10 BIBLE Reasons Why All Should At Least Question A Popular End-Time MYTH

1. The Pre-Tribulation Rapture is not explicitly taught in Scripture.

The Pre-Tribulation Rapture end-time view is based on theological **inference**, not on explicit Bible data. This position has NO clear biblical support. There is not one passage which teaches the **Pre-Trib** Rapture in all of Scripture. This reason, alone, is sufficient warrant to question Pre-Tribulationalism. **So how strong are the** <u>inferences</u>?

2. Pre-Tribulation Rapture advocates' inference of "imminence" is not taught in Scripture. (<u>CLICK HERE</u> rendnote for specific evidence toward this end)

The "imminent" **inference** (in supposed support of the **Pre-Trib** Rapture) is poor. Please visit the link immediately above for warrant supporting this claim.

3. Dispensational Theology's inferential teaching that the <u>event</u> which closes the Age of Grace – the Pre-Tribulation Rapture – is not taught in Scripture. (<u>CLICK HERE</u>^{2 endnote} for one *Dispensational* dilemma)

The **inference** of "Dispensationalism" is circular when the Rapture is included therein. How so? Discern the many Dispensational charts. They often teach the *Dispensation of Grace* ends at the Pre-Trib Rapture event. The problem with this is that there does not exist even one explicitly biblical passage in support of this presupposition – that the conclusion of the Dispensation of Grace is the Pre-Trib Rapture event.

4. Pre-Tribulation Rapture advocates often teach Daniel's 70th Week is equivalent to the "Tribulation Period." This, too, is not taught in Scripture.

The inferred interpretation (by many Pre-Tribulationalists) that Rev. 6–19 represents the "Tribulation Period" is not explicitly taught in Scripture.

The **inferential** teaching that Revelation 6 - 19 & Daniel's 70th Week represent the "Tribulation Period" as defined by Pre-Trib advocates is NOT substantiated by actual biblical data. The Bible never teaches the tenet that Daniel's 70th Week **is** the "Tribulation Period." The Bible does not teach the *interpretation* that Rev. 4:1 provides support for the Rapture due to the fact that this opinion fails the "actual data" test. Truth: The rapture is not taught in this verse. We really do need to better discern the difference between Bible Truth and Bible interpretation).

5. How Pre-Tribulation Rapture advocates interpret the "last trumpet" of
 I Corinthians 15:51, 52 is not very credible when contrasted to other views,
 ones which are more explicitly biblical. (CLICK HERE 3 endnote for one example.)

The Pre-Trib Rapture teaching regarding the details of the "last trumpet" of I Cor. 15:51, 52 is weak when contrasted with the positions which affirm the actual data of this passage: The event of our being changed, in a twinkling of an eye, takes place at the last trumpet. The only **series** of eschatological trumpet blasts (where there would be a "last" trumpet) in the entire Bible is found in Rev. 8 – 11 and the final trumpet blast of this series is the 7th trumpet. It's at this time (just after the 7th trumpet sounds) that the 24 elders say, "… Your wrath has come." (Rev. 11:18; NKJV)

6. The "Tribulation Period" concluding with the 2nd Advent of Christ (as taught by Pre-Tribulation Rapture advocates) is not biblically supported, as our Lord Jesus Christ teaches to the contrary – see Mt. 24. (CLICK HERE 4 endnote for a more complete detailing of this most challenging problem)

The "tribulation" of Mt. 24:9-22 concludes well BEFORE the 2nd Advent. In other words, the astronomical signs of vs. 29, the sign of the Son of Man (vs. 30), the gathering of the elect (vs. 31) and the final round of false teachers (vv. 24ff) ALL take place AFTER the tribulation and AFTER the great tribulation is cut short. But the Pre-Trib Rapture view teaches the "Tribulation Period" concludes with the 2nd Advent of Jesus Christ to the earth. There's a problem here!

7. The unsubstantiated (biblically speaking) opinion that "The Day of the Lord" is the "Tribulation Period" is unbiblical because the Scriptures teach the Day of the Lord is separate from the tribulation of Mt. 24:9-22. (CLICK HERE ^{5a endnote} for a visual aid which charts The Day of the Lord) (CLICK HERE ^{5b endnote} to view a biblical study of the word, "tribulation")

The Day of the Lord follows the tribulation (vv. 9-22) and astronomical signs (vs. 29) of Mt. 24, for in Acts 2 we find the astronomical signs come BEFORE the great and awesome Day of the Lord. In other words, the Day of the Lord is separate from the tribulation **as defined in Mt. 24:9-22**. The Day of the Lord is NOT a part of this tribulation period.

8. In addition to the problematic tenets of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture view above, the Bible teaches the Rapture Gathering takes place **after** the Man of Lawlessness is revealed.

Two great chronological end-time passages (Mt. 24 & Revelation) teach contrary to a Pre-Tribulation Rapture. They actually teach the *gathering together* (Mt. 24:31; II Thes. 2:1) event takes place **after** the Man of Sin is revealed. The Book of Revelation also affirms this when the historical parentheticals of Rev. 12 – 14 are taken into consideration.

There are even more practical eschatological reasons why we should at least question the fable of Pre-Tribulationalism:

9. We are told by our Lord Jesus NOT to uphold traditions, theological tenets or unbiblical myths as more authoritative than the explicit Word of God – see Mt. 15 / Mark 7.

Our Lord, through His instructional ministry, warns against false teachings in two (of many) ways:

- A. Do not put traditions of men above the Word of God Mt. 15
- B. Do not embrace the end-time myths; do not follow those who teach them II Tim. 4:1-4

When these warnings are honored, the unbiblical traditions and myths are rejected (or at the very least, they are not held as *dogmatic* doctrine). Traditions and fables are NOT affirmed as "T" ruth by God's Saints in Jesus Christ.

10. Quoting our Lord, "What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!" (Mk. 13:37; NKJV)We "watch" very differently depending on the end-time viewpoint we espouse.

Our Lord places HUGE emphasis on readiness, preparedness, watchfulness as the *end of days* are unfolding. But how do we CORRECTLY prepare? Answer: The Word of God answers this eternally significant question. But it's here where we face a threat: There are end-time views within the church (which claim to be teaching correctly) which are NOT biblical. If we heed this wise fact [the fact that our **preparations** differ depending on the end-time view we hold], we need to revisit this appeal: Let's go back to the actual teachings of Scripture in order to build a BIBLICAL end-time viewpoint (whereby we watch CORRECTLY)! Let's do so for the sake of the lost, for our own protection and ultimately, for the glory and praise of YGM.

For informational charts and other helpful handouts on this contemporary topic, please visit <u>www.currentmatters.org</u>. The content on these three pages may be shared / copied (as is) for instructional purposes. 2022 copyright © by Jon Swanson

URLs of the links above

- 1. On *Imminence* inference: <u>http://truthfoundations.org/1cid4.pdf</u>
- 2. On Dispensationalism: <u>http://truthfoundations.org/1cid11.pdf</u>
- 3. On I Corinthians 15:51, 52: http://truthfoundations.org/1cio4.pdf
- 4. On *The Tribulation Period* : <u>http://truthfoundations.org/1cid1.pdf</u>
- 5. On Definition Concerns:
 - a. Day of the Lord: <u>http://truthfoundations.org/1c7.pdf</u>
 - b. Tribulation: <u>http://truthfoundations.org/1cio3.pdf</u>