“I’m outta here!” - The Rapture (1 Thes. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-53)

**Introduction:** Has there ever been a time that you looked up, saw an airplane crossing the sky, and just wished you were going wherever that plane was going? It didn’t matter where it was going because wherever it was, it was not here. “Here” can get incredibly difficult at times.

It helps us deal with “here” when we know we will not always be “here.” For now, we use hot baths, entertainment, weekends, and vacations to give us a break from “here.” They give us something to look forward to – a cause for hope. A better day is coming.

“Here” is where we live. “Here” is loaded up with car repairs, unrealistic expectations, high blood pressure, shallow relationships, and rush-hour traffic. “There” is wonderful, full of pleasure, relaxation, peace, and satisfaction. “There” is where we would like to be and where we get to go sometimes for a short stay. “Here” always comes back though.

What if I told you that you could go “there” permanently?

The Bible writers prophesied a coming day when all those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ will be removed from “here” to go “there.” They will never again deal with the struggles of “here.” It’s called the Rapture.

The Rapture is not the only future event the Bible writers prophesied. By some accounts, one-third of the Bible is prophetic. Since there is so much prophetic literature in the Bible, we must not ignore it. We have to deal with it. It’s important. The fulfillment of Bible prophecies is some of the clearest evidence the Bible is from God.

People still skip over biblical prophecy for multiple reasons. There are often multiple possible interpretations of the same passage. Who’s to say which interpretation is the correct one? Prophecy can be frightening and hard to understand. Have you *read* the book of Revelation? It does not promote peaceful sleep (until you get to the end)! Besides, what benefit is there to knowing the future if God has already decided what He will do, and there’s nothing anyone can do to change it? Several cults began as an over-emphasis on or misunderstanding of prophecy. Studying prophecy then becomes at best impractical and at worst dangerous. So pastors and other Christians choose to focus on more easily understood and more applicable portions of Scripture.

There is some validity to the reasons detractors give for not studying Bible prophecy. It *is* powerful. Like many power sources, when handled correctly, it becomes a source of light and productivity. If handled poorly, it can be dangerous, even destructive. It can steal the hope it was designed to give. To prevent that, we’re going to look at some underlying principles which will guide us in our study of biblical prophecy. We will then use those principles to examine what the Bible has to say about the Rapture.

1. **General principles for interpreting Bible prophecy.**
2. Accept the source. (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)

The Bible makes some audacious claims about itself. The most profound one is that every word in the Bible, including the prophecies, finds its source in God. Other books have claimed to contain God’s words, and many “prophets” have claimed to speak them. The Bible’s claim then is not unique. The Bible is different though. It has verification of its claim. God has fulfilled hundreds of prophecies exactly as He presented them.

Because these prophecies come from God, we can believe them even when they sound ridiculous. God will test our belief in His promises by requiring us to act on them.

Mary knew the prophecy that a virgin would conceive (Is. 7:14), but she didn’t think *she* would be the virgin. She accepted the message as from God and trusted God with the changes this message was going to bring. We too can trust the prophecies because we trust the God who made them. You are used to trusting prophecies.

You stood by the pool. There was a part of you that wanted to experience the fun others seemed to be having. But the fear kept you on the side of the pool instead of inside it. Dad said, “Jump. I’ll catch you.” You knew dad. You trusted him, so you jumped. You’ve been enjoying the water ever since. Your heavenly Father is even more dependable. Earthly dads, as hard as they try, aren’t always able to fulfill their promises. They have limitations. God does not.

There are other differences between an earthly dad and our heavenly Father. Dads give useless trivia. Everything that God gives us – including prophecy has a purpose and is valuable for enabling us to live life. Dad can sometimes be inconsistent, telling you how to do something one day and then yelling at you another day because he wanted it done a different way. The Bible, and its prophecies, because they come from a consistent God, fit together into a consistent story. That story can be difficult to follow at times, but everything will eventually coalesce.

1. Define the words.

Bible prophecy uses unusual words and repeating ideas. Do you know what Gog and Magog are? Are they places or people? They’re both. Gog is a place, and Magog is a person. Even when the Bible mentions place names, we need to be able to define those places according to their current designation. Then there are recurring phrases: “Son of Man,” “man of lawlessness,” and “Day of the Lord.” To what do those refer? You need to know.

