

Introduction to the Minor Prophets:

10. Alternate Views to the Pre-Tribulation Rapture.

A. Post-Millennial

1. This view contends that the Millennium is yet future, but will be set up by earthly agencies. The Return of Christ, also called The Second Advent will follow the Millennium; hence there is no distinction between the Rapture and Second Advent.
2. Refutation:
 - a. It stands in direct contradiction to many scriptures and requires an _____ interpretation of the Book of Revelation, especially Revelation 19:11-20:6.
 - b. The course of human history is _____ from God not toward Him. 2 Tim 3:13
 - c. Prior to this generation, this view was often a demonstration of interpretational arrogance; in this generation it is often an indicator of the fear of mankind totally _____ itself.
 - d. The Second Advent will not occur until after the "Man of Lawlessness" has been _____ and established his system. 2 Thes 2:1-12
 - e. The Scriptural indication is that man more nearly approaches maximum evil not maximum righteousness just _____ to Jesus' return. Cf. Matt 24:37-42

B. The "Split" or "Partial Rapture" Theory

1. This view contends that only those who are faithful will be raptured. The rest will have to wait until sometime later. They see the Rapture as a reward rather than Grace and the unworthy will have to become worthy.
2. Refutation:
 - a. This position is held by those who believe that salvation and spirituality is by _____ and so places Believers into two categories. One is worthy of Rapture and the other unworthy.
 - b. This view _____ the "Body and Bride of Christ" into two groups.
 - c. Resurrection and Rapture is _____ by those who are "In Christ." Rom 6:4; 1 Cor 15:23-24
 - d. The Rapture is promised even to those Believers who are spiritually _____. 1 Thes 5:10
 - e. This group mistakenly assumes that the commands to "watchfulness" are the basis for being Raptured rather than the basis for _____ after the Rapture. 2 Tim 4:6-8
 - f. The Rapture of the living saints does not depend on _____ but on being "In Christ."
John 14:3; 1 Cor 15:52; 1 Thes 4:14-18

C. Post-Tribulational Rapture

1. This position has a diversity of opinions, but all agree that the Church will pass through the Tribulation.
 - a. The chief proof offered is that this claim is the _____ argument and therefore must be correct.
 - b. This group _____ the Tribulation except for the last half.
 - c. The major proponents cite three passages which deal with a resurrection _____ the time of tribulation but fail to adequately explain them. 1 Thes 4:17; 2 Thes 2:1; John 14:3
 - d. These proponents say that all references to the "End" must refer to the _____ Advent. Cf. 1 Cor 15:24
2. Refutation:
 - a. There is not one scripture available to conclusively state that the _____ is in the Tribulation.
 - b. Revelation 4:1 gives us a chronological _____ between the Church Age and the Tribulation.

D. Mid-Tribulational Rapture

1. This argument states the Rapture will occur in the middle of Daniel's 70th Week, before the Great Tribulation.
 - a. Advocates consider themselves to be Pre-Tribulationists because they do not believe the Tribulation begins until the _____ Tribulation.
 - b. Their main argument is the belief that the 7th Trumpet Judgment (Rev 11:15) is the "Last Trumpet" of 1 Corinthians 15:52 and that it occurs in the _____ of the Tribulation.
2. Refutation:
 - a. Hermeneutically, the four apostles present at the Olivet Discourse had to undergo the _____ of "Birth Pangs." Matt 24:8; Mark 13:8
 - b. This position makes no dispensational distinctions and hence _____ the Age of Israel and the Church Age.
 - c. The phrase "Last Trumpet" in 1 Corinthians 15:52 must refer to the Last Trumpet of the _____ Age.
 - d. The term " _____ " is used to describe the first half of the Tribulation as well. Rev 6:16-17
 - e. The 7th Trumpet Judgment is followed by yet another trumpet at the Second Advent (Matt 24:31) which proves they have _____ the use of the term "Last" in 1 Cor 15:52.