

Simple Question

- Has God finished what He is doing?
 - Our traditional Bible study is focused on things that happened in the Past
 - Certain things God *has* done
 - In the Beginning GOD...
 - Noah and the Flood
 - God appeared to Abram
 - Mt Sinai 10 Commandments
 - God sent Jesus
 - » God sent Him to die for us, and raise Him up
 - Rightly so because the Bible is anchored by God's actions
 - Also God tells us *why* He has done them

God has acted in history

- If this is all you believe, you are missing something
- There is “Faith” that enters into the present Christian Experience.
 - We are convicted of our sin, understand we cannot save ourselves, and come to Christ in faith
- So...If we have *now* come to Faith in Jesus Christ, has God *NOW* finished what He is doing?

Pearls of Knowledge

- Think of a Pearl necklace
 - Beginning point, end point, middle point
 - Bible nuggets and Pearls
- Look at necklace
 - How it falls when worn
 - Start high up
 - Down then as sin comes into world
 - Stops downward fall until bottom point
 - Greatest Pearl is at lowest point
 - The mid point is not the end point
 - The necklace continues and goes back up to the end point

Must grasp this...

- God has a definite plan for History
 - Beginning point, end point, and Christ is in the very central position
 - Center point is not the end-point
 - End point is where God will restore believers to Him so they can enjoy Him for Eternity
- *If we have cut the necklace and lost the sense of connection to the destiny purchased by Jesus Christ... all we have is a little bit of truth, but it cannot now illuminate the whole of our life.*
- *We need to see the whole necklace for this connection to destiny*

Connection

- John 13 & 14 Review of Last Supper
 - John 13:22-27 Moment of Decision
 - Disaster at the Lord's Table
 - John 14:33 In the middle of Life...confronted with Death and Separation
 - John 13:38 Peter faced with own Denial
- At end of Ch 13...Is this it? Is this all there is...have we come to this?
 - Have we followed Jesus 3 years, given up all.
 - Feeling of loss, and separation, Death rearing its ugly head in the midst of life
 - Personal failure, and not living up to expectations
- Is this how you feel now?
 - Scandals in place you least expected them
 - Did someone you trusted commit a "Judas" act
 - Is your own personal failure as a "Christian" haunting you
 - Do you feel lost or separated after a death?
 - Is the World situation depressing you or making you anxious?

God's work isn't finished yet

- Jesus speaks to them at end of the dinner
- 14:1-3
 - Don't let our hearts be troubled
 - Diminish your fear by
 - Trusting in God, Trusting in Jesus
 - Going to prepare a place for us
 - Know He will come back for us
 - Trust that He will take us to be with him forever

Keys to remember

- History/Prophecy is the string that holds the necklace of pearls or the Word of God together
 - *Biblical prophecy is Gods Truth and future history*
- God is NOT finished yet
- Jesus said He was coming back for us
- The prospect of being with Jesus forever should comfort us and lessen our fears
- Prophecy is both our bridge to the future and the roadmap for the trip

Overview of Biblical Prophecy

A Journey of Faith

Sunday night
FBC Dawsonville, GA
Feb 12, 2012

Jim Lay

Some Basics of the Sessions

- Objectives of the Class
 - What is Bible Prophecy and why should we study it?
- Framework of Biblical Prophecy
- Session Topics that Plug-in to Framework
 - Rapture, 2nd Coming, Millennium, Eternity
 - Wars of Gog and Magog, Tribulation, Armageddon
 - Judgments
- Where are we in the framework NOW?
 - Signs of the times
- What is our response to what we know

What is Bible Prophecy?

- Based on the fundamental belief in the inerrancy of Scripture and God's nature
- Bible Prophecies are the statements of future events before they happen.
 - Foretelling of History by God's prophets
 - Not to be confused with non Biblical Prophecy which is simply predicting the future

Why Study Biblical Prophecy?

