

Between A Rock And A Hard Place

Discerning PRE-Tribulation Rapture Problems

Here's one set of many dilemmas PRE-Tribulation Rapturists encounter when dealing with explicit data in Scripture – in this case, Matthew 24:3-31 ...

~ If Pre-Trib advocates dogmatically say, *The rapture takes place before this Mt. 24 passage*, [based on, in part, their unbiblical teaching of imminence and/or the teaching that no sign need to precede the rapture], then they are clearly incorrect because the “birth pains” / “beginning of sorrows” signs are taking place today.

Well, the rapture / gathering together event has not yet occurred.

But unlike any time in church history (other than the days of the early Church), the details in this passage (vv. 3-8 of Mt. 24) are unfolding in global culture today – actually have been taking place for quite some time now.

~ If they dogmatically say, *The rapture takes place some time after the birth pains but before the tribulation of Mt. 24:9ff*, then they face different difficulties. The [rapture gathering](#)¹ is included in the Mt. 24 chronology (vs. 31*) BUT, as the context shows, it takes place AFTER the tribulation from the world and the great tribulation which is brought on by the dark global system of the antichrist, not before as the PRE-Trib position traditionally espouses. * The N.T. Greek word (vb.) for *gather together* is *ἐπισυναγω*.

If the dogmatic Pre-tribulation Rapture advocates say the rapture gathering event is NOT represented in Mt. 24:31 but happens after the birth pains of Mt. 24:3-8, we simply and sincerely ask: Why is our Lord silent about a “pre-trib” rapture in this most detailed revelation concerning the *end of days*? (The biblical rapture gathering is a **most crucial** part of end-time theology.)

In addition to this observation of the text – and if Pre-Trib advocates grant the possibility of the rapture taking place after the time of sorrows – this would also mean the rapture is NOT imminent because the sign events (as they teach) are suppose to take place after our rapture gathering. As a result, the rapture is not “imminent” (as the Pre-Trib teachers often define “imminence”) due to signs – as defined by our Lord – taking place before the rapture event – ones taking place today! (By the way, there's not a single passage which uses the word “imminent” in rapture gathering texts. [Click Here](#)² for details.)

Do you discern these problems, ones inherent in PRE-Tribulation Rapture theory?

They are tied to a commitment to an **unbiblical** dogma regarding the timing of the rapture of the Church and the name of this *opinion commitment* is called the “PRE-Trib Rapture.” For additional Bible reasons to question Pre-Trib Rapture theology, please [Click Here](#).³

Instead of adding to Scripture data not explicitly present in the texts under consideration, we at Endurance Ministries encourage the eschatological Truth seeker to simply read and

accept the passages – as written – as they provide Truthful information about the gathering of Jesus Christ’s Church. In some of these passages, this rapture event takes place in the setting of a chronology! Here are some *online* links:

[Bible Quotes 1](#) ⁴

[Bible Quotes 2](#) ⁵

[Bible Quotes 3](#) ⁶

[Bible Quotes 4](#) ⁷

And if you have a hard copy of God’s Word, check out these pertinent passages *off line* :

The Book of Daniel

Matthew 24 & 25 (also see Mark 13 and Luke 12, 17 & 21)

John 14 – 16

I Corinthians 15:51, 52

I Thessalonians 4:13-18 ; 5:1-11

II Thessalonians 2:1-12 and the final book of the Bible called,
The Revelation of Jesus Christ – or, in short, “Revelation”

A closing prayer:

Dear I AM, please help us rightly divide/understand Your Word of Truth. Help us, through the illumination of Your Holy Spirit, to correctly interpret Your Word. Help us to do so for our own protection, for the sake of better reaching those who still need You, and, once again, for the purpose of further fostering Your glory and praise. In the holy name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

URLs to the above links include:

1. http://www.endmin.com/956306#FAQ_46
2. <https://draco.websrvcs.com/clientimages/20873/1cid4.pdf>
3. <https://eridan.websrvcs.com/clientimages/20873/1cid2.pdf>
4. <http://www.finaltrumpet.org/passages.htm>
5. <http://www.endmin.com/39014>
6. <http://www.endmin.com/39015>
7. <http://www.endmin.org/179120>

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