

## **Thursology 78: Fistfights in Rapture Timing: "MY View is the RIGHT View!!!"**

(Thursology Live! 4/21/2022)

### **--Introduction:**

--The single most important way to keep from being misled: Whenever anyone attempts to teach about the End Times...you must know their \_\_\_\_\_... their \_\_\_\_\_...their \_\_\_\_\_...and their \_\_\_\_\_ to biblical interpretation!!!

### **--The foundations of this series on Rapture Timing:**

--**Foundation #1:** When a text is not clearly \_\_\_\_\_...we will endeavor to utilize the most \_\_\_\_\_ sense, \_\_\_\_\_ understanding of biblical passage

--**Key Concept #1:** In Scripture...whether a text is literal, allegorical, symbolic, metaphorical, historical, poetic, musical, a parable, or any other literary style...it \_\_\_\_\_ has *at least one common-sense, normal, truthful, useful* \_\_\_\_\_!!!

--**Key Concept #2:** Even the \_\_\_\_\_...while being *allegorical*...have a \_\_\_\_\_ meaning!!!

--**Foundation #2:** Even when the Scripture is clearly \_\_\_\_\_...we will still endeavor to identify and utilize the most reasonable \_\_\_\_\_ of the passage.

### **--Rev 12:7-10**

--The meaning of this symbolic language is not complicated:

--**Meaning #1:** The \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_

--**Meaning #2:** Satan's role \_\_\_\_\_ this event is to stand before God...and \_\_\_\_\_ believers of their sin

--**Meaning #3:** At the mid-point of the Tribulation...Satan and his angels will be \_\_\_\_\_ down from heaven to \_\_\_\_\_

--The meaning of **Rev 12:13-17:**

--**Meaning #4:** The \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_

--**Meaning #5:** The \_\_\_\_\_ who gave birth to the Child is \_\_\_\_\_

--**Meaning #6:** God supernaturally \_\_\_\_\_ a remnant of Israel from Satan for the last \_\_\_\_\_ years of the Tribulation

--**Meaning #7:** God's protection \_\_\_\_\_ Satan...so he goes to \_\_\_\_\_ against the rest of those on the earth who have the testimony of \_\_\_\_\_

--Key Concept: Highly symbolic language can have \_\_\_\_\_  
identifiable \_\_\_\_\_!!!

--**Foundation #3:** We'll always acknowledge that Eschatology is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and requires both diligent biblical study and a mind that  
is led directly by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit

--II Cor 3:12-16: Therefore having such a hope, we use great boldness in our speech,  
and are not like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face so that the sons of Israel  
would not look intently at the end of what was fading away. But their minds were  
hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil  
remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. But to this day whenever Moses is  
read, a veil lies over their heart; but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is  
taken away.

--**Foundation #4:** Despite its \_\_\_\_\_ ...we'll assume that most  
prophecy isn't a \_\_\_\_\_ for those who diligently seek truth

--**Foundation #5:** We won't be satisfied with a conclusion or interpretation  
unless it's in \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ biblical passages  
that relate to the subject

--An obvious corollary: There will be a \_\_\_\_\_ of issues that we simply  
won't make \_\_\_\_\_ conclusions about.

--**Foundation #6:** When clear biblical truth is \_\_\_\_\_ ...we will  
\_\_\_\_\_ the truth...and we won't stand in \_\_\_\_\_ of it!!!

--**Foundation #7:** We'll accept the fact that major \_\_\_\_\_  
exist between teachers...even though they are using the \_\_\_\_\_  
Bible...and filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ Holy Spirit!!!

--Key Concept: Even the most \_\_\_\_\_ followers of Christ in  
this age...still only have a \_\_\_\_\_ knowledge of the truth!!!

--I Cor. 13:9-10, 12: For we know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the  
perfect comes, the partial will be done away...For now we see in a mirror dimly,  
but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also  
have been fully known.

--**Foundation #8:** We'll personally \_\_\_\_\_ the truth that matters of  
eschatology are not matters of \_\_\_\_\_

--**Foundation #9:** We won't \_\_\_\_\_ with those of other \_\_\_\_\_

--**Foundation #10:** Whenever possible...the Bible will be allowed to interpret  
\_\_\_\_\_ ...and a \_\_\_\_\_ interpretation will always  
\_\_\_\_\_ any other interpretation!!!

--Dan 8:3-7: Then I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns were long, but one was longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last. I saw the ram butting westward, northward, and southward, and no other beasts could stand before him nor was there anyone to rescue from his power, but he did as he pleased and magnified himself. While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes. He came up to the ram that had the two horns, which I had seen standing in front of the canal, and rushed at him in his mighty wrath. I saw him come beside the ram, and he was enraged at him; and he struck the ram and shattered his two horns, and the ram had no strength to withstand him. So he hurled him to the ground and trampled on him, and there was none to rescue the ram from his power.