- Nearly 1/3 of Bible was prophecy when it was written
- Of the more than 1000 prophecies contained in the Bible, more than 500 of them have come true literally and None are false.
- The remaining prophecies are coming true as they are laid out in the Word of God.
- What do People say about Prophecy?
- What does the Bible say about Prophecy?
- What does Jesus say about prophecy?

Conceptual Understanding

- For a Biblical understanding of Prophecy one needs to have basic conceptual understanding of :
 - Creation, Fall, Satan, God's Redemptive Plan, and critical pivot points in the Bible where God intervenes in Human affairs
 - Sequence of Events from a Biblical Perspective
- My Goal is to provide this to you as part of the study and motivate you to read the Word

Understanding terms

- Eternity Past
- Creation /Fall
- Noah / Flood
- Silent years
- Birth of Messiah
- Cross of Messiah
- Resurrection of Messiah
- Pentecost-Coming of Holy Spirit
- Church and Church Age
- Time of the Gentiles
- End of Church Age
- Rapture
- Judgment Seat of Christ
- Bride of Christ
- Antichrist
- False Prophet
- Beast
- Tribulation/Great Tribulation
- Day of the Lord
- War of Gog and Magog
- Wrath of God
- Second Coming
- Millennium
- Great White Throne Judgment
- Lake of Fire
- New Heaven and New Earth
- Eternity Future