Prophecy often uses figurative language. The book of Daniel describes different fearsome creatures that rule the world. There are characters in the book of Revelation John describes using the terms “dragon” and “beast out of the earth.” This figurative language speaks actual truth. If you hear the word “dragon,” what comes to mind? Danger, destruction, powerful, run away if you don’t want to become lunch. The “dragon” is Satan. In another passage (1 Peter 5:8), God describes Satan as a lion. The point of describing Satan as a lion is the same as describing him as a dragon – *stay away*!

1. Examine the context.

You get a call to come to school because your son was in a fight. You don’t know his condition, the circumstances, or what the consequences will be. Your emotions range from anger – “I can’t believe he got in a fight!” to fear – “Was he hurt?” and back to anger – “I’m probably going to miss that important meeting tomorrow because he’s suspended.”

Once you arrive at the principal’s office, you see him sitting there with a smile on his face and a cut on his lip. The principal informs you that your son got in a fight because he was defending a new disabled student. The disabled student was enduring bullying by an older, larger student. Officially, the school cannot condone violence, so yes, you will miss the meeting tomorrow. But unofficially, the principal congratulates you on the courage and compassion your son evidenced.

You walk out of school with your son. As you head off with him to get some ice cream, a new emotion swells up within you – pride.

Context is a tool for interpreting life.

It is also a tool for interpreting the Bible. When you come to a prophecy, look at the verses before it and the verses after it. There will often be an interpretation nearby. Look at other passages about the same subject. One passage will shed light on another passage through explanation or by giving further details. The Bible will explain itself.

1. Determine the timing.

You must determine whether the prophecy points to something that has already happened, is happening today, or will happen in the future. History then is a part of the context. The more you become a student of past and present history, the more you will be able to recognize the happenings of history as a fulfillment of prophecy.

A little while ago, we mentioned the ferocious beasts in the book of Daniel. Most of those beasts represent a world power of the past. One of them represents a future world power. All of them were present or future to Daniel, so he had great difficulty understanding the vision. We have the advantage of history. We can better understand the visions he had.

Prophecies sometimes have more than one fulfillment or partial fulfillment at one time and full fulfillment at a later time. Jesus sat down in the synagogue, read from the scroll of Isaiah, and claimed He fulfilled the prophecy there (Isaiah 61:1-11 cf. Luke 4:18-21). He did…partially. Fulfillment for the rest will come later. Peter stood on the temple steps at the Day of Pentecost and proclaimed the prophecy of Joel was the explanation for what the disciples were doing (Joel 2:28-32 cf. Acts 2:17-21). Truly, God’s Spirit did come, and His people were prophesying, but the signs in the heavens were still future.

Just because the fullness of the prophecy hasn’t happened yet, we have no reason to believe it won’t eventually. Think of it as a down payment. The portion we possess gives reason to trust that the whole will come in.

1. Explore the requirements.

Some of the prophecies in the Bible are unconditional. God will fulfill them regardless of what anyone does. They are not dependent on anyone acting or failing to act. Your parents’ love was an example of an unconditional promise. It wasn’t because of your looks or your good grades or your behavior that they loved you. Good thing! They just loved you. That’s what parents do. It’s unconditional. Jesus’ coming, His birth to a virgin and His resurrection are all examples of unconditional prophecies.

Other prophecies are conditional. Dad promises ice cream *if* you clean your room. You failed to clean your room by the deadline. No ice cream. Did dad break his promise? No, you didn’t meet the requirement. A positive example of this is when Jonah prophesied the destruction of Nineveh *if* they did not repent. They repented. God did not destroy them. God always keeps His promises. We don’t always meet the requirements.

With these general principles as our backdrop, it is now time for us to apply them as we consider the Rapture specifically.

1. **Prophecy teaches us judgment is coming.**
2. We know it’s coming.

Prophets had a bad reputation. Most people didn’t like to see a prophet coming because he usually had bad news: “Judgment is coming!” Same song, two-hundredth verse. The fault wasn’t the prophet’s. The fault was actually with the people. The prophet was just the messenger. People did not like him even though part of his message was a message of hope.

There was a way to avert the judgment, postpone the judgment, or make sure individuals could escape the judgment. Noah heard a message from God. The proclamation of that message made him unpopular, but it offered a way of escape. “Don’t miss the boat.” Eight citizens of the planet heeded the warning and surfed their way into a new world. God pronounced judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah, but the judgment did not fall until God warned them. It also didn’t come until the angels rescued Lot and his family. God warned them. They knew judgment was coming.

