

THE REGATHERING OF ISRAEL VS. THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH  
A Response to Dalton Thomas' Video "4 Reasons We Don't Believe in a Pre-Trib Rapture"  
By Wayne ODonnell, November 6, 2023

This is a response to the video "4 REASONS WE DON'T BELIEVE IN A PRE-TRIB RAPTURE" by Dalton Thomas of Maranatha Global Bible Study streamed on Global Watchman News on October 2, 2023 at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6RSiPFF6MM>

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## INTRODUCTION

Post-tribulationists believe the 'rapture,' as described in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-



52, is the same event as the 'gathering of his elect' at the end of the tribulation period as described in Matthew 24:29-31. However, the gathering of his elect in Matthew 24 refers to the second and last world-wide regathering of Israel which is described in great detail in the Old Testament, and it's nothing like the instantaneous meeting in the air as described in 1 Thessalonians and 1 Corinthians. Most pastors and Bible teachers today have their Israelology wrong, so they just focus on the New Testament passages in trying to explain the rapture, but the big picture is that a post-trib rapture is incompatible with the regathering of Israel as described in the OT. There has to be a literal regathering of physical Israel because there is a voluminous amount of detailed scripture about it that can't be symbolized away to refer to the church. The purpose of this document is twofold: not merely to show the problems with the post-trib rapture view, but also to help us become more familiar with the prophecies God has provided about the regathering of Israel for the increase of our faith and edification.

#### **A. 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-17 AND 1 COR. 15:51-52 BOTH REFER TO THE SAME EVENT**

We know that 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 and 1 Cor. 15:51-52 both refer to the same future event, commonly called the 'rapture,' because they both talk about 1) the dead ("in Messiah," per 1 Thess.) will be resurrected in a glorified state first, and then secondly, 2) those who are alive will be glorified. 1 Thessalonians also adds that we will meet the Lord "in the air," and 1 Corinthians adds that it will occur instantaneously, "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye."

1 Corinthians also adds that it's a "mystery," meaning a newly revealed truth. Mystery (μυστήριον, mustyriōn) in Greek doesn't mean 'something hard to understand,' but 'something previously hidden, now revealed.' Some examples are 1) Two Comings of Messiah (Mt. 13:11, 30, 35), 2) The New Man, the Church, Composed of Both Jews and Gentiles (Eph. 3: 3-6), and 3) The Rapture (1 Cor. 15:51-52). The final regathering of Israel to the land, and the gathering of the Gentiles to the Valley of Jehosaphat for to determine who will enter the kingdom are both described in the OT as a 'natural' event, though with the help of angels, like at other times in the OT; not a sci-fi teleportation in the air and physical glorification like the rapture.

##### 1 Thess. 4:16-17 - Dead Glorified First, then the Living, In the Air

16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Messiah will rise first, 17 then we that are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air."

##### 1 Cor. 15:51-52 - Dead Glorified First, then the Living, Instantaneously, a Mystery

Behold, I show you a mystery, we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet, for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed."

Both these passages also mention a trumpet, but it has to be a different trumpet from the one in Matthew 24:29-31.

## B. MATTHEW 24 REFERS TO THE REGATHERING OF ISRAEL AT THE END OF THE TRIBULATION

We know the gathering of “his elect” in Matthew 24:29-31 refers to the regathering of Israel because:

### 1) The context of Matthew 24 is Israel, not the church.

It's the people “in Judaea” that are to flee. They are to flee to the “mountains,” i.e. nearby Petra in Edom (see #4-#19 in the appendix about Edom). “Winter” would be a dangerous time to flee from Judaea to Edom because you have to travel via some dry wadis which can flash flood in the winter, rainy season. Fleeing on “a Sabbath” is a problem in Israel because public transportation doesn't run, but it wouldn't be a problem anywhere else.

#### Mt. 24:15-21 - Judaea, Mountains, Winter, Sabbath

When therefore you see the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let him that reads understand), 16 then let them that are in Judaea flee to the mountains: 17 let him that is on the housetop not go down to take out the things that are in his house: 18 and let him that is in the field not return back to take his cloak. 19 But woe to them that are with child and to them that give suck in those days! 20 And pray you that your flight be not in the winter, neither on a sabbath: 21 for then will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, nor ever will be.”

### 2) Gentile Christians shouldn't assume 'elect' always refers to the church. Israel is 'elect' also.

#### Rom. 11:2 - Israelite, Abraham, Tribe of Benjamin, Foreknowledge, Election

I say then, Has God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not cast away his people which he foreknew. ... 5 At this present time also there is a remnant [of Israel] according to the election of grace.”

#### Is. 45:4 - Israel, my elect!

*Post-Trib Problem #1. Would it be appropriate to describe the rapture as “his angels will gather together Israel from the four winds.”*

### 3) Matthew 24 parallels Old Testament passages about the final regathering of Israel

#### Mt. 24:29-31 - Angels, Great Trumpet, Four Winds, One End of Heaven to the Other

They will see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory (Dan. 7:13-14, 18, 21-22, 25-27). 31 And he will send forth his angels with a sound of a great trumpet, and they will gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

#### Isaiah 43:1, 5-7 - Four Winds, Ends of the Earth

O Jacob, ... O Israel, ... fear not, for I am with you. I will bring your seed from the east, and gather you from the west; 6 I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; 7 Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created

him for my glory, I have formed him; yes, I have made him.

Isaiah 27:12-13 - Great Trumpet

And it will come to pass in that day, that the Lord will beat off [his fruit] from the channel of the river [Euphrates] to the stream of Egypt [Wady el-'Arish], and you will be gathered one by one, O you children of Israel. 13 And it will come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet will be blown, and they will come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and will worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

*Post-Trib Problem #2. Does gathering 'one by one' sound like an instantaneous gathering in the air?*

Jeremiah 16:14-18 - Angels

Behold, the days come, says the Lord, that it will no more be said, The Lord lives that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; 15 But, The Lord lives that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands where he had driven them; and I will bring them again into their land that I gave to their fathers. 16 Behold, I will send for many fishers, says the Lord, and they will fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they will hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks. ... 18 But first I will recompense their iniquity and their sin double [during the diaspora and tribulation period].

*Post-Trib Problem #3. Does 'fish them out' and 'hunt them' sound like an instantaneous gathering in the air?*

Ezekiel 34:11-13 - Angels

Thus says the Lord God; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeks out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. 13 And I will bring them out from the [Gentile] people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land.

*Post-Trib Problem #4. Does 'seek them out as a shepherd seeks ... his sheep that are scattered' sound like an instantaneous gathering in the air?*

**4. If the gathering of his elect in Mt. 24 isn't about the regathering of Israel, then when will all the voluminous prophecies about it be fulfilled?**

### C. THE 2ND AND FINAL REGATHERING OF ISRAEL

**Isaiah 11:6-12: The second world-wide regathering of Israel will be the last**

The wolf also will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child will lead them. ... 10 And in that day there will be a

root of Jesse, which will stand for a flag of the people; to it will the Gentiles seek: and his rest will be glorious. 11 And it will come to pass in that day, that the Lord will set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his [Jewish] people, which will be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the [Aegean] islands of the sea. 12 And he will set up a flag for the Gentile nations, and will assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

The first world-wide regathering of Israel was in 1948. The return from Babylon was only to and from Babylon 70 years later. The Israel that's there in the land now is the one that will make a 7-year treaty with the Antichrist, and will be offering sacrifices in a rebuilt temple, when the Antichrist breaks the treaty and puts his own image in the temple after 3.5 years. If the Israel that's there now was ever exiled from the land, there would have to be another regathering to get a temple built for the tribulation, but then the final regathering at the end of the tribulation would be the third regathering. But the scripture says it's the second, so the present Israel won't ever be evicted from the land. "The Lord will set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people," Is. 11:11. Thus, the Jewish people in Israel today won't be part of the final regathering; they're already there. The reason there has to be a second world-wide regathering is that the first one was only partial; the final one will be complete, as we saw above because the angels will fish and "hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks" (Jer. 16:16).

