



Top 10
Ways to
Know if
You are
Obsessed
with Bible
Prophecy

10. You use the *Left Behind* books as devotional reading.
9. You get goose bumps when you hear a trumpet.
8. You believe the term “Church Fathers” refers to Hal Lindsey and Tim LaHaye.
7. You believe that there is an original Greek and Hebrew text with Scofield’s notes.
6. You can name more signs of the times than you can commandments.

5. You refuse a tax refund check because the amount comes to \$666.
4. Barcode scanners make you nervous.
3. You talk to your church into adapting the 60s pop song, "Up, Up and Away" as a Christian hymn.
2. You eat dessert first and never buy green bananas.
1. You always leave the top down on your convertible in case the Rapture happens.



**Why We Believe
in
the Pre-Trib
Rapture**

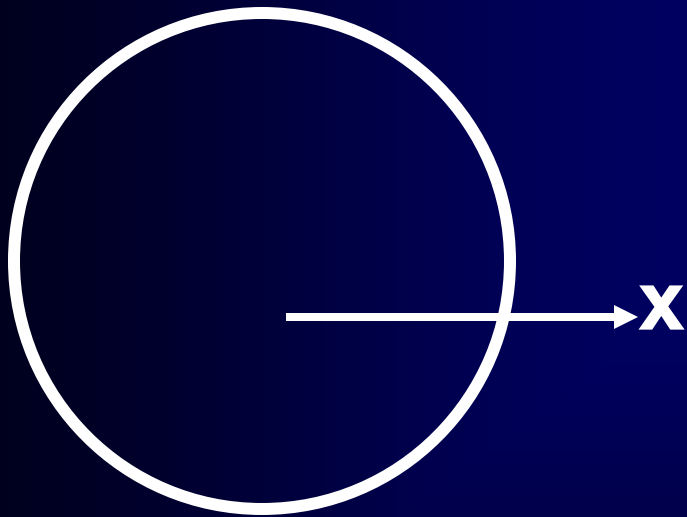


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Revelation 3:10, “I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.”

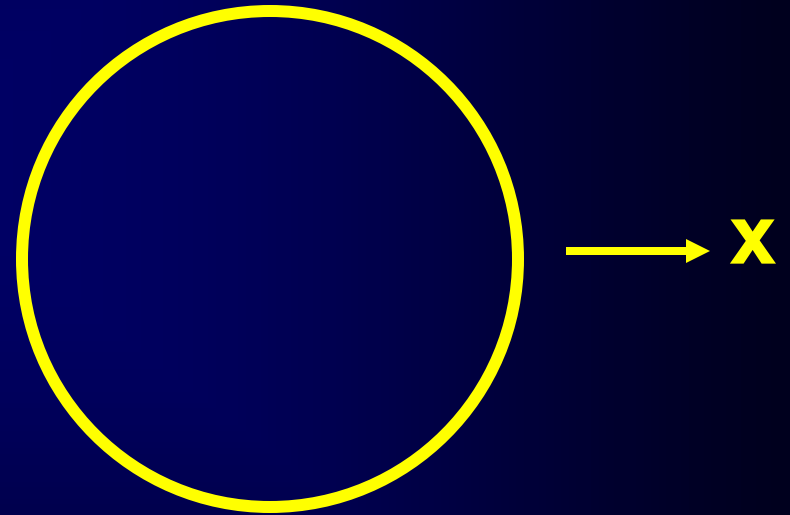
“will keep you from the hour of trial”

Example A



$Ek =$ out from within

Example B



$Ek =$ out from but not ever within



WHAT is the Rapture?

WHEN is the Rapture?

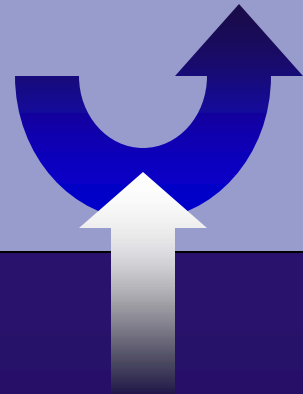


**WHAT is
the Rapture?**

The Rapture is . . .