We know it too. Not everybody believes judgment will come from God. Most recognize though, that as a species, humans can’t keep going the way we are without disastrous consequences. Today, the doomsayers say the cause of our demise will be fossil fuels, global warming, governmental debt, nuclear weapons, or alien abduction! Those are all problems…except maybe that last one, but none of them is our deepest problem. Our deepest problem – and the cause of all these others – is sin. Because God is just, He cannot allow sin to go unpunished and uncorrected forever.

God put a conscious in us. Before you even became a Christian, that conscious told you an action was wrong and made you anxious about the coming penalty. If you are a Christian, God’s Spirit has super-powered your conscious. He directs you to righteousness and messes you up on the inside when you fight his leading (John 16:8). You can’t escape the knowledge that judgment is coming.

Most times, the prophet *wanted* the people to escape the coming judgment. God, the originator of the prophet’s message, *always* wanted the people to escape judgment.

When God sent the prophet Jonah to the city of Nineveh, Jonah and God had different purposes for delivering the warning. Jonah wanted them to die. God wanted them to live. God got His desire, and Jonah did not. One of the factors that worked in Nineveh’s favor was they had a clear deadline – 40 days. They knew when judgment was coming. We do not.

1. We don’t know when it’s coming.

Jesus told His original disciples to watch for some signs. You’ve probably heard of them. They included such things as man-made disasters (“wars and rumors of wars”), natural disasters (“famines and earthquakes”), a falling away from the faith, and great persecution. Later Scriptures prophecy that people will no longer want to hear the truth but will gravitate to false prophets who will tell them only what they want to hear (2 Thess. 2:3; 2 Tim. 3:1-7).

Because the disciples saw many of these signs in their time, they believed they were living in the “last days” (Acts 2:17; Heb. 1:2) Indeed they were. So are we. It’s just that we are living in the *last* of the last days.

Some of Jesus’ early followers responded by ceasing to work, packing a sack lunch, leaving behind their possessions, and ascending a hill to wait for Jesus. When Jesus didn’t come back in their expected time frame, they asked others to provide for them. This is the context of Paul’s words, “If anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat” (2 Thess. 3:10). These disciples had the right idea; they just didn’t execute it well. We *are* supposed to live every day as if today is our last. It’s just that they took a passive approach (wait and see) instead of an active one (get busy).

The signs tell us judgment is coming. They don’t tell us when. Jesus said the day was even unknown to Him, at least while He was on earth (Mark 13:32). Though the warnings are there, people will be living their normal routine (Matt. 24:37-39) without any expectation that judgment from God is about to come (1 Thess. 5:2-3).

People have tried to set dates. One of them was Edgar Whisenant. He authored *88 Reasons why the Rapture will be in 1988.* Obviously, he was wrong. His book would be laughable except for the fact that it has caused a great deal of harm. Look at this review posted by one reader:

“I too was one of the idiots who bought into this hysteria in 1988. I was a naïve 21-year-old who put way too much faith into anything my church pastor taught. When he brought Edgar Whisenant to our church for a series of talks about the 88 reasons, I believed every word of it because my pastor believed it. As a matter of fact, belief in this book compelled my then girlfriend and I to marry much earlier than we originally had intended. We were taught that what is bound together on earth will be bound together in heaven and so we HAD to get married so we would be together after the rapture occurred. When the designated range of dates passed, I remember there being a lot of confusion and anger in the church and we ended up leaving. After several years of religious exploration dosed with much more skepticism than before, my wife and I both ended up rejecting Christianity all together. I'm not saying that his book caused us to become atheists, but it was a major catalyst for us to start thinking for ourselves about religious issues. In light of that and its novelty value now, I give it 5 stars. Oh, and we just celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary!” – Jason (Aug. 28, 2013)[[1]](#endnote-1)

There’s a reason Jesus didn’t tell us the date and a reason He doesn’t want us guessing. Partly, when we guess the date, and *our* prophecy proves untrue, people start to doubt the truthfulness of *all* prophecy. The larger issue though is He wants us to live every day as if judgment day is *this* day!