*Post-Trib Problem #5. Will God only rapture believers who aren't already in Israel from the first regathering in 1948?*

#### **D. THE RAPTURE LOOKS DIFFERENT FROM THE REGATHERING OF ISRAEL**

##### **1) The modes of transportation for Israel's regathering**

###### Jeremiah 23:3-8 - Led, Not Teleported

I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds. ... 5 Behold, the days come, says the Lord, that I will raise to David a righteous Branch, and a King will reign and prosper, and will execute judgment and justice in the earth. 6 In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he will be called, The Lord Our Righteousness. 7 Therefore, behold, the days come, says the Lord, that they will no more say, [like in Jer. 16] The Lord lives which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; 8 But, The Lord lives which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries where I had driven them; and they will dwell in their own land.

*Post-Trib Problem #6. Will God's angels only lead the way in the air, and those raptured have to follow under their own power instantaneously?*

**Jeremiah 3:14-18 - Walk, Not Fly**

I am married to you, and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion: ... 16 And it will come to pass, when you be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, says the Lord, they will say no more, The ark of the covenant of the Lord: neither will it come to mind: neither will they remember it; neither will they visit it; neither will that be done any more. 17 At that time they will call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord; and all the Gentile nations will be gathered to it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem, neither will they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart. 18 In those days the house of Judah will walk with the house of Israel, and they will come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given for an inheritance to your fathers.

*Post-Trib Problem #7. Will the Jewish people walk in the air during the rapture?*

**Jeremiah 31:8-12 - Follow Angels, Walking and Weeping, On Roads Along Rivers**

Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the ends of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travails with child together: a great company will return there. 9 They will come with weeping, and with supplications I will lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they will not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. 10 Hear the word of the Lord, O you Gentile nations, and declare it in the [Aegean] islands afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd does his flock. 11 For the Lord has redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he. 12 Therefore they will come and sing in the height of Zion, and will flow together to the goodness of the Lord, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, ... and they will not sorrow any more at all.

*Post-Trib Problem #8. Will the Jewish people travel on their own power, following angels during the rapture?*

*Post-Trib Problem #9. Will the Jewish people walk along rivers in the sky during the rapture?*

*Post-Trib Problem #10. Will the Jewish people weep during the rapture?*

*Post-Trib Problem #11. Is stumbling a potential risk when travelling to Jerusalem instantaneously in the air?*

**Isaiah 49:11-20 - Gather Themselves, Mountain Highways**

I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways will be raised up. 12 Behold, these will come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of China. ... 17 Your children will make haste. ... 18 Lift up your eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together, and come to you. As I live, says the Lord, you will surely clothe yourself with them all, as with an ornament, and bind them on you, as a bride does. 19 For thy waste and thy desolate places, and the land of thy

destruction, will even now be too narrow by reason of the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up will be far away [in hell after the second coming]. 20 The children which you will have, after you hast lost the other, will say again in your ears, The place is too narrow for me: give space to me that I may dwell.

*Post-Trib Problem #12. Will the Jews 'gather themselves' at the rapture?*

*Post-Trib Problem #13. Why would airborne Jewish believers need 'highways' to return to Israel?*

#### Isaiah 11:6-12 - Gulf of Suez and Euphrates Dried Up for a Highway

The wolf also will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child will lead them. ... 12 And he will ... gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. ... 15 And the Lord will utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind will he shake his hand over the [Euphrates] river, and will smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dry-shod. 16 And there will be a highway for the remnant of his people, which will be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

*Post-Trib Problem #14. Why dry up the Gulf of Suez if everyone is flying to Jerusalem?*

#### Isaiah 60:1-9 - Ships of Tarshish

Arise, shine; for your light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen on you. ... 4 Your sons will come from far, and your daughters will be nursed at your side. ... 9 Surely the [Aegean] isles will wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, to the name of the Lord your God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he has glorified you.

*Post-Trib Problem #15. Will God teleport the ships of Tarshish in the air to bring the Jewish people instantaneously to Jerusalem?*

Isaiah 66:18-22 - By Gentiles Using Horses, Vehicles, Litters, Mules, and Swift Beasts

It will come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they will come, and see my glory. ... 19 And I will send those that escape [the tribulation period] of them to the nations, ... and they will declare my glory among the Gentiles. 20 And they [the Gentiles] will bring all your brethren for an offering to the Lord out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the Lord, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the Lord. 21 And I will also take of them for priests and for Levites, says the Lord. 22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, will remain before me, says the Lord, so will your seed and your name remain.

*Post-Trib Problem #16. Will the Gentiles bring the Jews in the rapture?*

*Post-Trib Problem #17. Will God rapture the horses, mules, swift beasts, and chariots into the air the Jewish people are being brought to Jerusalem in like offerings in vessels?*

**2. Gentiles help regather the Jews; Jews bring some Gentiles along as servants**

Isaiah 49:22-23 - Gentiles Signaled, Carry Jewish Children In Arms and On Shoulders

22 Thus says the Lord God, Behold, I will lift up my hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the [Gentile] people: and they will bring your sons in their arms, and your daughters will be carried on their shoulders. 23 And kings will be your nursing fathers, and their queens your nursing mothers: they will bow down to you with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of your feet; and you will know that I am the Lord: for they will not be ashamed that wait for me.

*Post-Trib Problem #18. Will God ask Gentiles to help implement the rapture?*

*Post-Trib Problem #19. Will Gentiles carry Jewish children 'in their arms' and 'on their shoulders' in the air during the rapture?*

Isaiah 14:1-2 - Jewish People Bring Some Gentiles as Servants

For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the [Gentile] strangers will be joined with them, and they will cleave to the house of Jacob. 2 And the [Jewish] people will take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel will possess them in the land of the Lord for servants and handmaids: and they will take them captives, whose captives they were; and they will rule over their oppressors.

*Post-Trib Problem #20. Will Jewish believers have time to take some Gentile believers as servants during the instantaneous flight in the air to Israel?*

### **3) The Jews will have a priority over the Gentiles in their regathering**

#### Isaiah 60:1-9 - Gentiles Come Because They See the Jews Glorified

Arise, shine; for your [Israel's] light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen on you. 2 For, behold, the darkness will cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord will arise on you, and his glory will be seen on you. 3 And the Gentiles will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ... 5 The abundance of the [Aegean] sea will be converted to you, the forces of the Gentiles will come to you. 6 The multitude of camels will cover you, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba will come: they will bring gold and incense; and they will shew forth the praises of the Lord. 7 All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you, the rams of Nebaioth will minister to you: they will come up with acceptance on my altar, and I will glorify the house of my glory.

