

Kept from the Hour: Revelation 3:10

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The Pastor and the Professor at Crosspoint Community Church
Rapture: Ready or Not (Part 3)

Introduction

Distinguishing the Rapture from the Second Coming

Rapture

Second Coming

_____ prior signs

_____ prior signs

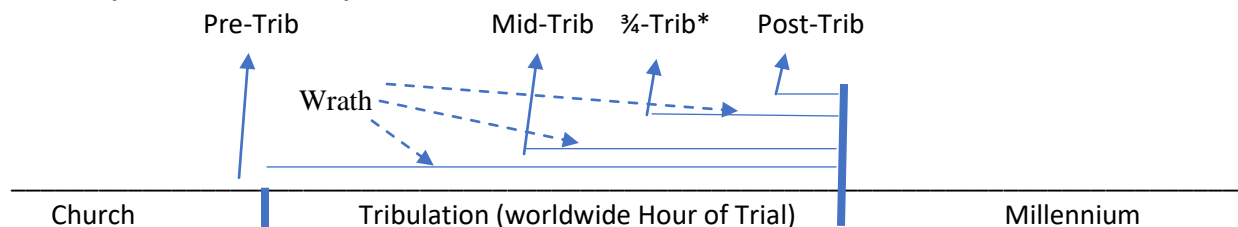
Meet Jesus Christ _____

Meet Jesus Christ _____

_____ the Tribulation

_____ the Tribulation

Four Major Views of the Rapture



Which keeps the Church from the tribulation? _____

Which take the Church from the tribulation? _____

*3/4-Trib. Is my name for the so-called Pre-Wrath view.

The Church at Philadelphia (Alaşehir), Turkey

Rev 2–3's seven churches (Ephesus, Smyrna, Sardis, Pergamum, Thyatira, Philadelphia, Laodicea)

John the apostle supervised these churches. Rev 2–3 address seven literal congregations.

Five-fingered interpretation:

1. Original _____ 2. Original _____ 3. Original _____ 4. Original _____

A Perplexing Verse (Revelation 3:10) Has Given Rise to Two Incorrect Views

"Because you have kept My command to persevere, 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."

- A. The Partial-Rapture theory says that believers must prove faithful before they are raptured.
Because you have persevered, I will also keep you...

Robert Govett says, Revelation 3:10 "...is a promise not to all the church, but to a clearly-defined portion of it—those who keep the doctrine of Christ's second advent, and its hope of rapture."

- B. Lordship (= Puritan Calvinist) Dispensationalists deny the existence of carnal believers.
Because you have persevered [e.g., because you are believers], I will also keep you...

John MacArthur says, Revelation 3:10 "is a pre-tribulation Rapture verse. You've kept My word, You're Mine. I will keep you from the hour of testing."

His corollary would be: "You've not kept My word, You're not Mine. I will not keep you from the hour of testing."

What Did Jesus Actually Promise?

Did any of the Philadelphians enter the hour of trial (the Tribulation)?

Did the naughty Corinthians enter the hour?

Did anyone else from the first century enter the hour?

Punctuation Matters

English teachers say, “Don’t start a sentence with Because.

Punctuate the following in two ways:

I ATE BREAKFAST

BECAUSE I WAS HUNGRY

I ALSO ATE AN EARLY LUNCH

I ATE BREAKFAST

BECAUSE I WAS HUNGRY

I ALSO ATE AN EARLY LUNCH

Punctuate the following in two ways:

THEY WILL KNOW I LOVED YOU

BECAUSE YOU KEPT MY WORD

I WILL KEEP YOU FROM THE HOUR

THEY WILL KNOW I LOVED YOU

BECAUSE YOU KEPT MY WORD

I WILL KEEP YOU FROM THE HOUR

The NT rarely starts sentences with Because.

Three Uses of *Keep* in the Immediate Context

You have kept My word (3:8)

You have kept the word of My perseverance (3:10a)

I will keep you from the hour of trial (3:10b)

Making Sense of *And I* (3:10b)

I know your works (3:8a)

I have set before you an open door (3:8b)

I will make those of the synagogue of Satan (3:9a)

I will make them come...& to know that I have loved you (3:9b-10a)

And I will keep you from the hour... (3:10b)

The Link with John 14:23

I have loved you because you kept the word of My perseverance (Revelation 3:9b-10a)

"If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him." (John 14:23 NKJ)

Did Jesus Keep His Promise to the Philadelphian Church?

Did He Promise Deliverance just in the Nick of Time?

Don't Let Anyone Take Your Victor's Wreath

Conclusion

Kept from, *not* Taken from the Hour

Unspecified Means of Deliverance

He Delivered even the Naughty Corinthians

Though Not a Rapture-Passage (*per se*), Rev 3:10 agrees with 1 Thessalonians 5:9