



THE
Friends of Israel
GOSPEL MINISTRY

Building bridges. Bringing hope.

RICHARD R. SCHMIDT, D.MIN.

Church Ministries Field Representative

RSchmidt@FOI.org **(414) 788-6010**

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THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

Scripture's
Most Compelling
Argument

Richard R. Schmidt, D.Min.

UNFULFILLED PROPHECY


- The RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH is the next major prophetic event in God's prophetic calendar
- The RAPTURE, or removal of the CHURCH AGE SAINTS, was *NOT* prophesied in the Old Testament. **WHY?**



UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

- The prophetic event immediately after the rapture of the church is the commencement of the 70th week of Daniel, or the 7-year **TRIBULATION PERIOD** (Daniel 9:27).
- There is a plethora of Scriptural material regarding the seven years of tribulation throughout the Scriptures.
- The Tribulation is the period that is designed to purge the earth of those who are against the coming King and prepare the earth for the **SECOND COMING** or **SECOND ADVENT** of the Lord Jesus Christ, the one and only true **MESSIAH!**

RAPTURE MEANING

- 
- The Greek word from which we take the term “RAPTURE” appears in 1 THESSALONIANS 4:17, translated “caught up.” The Latin translation of this verse used the word *rapturo*.
 - The Greek word it translates is *harpazo*, which means to snatch or take away.

RAPTURE MEANING

- Elsewhere *harpazo* is used to describe how the Spirit caught up Philip near Gaza and brought him to Caesarea (**ACTS 8:39**) and to describe Paul's experience of being caught up into the third heaven (**2 CORINTHIANS 12:2-4**).
- Thus there can be no doubt that the word is used in **1 THESSALONIANS 4:17** to indicate the actual removal of people from earth to heaven.

RAPTURE MEANING

**The Rapture Of The Church
Means The Carrying Away
Of The Church Age Saints
From Earth To Heaven.**

PROPHETIC CHRONOLOGY

R A P T U R E



Tribulation



Second Advent



Battle of Armageddon



Nations Judged



Millennial Kingdom

PROPHETIC CHRONOLOGY

R A P T U R E

**New
Testament
References
ONLY**

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And
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Tribulation