#### Ezekiel 28:25-26 - God will be sanctified in the Jews in the sight of the Gentiles

When I will have gathered the house of Israel from the people among whom they are scattered, and will be sanctified in them in the sight of the heathen [Gentiles], then will they dwell in their land that I have given to my servant Jacob, 26 And they will dwell safely therein.

#### Ezekiel 36:23-27- God will be sanctified in the Jews in the sight of the Gentiles

And the Gentiles will know that I am the Lord, says the Lord God, when I will be sanctified in you [Jewish people] before their [the Gentiles] eyes. 24 For I will take you from among the [Gentile] heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. 25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and you will be clean. ... 26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you. ... 27 And I will ... cause you to walk in my statutes, and you will keep my judgments, and do them.

#### Ezekiel 39:27-29 - God will be sanctified in the Jews in the sight of the Gentiles

27 When I have brought them again from the [Gentile] people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many [Gentile] nations; 28 Then will they know that I am the Lord their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the [Gentile] heathen: but I have gathered them to their own land, and have left none of them any more there. 29 Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel.

*Post-Trib Problem #21. Will Jews have a priority in the rapture?*

*Post-Trib Problem #22. Will the Gentiles rapture themselves because they see the Jews being raptured and glorified?*

*Post-Trib Problem #23. How does a rapture of Jews and Gentiles together sanctify Israel in the sight of the Gentiles any more than it would sanctify the believing Gentiles in the sight of Israel?*

*Post-Trib Problem #24. Does this sound like what the rapture is about, sanctifying Israel in the sight of the Gentiles?*



#### 4) Unbelieving Jews will be purged en route

##### Ezekiel 20:34-44 - God Will Gather Unbelieving Jews But Purge Them Along the Way

I will bring you out from the [Gentile] people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein you are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out. 35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face. 36 Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt. ... 37 And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: 38 And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they will not enter into the land of Israel. ... 40 For in my holy mountain, ... there will all the house of Israel, ALL of them in the land, serve me [Rom. 11, "ALL Israel (of that time) will be saved."]. .... 41 I will accept you with your sweet fragrance, when I bring you out from the people, and gather you out of the countries wherein you have been scattered; and I will be sanctified in you before the heathen [Gentiles]. 42 And you will know that I am the Lord, when I will bring you into the land of Israel, into the country for the which I lifted up my hand [swore] to give it to your fathers. ... 44 And you will know that I am the Lord when I have wrought with you for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt doings, O you house of Israel, says the Lord God. [Rom. 11:28 As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the father's sakes. 29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.]

*Post-Trib Problem #25. Will God rapture unbelieving Jews and then kill them in the air on the way to Israel?*

*Post-Trib Problem #26. Will Jewish believers be sanctified in the sight of Gentile believers, rather than the other way around, or both being sanctified in the sight of each other during the rapture?*

#### E. WHERE WILL THE UNBELIEVERS COME FROM IN THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM

##### 1) Most Gentiles will live in other countries but some will be servants so they can live in Israel.

Luke 4:14-21 - The first part of the sentence was first coming and the second half will be second coming  
Jesus ... came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 And there was delivered to him the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, 18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; ... to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. \*\*\*\*\* 20 And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 And he began to say to them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

##### Isaiah 61:2-11 - Some Gentiles be servants to the Jews after the second coming

61 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord has anointed me to preach good tidings to the meek; ... and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the

Lord, \*\*\*\*\* and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn ... in Zion, to give to them ... the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. 4 And they will build the old wastes, they will raise up the former desolations, and they will repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations [can't be talking about the church]. 5 And strangers [Gentiles] will stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien will be your plowmen and your vinedressers. 6 But you [Jewish people] will be named the Priests of the Lord: men will call you the Ministers of our God: you will eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory [the Gentiles' riches] will you boast yourselves. 7 For your shame you will have double; ... in their land they will possess the double: everlasting joy will be to them. 8 For I the Lord ... will make an everlasting covenant with them [the Jews]. 9 And their seed will be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them [except Reformed theologians] will acknowledge them, that they are the seed which the Lord has blessed. ... 11 For as the earth brings forth her bud, ... so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before [the eyes of] all the Gentile nations.

*Post-Trib Problem #27. Will glorified Gentiles be agricultural servants to the glorified Jews?*

## **2) Jesus will rule with a rod of iron because of the unbelievers in the Messianic Kingdom**

Psalm 2:8-9 - Jesus will shatter the nations

I will give you the Gentiles for your inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for your possession. 9 You will break them with a rod of iron; you will dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Revelation 2:27 - Church saints will rule the nations for Yeshua

He that overcomes, and keeps my works to the end, to him will I give power over the Gentile nations: And he will rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter will they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

Revelation 12:5 - Israel gave birth to Jesus who will strictly rule the Gentile nations

And she brought forth a man child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron.

Revelation 19:15 - Jesus' Messianic Kingdom rule will be austere

And out of his mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it he would smite the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron.

*Post-Trib Problem #28. Where will the people come from who will need ruled with a rod of iron during the Messianic Kingdom?*

## **3) Some Gentile nations will be punished for refusing the feast of Tabernacles**

Zechariah 14:16-19 - Rebel nations will be punished if they don't attend Tabernacles

And it will come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem will even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. 17 And it will be, that whoever will not come up of all the families of the earth to Jerusalem to worship

the King, the Lord of hosts, even on them will be no rain. 18 And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there will be the plague, wherewith the Lord will smite the heathen [Gentiles] that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. 19 This will be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all [Gentile] nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

*Post-Trib Problem #29. Where will the people come from that will refuse to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles during the Messianic Kingdom?*

#### **4) A miraculous river will flow from under the temple porch and become a deep river**

Ezekiel 47:12 - Trees with medicine along the Millennial River

And by the river on the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, will grow all trees for food, whose leaf will not fade, neither will the fruit thereof be consumed: it will bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof will be for food, and the leaf thereof for medicine.

*Post-Trib Problem #30. Where will the people come from that will need medicine during the Messianic Kingdom?*

#### **5) Rebels will die at age 100 during the kingdom**

Isaiah 65:18-23 - Believers ages will range from 1-1000 but unbelievers will die young at age 100

But be you glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create [hopefully Reformed theologians too]: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. 19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people [that's God's heart, unlike Reformed theologians hearts]: and the voice of weeping will be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. 20 There will be no more there an infant of days, nor an old man that has not filled his days: for the child will die an hundred years old; and the sinner being an hundred years old will be accursed. 21 And they will build houses, and inhabit them; and they will plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. 22 They will not build, and another inhabit; they will not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and my elect [Israel] will long enjoy the work of their hands. 23 They will not labor in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them.

Jeremiah 20:14-17 - Gentile nations will have to increase their Jewishness in the Kingdom

Thus says the Lord against all my evil [Gentile] neighbors, that touch the inheritance [the Land] which I have caused my people Israel to inherit; Behold, I will pluck them [the Gentiles] out of their land [to the Valley of Jehoshaphat], and pluck out the house of Judah [Israel] from among them. 15 And it will come to pass, after that I have plucked them [the Gentiles] out I will return, and have compassion on them, and will bring them [the Gentiles] again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land [in the other nations in the Kingdom]. 16 And it will come to pass, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people [Israel], to swear by my name, The Lord lives; as they taught my people to swear by Baal; then will they be built in the midst of my people. 17 But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up [those Gentiles] and destroy that nation, says the Lord.

