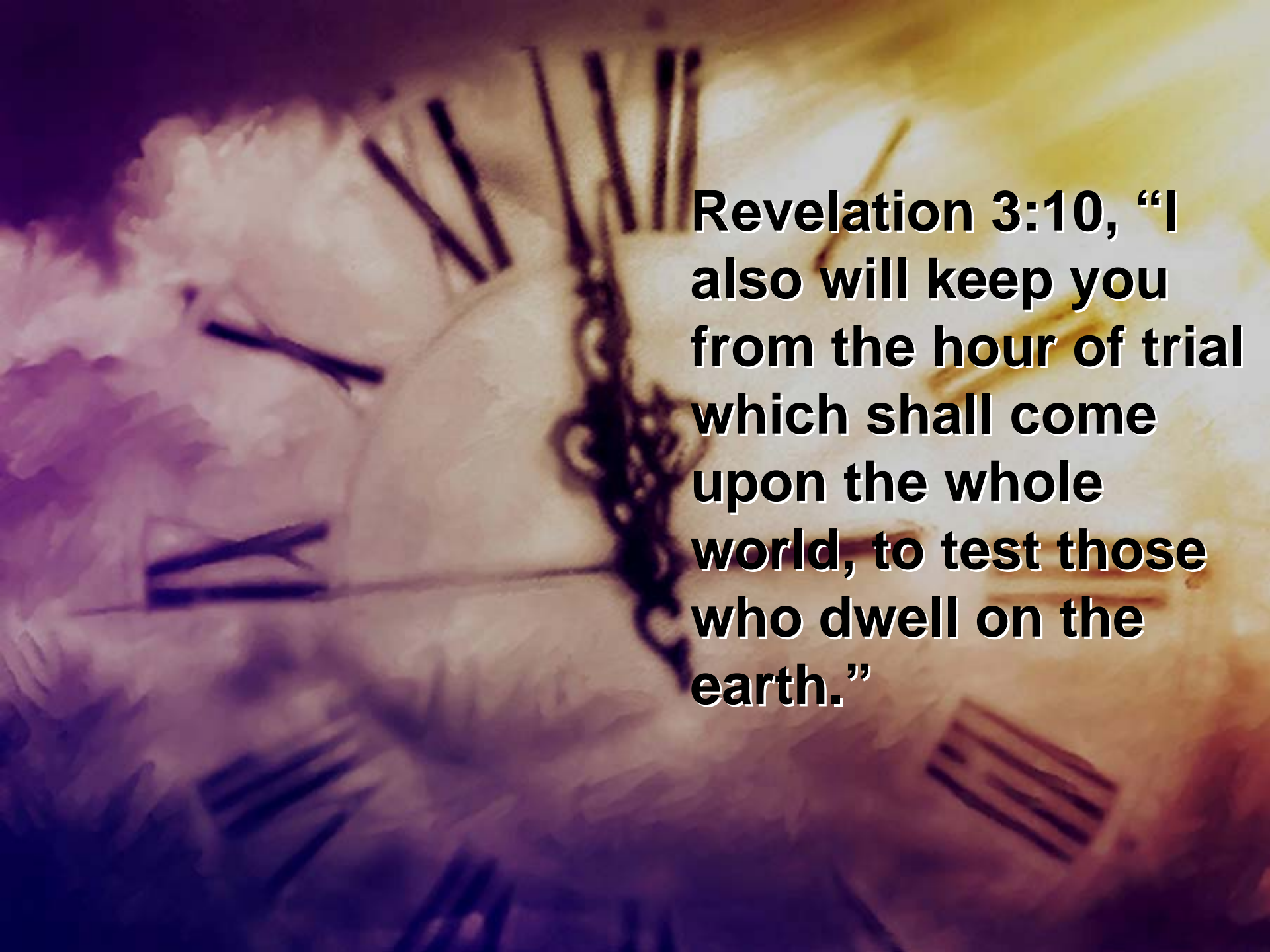


The background of the slide is an aerial photograph showing a vast, dense field of white, fluffy clouds. The clouds are illuminated from above, creating soft shadows and highlights. The sky above the clouds is a clear, pale blue. The overall composition is serene and expansive.

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



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.”



WHAT is the Rapture?

WHEN is the Rapture?