Second Advent

Battle of Armageddon

Nations Judged

Millennial Kingdom

THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE THREE PEOPLE GROUPS

ADAM
3942 BC
NOAH
2885 BC
SHEM
2384 BC

GENTILES
2,000 YEARS

ABRAHAM
1995 BC
DAVID
1034 BC
JESUS
4 BC

GENTILES & JEWS
2,000 YEARS

CHURCH AGE
AD 30/33

1 Cor. 10:32

GENTILES
JEWS & CHRISTIAN
2,000 YEARS

C H R O N O L O G Y

ADAM 3942 BC NOAH 2885 BC SHEM 2384 BC

GENTILE 2,000 YEARS

ABRAHAM 1995 BC DAVID 1034 BC

GENTILE | JEW 2,000 YEARS

JESUS CHRIST 4 BC CHURCH AGE AD 30/33

GENTILE | JEW | CHRISTIAN 2,000 YEARS & Counting >

Command to rebuild
Jerusalem's walls by
Artaxerxes

*MARCH 14, 445 B.C.
NEHEMIAH 2

DANIEL 9:24-27

The Most Spectacular Literal Dating Of The Prophetic Time Line

WEEKS 1-69

69 Weeks x 7 Years
483 YEARS

GAP



Week 70

TRIBULATION
1 x 7 = 7 Years
Daniel 9:27

MILLENNIUM

1,000
Years

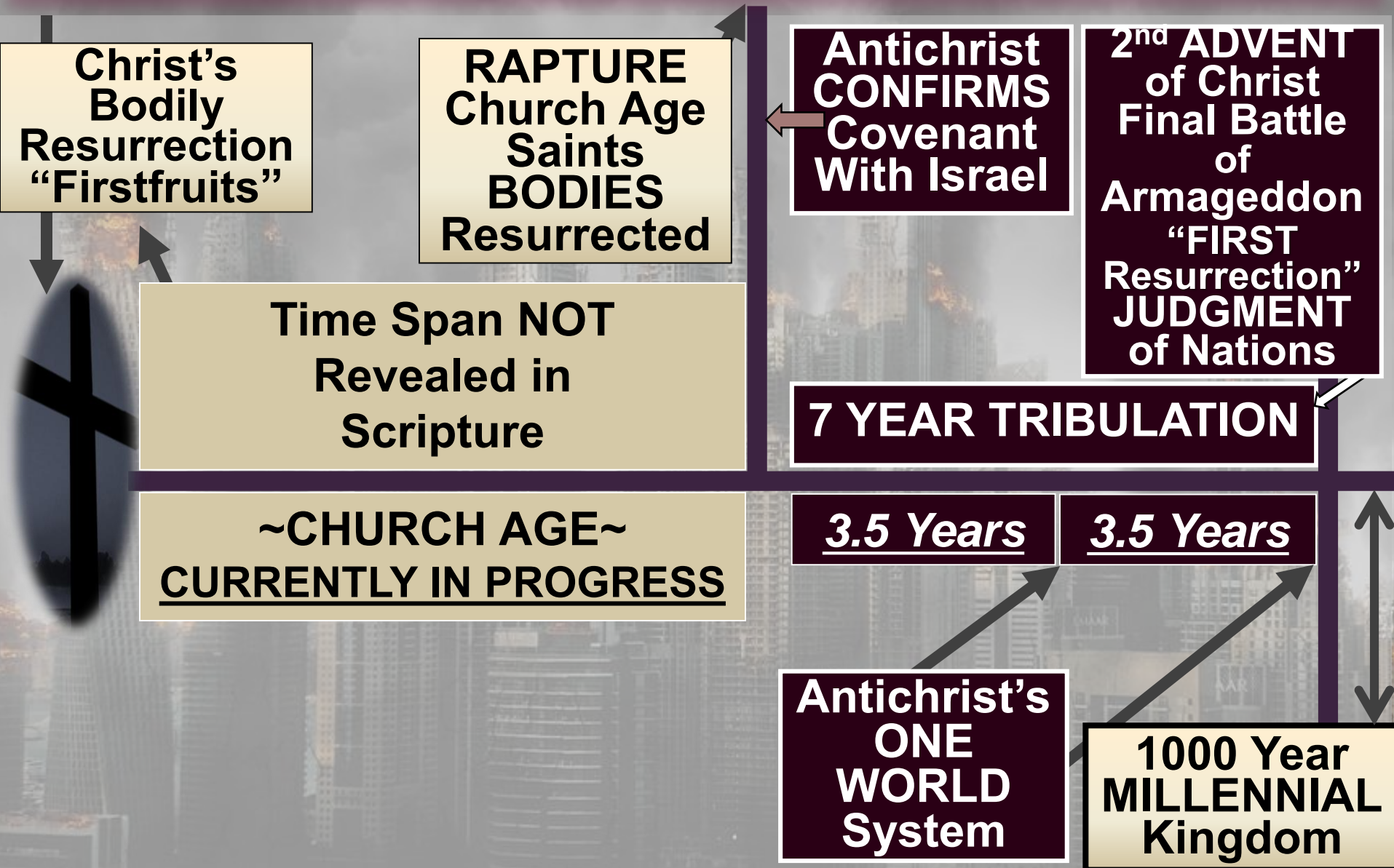
WHY the GAP in the Prophetic Time Table?

The **GAP** exists as the mystery kept secret from the foundation of the world by God
(EPHESIANS 3:1-7; COLOSSIANS 1:24-29; ROMANS 16:25)

The GAP includes the **CHURCH AGE** in which we now live, which will end when the **CHURCH** is removed from this earth at the event termed the **RAPTURE**
(1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18; 1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-54)

*Sir Robert Anderson, *The Coming Prince*

TIMELINE



TRANSITIONAL PERIOD – JUDAISM to Christianity

ACTS 2-7

Jews & Proselytes

²²“Men of Israel

¹⁴ Men of Judea

³⁶ all the house of Israel

Acts 2:10

ACTS 8

Samaritans

Acts 8:25

Ethiopian

Proselyte

Acts 8:26-40

ACTS 9

Saul

Converted,

Gentiles,

Kings,

Israel

Acts 9

ACTS 10

Gentiles

Acts 10:45

Men of Israel

Acts 3:12

Hellenists Acts 6:1

Nicolas, a Proselyte Acts 6:5

Captain of Temple

Priests Sadducees

Acts 4:1; 5:24

Elders

Children of Israel

Acts 5:21

Stephen Preaches the

Exodus to His People-

Martyred

Acts 7

ACTS 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in, and in all JERUSALEM, JUDEA and SAMARIA, and to the END OF THE EARTH.”

PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

- I. **THE DISTINCTIVE TIME FOR THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE / Daniel's 70 Week Prophecy (Daniel 9:24-27)**
- **A. First Period: 49 years = 7 Prophetic Weeks
445 to 396 B.C. (Daniel 9:25)**
 - **B. Second Period: 434 years = 62 Prophetic Weeks
396 B.C. to A.D. 32 (Daniel 9:25-26)**
 - **C. The Prophesied GAP: A.D. 32 - A.D. 70
(Daniel 9:26)**
 - **D. The Mystery GAP: Present Church Age
(Ephesians 3:1-7; Colossians 1:24-29)**
 - **E. Third Period Future: 7 years = 1 Prophetic Week
(Daniel 9:27)**

DANIEL 9:24-27

49 YEARS

=

7 WEEKS

434 YEARS

=

62 WEEKS

GAP

=

GAP

7 YEARS

=

1 WEEK

TOTAL: 490 Years

70 Weeks

Weeks 1-69

G

Week 70

1 Week

69 Weeks x 7 Years

A

x 7 Years

= 483 Years

P

7 Years

Millennium

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 - **B. Second Period: 434 years = 62 Prophetic Weeks 396 B.C. to A.D. 32 (Daniel 9:25-26)**
 - **C. The Prophesied GAP: A.D. 32 - A.D. 70 (Daniel 9:26)**
 - **D. The Mystery GAP: Present Church Age (Ephesians 3:1-7; Colossians 1:24-29)**
 - **E. Third Period Future: 7 years = 1 Prophetic Week (Daniel 9:27)**

DANIEL'S 70 WEEK, 490 YEAR PROPHECY

**JEWISH
PEOPLE IN
BABYLONIAN
CAPTIVITY**

**JERUSALEM &
TEMPLE
PLUNDERED
A.D. 70**

CHURCH REMOVED

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
1 Corinthians 15:50-54

**Revelation
4 -19**

3.5

3.5

**Y
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**Y
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A
R
S**