*Post-Trib Problem #31. Where will the rebels come from that will die at age 100 during the Messianic Kingdom?*

*Post-Trib Problem #31a. Where will the disobedient Gentiles come from that will be plucked up out of the Messianic Kingdom?*

Some post-trib teachers have speculated maybe the children under the age of accountability won't be glorified and will enter the kingdom in their natural bodies. There's no scripture that implies anyone would take care of such children while the adults are being teleported in the air to Jerusalem. What about pregnant women? Will the woman's body be glorified but continue to carry a child in its natural body her womb? A child in the womb is definitely under the age of accountability. This isn't a problem for the regathering of Israel, because no one is glorified, and pregnant women being regathered journey to Israel and give birth at their natural birth time. We looked at Jeremiah 31 in more detail under D. 1 above but I'll requote the relevant portion.

#### **Jeremiah 31:8-12 - Pregnant Women and Women in Labor**

Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the ends of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travails with child together: a great company will return there.

#### **6) At the end of the Messianic Kingdom there will be a final revolt**

##### Revelation 20:1-10

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark on their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Messiah a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection: on such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Messiah, and will reign with him a thousand years. 7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan will be loosed out of his prison, 8 And will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. 9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and surrounded the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. 10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Men complain today, "if only we had good government, and education, economics, people would turn out good." The Messianic Kingdom will debunk this excuse because the world will have only good influences, and men will still rebel against the truth.

*Post-Trib Problem #32. Where will the rebellious people come from that will march against Jerusalem at the end of the Messianic Kingdom?*

It's interesting that Dalton Thomas' video series on Revelation seems to have stopped at #65, The Bride and the Bloody Conqueror, about Revelation 19 back in May 2023. Maybe he realizes his post-trib rapture view can't explain how there could be people to rebel against God after the thousand year Messianic Kingdom per Revelation 20, and that it conflicts with detailed OT descriptions of the regathering of Israel when Jesus returns.

The only way it can work is:

**Rapture:** Church saints physically glorified in the air at the rapture, and keep going to heaven to avoid the time of wrath (not a U-turn), and return with Jesus at the Second Coming.

**Second Coming:** Jewish and Gentile unbelievers in their natural bodies killed, and Jewish and Gentile believers in their natural bodies enter the Messianic Kingdom.

#### **F. DALTON SAYS THERE ARE ONLY 4 SCRIPTURES ABOUT THE RAPTURE**

##### **1) Mt. 24:15-31 - Gather Elect, Great (Not Last) Trumpet**

When you therefore will see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, ... 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains. ... Pray you that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day. ... 29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days will the sun be darkened, and the moon will not give her light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken: 30 And then will appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then will all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they will see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And he will send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Dalton interprets the 'Elect' to be referring to the church in Matthew 24. It actually refers to Israel in this passage. Rom. 11:2, "God has not cast away his people which he foreknew. ... 5 At this present time also there is a remnant [of Israel] according to the election of grace." Is. 45:4, "Israel my elect!" Dalton says Jesus is "clearly explaining the role of the church" in this passage. Not so! "Let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains. ... Pray you that your flight be not in the winter [because the wadis run in the rainy season], neither on the sabbath day [because there's no public transportation in Israel]." The gathering of his elect in Matthew 24 refers to the regathering of believing Jewish people to enter the kingdom in their natural bodies as described in section D. above. If Jesus was referring to the rapture in Matthew 24, then it couldn't have still been a "mystery" for Paul to reveal it: "I show you a mystery, we will not all sleep, [etc.]" But everyone hearing Jesus knew he was talking about the final regathering of Israel, his elect, in Matthew 24, because it was so extensively described in the Old Testament, and the descriptions match the language of Matthew 24, as I showed in part B. above. In contrast, the rapture is a mystery, that wasn't revealed until Paul. If Jesus had taught it, Paul couldn't have claimed he was revealing a mystery when he taught it.

## **2) 2 Thess. 1:4-2:4 - Messiah Coming in Vengeance, Our Gathering to Him**

4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure: 5 Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer: 6 Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Messiah: 9 Who will be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he will come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day. 11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power: 12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Messiah may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Messiah. 2 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Messiah, and by our gathering together to him, 2 That you be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Messiah is at hand. 3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day will not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Nowhere in this passage is there an explicit connection between our gathering to Jesus and his revelation in wrath. Paul 'beseeches us' by the Lord's coming and our gathering to him, but he doesn't say something like, "we will be gathered to him when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God."

## **3) 1 Cor 15:51-52 - Mystery, Instantaneous Resurrection and/or Glorification, Last Trumpet**

I shew you a mystery; We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet: for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed.

Dalton says "the last trumpet" refers to the seventh judgment trumpet in Revelation 10, which also mentions the word "mystery," but Revelation 10 doesn't mention any regathering, which is a very important event not to be mentioned. Rev. 10:7, "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he will begin to sound, the mystery of God will be finished, as he has declared to his servants the prophets." The "last trump" probably refers to the feast of trumpets, because the feast of trumpets doesn't have any historical meaning. Like Pentecost, it doesn't refer back to any historical event that had already occurred by the time Leviticus 23 was written, like Passover and Tabernacles do. Like Pentecost it's only prophetic; and like Pentecost it's about the church. [Note: The Feast of Trumpets is on the first day of the seventh month (Lev. 23:26). I mistakenly said the tenth month in the video. (The tenth *day* of the seventh month is Atonement.)]

## **4) 1 Thess. 4:13-18 - Dead and Alive in Messiah, In the Air**

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that you sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them

[their souls] also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain to the coming of the Lord will not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Messiah will rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so will we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words. Again, this can't refer to the same coming in which Jesus destroys the ungodly at the end of the tribulation period, because it doesn't match the description of the final regathering of Israel, and because there needs to be some believers left to enter the kingdom in their natural bodies.

During the second coming one group of saints, the church saints, are already with Jesus when he comes. They aren't on the earth waiting for him to come. Jude 1:14-15, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints, 15 To execute judgment on all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

#### **G. DALTON CLAIMED HE COULDN'T FIND ANY REFERENCES TO THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE BEING TAUGHT BEFORE JOHN NELSON DARBY (AND MARGRET MACDONALD)**

I'm not sure how hard he looked.

From Victorinus, late third century:

"...and the heaven withdrew as a scroll that is rolled up. For the heaven to be rolled away, this is that the Church will be taken away." Commentary on the Apocalypse, 6:14

"...and I saw another great and wonderful sign, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is completed the indignation of God. For the wrath of God always strikes the obstinate people with seven plagues, that is, perfectly, as it is said in Leviticus; and these will be in the last time, when the Church will have gone out of the midst." Commentary on the Apocalypse, 15:1

From Pseudo-Ephraem, as early as the 4th century:

"Why therefore do we not reject every care of earthly actions and prepare ourselves for the meeting of the Lord Messiah, so that he may draw us from the confusion, which overwhelms the world? ...For all the saints and elect of God are gathered, prior to the tribulation that is to come, and are taken to the Lord lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins." From the sermon, Sermon on the Last Times, the Antichrist, and the End of the World

But it's true there aren't many references to a pre-trib rapture before Darby. Paul and the early church definitely distinguished between the church and Israel. "Has God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God has not cast away his people which he foreknew," Rom. 11:1-2. (If you think you're part of Israel, which tribe are you from?) But the always apostate Roman Catholic Religion didn't, and it destroyed most of its opponents writings after it became the official government religion of the Roman Empire. The Reformed Theology of the Reformation didn't do any better. But when correct Israelology became published, a pre-trib rapture could become

widespread.