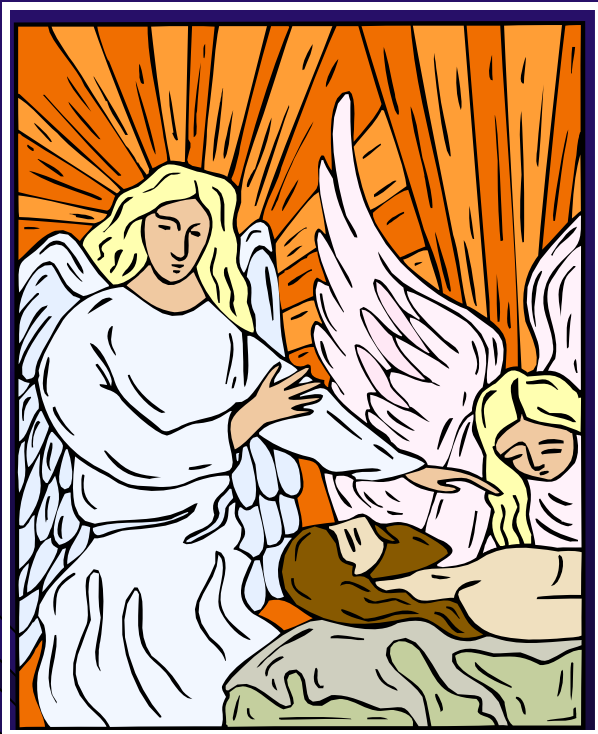
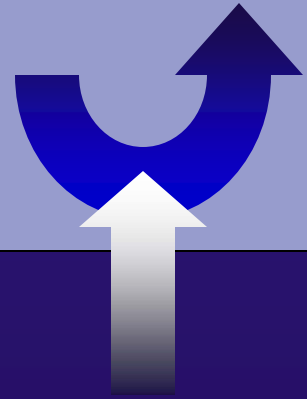
The resurrection of all dead Church Age believers and the translation of all living believers from the earth at the end of the Church Age before the Tribulation begins.

1 Thessalonians 4:13



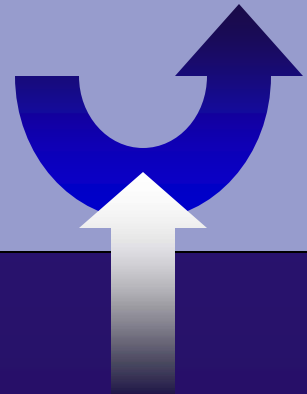
13 “We do not want you to be ignorant brethren, about those who **fall asleep**, that you may not grieve like the rest [unbelievers], who have no hope.”

1 Thessalonians 4:14



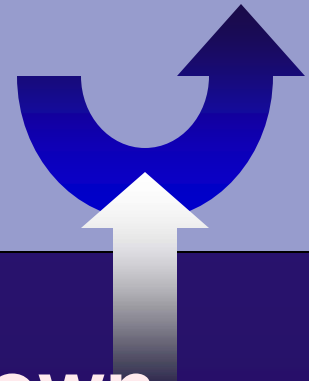
**“We believe
that Jesus died
and rose again and
so we believe that
God will bring with
Him those who
have fallen asleep
in Jesus.”**

1 Thessalonians 4:15b



“We tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, **will certainly not precede** those who have fallen asleep.”

1 Thessalonians 4:16

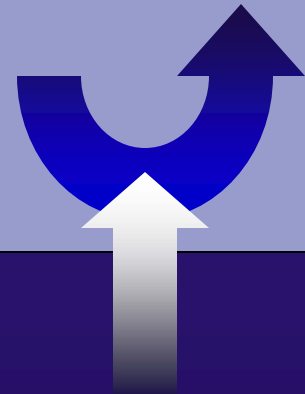


“For the Lord himself will come down from heaven



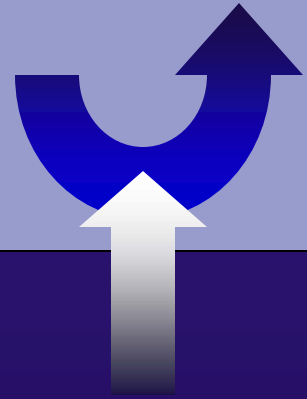
- **with a loud command**
- **with the voice of the archangel**
- **and with the trumpet call of God**
- **and the dead in Christ will rise first”**

1 Thessalonians 4:17a



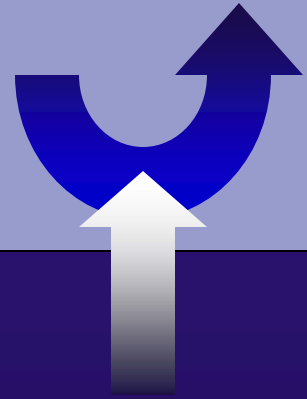
“After that, we who are still alive and are left will be **caught up** [*harpazo*, *rapturo*] together with them in the clouds”

