

PRE-WRATH OR POST-TRIB?

BOTH PRE-WRATHERS AND POST-TRIBBERS AGREE THAT WE WILL FACE THE ANTICHRIST IN THE GREAT TRIBULATION, EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE SOME DIFFERENCES IN INTERPRETING THE TIMELINE. THIS HYBRID MODEL HOLDS THAT JESUS RETURNS AT THE 7TH TRUMPET, WE WHO REMAIN ARE TRANSFORMED, AND THEN HE PERSONALLY EXECUTES THE BOWLS OF THE WRATH OF GOD ON THE EARTH.

I. WEAKNESSES OF PRE-WRATH

- A. “Unless those days were cut short” (Matthew 24:22)
 - 1) in general pre-wrathers hold that Jesus taught the tribulation would be shorter than the time stated in Daniel 7:25. But God does not contradict His word
 - 2) Jesus was simply saying that the time *could* have gone on longer, but because of His mercy, it will be no longer than the 3 ½ years
- B. We are not appointed to wrath (1 Thessalonians 5:9)
 - 1) pre-wrathers hold that all of the trumpets and bowls are the wrath of God, however the wrath of God is not mentioned until the 5th trumpet
 - 2) personally, I believe this verse is not saying believers cannot be present while God’s wrath is being poured out on the earth; rather, it is saying believers will not be condemned to eternal wrath in the lake of fire because we are appointed to eternal salvation
 - 3) the wrath of God is currently being revealed from heaven in some degree, even though there are believers on the earth (Romans 1:18)
 - 4) when Jesus pours out the bowls of God’s wrath, we will be in our glorified bodies already so it will not affect us
- C. “No man knows the day or the hour”
 - 1) pre-wrathers say that with post-trib, we could just count the 1,260 days until Jesus returns
 - 2) refer to Session 34 for an in depth look into why counting the days is more complicated than it appears at first glance
- D. The great multitude in heaven: raptured or martyrs?
 - 1) Revelation 7:9-15 the pre-wrath view holds that this multitude are those who were raptured after the 6th seal; this carries over a

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pre-trib mentality

- a) I don't believe the Bible ever says there will be a great multitude who has been raptured *into heaven*. I believe those who are raptured will meet Him in the air and *come right back* to the Earth with Him
- b) "these are the ones who came out of the great tribulation"

2) Revelation 6:9-12 the previous passage and this one sounds like this multitude is a multitude of tribulation martyrs

- a) "until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been would be completed also"

E. Where is the marriage supper of the Lamb?

1) pre-wrathers hold that the marriage supper will be in heaven, but in fact, the Bible teaches it will be on the earth

- a) first, we must remember that Israel is, first and foremost, the bride of Christ – by grace, we are a part of it, too

- i. Isaiah 54:4-5
- ii. Hosea 2:19-20

b) the betrothal covenant that God made to Israel at Mount Sinai will be consummated at the marriage supper of the Lamb. It will be God and Israel *and* all Gentile believers

- i. Isaiah 25:6-7
 - 1. where will it be? "On this mountain", which is Mount Zion
 - a. Isaiah 4:4-5
- ii. Matthew 8:10-11
 - 1. "the kingdom of heaven" means governed by heaven, not physically in heaven

iii. Luke 22:14-18

- 1. this will take place after His kingdom is established on Earth

F. In the end, what matters most is not having a perfect chart, but rather being prepared for tribulation and to give a faithful witness, even unto death. In that day, we will need to link arms with all of our brothers and sisters and endure to cross the finish line together.