Some of you are teachers. You know the day is coming when someone from the administration is going to come in and observe you. Inevitably, it will be the day you left a needed resource at home and that the normally best kid in your class chooses to act out. You live every day with the realization maybe even the anticipation that today could be that day. So you bring your “A-game” every day. The arrival of administration is imminent. It could happen at any time. It helps to motivate your preparation at all times.

Jesus’ return is imminent too. I don’t know when it is going to happen, so I must be ready at all times. One thing I do know. The day of judgment is one day closer today than it was yesterday.

1. **Prophecy teaches us Jesus is coming.**

Though Jesus didn’t give the date of His return, Scripture does give us the sequence of events surrounding it. There will be a time of great trouble called the Tribulation which will last seven years. Jesus will then rule on earth for 1000 years. After this, God will destroy the present heavens and earth, and He will create a new universe, a new city, and a new earth for us to live on. There is general agreement on that basic timeline. There is also agreement Jesus is going to come back. He prophesied He would (John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11). The disagreement comes when we talk about the timing of His return.

1. There are three different interpretations.

All the possible interpretations of the timing of Jesus’ return are relative to the Tribulation. We will name them accordingly. The first is called the Post-Tribulation view.

“Post” is a prefix we add to words to indicate the ideas of “behind,” “after,” and “subsequent to.”[[2]](#endnote-2) According to this view, Jesus will return at the end of the Tribulation to rapture believers. The Bible does teach that Jesus will come back at the end of the Tribulation. But what will be the purpose of this coming, and how does it fit with the other “coming” passages?

Jesus speaks multiple times of His coming in Matthew 24. In verse 31 of that passage, He says He will send His angels to gather together those who have received Him as Savior from wherever they are on earth. This could be the gathering that 1 Thessalonians 4 speaks of, but if it is, it creates a problem.

When we meet Jesus in the Rapture, He will transform our bodies. One of the changes is we will no longer be able to have children (Matt. 22:30). In Revelation 19:11-21, John describes the coming at the end of the Tribulation as a battle where Jesus will fight against and destroy all His enemies. The only living humans then would be those who are in their glorified (non-child producing) bodies. Who then will be left to re-populate the earth during the Millennial Kingdom?

A second option for the return of Jesus is the mid-point of the Tribulation sometimes referred to as the Pre-Wrath view. There *will be* a rapture of sorts during the Tribulation. God will have two witnesses who begin their ministry with the rise of the Antichrist. They will be a constant threat to his mission. After many others unsuccessfully try, the Antichrist will finally kill the witnesses three and a half years into the Tribulation. He requires that their bodies remain in the streets so the world can gawk at them. God thwarts the Antichrist’s plans when 3½ days later, God resurrects the witnesses and raises them up to heaven (Rev. 11:1-12). Since these two will be rising to heaven, it makes sense for this to be the time for the rest of Jesus’ followers to do the same.

Some tie this event with Seal Judgment #5 where Jesus tells martyred saints that full judgment must wait until the full number of Christians has come in (Rev. 6:11). Seal #6 (Rev. 6:12-14) then would be the cataclysmic events Jesus spoke of in Matthew 24:29. The events of Seal #6 are also similar to the events that happen after the two witnesses rise into heaven (Rev. 11:13).

The problem with accepting this view is that it violates one of our interpretation principles – the principle of context. If you look at the verses surrounding Matthew 24:29, Revelation 6:11-14 and Revelation. 11:12-13, you discover contradictions that make it impossible for these both to be the same event.

The most obvious contradiction is the different reactions from those who are left. After Seal #6, the people hide from God desiring instead suicide by rock-slide (Rev. 6:15-17). After the resurrection of the witnesses, people respond by giving glory to God (Rev. 11:13).

The final option is a Rapture that happens before the Tribulation begins – a Pre-Tribulation Rapture. As we have discovered, one of Jesus’ key statements concerning His return is the secrecy of its timing. With either of the previous return options, the timing, *to the day*, of Jesus’ return becomes a known factor once the Tribulation begins. A Pre-Tribulation sequence maintains the idea of imminence.

The best solution is to divide Jesus’ return into two stages. A pre-Tribulation Rapture followed by a post-Tribulation Second Coming ties together the information contained in all of the “coming” passages. The “coming” passages use descriptions that are too different from each other to be describing the same event.