## H. THE TIMING OF THE RAPTURE

Jesus fulfilled the four spring feasts at his first coming on the very day of the feast: He died on Passover, was proven sinless during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, rose from the dead on Firstfruits, and sent the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Therefore, we know he will also fulfill the three fall feasts on the day of the feast: The rapture on the Feast of Trumpets, the national regeneration of Israel on the Day of Atonement, and setting up the Messianic Kingdom beginning with the week-long Marriage Feast of the Lamb on the week of Tabernacles. So we know the rapture occurs before Israel's national regeneration near the end of the tribulation period and before the second coming.

The 'rapture' must also occur a long enough time before the regathering of Israel at the end of the tribulation period, so that a whole new population of Jewish and Gentile believers can be saved after the rapture, and gathered to Israel at the end of the tribulation period, and enter the Messianic Kingdom in their natural bodies.

## APPENDIX: SEQUENCE OF EVENTS TO THE SECOND COMING AND MESSIANIC KINGDOM

### 1) The first world-wide regathering of Israel took place in 1948

#### Ezekiel 22:1-22: Israel Regathered in Anger to Jerusalem the Furnace

The word of the Lord came to me, saying, ... [The Diaspora:] I will scatter you among the heathen, and disperse you in the countries, and will consume your filthiness out of you. ... 17 And the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 18 Son of man, the house of Israel is to me become dross: all they are brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are even the dross of silver. 19 Therefore thus says the Lord God; Because you are all become dross, behold, therefore [The First World-Wide Regathering in 1948] I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem. 20 As they gather silver, and brass, and iron, and lead, and tin, into the midst of the furnace, to blow the fire on it, to melt it; so I will gather you in my anger and in my fury, and I will leave you there, and melt you. 21 Yea, I will gather you, and blow on you in the fire of my wrath, and you will be melted in the midst thereof. 22 As silver is melted in the midst of the furnace, so will you be melted in the midst thereof; and you will know that I the Lord have poured out my fury on you.

### 2) The church saints will be raptured

Jesus will bring the souls of the dead church saints with him to be reunited with their resurrected glorified bodies, and the bodies of those still alive will be glorified.

#### 1 Corinthians 15:51-53: The Mystery of Our Instantaneous Glorification

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We will not all [our bodies] sleep [our souls don't sleep they're in heaven with Jesus], but we will all [our bodies] be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last



trumpet: for the trumpet will sound, and the dead [bodies] will be raised incorruptible, and we [our bodies] will be changed [not replaced]. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

#### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18: Mystery of Instantaneous Gathering In the Air

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that you sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so [the souls of] them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain to the coming of the Lord will not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Messiah will rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so will we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

### **3) Israel will make a 7-year treaty with the Italian Antichrist who will break it in 3.5 years**

#### Dan. 9:26-27: Israel's Seven-Year Treaty With the Antichrist Will Begin the Tribulation Period

And after threescore and two weeks will Messiah be cut off, but not for himself [about 30AD]: and the people of the prince that will come [the Italians] will destroy the city and the sanctuary [in 70AD]; and the end thereof will be with a flood, and to the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 And he [the Roman prince that will come] will confirm the covenant with [the Jewish] many for one seven [years]: and in the midst of the seven [3.5 years] he will cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease [in the new temple that will soon be built], and for the overspreading of abominations [idols] he will make it desolate [the abomination of desolation], even until the consummation, and that determined will be poured on the desolate [Israel].

#### Isaiah 28:14-22: Israel's Treaty With the Antichrist Is a Treaty With Death

Wherefore hear the word of the Lord, you scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem. 15 Because you have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge will pass through, it will not come to us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves: 16 Therefore thus says the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believes will not make haste. 17 Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters will overflow the hiding place. 18 And your covenant with death will be disannulled, and your agreement with hell will not stand; when the overflowing scourge will pass through, then you will be trodden down by it. 19 From the time that it goes forth it will take you: for morning by morning will it pass over, by day and by night: and it will be a vexation only to understand the report. 20 For the bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it. 21 For the Lord will rise up as in mount Perazim, he will be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act. 22 Now therefore be you not mockers, lest your bands be made strong: for I have heard from the Lord God of hosts a consumption, even determined on the whole earth.

#### **4) The believing Jews of Jerusalem and Judea will flee to the mountains**

Matthew 24:16-22: When the Jews in Judea See The Abomination of Desolation Many of Them Flee to Edom

When you therefore will see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso reads, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe to them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray you that your flight be not in the winter [because the wadis can run during the winter], neither on the sabbath day [because the buses etc. don't run]: 21 For then will be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever will be. 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake [the Jewish people, Rom. 11:1-5] those days will be shortened.

#### **5) They will flee to Jordan (ancient Ammon, Moab, and Edom), the only country not under the Antichrist**

Daniel 11:41: The Antichrist Will Fail to Conquer Jordan

He will enter also into the glorious land, and many countries will be overthrown: but these will escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.

#### **6) They will flee to Petra, already prepared for them, and very defensible**

Revelation 12:1-6: Many Jewish People Flee to Petra Mid Trib

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman [Israel] clothed with the sun [Jacob], and the moon [Leah] under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars [Jacob's sons]: 2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. 3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon [Satan], having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns on his heads. 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth [thus all the demon possessed during Jesus' ministry]: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. 5 And she brought forth a man child [Jesus], who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up to God and to his throne [Acts 1]. 6 And the woman [Israel] fled into the wilderness [after seeing the abomination of desolation], where she has a place prepared of God [Petra], that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days [second 3.5 years of trib.].

Micah 2:12-13: Petra is Like a Sheepfold With Only One Gate

I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of you; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah [literally, the sheepfold], as the flock in the midst of their fold: they will make great noise by reason of the multitude of men. 13 The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king will pass before them, and the Lord on the head of them.

## **7) The Gentile armies will assemble in the valley of Armageddon**

### Joel 3:9-11: The Gentile Armies Summoned to Surround Jerusalem

Proclaim you this among the Gentiles [not Israel]; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up [Bible always says 'up' to Jerusalem]. 10 Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong. 11 Assemble yourselves, and come, all you [Gentile] heathen, and gather yourselves together round about.

### Rev. 16:12-16: Euphrates Dried Up; Demons Gather the Gentile Armies

And the sixth angel poured out his vial on the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. 13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. 16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon [for a staging area, not the battleground].

## **8) The Gentile armies will lay siege to the cities of Judah and Jerusalem**

### Zechariah 12:2: Gentile Armies Will Lay Siege Against Judah and Jerusalem

Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling to all the people round about, when they will be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.

### Zechariah 14:1: Every Gentile Nation Will Contribute An Army

Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and your spoil will be divided in the midst of you. 2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle.