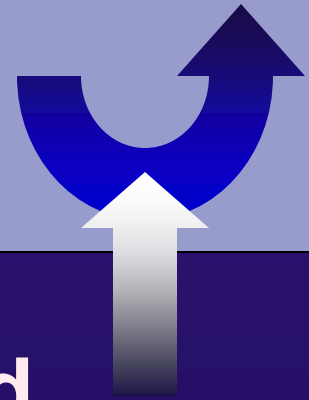
A composite image showing numerous people in various poses floating in the air against a sky filled with white, fluffy clouds. The people are scattered throughout the frame, some appearing to be falling or rising. The overall scene is surreal and evokes the concept of the Rapture. Overlaid on the center of the image is the text "WHAT is the Rapture?" in a large, bold, yellow font with a white outline. The word "WHAT" is in all caps, while "is" is in lowercase. "the Rapture?" is in lowercase, with "Rapture" in all caps.

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 4:16

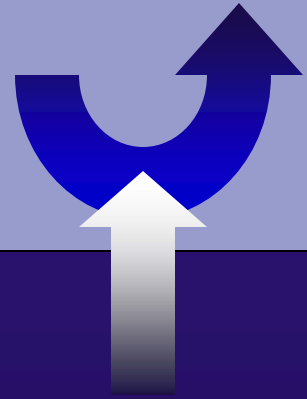


“For the Lord himself will descend from heaven

- **with a shout**
- **with the voice of the archangel**
- **and with the trumpet of God**
- **and the dead in Christ will rise first.”**

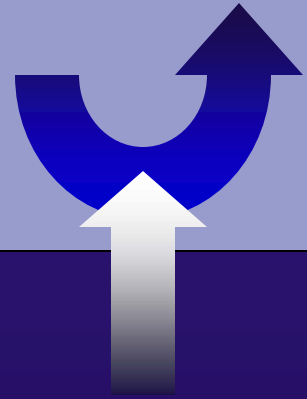


1 Thessalonians 4:17a



“Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up [*harpazo, rapturo*] together with them in the clouds 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.”**



**WHEN is
the Rapture?**

RAPTURE VIEWS

Pre-Trib Rapture



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

***PSEUDO-EPHRAIM* RAPTURE QUOTE**

Why therefore do we not reject every care of earthly actions and prepare ourselves for the meeting of the Lord Christ, so that he may draw us from the confusion, which overwhelms all 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.”

An English trans. of the Latin o *On the Last Times, the Antichrist, and the End of the World*

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

THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE DOCTRINE

Premillen-
nialism

Futurism

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Distinction

Literal Interpretation

Daniel's Seventieth Week

Daniel's Seventy "Weeks" Seventy Periods of Sevens

DAN. 9:24-27

The Decree
to Restore

Messiah
The Prince

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline 7 + 62 = 69 \\ \hline \text{weeks} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$70 \times 7 = 490 \text{ years}$$

$$69 \times 7 = 483 \text{ years} = \\ 173,880 \text{ days}$$

March 5,
444 B.C.

March 30
A.D. 33

Artaxerxes'
Decree

Triumphal
Entry

Neh. 2:1-3

Luke 19:28-40

What happened to the
other seven years???

ISRAEL

Daniel's Seventy "Weeks" Seventy Periods of Sevens

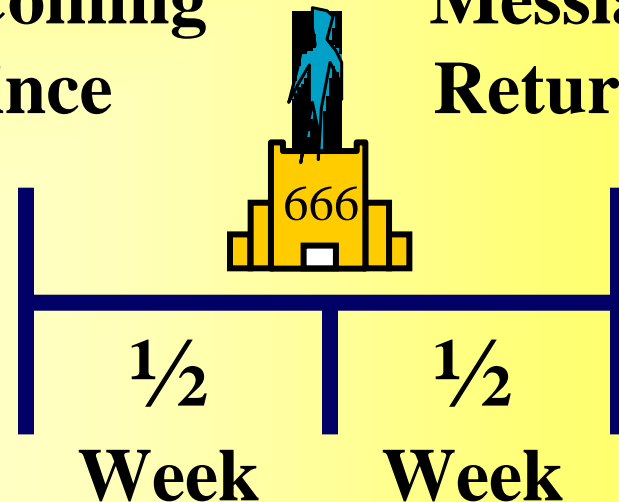
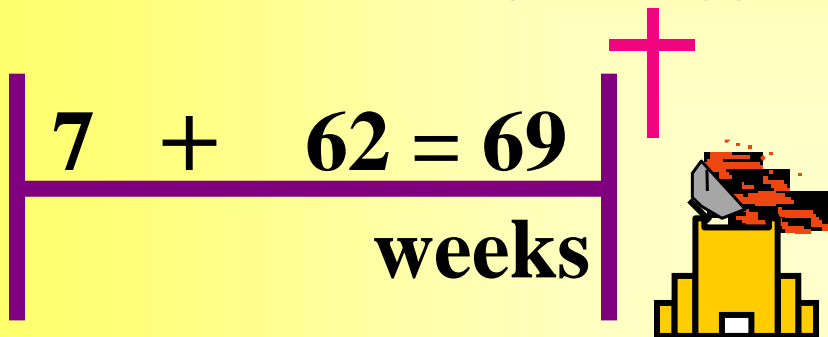
DAN. 9:24-27