1 Thessalonians 4:17b



**“To meet the
Lord in the
air.”**

1 Thessalonians 4:17c–18



**“And so we will
be with the Lord
forever.”**

**Therefore
encourage each
other with these
words.”**



έν άτομῳ, έν ριπή ὀφθαλμοῦ,

“in a moment, in blink of an eye”

1 Cor. 15:52

ἄτομος *átomos*

“atom”

Blink of an eye = 1/1,000 second



**WHEN is
the Rapture?**

PREMILLENNIALISM



SECOND
COMING OF
CHRIST



CHURCH
AGE

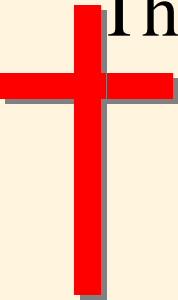
TRIB

MILLENNIUM
1000 literal years

ETER-
NITY

AMILLENNIALISM

Church = the Messianic Kingdom
The Kingdom is no longer literal



**SECOND
COMING OF
CHRIST**

All resurrections
All judgments

**CHURCH
AGE**

ETERNITY

“1000” non-literal years

1st resurrection=spiritual

2nd resurrection=physical

POSTMILLENNIALISM

Church brings in
the Messianic Kingdom

**SECOND
COMING OF
CHRIST**

All resurrections
All judgments

**CHURCH/
KINGDOM**

**“1000”
non-literal years**

ETERNITY

1st resurrection=spiritual

2nd resurrection=physical

RAPTURE VIEWS

Pre-Trib Rapture



All Believers



CHURCH AGE

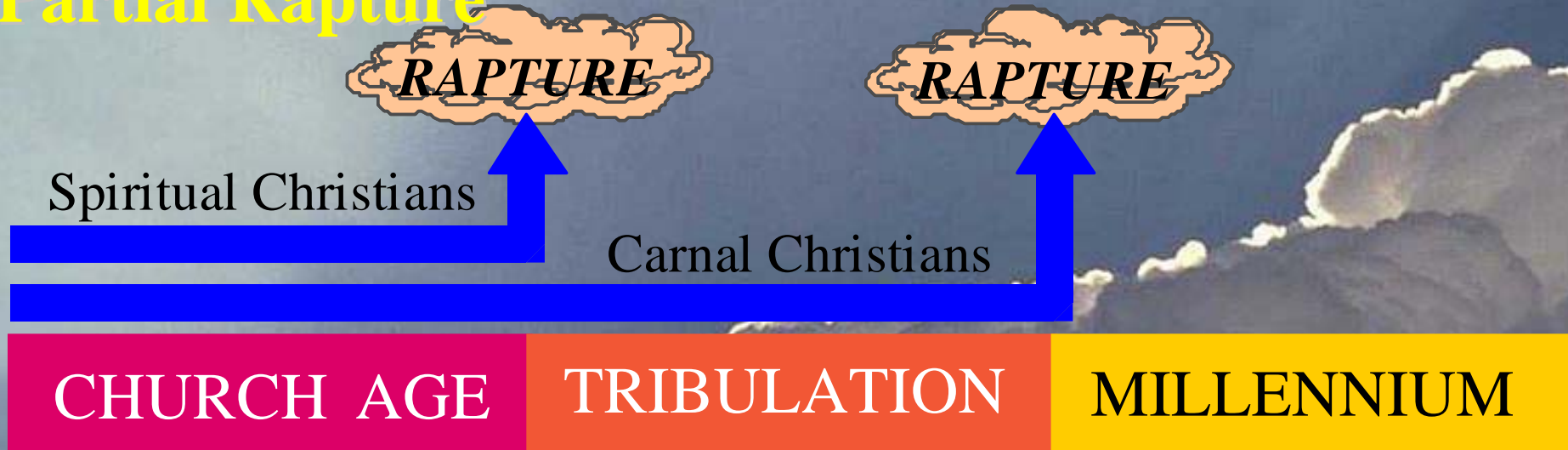
TRIBULATION

MILLENNIUM

The Rapture will occur before the Tribulation and will include all believers.

RAPTURE VIEWS

Partial Rapture



At the Rapture only those faithful, totally dedicated Christians will be caught up, leaving carnal Christians behind to be chastened by the tribulation.