--Vv. 19-21: 19 He said, "Behold, I am going to let you know what will occur at the final period of the indignation, for it pertains to the appointed time of the end. The ram which you saw with the two horns represents the kings of Media and Persia. The shaggy goat represents the kingdom of Greece, and the large horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

--**Foundation #11**: The Old Testament and New Testament are a \_\_\_\_\_ and both are of \_\_\_\_\_ *inspiration* and *importance*

--**Foundation #12**: The Church has not \_\_\_\_\_ Israel in God's prophetic \_\_\_\_\_ for the Last Days

--**Foundation #13**: We won't \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ methods of \_\_\_\_\_ for effect, convenience, or to make prophecy seem more impressive

--**The five great purposes for teaching about the Rapture and the Second Coming**:

--**Purpose #1**: It compels us to \_\_\_\_\_ to lost people...because it reminds us that their \_\_\_\_\_ is great...and their *situation* is \_\_\_\_\_ !!!

--Zeph 1:14-18: 14 Near is the great day of the Lord, near and coming very quickly; listen, the day of the Lord! In it the warrior cries out bitterly. 15 A day of wrath is that day, a day of trouble and distress, a day of destruction and desolation, a day of darkness and gloom, A day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 A day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and the high corner towers. 17 I will bring distress on men so that they will walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the Lord; and their blood will be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them on the day of the Lord's wrath; and all the earth will be devoured in the fire of His jealousy, For He will make a complete end, indeed a terrifying one, of all the inhabitants of the earth.

--**Purpose #2**: It brings great \_\_\_\_\_ to the believer...and helps us to \_\_\_\_\_ in this difficult age...because we \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus is coming back

--Matt. 24:3-7, 13: As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" 4 And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. 6 You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. But do not be alarmed, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes....13 But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.

--**Purpose #3**: It puts a perspective on \_\_\_\_\_

--II Peter 3:3-4, 10: Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."...But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

--Our recurrent, constant, unwavering theme in life should be: →

--It's all gonna \_\_\_\_\_!!!

--**Purpose #4**: To call believers to a \_\_\_\_\_ of absolute  
\_\_\_\_\_ to the Father

--II Peter 3:10-12: But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

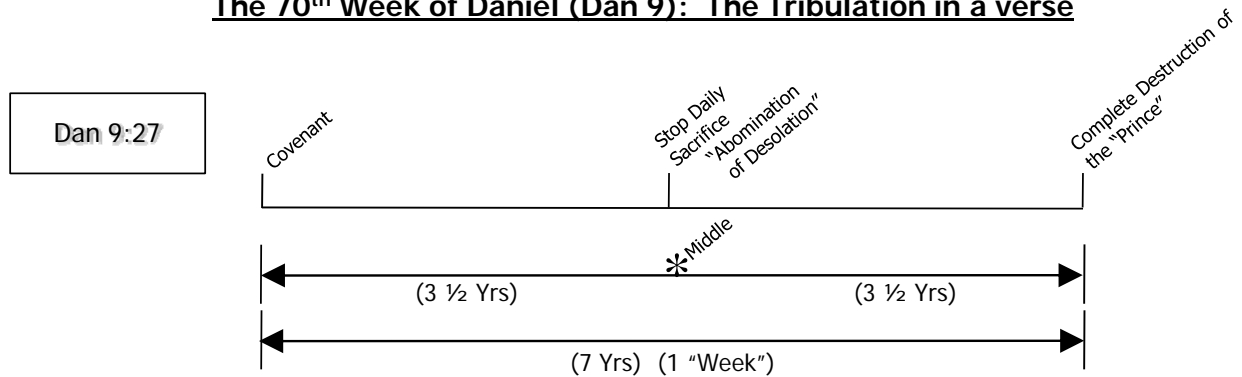
--Key Concept: The primary focus of teaching eschatology shouldn't be \_\_\_\_\_...the primary focus should be...\_\_\_\_\_!!!

--**Purpose #5**: It reminds us to be \_\_\_\_\_...and \_\_\_\_\_!!!