Prophetic Timeline - 4 Pivotal Events



Creation



The Flood



Christ's
First
Coming



Christ's
Second
Coming

Ages
Past

Eden

Old
Testament

Silent
Years

Church Age

Millennium

Ages
to
Come

GENESIS

Law

PLAINTS

JOB

PSALMS

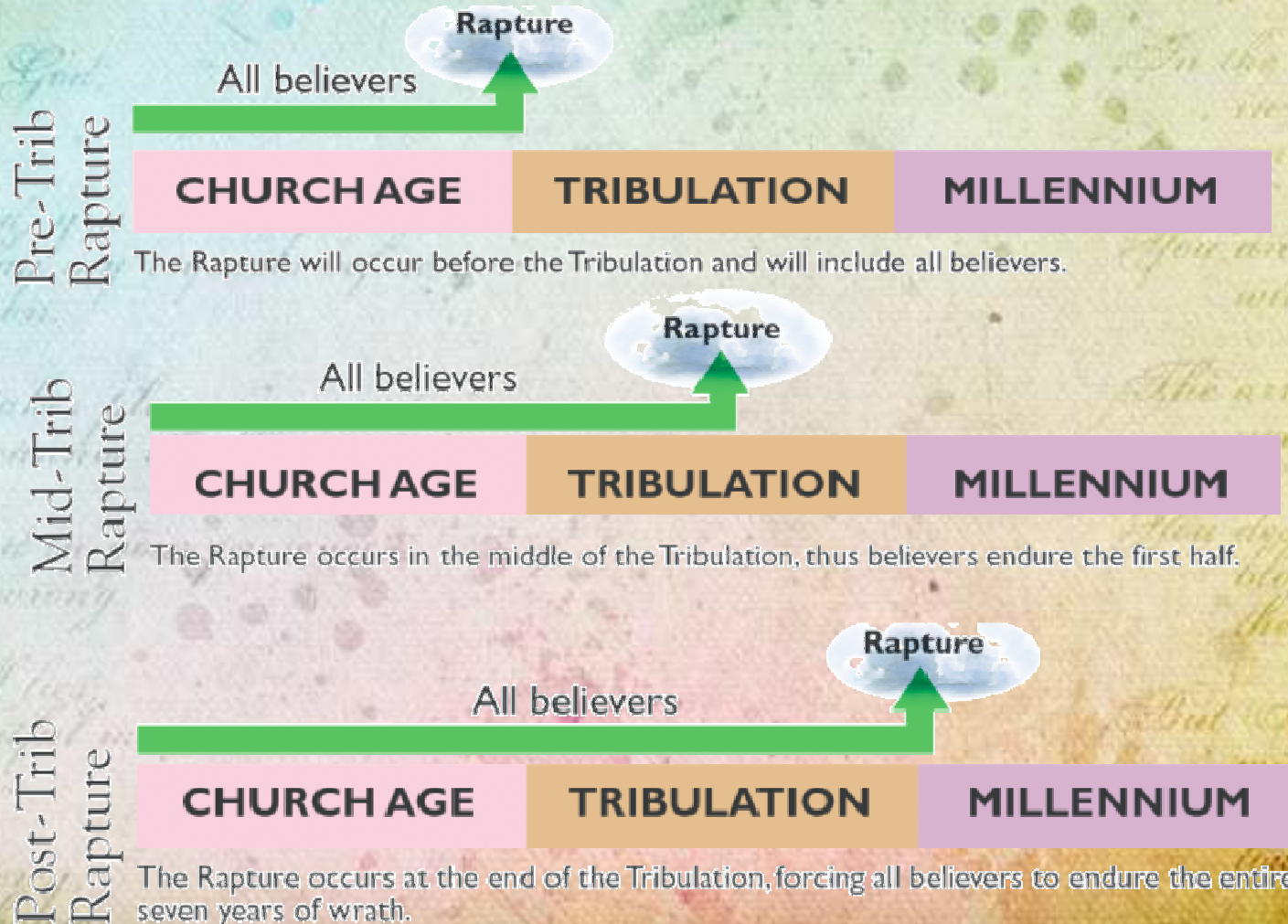
Prophets

New
Testament

Various Interpretations

- What we will discuss is generally accepted in the Evangelical community but there are several variations
 - **Amillennialism** – takes a idealist, **non literal** view, no Millennium
 - ▶ Pre millennialism – **Literal** with differing views on timing of rapture
 - Post millennialism – **Literal**, rapture and 2nd coming after Millennium
- Other views – There are views with deny the divinity and prophetic authority of Bible books, like **Realized Eschatology** which renders useless Daniel and Revelation, among other books, or sections of books. **Replacement Theology**, a dangerous heresy.
- ***Truth in advertising – I am a pre-trib, pre-millennial and pre-pared believer and will discuss this sequence in this session***

Views on Rapture/Tribulation



Rapture of the Church

- What is it?
- When does it happen?
- Several key passages apply
 - John 17:24 “I desire that they...be with me...where I am
 - 1 Thess 4:13-18 If you believe in the Resurrection believe in the Lord coming again and bringing them with Him
 - 1 Thess 5:13 Encourage on another...
 - 2 Cor 5:8 ...prefer to be away from the body and be with the Lord
 - 1 Cor 15: 51-55 ...not all sleep, but all will change...twinkling of an eye
 - Rev 3:10 ...” I will also keep you from the **hour of trial** that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth. “
 - 1Thess 1:10 “...Jesus who rescues us from the coming wrath”
 - 1 Thess 5:1-11 Day of the Lord, Thief in the night
 - 2 Thess 2:1-3: Deception, apostasy must come, Man of Lawlessness revealed
- What does it mean?

Dispensations



Coming of Christ

- Rapture

- Christ comes in the air
- Christ comes for his saints
- Christ claims His bride
- Not mentioned in OT
- Imminent, no signs
- Time of blessing & comfort
- Believers only
- Twinkling of Eye
- Only His believers see Him
- Signals end of Church Age
- Holy Spirit withdrawn
- Tribulation begins shortly
- Christ comes as Bright Morning Star

- Second Coming

- Christ comes to Earth
- Christ comes with His saints
- Christ comes with His Bride
- Prophecy in OT
- Many Signs signal it
- Time of destruction and Judgment
- Involves Israel and Gentile Nations
- Visible to entire World
- Satan bound
- Beginning of Millennium
- Christ comes as Sun of Righteousness

Next Week

- Read Matt 24 and 25
 - Discussion about Olivet Discourse
- Where are we now in timeline
- What Gods Word says about these times
- What is the next Event on the Horizon
- Discussion about events happening now
- Signs of the times, what to watch
- Specific discussion about the Church Age, Tribulation
- People and purpose

References

- I have so many I will have them printed for you next week
- I will notate those I believe are great to begin your understanding using