

**TRIBULATION (θλίψις)** = A crushing force of persecution, affliction, or opposition.

### TRIBULATION OF THE CHURCH AGE VS TRIBULATION OF THE END OF THE AGE

#### Qualities are similar

- Hated and persecuted by non-believers
- Misled by false prophets, leaders
- Lawlessness increases
- Compassion decreases
- Christians turn on one another
- People of Jesus “fall away”

#### Intensity is different

- Great tribulation is so intense that if not limited by God, no life would be saved.
- Cut short for the sake of God’s people

**RAPTURE** = The physical ascension of Jesus’s people from earth to meet Jesus in the sky.

### PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

The rapture of believers would occur before the great tribulation in a preliminary appearance of Jesus in the sky prior to his second coming.

Put forth in 1833 by John Nelson Darby, popularized by the Scofield Bible in 1909 and popular books in the late 20th century.

#### KEY IDEA

#### HISTORY

- No direct references
  - Jeremiah 30:7
  - Daniel 9:24
- secondary references

#### BIBLICAL REFERENCE

### POST TRIBULATION RAPTURE

The rapture of believers would take place after the events of the great tribulation at the second coming of Christ.

The view of the early church

- Matthew 24:29–31
- 2 Thessalonians 2:1–3
- Revelation 7:14

**PERSEVERANCE** = Not giving up doing something despite difficulty, discouragement, or delay.

### THE NECESSITY OF PERSEVERANCE

- Matthew 24:13
- James 1:2
- 2 Timothy 4:7

### THE REALITY OF FALLING AWAY

- Hebrews 3:12
- Hebrews 6:4–6
- 2 Peter 2:20–22
- 1 Timothy 4:1

### WHAT LEADS PEOPLE TO “FALL AWAY” FROM JESUS?

- They choose the world over the Kingdom.
- They choose sin over virtue.
- **They choose their own judgment over God’s judgment.**

### WHAT HELPS PEOPLE TO STAY CONNECTED TO JESUS?

1. Time alone with God, praying through His word.
2. Forging authentic friendships with others who follow hard after Christ.
3. Engaging personally in God’s mission.
- 4. Regularly attending church.**