**The Decree
to Restore**

**Messiah
The Prince**

**The Coming
Prince**

**Messiah
Returns**



**March 5,
444 B.C.**

**March 30
A.D. 33**

**Artaxerxes'
Decree**

**Triumphal
Entry**

Neh. 2:1-3

Luke 19:28-40

ISRAEL

ISRAEL

THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE DOCTRINE

Contrasts Between Comings

Premillen-
nialism

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Literal Interpretation

THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE DOCTRINE

Interval Needed Between Comings

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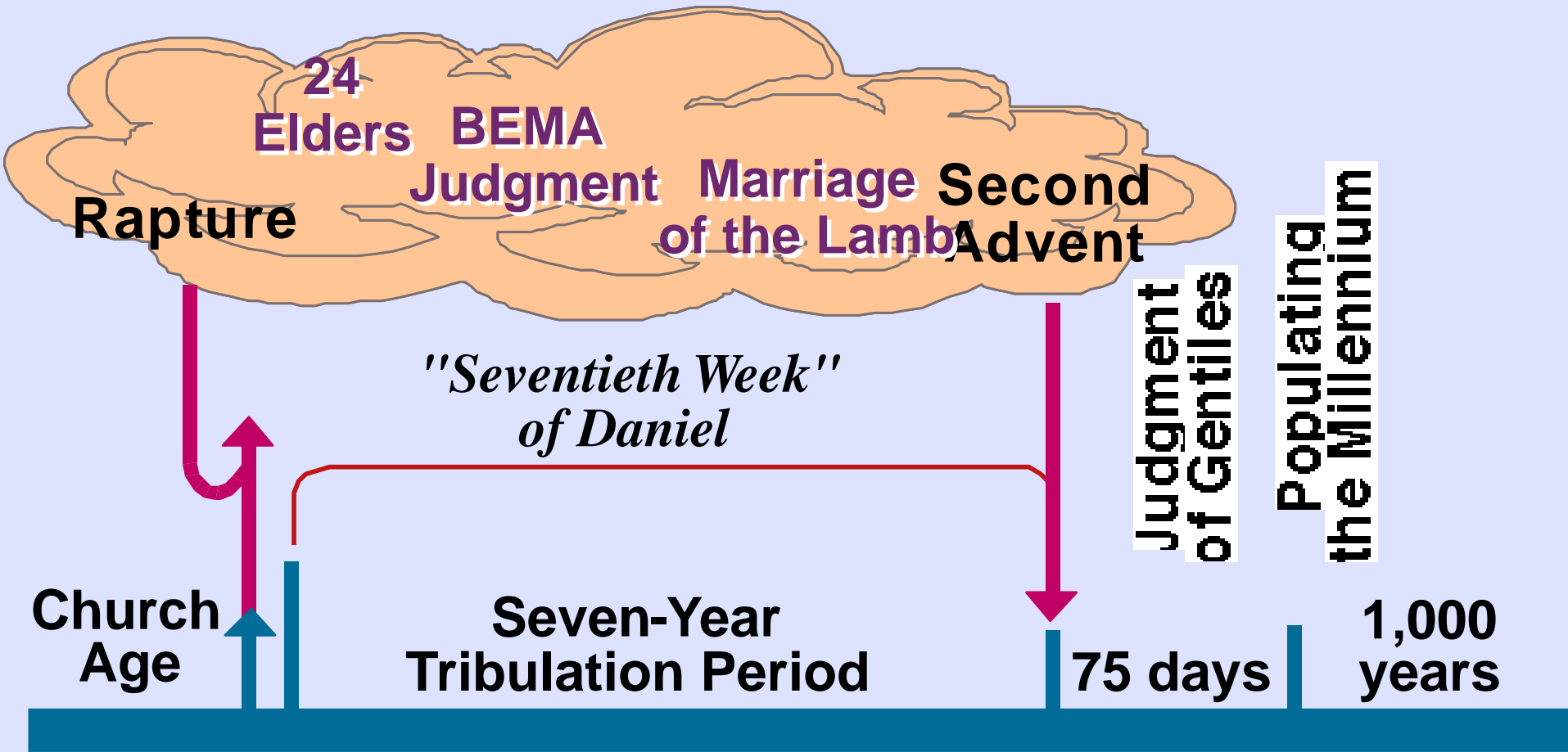
**Premillen-
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Futurism

