

Section 11

THINGS I BELIEVE ABOUT THE END TIMES (Part 1)

This area of study is often called **ESCHATOLOGY**
(a study of the End Times)

SEVERAL FOUNDATIONAL ITEMS MUST BE CONSIDERED:

- We must avoid two extremes
 “eschato_____” “eschato_____”
 (unhealthy preoccupation) (unhealthy aversion)
- Where you start determines where you finish.
 There are two distinct Theological Systems that drastically affect eschatology:

(1) _____	(2) _____
Dispensations (time periods)	A Single Plan of Salvation
Church is distinct from Israel	Church is continuation of Israel
Prophecy taken literally	Prophecy taken spiritually
God will fulfill promises to Israel	OT promises fulfilled in Church
- Eschatology is NOT only the study of _____, but of all biblical teaching.
- Eschatology involves more areas of _____ than areas of _____
- If the plain sense makes sense seek no other sense or you'll end up with nonsense.

THE CENTRAL EVENT OF END TIMES IS THE SECOND COMING

- This is the belief that Jesus will physically return to earth.
- The majority of Bible-believing churches agree on the fact that Jesus is coming. However, there is a diversity of beliefs concerning _____ the Lord will come.

JESUS COMING IS DISCUSSED IN RELATION TO THE MILLENNIUM

- This is the 1000 year reign of Christ on earth.
- There are three very different positions concerning the return of Christ.

_____ – The Kingdom will be brought in by the Second Coming of Christ, will focus on fulfilling literally the Old Testament kingdom promises to Israel, and will last for a literal 1000 years.

_____ – The Kingdom will be brought in by the Church as it slowly improves the world situation and establishes an indefinite time of righteousness and light on earth at the end of which Christ returns for the last judgment.

_____ – There is no literal kingdom on earth. The kingdom is Christ reigning from Heaven in the hearts of believers until the end of the age when He will return for the last judgment.

THE KEY EVENT BEFORE JESUS COMES IS THE TRIBULATION

- This is a _____ year period of God's judgment on the earth

TRIBULATION IS DISCUSSED IN RELATION TO THE RAPTURE

- This is the resurrection of the _____ and the changing of believers alive at the time, all of whom are caught up into the air to meet Christ.
- Belief in the rapture is a distinguishing point of Premillennialism.
- There are several different positions concerning the rapture of the Church



_____ RAPTURE – Jesus Christ returns before the beginning of the seven-year Tribulation period and raptures the Church.

_____ RAPTURE – In the middle of the Tribulation period, Jesus Christ returns and raptures the Church

_____ RAPTURE – At the end of the Tribulation period, Jesus Christ returns and raptures the Church.

_____ RAPTURE – Sometime after the middle of the Tribulation period, before God pours out the bowls of His great wrath on the earth, Jesus Christ returns and raptures the Church.

_____ RAPTURE – Jesus Christ raptures before the Tribulation only those believers who have been watching for His coming. Carnal believers will remain to go through the purifying fires of the Tribulation

SEVERAL JUDGMENTS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE END

JUDGMENT

- The Judgment of the Church after the Rapture and before the Marriage Supper of the Lamb
(*2 Corinthians 5:10*)

JUDGMENT

- The Judgment of the survivors of the Tribulation to determine who will enter into the Millennial Kingdom
(*Matt 25:31-46*)

JUDGMENT

- The judgment of all unbelievers at the end of the Millennium (*Rev 20:11-15*).