**CHRIST'S
MILLENNIAL
KINGDOM
Revelation
20:1-7**

**DANIEL
9:25
7 Weeks
=
49 Years**

**DANIEL
9:25
62 Weeks
=
434 Years**

CHURCH AGE
Ephesians 3:1-7
Colossians 1:24-29
Romans 16:25,26

**DANIEL 9:25
69 Weeks =
483 Years**

**INTERLUDE
ALLOWANCE**
Daniel 9:26

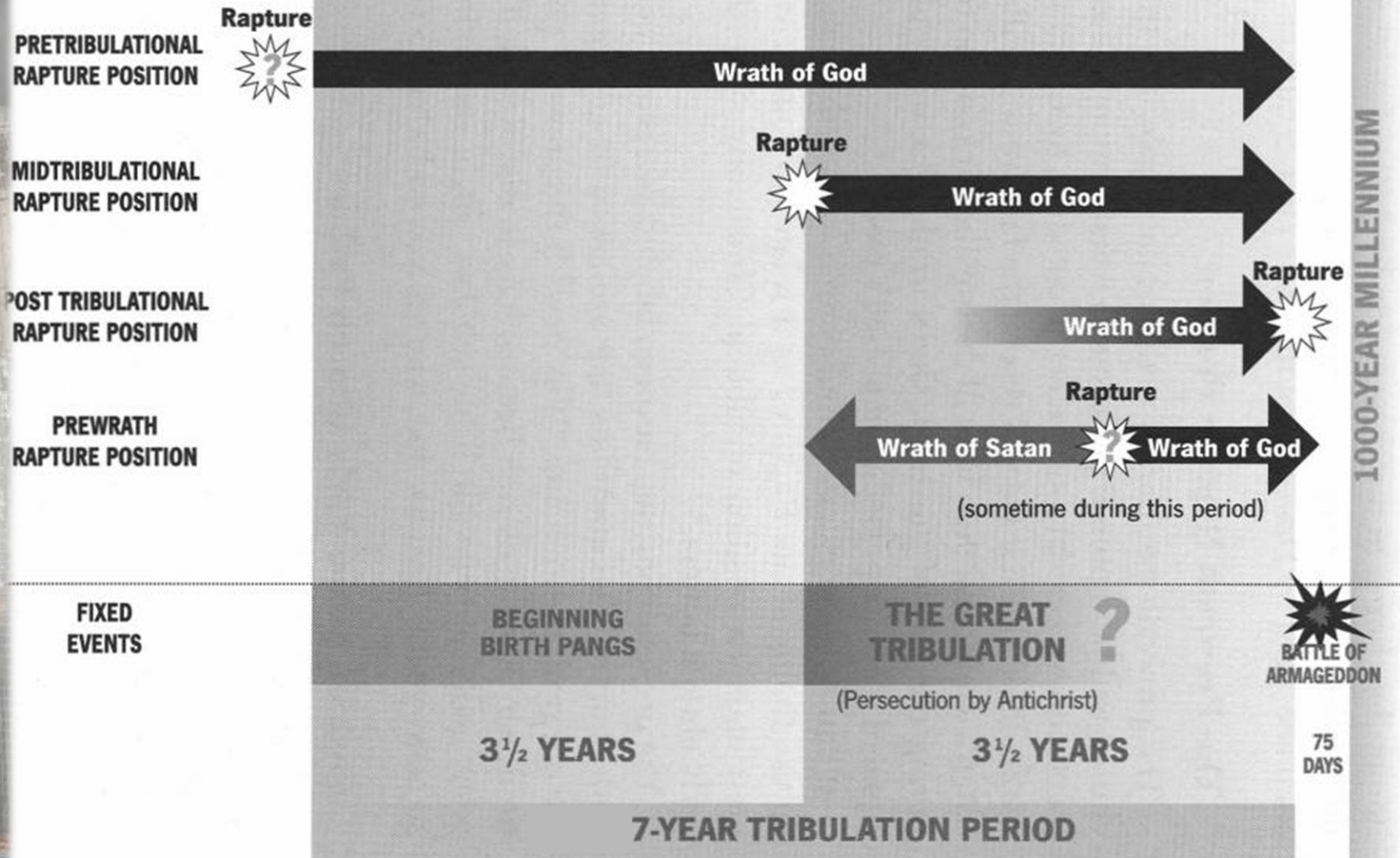
**Dan. 9:27
1 Week =
7 Year
Tribulation**

**GAP BETWEEN
69th & 70th Weeks
of Daniel**

**Daniel 9:27
Daniel's
70th Week**

COMPARISON OF RAPTURE POSITIONS

Daniel's 70th Week



PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

II. THE DISTINCTIVE TRANSITION OF THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

(1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18)

- A. The Solace of the Rapture
(1 Thessalonians 4:13-15)
- B. The Sounds of the Rapture
(1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- C. The Sequence of the Rapture
(1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

CITIES VISITED BY PAUL



UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

*The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY
of the Current Church Age Saints by Jesus Christ*

■ JOHN 14:1-4

¹ "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.

² In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

⁴ And where I go you know, and the way you know."

UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

*The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY
of the Current Church Age Saints by Jesus Christ*

1 THESSALONIANS 4:15-18

¹⁵For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep (*Dead*).

¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words.

UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

*The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY
of the Current Church Age Saints by Jesus Christ*



PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

II. THE DISTINCTIVE TRANSITION OF THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

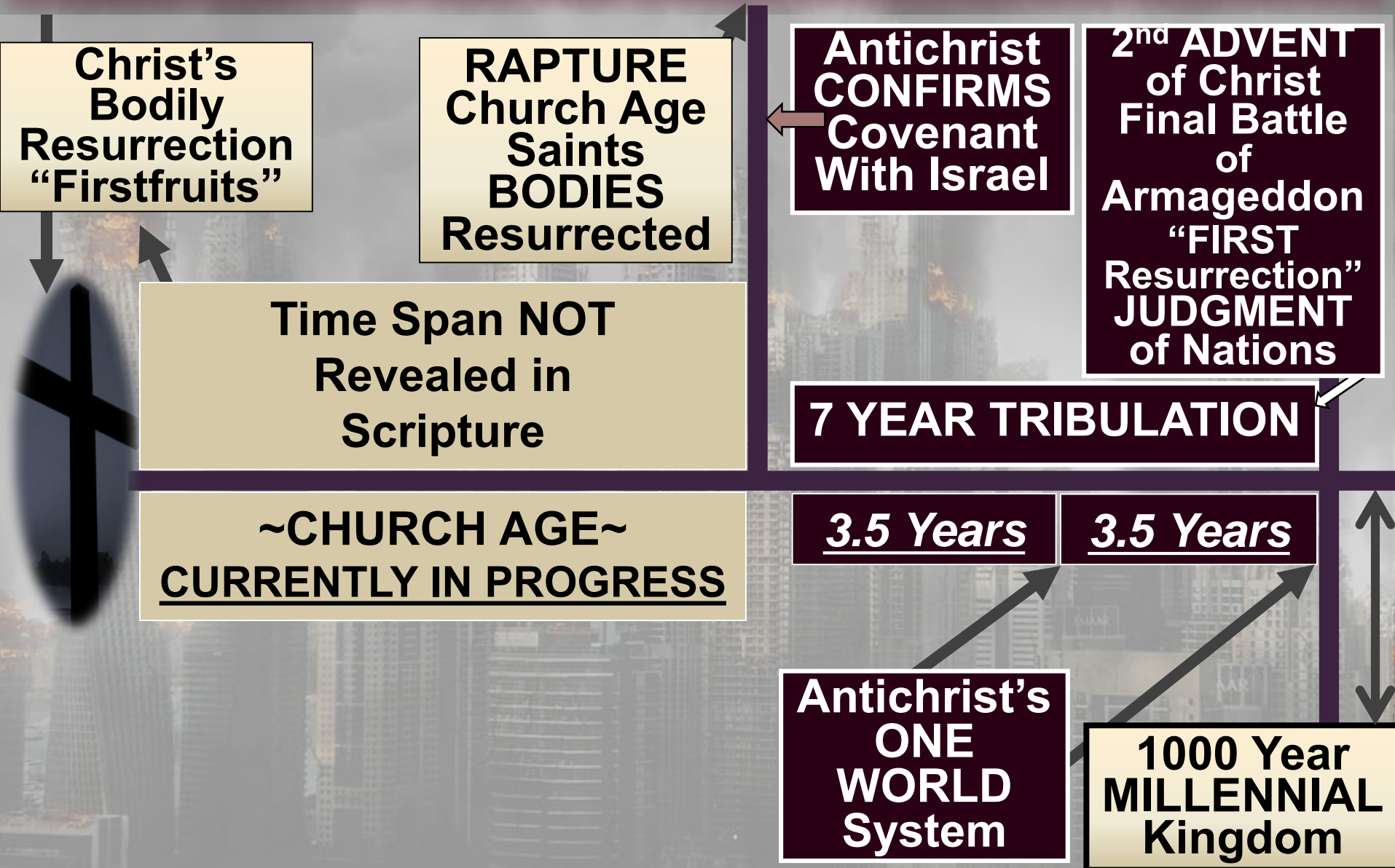
(1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18)

- A. The Solace of the Rapture
(1 Thessalonians 4:13-15)
- B. The Sounds of the Rapture
(1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- C. The Sequence of the Rapture
(1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

RAPTURE-1 THESSALONIANS 4

- **The Return of Christ (1Thessalonians 4:16)**
- **The Resurrection of Church Age Saints (1Thessalonians 4:16)**
- **The Rapture/Catching Away of the Saints (1Thessalonians 4:17)**
- **The Reunion with Christ (1Thessalonians 4:17)**
- **The Reassurance of Comfort / Encouragement (1Thessalonians 4:18)**

TIMELINE



PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

II. THE DISTINCTIVE TRANSFORMATION IN THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

(1 CORINTHIANS 15:50-54)

- A. The *Mystery of the Rapture*
(1 Corinthians 15:51)
- B. The *Metamorphosis During the Rapture*
(1 Corinthians 15:51-54)
- C. The *Marvelous Victory of the Rapture*
(1 Corinthians 15:54)

UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

*The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY
of the Current Church Age Saints by Jesus Christ*