## **9) The Jewish people in Jerusalem will have an organized, national repentance**

They will accept Yeshua as Messiah, thus meeting the prerequisite for the second coming, and the Holy Spirit will be poured out on them

### Zechariah 12:10-13:9: National mourning for the One They Pierced, Organized by Families

And I will pour on the house of David, and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they will look on me whom they have pierced, and they will mourn for him, as one mourns for his only son, and will be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. ... 12 And the land will mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; 13 The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; 14 All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart. 13:1 In that day there will be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness. ... And it will come to pass, that in all the land, says the Lord, two parts therein will be cut off and die; but the third will be left therein. 9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them

as gold is tried: they will call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they will say, The Lord is my God.

#### Hosea 5:15-6:3 - Messiah returned to heaven until Israel's national repentance

I will go and return to my place [after leaving his place at the incarnation], until they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early. 6:1 Come, and let us return to the Lord: for he has torn, and he will heal us; he has smitten, and he will bind us up. 2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we will live in his sight. 3 Then will we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he will come to us as the rain, as the latter and former rain to the earth.

Lev. 26:14 - Israel will confess they and their fathers rejected the 1st coming of Messiah

But if ye will not hearken to me, and will not do all these commandments; ... 33 I will scatter you among the [Gentile] heathen, ... and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste. ... 39 And they that are left of you shall pine away in their iniquity in your enemies' lands; and also in the iniquities of their fathers shall they pine away with them. 40 If they shall confess their iniquity [singular], and the iniquity [singular] of their fathers [rejecting the Messiah at his first coming], ... and that also they have walked contrary to me; 41 And that I also have walked contrary to them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity: 42 Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land. ... 44 And yet for all that, when they be in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, neither will I abhor them, to destroy them utterly, and to break my covenant with them: for I am the Lord their God. 45 But I will for their sakes remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the [Gentile] heathen, that I might be their God: I am the Lord.

#### Luke 13:34 - Yeshua will return after Israel's national repentance

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which kills the prophets, and stones them that are sent to you; how often would I have gathered your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! 35 Behold, your house is left to you desolate: and verily I say to you, You will not see me, until the time come when you will say, Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord [a messianic greeting].

#### Joel 2:28-32 - The Jewish remnant will be saved

It will come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit on all [Jewish] flesh; and your sons and your daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions: 29 And also on the servants and on the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. 30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. 31 The sun will be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come. 32 And it will come to pass, that whosoever will call on the name of the Lord will be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem will be deliverance, as the Lord has said, and in the remnant whom the Lord will call.

#### Jer. 31-33 - The New Covenant

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast. 28 And it shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over

them, to pluck up, and to break down, and to throw down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them, to build, and to plant, saith the Lord. ... 31 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: 32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: 33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. 35 Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divides the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is his name: 36 If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. 37 Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord. ... 32: 37 Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely: 38 And they shall be my people, and I will be their God: 39 And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them: 40 And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me. 41 Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul. 42 For thus saith the Lord; Like as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them. ... 33: 14 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. 15 In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. 16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The Lord our righteousness. 17 For thus saith the Lord; David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel; 18 Neither shall the priests the Levites want a man before me to offer burnt offerings, and to kindle meat offerings, and to do sacrifice continually. 19 And the word of the Lord came unto Jeremiah, saying, 20 Thus saith the Lord; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season; 21 Then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers. 22 As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me. 23 Moreover the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying, 24 Consider thou not what this people [and Reformed theologians] have spoken, saying, The two families which the Lord has chosen, he has even cast them off? thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them. 25 Thus saith the Lord; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; 26 Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.

### Romans 11:25-27 - Israel's national salvation and justification

For I would not, [Gentile] brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part [partial blindness] is happened to Israel, until [temporary blindness] the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. 26 And so all Israel will be saved: as it is written, There will come out of Sion the Deliverer, and will turn away ungodliness from Jacob: 27 For this is my covenant to them, when I will take away their sins.

### **10) The Jewish defenders will fight miraculously well**

#### Zechariah 12:2-6: Like Fire, David, and the Angel of the LORD, the Visible Part of God

Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling to all the people round about, when they will be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. 3 And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it will be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it. 4 In that day, says the Lord, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open my eyes on the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness. 5 And the governors of Judah will say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem will be my strength in the Lord of hosts their God. 6 In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they will devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left. ... 8 In that day will the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day will be as David; and the house of David will be as God, as the angel of the Lord before them. 9 And it will come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

### **11) Nevertheless, Jerusalem will fall**

#### Zechariah 14:1-2: The City Will Be Captured, Half the People Taken

Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and your spoil will be divided in the midst of you. 2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city will be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city will go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people will not be cut off from the city.

## 12) Jesus will lead the armies of heaven riding cherubs

### Revelation 19:6-15 - Bride, Armies of Heaven, Riding Cherubs, Fiery Sword, Winepress of Wrath

I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, 7 “The marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife has made herself ready [by putting on her wedding gown]. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.” ... 9 And he said to me, “Write, Blessed are they which are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse [a cherub, cherubs have animal-like features, horses can’t fly]; and he that sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, ... 13 and he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood, and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies [plural - angels, Rev. 15:6; and church saints, Rev. 19:7-8] which were in heaven followed him on white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goes a sharp [fiery - Gen. 3:24; 2 Thess. 2:8] sword, that with it he should smite the Gentile nations, ... and he treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

### Ps. 18:9-12 - God, in the person of Messiah, will ride a cherub

He bowed the heavens also, and came down, and darkness was under his feet. 10 And he rode on a cherub, and did fly; yes, he did fly on the wings of the wind. 11 He made darkness his secret place; his pavilion round about him were dark waters and thick clouds of the skies. 12 At the brightness that was before him his thick clouds passed, hail stones and coals of fire.

*Post-Trib Problem #33. Would God use disembodied human souls as an army?*

*Post-Trib Problem #34. Would the Father give his Son a half-dressed bride?*

Which makes more sense? Post-Trib: The souls of church saints that died put on part of the wedding gown in heaven before the return, and then their glorified resurrected bodies along with those glorified alive put on the rest of the wedding gown after Messiah’s return. Or Pre-Trib: All church saints are physically in heaven after the rapture (like Enoch, Elijah, and Jesus are there now, though only Jesus glorified) and so the whole bride puts on the wedding gown at the same time right before the second coming for a marriage ceremony in heaven and a wedding feast on earth.

## 13) Jesus will return in the air to Petra and destroy the Gentile armies attacking the Jews there.

### Isaiah 34:1-10 - The first place Messiah strikes will be around Petra

Come near, you nations, to hear; and hearken, you people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it. 2 For the indignation of the Lord is on all nations, and his fury on all their armies: he has utterly destroyed them, he has delivered them to the slaughter. 3 Their slain also will be cast out, and their stink will come up out of their carcasses, and the mountains will be eroded with their blood. ... 5 My sword will be bathed in heaven: behold, it will come down on Edom, and on the people of my curse, to judgment. 6 The sword of the Lord is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the Lord has a sacrifice in Bozrah (in Edom, literally, ‘the sheepfold,’ probably at Petra), and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea [Edom].... and their land will be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness. 8 For it is the day

of the Lord's vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion. 9 And the streams thereof will be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof will become burning pitch. 10 It will not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof will go up for ever: from generation to generation it will lie waste; none will pass through it for ever and ever.

**14) He will thereby rescue the Jewish believers there.**

Zechariah 12:7 - Messiah will save the Jews at Petra before Jerusalem

The Lord also will save the tents of Judah [temporarily living in Petra] first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah.