--Matt. 24:37-41, 44-51: For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left...For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will. "Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions. But if that evil slave says in his heart, 'My master is not coming for a long time,' and begins to beat his fellow slaves and eat and drink with drunkards; the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour which he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

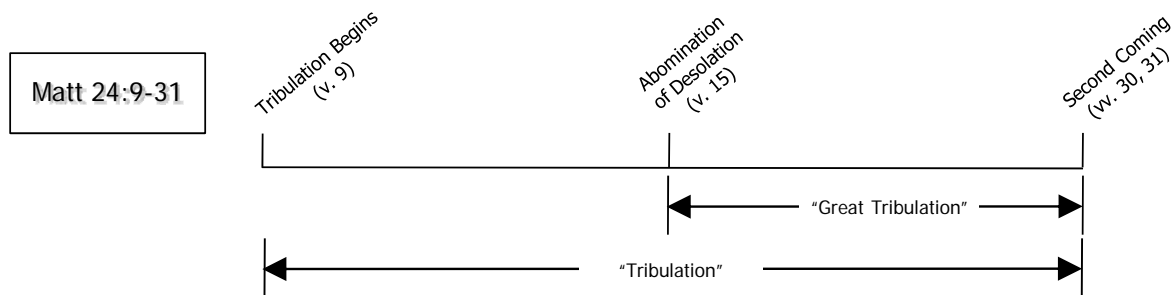
# Putting It All Together: The Last Seven Years

## The 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel (Dan 9): The Tribulation in a verse

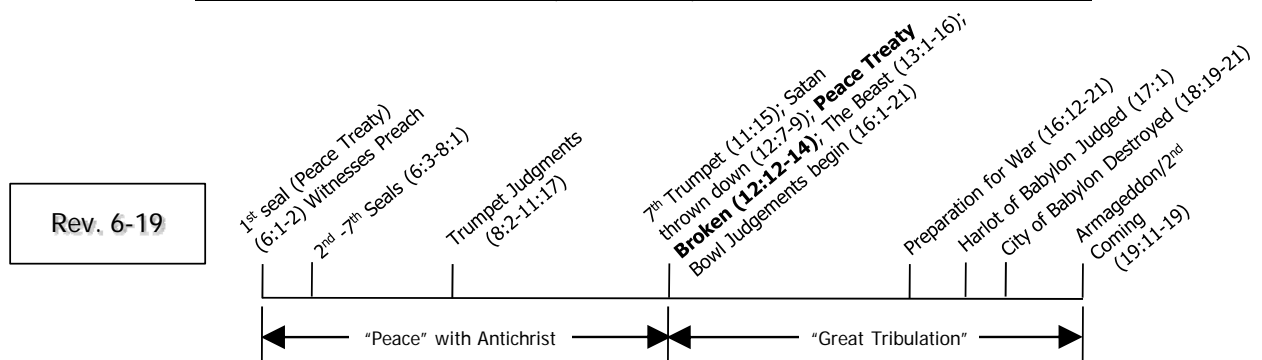


Compare: Dan 2:40-42; 7:1-8, 11, 19-26

## The Olivet Discourse (Matt 24): The Tribulation in a chapter



## The Revelation Account (Rev 6-19): The Tribulation in a book



# Thursology 77: Did Jesus FAKE the Resurrection??? The Passover Plot & the Stolen Body Story (Crazy Claims-Pt 4)

(Thursology Live! 4/14/22)

## --The preposterous claims of Jesus of Nazareth:

--I AM the Great I AM...and...I AM the Messiah.

## --Week 1: The astronomical mathematics

--The likelihood that Jesus could have fulfilled just ten of the prophecies...is as likely as winning a state lottery three times in a row...without losing in between!!!

## --Week 2: Messiah had to thread the historical needle

--Messiah had to be born...before AD 7...to fulfill Gen 49 (The Scepter)!!!

--Messiah had to die...after AD 7...to be crucified (rather than stoned)!!!

--Messiah had to die...before AD 70...to fulfill Daniel 9 (Messiah would be cut off before the Temple was destroyed)...and because the genealogies were destroyed when the Temple was leveled...thus making it forever-after impossible to verify any would-be Messiah's lineage!!!

## --Week 3: An OT threat to Jesus' Messiahship: Joseph's sons could not reign as Israel's king

--Problem #1: The persistent unfaithfulness of Solomon and his descendants.

--Problem #2: Jeremiah's specific disqualification of Jeconiah and his descendants

--The resolution:

--Mary's lineage comes directly from David's...through his son Nathan...bypassing Solomon and Jeconiah...and keeping Jesus' kingly and Messianic lineage intact!!!

## --The Centrality of the Resurrection

--Rev 14:13: And I heard a voice from heaven, saying..."Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord"

## --The "Passover Plot"

--The "Plot": Jesus attempted to authenticate Himself as the **MESSIAH** by deliberately **ACTING** out the Old Testament prophecies.

## --How could Jesus have possibly pulled this off???

--Prophecy #1: The method of His execution was prophesied at least eight **CENTURIES** before crucifixion was even **INVENTED**

--Psalms 22:16: For dogs have surrounded me; a band of evildoers has encompassed me; they pierced my hands and my feet.