1 CORINTHIANS 15:50 - 53

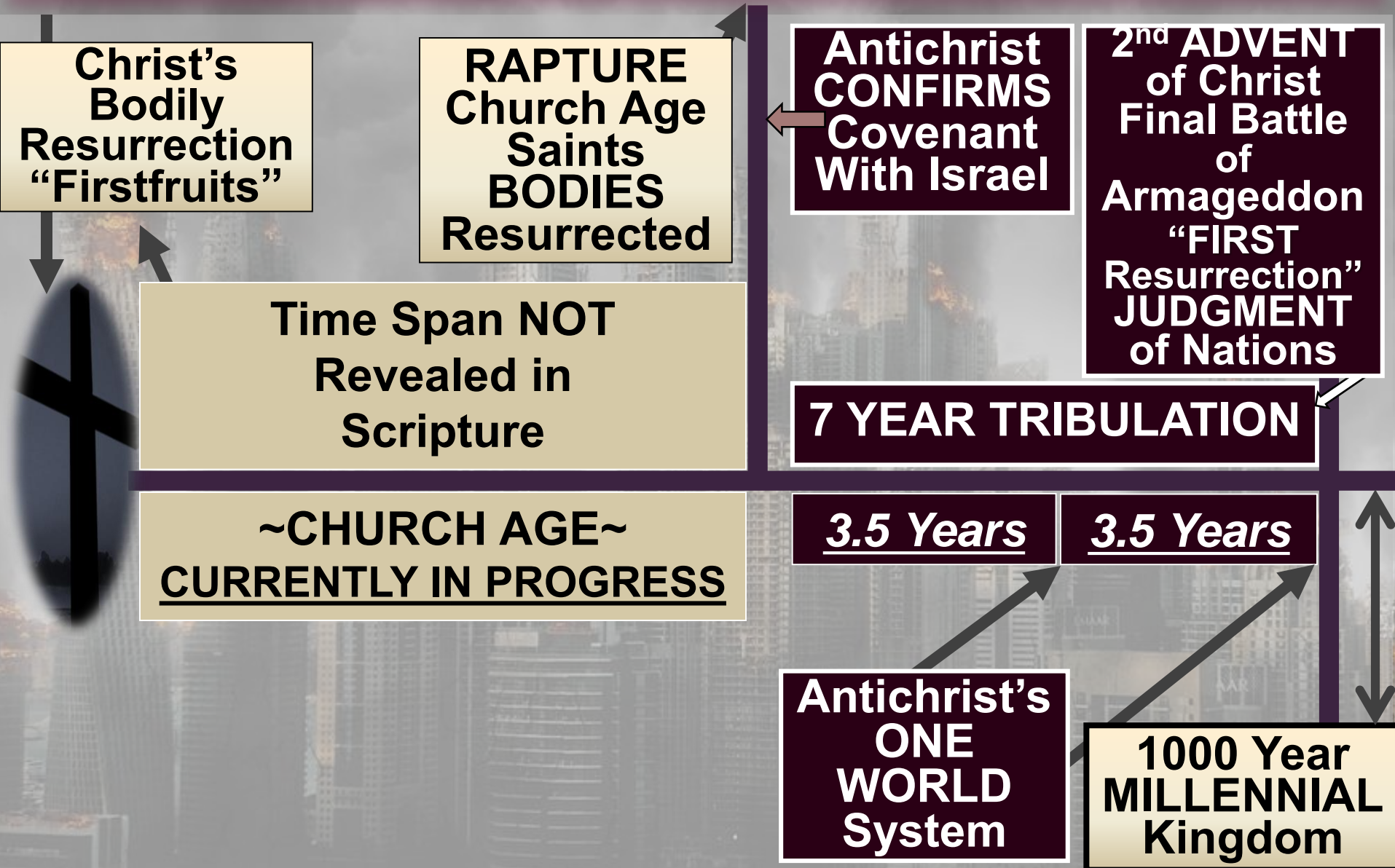
⁵⁰Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

⁵¹Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep (*DIE*), but we shall all be changed—

⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

⁵³For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

TIMELINE



UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

*The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY
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ZECHARIAH 14:4

4 “And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, *Making* a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south.”

UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

*The RAPTURE or TAKING AWAY
of the Current Church Age Saints by Jesus Christ*

Looking east across the roofs
of the Old City of Jerusalem

Mount of Olives



Splits North

Splits South



UNFULFILLED PROPHECY

The Rapture



and the
Second Coming



Prophecy Focus

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Bible Teacher: Richard Schmidt, D. Min.
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