



IS THE “RAPTURE” A SCRIPTURAL DOCTRINE?

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THE DOCTRINE OF PREMILLENNIALISM

The Term

- Pre – before
- Millennial – 1,000 years
- Ism – belief
- Premillennialism is a doctrine stating that Christ will come again to establish a physical kingdom on earth and reign for 1,000 literal years.

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THE DOCTRINE OF PREMILLENNIALISM

The Sequence of Events

- Christ originally came to establish the kingdom of prophecy – a physical kingdom in Israel.
- The Jews rejected Christ.
- The church, unknown to prophecy, was established instead of the kingdom until Christ comes again.

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THE DOCTRINE OF PREMILLENNIALISM

The Sequence of Events

- There will be a secret and silent coming of Christ where the righteous dead are raised and are “raptured” or caught away with the living righteous.
- There will be seven years of tribulation on the earth.
- Christ will come again visibly with the raptured righteous, and there will be the physical battle of Armageddon – good vs evil.

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THE DOCTRINE OF PREMILLENNIALISM

The Sequence of Events

- Christ will reign on a physical throne in Jerusalem for 1,000 years.
- Finally, there will be a resurrection of the wicked, and judgment followed by heaven or hell.

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THE NATURE OF THE KINGDOM

The Kingdom in Prophecy

- **Circumstance** – *Psalms 2* (cf. *Acts 4:24-28*) – resisted/rejected
- **Time** – *Isaiah 2:2*; *Joel 2:28, 32* (cf. *Acts 2:16-17*); *Daniel 2:28, 44-45* – “last days”
- **Nature** – *Isaiah 2:3-4* – spiritual, in truth

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THE NATURE OF THE KINGDOM

The Kingdom at Hand

- **Circumstance** – *Matthew 16:13-19, 21 (cf. Acts 2:27, 29, 31)* – resisted/rejected
- **Time** – *Matthew 16:28; Mark 9:1* – during Roman rule, last days.
- **Nature** – *John 6:14-15, 26-27, 63, 66; 18:33-37* – spiritual, in truth

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THE NATURE OF THE KINGDOM

The Kingdom Has Come

- **Circumstance** – *Matthew 21:38-44; 1 Peter 2:6-10* – resisted/rejected, but kingdom established.
- **Time** – *Colossians 1:13; Revelation 1:9* – present during Roman rule, last days.
- **Nature** – *Hebrews 12:18, 22-24, 27-28* – spiritual, in truth, not shaken.

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THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

His Coming and Kingdom

- *Hebrews 9:27-28; Colossians 1:13-14* – apart from sin for salvation; blood already dealt with sin, established kingdom.
- *1 Corinthians 15:22-24* – He will deliver the already established kingdom to the Father.

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THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

His Coming and the Resurrection and Judgment

- Premillennialism – There will be a secret and silent coming of Christ where the righteous dead are raised and are “raptured” or caught away with the living righteous.
- Proof text – *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*
 - (vv. 13-14) – information for the encouragement of Christians about those who had passed away.

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 - (vv. 16-17) – does this fit “secret,” or “silent?” Is this for only 7 years, or forever? Is this the 2nd of 3 comings?

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- Proof text – *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*
 - (v. 16) – does “*first*” refer to the righteous being raised separate from the wicked?
 - (vv. 15, 17) – “*first*” is in relation to the living.

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His Coming and the Resurrection and Judgment

- At Christ’s coming there will be one resurrection – *John 5:28-29; Acts 24:15; 1 Corinthians 15:21-24*
- Universal judgment – *2 Corinthians 5:10-11; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10*
- His second coming is His final coming – *Hebrews 9:28; 1 Corinthians 15:24*



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