RAPTURE VIEWS

Mid-Trib Rapture

RAPTURE

All Believers

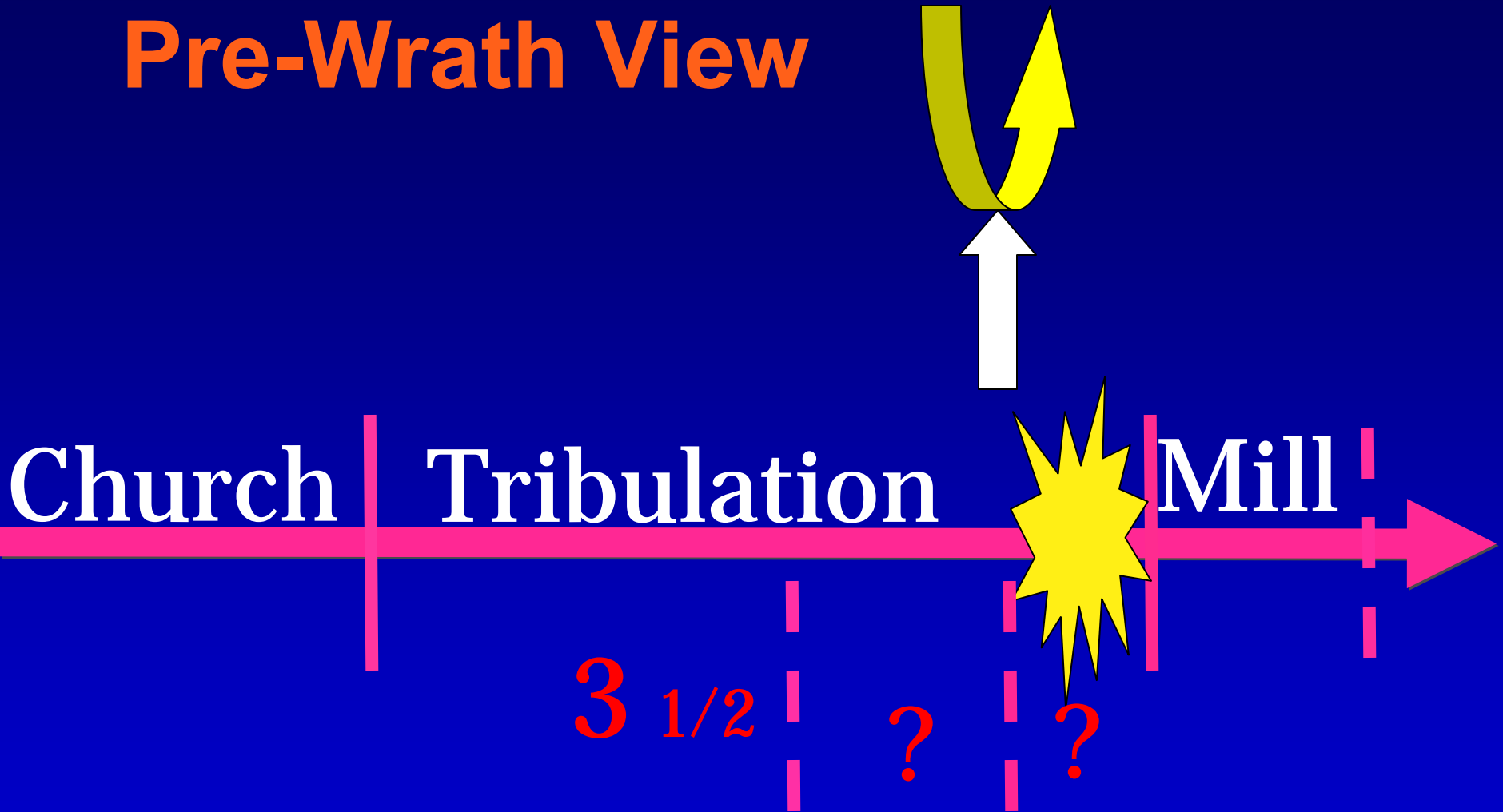
CHURCH AGE

TRIBULATION

MILLENNIUM

The Rapture occurs in the middle of the Tribulation, forcing believers to endure the first three and a half years of wrath.