*Post-Trib View Problem #35. Will Jesus make believers wait until after his return for the rapture?*  
He can't rapture all the believers in the world at this point because there's believers being attacked in Jerusalem when he arrives there.

**15) Jesus riding a cherub will fight from Petra to the Mount of Olives with fire from his mouth.**

Psalm 18:7 - Fire out of his mouth

Then the earth shook and trembled, the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth. 8 There went up a smoke out of his nostrils, and fire out of his mouth devoured, coals were kindled by it.

Like the locusts and the two witnesses will kill people with fire from their mouths:

Joel 2:1 - Locusts like horses, Fire

The day of the Lord comes, ... 2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread on the mountains. ... 3 A fire devours before them [supernatural locusts], and a flame burns behind them. ... 4 The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses. ... 10 The earth will quake before them, ... the sun and the moon will be dark, and the stars will withdraw their shining.

Rev. 9:7 - Locusts like horses, Fire from mouths

The shapes of the locusts were like horses, ... 10 and they had tails like scorpions, ... 17 and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions, and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. 18 By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths."

Rev. 11:3-6 - Two witnesses, Fire from mouths

I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. ... 5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceeds out of their mouth, and devours their enemies. ... 6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not, ... and to smite the earth with all plagues.)



## **16) And with laser rays from his hands and feet which will cause men's eyes to melt.**

### Habakuk 3:3-13 - From Edom, Rays from hands and feet

God came from Teman [Edom], and the Holy One from mount Paran [Edom]. Selah. His brightness covered the heavens. ... 4 His brightness was as the light; he had rays coming out of his hand. ... 5 Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals [ASV says 'fiery bolts'] went forth at his feet. ... 6 He drove asunder the nations [Gentiles], and the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills did bow. ... 12 You didst march through the land in indignation, you didst thresh the heathen in anger. 13 You went forth for the salvation of your people, even for Yeshua your Messiah.

### Zechariah 14:12-15 - Flesh, Eyes, Tongues consume away

And this will be the plague wherewith the Lord will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh will consume away while they stand on their feet, and their eyes will consume away in their holes, and their tongue will consume away in their mouth. 13 And it will come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the Lord will be among them; and they will lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbor, and his hand will rise up against the hand of his neighbor. ... 15 And so will be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that will be in these tents, as this plague.

## **17) Treading Gentile armies in the winepress of the wrath of God, the valley of Jehoshaphat between Mount of Olives and Temple mount**

### Isaiah 63:1-6 - Clothes stained with blood from treading the Gentiles in the winepress

Who is this that comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah [in Edom, lit. 'sheepfold,' i.e. Petra?], he that is bright in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I [the Messiah] that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Why are you red in your apparel, and your garments like him that treads in the winepress? 3 I [the Messiah] have tread the winepress alone, and of the [Jewish] people there was none with me, for I will tread them [the Gentile armies] in my anger, and trample them in my fury, and their blood will be sprinkled on my garments, and I will stain all my clothes. 4 For the day of vengeance is in my heart, and the year of my redeemed [Jewish people] is come. 5 And I looked, and there was none to help, and I wondered that there was none to uphold; therefore my own arm brought salvation to me; and my fury, it upheld me. 6 And I will tread down the [Gentile] people in my anger, and make them drunk in my fury.

### Revelation 19:15 - Jesus treading the winepress of the wrath of God

And out of his mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the Gentile nations, ... and he treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

## **18) The blood will run out of the southern part of the valley like wine out of a winepress**

### Revelation 14:14-20 - Blood out of the winepress of Valley of Jehoshaphat

And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and on the cloud one sat like the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. ... 17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. 19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered

the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trodden outside the city [Jerusalem], and blood came out of the winepress, even to the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.

**19) Yeshua's feet will touch down on the Mount of Olives where he left from, the mountain splits, the church saints return with him**

Acts 1:10 - Jesus ascended from Olivet

They looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up. ... This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, will also come in like manner as you have seen him go into heaven. 12 Then returned they to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

Zechariah 14:3-10 - Feet on Olivet, Earthquake, Saints

Then will the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. 4 And his feet will stand in that day on the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives will cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there will be a very great valley; and half of the mountain will remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. 5 And you will flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azal: ... and the Lord my God will come, and all the saints with you. ... 10 All the land will be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem will be lifted up, ... from the tower of Hananeel to the king's winepresses.

Joel 3:14-16 - Valley of Jehoshaphat, Earthquake

Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision [of Jehoshaphat]. 15 The sun and the moon will be darkened, and the stars will withdraw their shining. 16 The Lord also will roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth will shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

Revelation 16:17-21 - Great Earthquake

The seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were on the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city [Jerusalem] was divided into three parts, and the cities of the Gentiles fell. ... 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And there fell on men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

Joel 3:13-17 - Sun, moon, and stars darkened and earthquake

Put you in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great. ... 15 The sun and the moon will be darkened, and the stars will withdraw their shining. 16 The Lord also will roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth will shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. 17 So will you know that I am the Lord your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then will Jerusalem be holy, and there will no strangers pass through her any more.

Isaiah 40:4-5 - Valleys raised, Mountains lowered

Every valley will be exalted, and every mountain and hill will be made low: and the crooked will be made straight, and the rough places plain: 5 And the glory [brightness] of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see it together.

*Post-Trib View Problem #36. This is the latest time anyone can meet Jesus in the air because then his feet touch down on the Mount of Olives, but after his feet touch down believing Jews in their natural bodies flee and are protected through the earthquake.*

*Post-Trib View Problem #37. It says the saints come with Jesus to Jerusalem, not meet him there.*

**20) There will be a 75-day interval before the Messianic Kingdom is set up.**

Daniel 9:27 - The midpoint of the 7-year treaty is 1260 days

He [the Antichrist that will come] will confirm the covenant with many for one seven [of years]: and in the middle of the seven he will cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he will make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined will be poured on the desolate. [7 years = 2520 days, 3.5 years = 1260 days]

Revelation 12:6 - Part of Israel is in Petra for 1260 days

The woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

Daniel 12:11-12 - There will be 75 days between the second coming and the Kingdom

From the time that the daily sacrifice will be taken away and the abomination that makes desolate set up there will be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. 12 Blessed is he that waits, and comes to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. [1335-1290=45, 1335-1260=75]

**21) Israel will be completely regathered from the ends of the earth**

See B. through D. above.