The event described in Paul’s epistles is an event in which Jesus comes to deliver Christians from the earth before trouble begins. He comes to the clouds, we go up to meet Him, and the rest of the world is left to wonder what just happened. The event described in Revelation is Jesus coming back *with* us to declare war against Satan and his followers. He will come all the way back to earth, and every eye will see Him.

Those who question this view do so for several reasons. First, they believe it is a relatively new interpretation of the biblical passages. Though a pre-Tribulation understanding didn’t gain popularity until the 19th century, the idea goes back to at least the 2nd century.[[3]](#endnote-3) Second, the word “rapture” does not occur in the English Bible. True, but neither does the word “Trinity.” The Bible teaches both concepts though. Third, some take offense at the teaching that anyone gets to escape the Tribulation. “Who are we,” the thought goes, “to think that we, unlike other generations, will be privileged to escape the world right as persecution begins?”

Remember that God spoke of the Rapture as an encouragement to people who were already going through persecution. Jesus warned His original disciples that increasing persecution would be part of the birth pangs that came *before* the Tribulation ever began. The Rapture is not an escape clause that anyone earns to get out of persecution. It is a gift of grace God gives to undeserving Christians many of whom are already going through persecution.

1. The Rapture is explained in two passages.

Though we may disagree on the timing, all Christians agree on the reality of Jesus’ return. We can also agree on what will happen when Jesus comes back. Let’s take a quick look at two passages.

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

As I’ve said, the people of the early church believed they were living in the last days and that Jesus was going to come back in their lifetimes. When the older generation in the church began dying off (“those who are asleep”), their friends and relatives wondered about their fate. Were they lost forever since they did not live to see Jesus’ return?

Paul wrote the book of 1 Thessalonians to deal with the fate of these Christians. He said it’s okay to be sad when someone dies, but we can have confidence that we will see them again. They’re okay. Jesus is going to bring their souls with Him when He returns. Their bodies will rise out of the grave to be joined once again with their souls. After that happens, those who are still alive at Jesus’ coming will rise into the clouds, be reunited with their loved ones, and meet Jesus. Sounds exciting, doesn’t it?!

Do you know who will be the most excited? It’s Jesus. Look how much noise He and His entourage are creating! That’s what you do when you’re excited about something. You make a lot of noise – especially when you’ve won. You may or may not be looking forward to seeing Jesus, but He is certainly looking forward to seeing you.

1. 1 Corinthians 15:51-53

In these few verses, Paul communicates two important truths. The first is the speed with which the events of Jesus’ return will occur. He says it will happen as fast as “the twinkling of an eye” (v. 52). When Jesus ascended, His disciples watched Him rise. People who don’t rise in the Rapture will see that others have suddenly gone, but they will not be able to watch the Christians’ ascent. People who are not ready will have no time to get ready. This is one flight you don’t want to miss.

The second truth here is that God will change our bodies into glorified ones. Now you can imagine whatever you want to when you consider what that means – more hair, new teeth, less fat. But the main positive here is that Jesus will restore these new bodies to their original design. They won’t decay or die. No more daily medications. No more aching joints. No more cancer, Alzheimer’s, or diabetes. And no more funerals.

1. **Prophecy teaches us how to respond to these comings.**

I don’t know how you respond to these facts concerning the return of Jesus, but the Bible gives us at least five good responses.

1. Encouragement of the people (1 Thess. 4:18)

The Thessalonian Christians were concerned about their loved ones. Paul encouraged them by telling them that those who had died were okay and that they were coming back.

Who do you have in heaven right now? The promise of Jesus is He will unite you with all other Christians – those you once knew and those you never had the privilege of meeting. And all the things that annoyed you about them and those about you that annoyed them will be gone. Sin will be gone. We will never again face separation from loved ones or Jesus. No more goodbyes. No more separation. Together forever.

1. Anticipation of the future (2 Tim. 4:8; 1 Cor. 15:54-57 )

How do you see the future? Does it scare you? Yes, your retirement account may not last as long as you do. Yes, there are difficult days ahead, both for you and the world in which we live. It’s easy to get nostalgic, look back to a time in the past, and wish you could go back. The temptation also is to look at your kids and wish you could stay in this present moment forever. For the Christian, our hope is not in the past or the present. For us, the *future* is bright. Our best really is yet to come.