Pre-Wrath View

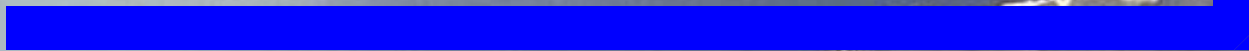


RAPTURE VIEWS

Post-Trib Rapture



All Believers



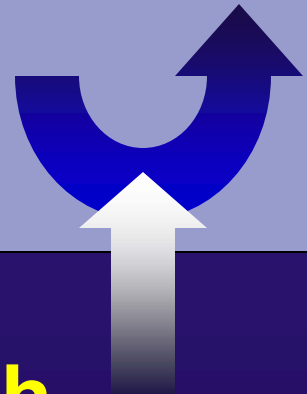
CHURCH AGE

TRIBULATION

MILLENNIUM

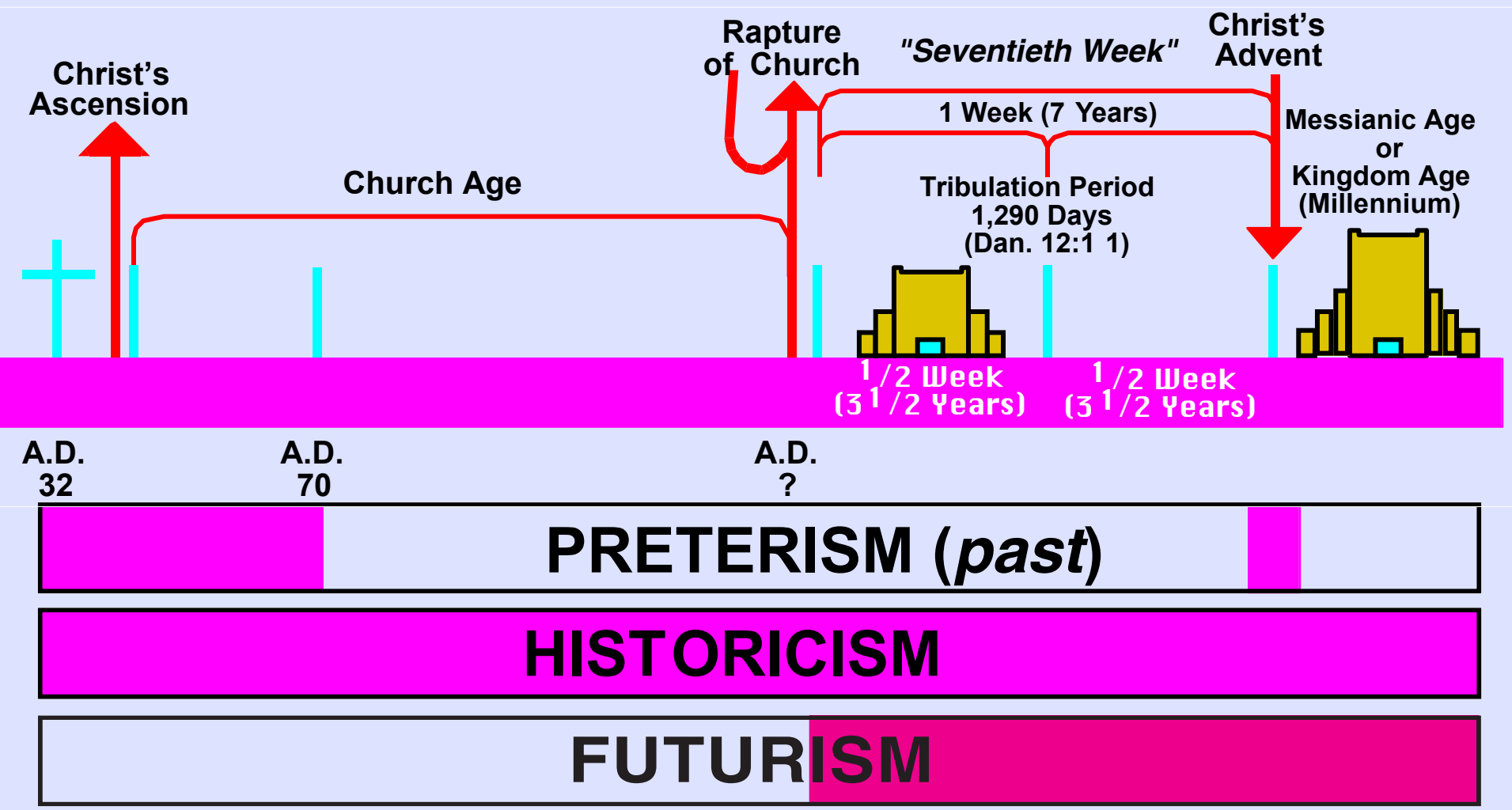
The Rapture occurs at the end of the Tribulation, forcing all believers to endure the entire seven years.

Problems with Post-Trib



- (1) Believers subject to time of wrath**
- (2) An express elevator trip**
- (3) First the Antichrist**
- (4) Populating the Millennium**
- (5) Rapture = Second Coming**
- (6) No one to populate the Millennium**

BASIC APPROACHES TO PROPHECY



THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE DOCTRINE

Practical Motivation for Spiritual Growth, Evangelism, & Missions

Pre-Trib Rapture

Work of the Holy Spirit

Nature of the Church

Nature of the Tribulation

Imminency

Interval Needed Between Comings

Contrasts Between Comings

**Premillen-
nialism**

Futurism

**Israel/Church
Distinction**

Literal Interpretation