**23) The Gentiles will be gathered to judgment in the Kidron valley re how they treated the Jews, Jesus' brethren**

Joel 3:3-12 - The Gentiles Will Be Gathered to the Kidron Valley to Be Judged

For, behold, in those days [the 75 days following Jesus' return], and in that time, when I will bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, 2 I will also gather all [Gentile] nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land. 3 And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink. 4 Yea, and what have you to do with me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? will you render me a recompence? and if you recompense me, swiftly and speedily I will return your recompence on your own

head; 5 Because you have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my goodly pleasant things: 6 The children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have you sold to the Grecians, that you might remove them far from their border. 7 Behold, I will raise them out of the place where you have sold them, and will return your recompence on your own head: 8 And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a people far off: for the Lord has spoken it. ... 12 Let the [Gentile] heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat [Kidron]: for there I will sit to judge all the heathen [Gentiles] round about. ... 14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

Matthew 25:31-46 - Only believing Gentiles will risk helping Jewish people during the tribulation and will enter the Kingdom

When the Son of man will come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then will he sit on the throne of his glory: 32 And before him will be gathered all nations [Gentiles]: and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats: 33 And he will set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then will the King say to them on his right hand, Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungry, and you gave me meat: I was thirsty, and you gave me drink: I was a stranger, and you took me in: 36 Naked, and you clothed me: I was sick, and you visited me: I was in prison, and you came to me. 37 Then will the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we you an hungry, and fed you? or thirsty, and gave you drink? 38 When saw we you a stranger, and took you in? or naked, and clothed you? 39 Or when saw we you sick, or in prison, and came to you? 40 And the King will answer and say to them, Verily I say to you, Inasmuch as you have done it to one of the least of these my [Jewish] brethren, you have done it to me. 41 Then will he say also to them on the left hand, Depart from me, you cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 For I was an hungry, and you gave me no food: I was thirsty, and you gave me no drink: 43 I was a stranger, and you took me not in: naked, and you clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and you visited me not. 44 Then will they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we you an hungry, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister to you? 45 Then will he answer them, saying, Verily I say to you, Inasmuch as you did it not to one of the least of these [Jewish people], you did it not to me. 46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into eternal life.

*Post-Trib Problem #38. Will there be no sheep Gentiles because they've all been glorified at the second coming and will there be no goats because they've all been killed at the second coming?*

**24) The Old Testament saints will be resurrected [NOTE: This item should be moved to the beginning of the regathering of Israel]**

Daniel 12:1-3 - The OT believers will be resurrected 1000 years before the OT unbelievers

At that time ... there will be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time your people will be delivered, every one that will be found written in the book. 2 And many [not all] of them that sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, these to everlasting life, and those [אלה ואלה, elleh v' elleh, these and those, Deuteronomy 27:13; Joshua 8:22; Isaiah 49:12; Psalm 20:8; etc.] [that don't yet awake, Rev. 20] to shame and everlasting contempt. 3 And they that be wise will shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars

for ever and ever.

Ezekiel 37:11-14 - The OT saints will be resurrected and brought to Israel

Then he said to me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. [Reformed theologians say this too!] 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them, Thus says the Lord God; Behold, O my people [Israel], I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. 13 And you will know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people [Israel], and brought you up out of your graves, 14 And will put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I will place you in your own land.

**25) The glorified-body church saints will be rewarded and assigned cities to rule [NOTE: I would move this item to between the rapture and the marriage ceremony in heaven]**

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 - Christians' works will be judged to determine their level of reward

According to the grace of God which is given to me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another builds thereon. But let every man take heed how he builds thereon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Messiah. 12 Now if any man build on this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work will be made manifest: for the day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he has built thereon, he will receive a reward. 15 If any man's work will be burned, he will suffer loss: but he himself will be saved; yet so as by fire.

Luke 19:15-19 - Christians' works will be judged to determine their level of authority

And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called to him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. 16 Then came the first, saying, Lord, your pound has gained ten pounds. 17 And he said to him, Well, you good servant: because you hast been faithful in a very little, have you authority over ten cities. 18 And the second came, saying, Lord, your pound has gained five pounds. 19 And he said likewise to him, Be you also over five cities.

Revelation 19:7-8 - Marriage of the Lamb after the granting of rewards for good works

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the Marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife has made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

**26a) Sitting on thrones in judgment**

Revelation 20:4a - This might refer to church saints judging the angels

And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them [the church saints].

1 Corinthians 6:3 - The church saints will judge angels

Don't you know that we will judge angels? How much more things that pertain to this life?

## **26b) The resurrection of the tribulation saints as the last event before the Kingdom**

### Revelation 20:4b-6 - The resurrection of the tribulation saints

And I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark on their foreheads, or in their hands [the tribulation saints]; and they lived and reigned with Messiah a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection: on such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Messiah, and will reign with him a thousand years.

The first resurrection occurs in stages. Everyone agrees there are at least two stages: 1) Messiah, 2) the rest. Even post-trib teachers have to agree there are at least 3 stages: 1) Messiah, 2) the two witnesses, 3) the rest. Actually there are five stages to the 1st resurrection: 1) Messiah, 2) the church saints, 3) the two witnesses, 4) the Old Testament saints, 5) the tribulation saints. 1 Cor. 15:23, "Every man in his own order: Messiah the firstfruits; afterward they that are Messiah's at his coming."

## **27) The first seven days of the kingdom will be the marriage feast of the Lamb.**

### Revelation 19:9 - Marriage Supper of the Lamb

And he said to me, Write, Blessed are they which are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

### Isaiah 24:23; 25:6-8 - A feast for all!

Then the moon will be confounded, and the sun ashamed, when the Lord of hosts will reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients [OT saints] gloriously. ... 25:6 And in this mountain will the Lord of hosts make to all people [who survived] a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined. 7 And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all [Gentile] nations. [The rest is probably after the 1000 years, Rev. 21:4] 8 He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the reproach of his people [Israel] he will take away from off all the earth [and from all reformed teachers]: for the Lord has spoken it.

Yeshua's engagement to the church took place when he paid the bride price of his own blood. Mishnah Torah translated by Eliyahu Touger, Forbidden Intercourse 15:17, Note. "According to Jewish Law, marriage is a two-staged process involving: a) consecration, kiddushin or erusin, and b) marriage, nissuin, when the couple begin living together as man and wife. From the time of consecration onward, however, the woman is forbidden to engage in relations with other men."

After a space of time (2000 years in our case), Yeshua will bring his bride, the church, to his father's house where he has prepared a place for her. Shulchan Arukh (1565 AD), Even HaEzer 34, "In ancient times the Chuppah was the tent or room of the groom into which, at the end of the betrothal period, the bride was brought for the consummation of the marriage. In later times it became simply a canopy which was erected out of four sticks and a piece of cloth. There is still debate as to the legal consequences of a Chuppah. One view is that the Chuppah represents the groom's home and this fulfills the need for the bride to be brought to the groom's home for Nissuin." Jerusalem Talmud Yevamot 1:1:21, "She becomes

a wife for matters of civil law only by entering the husband's house in nissuin, the marriage ceremony.”

While the marriage ceremony at the grooms house is a small affair, the marriage feast involves many more invited guests and is a week-long event. Wikipedia, Seudat Nissuin, “A seudat nissuin (Hebrew, lit. 'wedding feast' or 'marriage supper') is a seudat mitzvah [command] that observant Jews eat after a Jewish wedding. It is a mitzvah to have a joyful wedding reception. A seudat nissuin typically lasts a week called a sheva brachot ('seven blessings') week.” Jesus gave two parables about a wedding feast: Matthew 22:1-14, 25:1-13.

The marriage supper of the Lamb is to celebrate the marriage of Yeshua and the church. The other groups, like John the Baptist and the other Old Testament saints, are there only as “friend[s] of the bridegroom” (Jn. 3:29) who are sent invitations. The other groups that will attend the feast are: 1) the Old Testament saints, 2) the Jewish people who enter the kingdom in their natural bodies, 3) the Gentiles who enter the kingdom in their natural bodies, and 4) the tribulation saints. “Blessed are they which are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb [and the church],” Rev. 19:9.

*Post-Trib Problem #39. Where will the invited guests to the wedding feast of Yeshua and the church come from if all believers of all time are the bride?*

## **28) The Messianic Kingdom**

See E. above.