Death might be in your future, and it might not be. Even if it is, death doesn’t win! Death is no longer the enemy. Death is now the door that gets us to Jesus, our reward, a new unpolluted and uncontaminated planet, and a new perfected body with which to enjoy it. Doesn’t that sound great?!

1. Perseverance in the work (2 Cor. 4:16-18; 1 Cor. 15:58)

No, we’re not in heaven yet. We’re here. “Here” is hard. You wonder if what you do for Jesus “here” really matters. Do you sometimes feel like quitting – like it’s not worth the sacrifice? You just want to go “there.”

Jesus knows what you’re feeling. The cross was hard too. But Jesus put up with the cross and endured to the end recognizing that the cross was His ticket home and that the cross got Him you (Heb. 12:2). Jesus promised He sees our work, our work is accomplishing something significant for the Kingdom, and there will be a reward which far exceeds whatever sacrifice we had to pay. The quitting horn (“the last trumpet”) will sound one day, but until that day comes, “be abounding in the work of the Lord.”

1. Holiness in the lifestyle (Titus 2:12-13)

While we’re here, we have the opportunity to impact who will go there. They watch us to see if this Jesus means something to us. What does your life today say about your beliefs concerning the future?

Mom and dad go off on a date. They give a general time frame for when they’ll be home and some requirements for the kids to perform while they’re gone. If the kids love their parents, if they believe their parents are coming back soon and that there will be consequences to their actions, they will consistently and immediately obey their parents. They won’t wait until the headlights are shining through the living room window to get busy.

Jesus went away. He told us He is coming back. What would you be embarrassed to be doing when Jesus comes back? Don’t do that. What would create pride if Jesus found you doing it when He comes back? Do that as often as possible.

1. Warning for the rebellious

The news is not all good. The return of Jesus will bring great destruction before the Tribulation even begins. Imagine the consequences of millions, perhaps billions of people disappearing at the same time. Some of those people will be driving semi-trucks that are going 70 mph. Suddenly, there will be no driver. Planes in the process of landing will lose their pilots, and the air traffic controllers guiding them will disappear. Basic services will become undependable as policemen, nuclear power plant operators, and the cable repair guy vanish. Cell phone networks will go down as people flood them with unanswered 911 calls. The internet will crash, and so will the stock markets.

Those world leaders that are left will have difficulty securing enough personnel to bring order. Chaos will ensue as fear takes over. Fear causes people to behave in unusual ways. Rioting and looting break out. Right will be determined by might. Add to that the fact that the Holy Spirit’s influence manifested through the Church will be absent (2 Thess. 2:7). It will be a time of great evil.

Whenever people are afraid and hurting, they set aside their differences and their freedoms and unite for one purpose. They also are willing to submit themselves to a leader who promises them a way out. It will be a tremendous opportunity for the world to come under the leadership and promised protection of one man. Soon after the Rapture, the Antichrist will gain control of a world looking for answers. He and his master will make “here” as bad as “here” can get.

**Conclusion:**  Jesus is coming. How you respond to that emotionally and what you do about it practically are determined by who you believe Jesus to be and what you believe He is bringing with Him.

Don’t think of the return of Jesus as your commanding officer rescuing you from enemy territory. If you do, you will live life defensively always reacting to situations out of fear, never taking a risk for the King and His Kingdom. You will see survival as your only responsibility.

Think instead of Jesus’ return as the Boss coming to escort you to your retirement party. The more effectively you did your job, and the more you invested, the bigger the paycheck and the greater the affirmation from the Boss. The more kindness you showed to the people around you, the more guests at the party, the tighter the hugs, and the more intense is the joy.

Our belief and expectation of “there” were designed to impact our life “here.” Jesus isn’t coming to rescue you. He’s coming to reward you.

I began today by telling you that one of the reasons people shy away from prophecy is they don’t believe studying prophecy is practical. They take a fatalist view. “Whatever’s going to happen is going to happen. There’s nothing I can do about it.” That’s true in one sense. The Rapture *will* happen. The Antichrist *will* come. You can’t change the future of the world. But you can change the future of you.

1. Review on *88 Reasons Why the Rapture will be in 1988*; Amazon; retrieved Feb, 2018 [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Online dictionary [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. “Pretribulation Rapture Taught by Early Church”; Prophecy in the News; J. R. Church, Feb. 3, 2017; retrieved Feb, 2018 [↑](#endnote-ref-3)