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Literal Interpretation

INTERVAL EVENTS BETWEEN THE RAPTURE AND SECOND COMING



THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE DOCTRINE

Imminency

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nialism**

Futurism

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Distinction**

Literal Interpretation

1. Definition

Imminency: the “at any moment” return of Jesus Christ.

OED: “hanging overhead, constantly ready to befall or overtake one; close at hand in its incidence.”

It is **certain** it will occur,
it is **uncertain** when it will occur;

It is **NOT** contingent on any other events;

and **NO** prophesied event intervenes between
the present time and the Rapture.

“EAGERLY WAIT”

Heb. 9:28, “so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who **eagerly wait** for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.”

“EAGERLY WAIT”

Pictures eager expectation indicated by the head bent forward to catch the first glance of an advancing procession.

“It is one of those admirable words that the Greek language easily forms . . . It means ‘to wait with the head raised, and the eye fixed on that point of the horizon from which the expected object is to come.’” Frederick Godet

THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE DOCTRINE

Nature of the Tribulation

Imminency

Interval Needed Between Comings

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nialism**

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**Israel/Church
Distinction**

Literal Interpretation

Daniel's Seventy Weeks

(Daniel 9:24-27)

The Decree to Restore

Messiah the Prince

The Coming Prince

Messiah Returns

69 Weeks



Church Age



1/2 Week

1/2 Week

**March 5,
444 B.C.**

Artaxerxes' Decree
Neh. 2:1-8

**March 30,
A.D. 33**

Triumphal Entry
Luke 19:28-40

City &
Temple
destroyed

Apr. 3,
"cut off" A.D. 33

Aug. 6,
A.D. 70

The Tribulation is for Israel

JEWISH NATURE OF THE TRIBULATION

1. Time of preparation for Israel's restoration & conversion (Dt. 4:29,30; Jer. 30:3-11; Zech. 12:10).
2. Called "time of Jacob's tribulation" (Jer. 30:7)
3. Church currently experiences tribulations (Jn. 16:33), she will not experience "the" tribulation.
4. Church is mentioned 19 times in Rev. 1-3, but in ch. 4-19, that covers the tribulation period, the Church is never mentioned.

The judgments of the Tribulation are
unique in all of human history;
Matt. 24:21; Jer. 30:7; Dan. 12:1; Joel 2:2

Matt. 24:21, “for then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall.”

Daniel 12:1, “At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands *watch* over the sons of your people; and **there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time.** And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book.”

THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE DOCTRINE

Nature of the Church

Nature of the Tribulation

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Distinction**

Literal Interpretation

NATURE OF THE CHURCH

- 1. Purpose for the Church differs from Israel.**
- 2. Church is a “mystery” of Jews and Gentiles united in a co-equal body (Eph. 2:11–22; 3:1–13).**
- 3. Church is not appointed to wrath (i.e., the Tribulation] (Rom. 5:9; 1 Thes. 1:10; 5:9).**
- 4. Church is promised deliverance from the “hour” of testing (Rev. 3:10).**

The Church is NEVER the object of the wrath of God.

“wrath” is used first in Rev. 6,
the “wrath of the Lamb”

“wrath” is worldwide in scope

“wrath” involves supernatural
judgments and signs and
wonders on the earth.

“wrath” results in the deaths of
BILLIONS!

1 Th. 5:9, “For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,”

1 Th. 1:10, “and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE DOCTRINE

Work of the Holy Spirit

Nature of the Church

Nature of the Tribulation

Imminency

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nialism**

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Distinction**

Literal Interpretation

WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The “Restrainer” in 2 Thess. 2:6, refers to the indwelling ministry of the Holy Spirit at work through the body of Christ during the current Church Age.

WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

“And you know what restrains (neuter) him now, so that in his time he may be revealed. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains (masculine) will do so until He is taken out of the way.”

(2 Thessalonians 2:6, 7)

THE PRE-TRIB RAPTURE DOCTRINE

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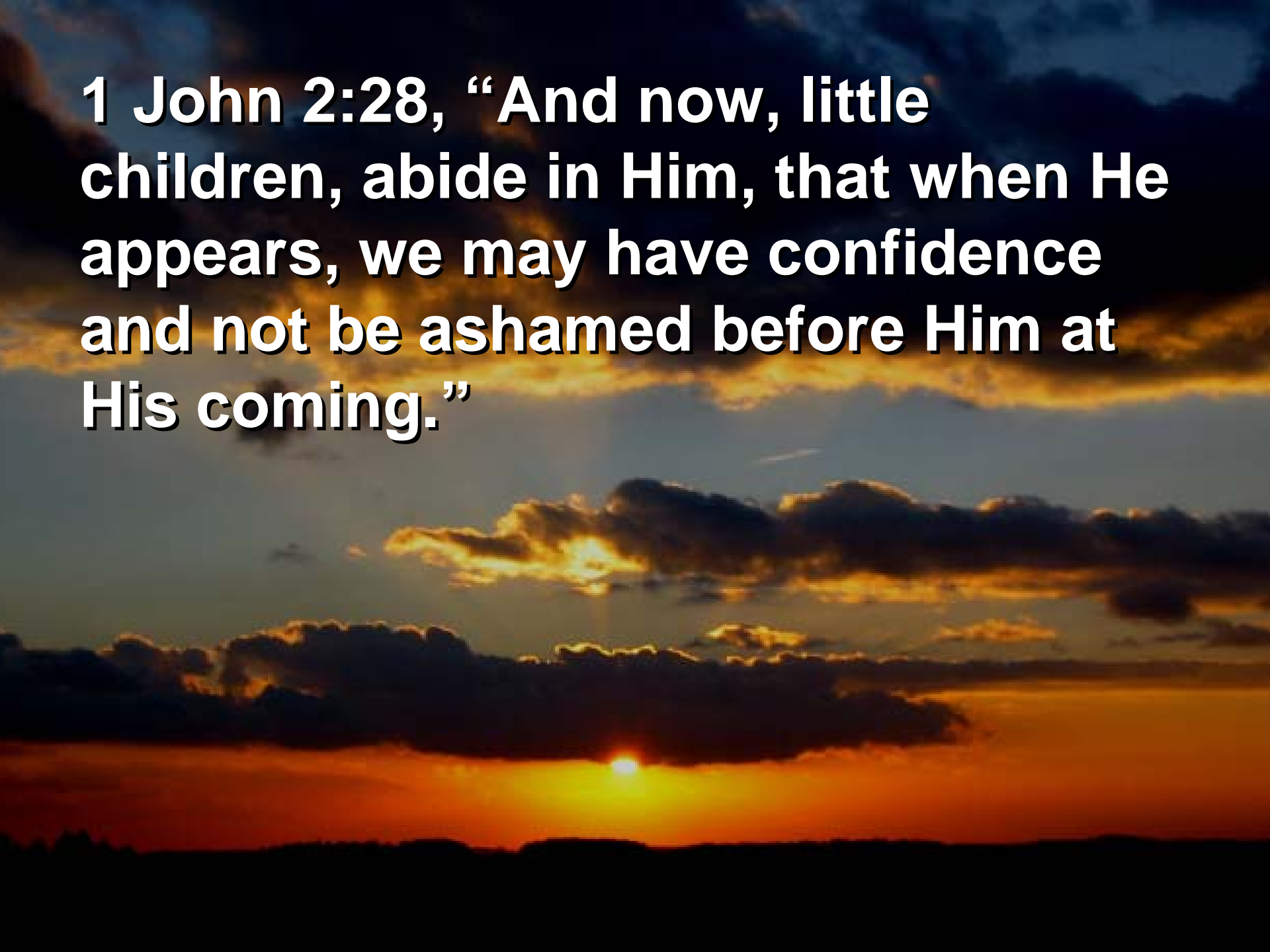
**Premillen-
nialism**

