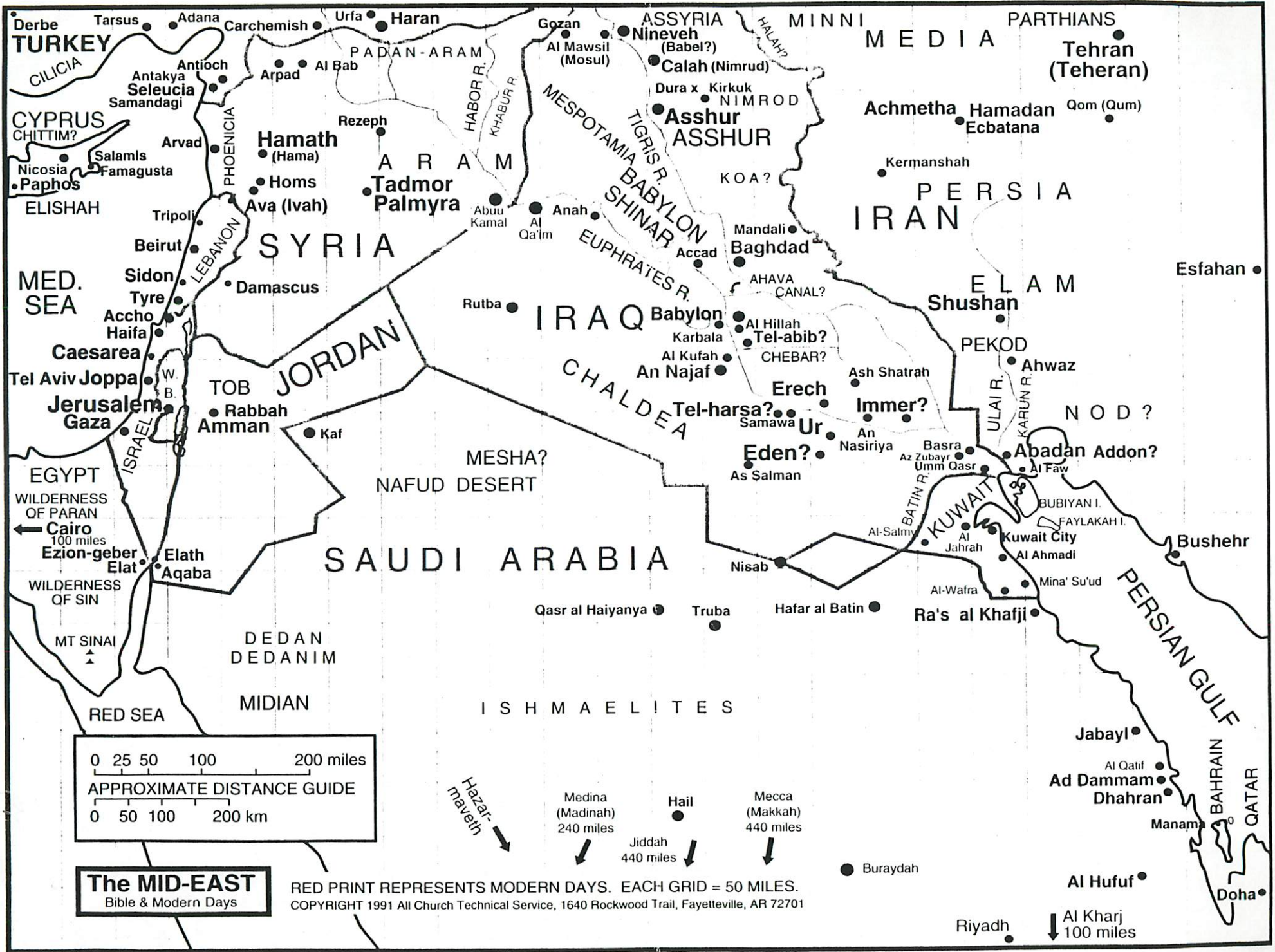
R:restrainer 2 Th2 is Michael 260. In middle of week
will remove self from bet. Is and Satan. Michael holds
back Satan from persecuting Is. R: step aside.

Rapture is included in 2nd coming. bec parousia
means arrival and consequent presence, 217. But
untrue. Mt 24:3 arrival only. Parousia of rap
1Th3:13 and 2nd, Mt 24:3. Presence only, 2 Cor 10:10;
Phil 2:12. No 2 comings in R. But never discusses
diff bet 1 Thes 4 and Zech 14.

R joins many faulty links so that looks like they
make a faultless chain.

Conflict bet pre, mid, post supposed to mean they
are all falwed and prewrath needed.

Too much appeal to reader's emotion and sympathy
bec of all R been thru to arrive and write.



The MID-EAST
 Bible & Modern Days

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