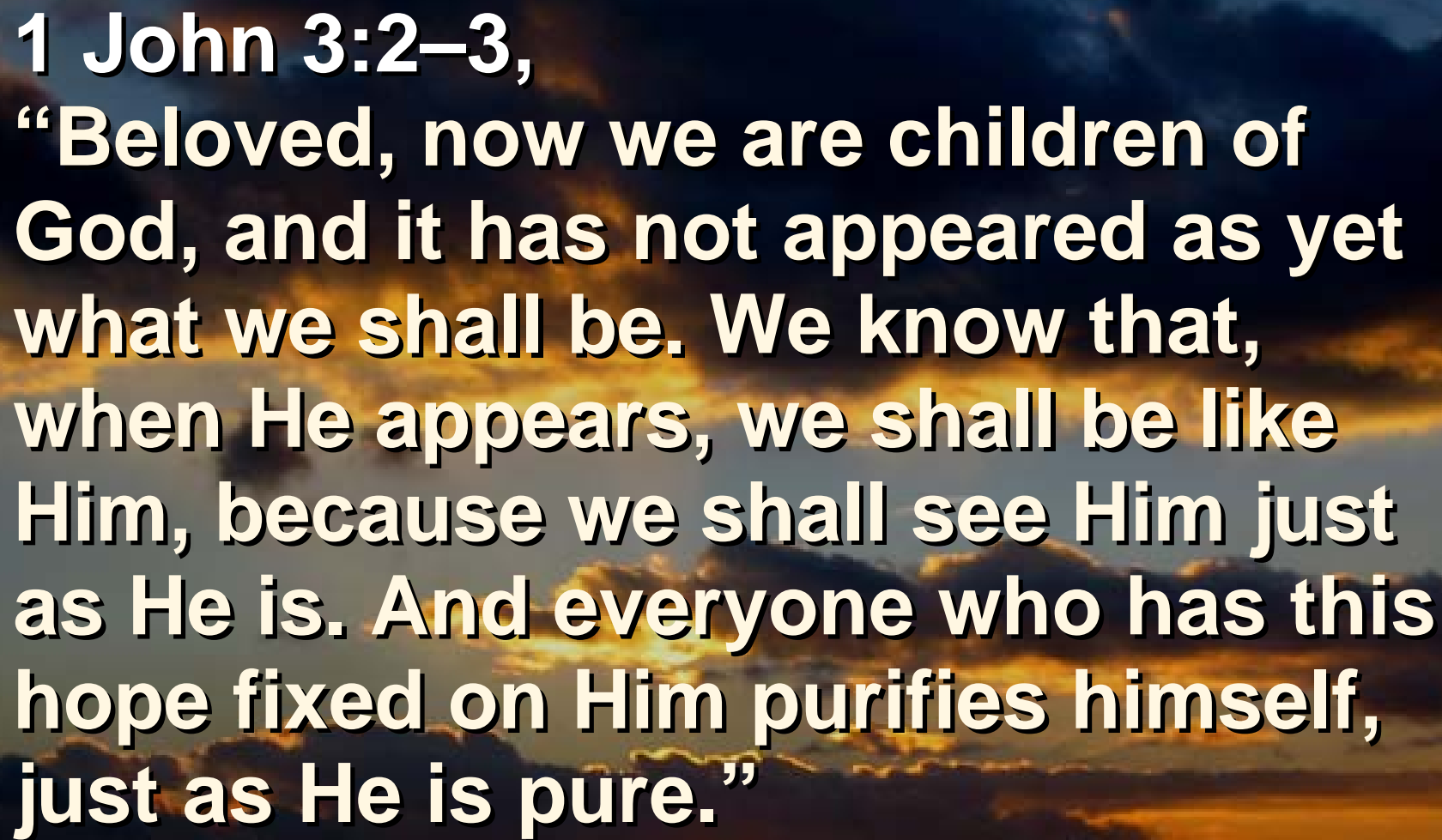
Futurism

**Israel/Church
Distinction**

Literal Interpretation

1 John 2:28, “And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.”





**1 John 3:2–3,
“Beloved, now we are children of
God, and it has not appeared as yet
what we shall be. We know that,
when He appears, we shall be like
Him, because we shall see Him just
as He is. And everyone who has this
hope fixed on Him purifies himself,
just as He is pure.”**