--Prophecy #2: In the midst of the crucifixion...they would cast **LOTS** for His **CLOTHS**

--Psalms 22:18: They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots

--Prophecy #3: They would give Him vinegar and gall to **DRINK**

--Psalms 69:21: They also gave me gall for my food and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

--Prophecy #4: His grave was assigned with **WICKED** men...and yet...supposedly He was also going to end up with a **RICH** man in His death???

--Isa 53:9a, b: His grave was assigned with wicked men, yet He was with a rich man in His death...

--A ridiculously difficult combination of prophecies to fulfill: Jesus died with **THIEVES**...and yet...He was buried in the **PRIVATE** tomb of Joseph of Arimathea!!!

--Some really telling questions:

--Question #1: Can anyone actually conceive of Roman soldiers being part of a **PLOT**...and **INTENTIONALLY** helping to act out the applicable **PROPHECIES**???

--Question #2: Even if He *had* the money for a **BRIBE**...how could Jesus have known *which* soldiers would be **ASSIGNED** to the cross so He could pay them in **ADVANCE**???

--Question #3: Can any *unbiased* person conceive that Judas **DESTROYED** himself to deceive the Jews into following a **FAKE** Messiah???

--An incredibly easy way to disqualify Jesus: All that the rabbis had to do to **DESTROY** Jesus' messianic claim was to pay Judas **31** pieces of silver instead of 30. (Zech 11:10-12)

--An amazing paradox: The actions of the people who most wanted to **DISCREDIT** Jesus...ended up providing the most powerful **PROOFS** that Jesus was **EXACTLY** Who He said He was.

## --Two irreconcilable accounts of what happened after Jesus' death:

--1<sup>st</sup> account: The **RESURRECTION** of Jesus

--I Cor 15:3-8: 3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; 7 then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; 8 and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

--Rom 10:8-9: But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart"—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart *that God raised Him from the dead*, you will be saved...

--2<sup>nd</sup> Account: The Disciples **STOLE** the **BODY**

--Matt 28:11-15: Now while they were on their way, some of *the guard* came into the city and *reported to the chief priests all that had happened*. And when they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, and said, "*You are to say, 'His disciples came by night and stole Him away while we were asleep.'*" And if this should come to the governor's ears, we will win him over and keep you out of trouble." And they took the money and did as they had been instructed; *and this story was widely spread among the Jews, and is to this day*.

--The Heresy: Easter is simply **SYMBOLIC** of Christ being *victorious*...and a resurrection of Jesus' **BODY** is...**UNNECESSARY**

--The Biblical Foundation: In Scripture...the bodily resurrection is treated as the **SINGLE** event upon which Christianity **STANDS** or **FALLS**!!!

--I Cor 15:12-19: Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain. Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, *your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins*. Then *those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished*. If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, *we are of all men most to be pitied*.

## --The "Stolen Body" story:

--An unassailable historical fact: That the authorities had *every* reason to **DISPLAY** the body...but didn't...and that the tomb was verifiably **EMPTY**...is a matter of historic record by **ALL** accounts!!!



--The biggest missed opportunity in history: Those with a vested interest in the “Jesus-is-alive Problem” going away...missed their chance to **INVALIDATE** the **EMPTY** tomb!!!

--The Disciple Fact: If we know nothing else about the Disciples...we know that they were **COWARDS** of the **HIGHEST** order!!!

--An irreconcilable disqualification for the veracity of the “Stolen Body Story”: The Roman soldiers had **ALL** fallen **ASLEEP**...and yet...they **KNEW** who had **TAKEN** the body

--**Irrefutable arguments against the “conspiracy theory”:**

--**Counter-apologetic #1: A conspiracy would never have had **WOMEN** be the **DISCOVERERS** of the risen Christ!!!**

--**Counter-apologetic #2: When the resurrection was reported to the **DISCIPLES**...they were actually **DUMBFOUNDED**!!!**

--**Luke 24:1-22a, 25-27, 31, 33-34, 36-44**

--One of the most remarkable and telling statements in all of Scripture: “...the other women with them were telling these things to the apostles. But these words appeared to them as **NONSENSE**, and they would not **BELIEVE** them.”

--**Counter-apologetic #3: The greatest **SKEPTIC**...became the most convincing **WITNESS**!!!**

--Who was the greatest skeptic in all of history? → “**Doubting**” Thomas

--John 20:19-20, 24-28: So when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.” And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord...But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples were saying to him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing.” Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”

--The great gift of Thomas’s doubt: The **PROOF** of the **BODILY** resurrection of Jesus Christ

--**The most powerful evidence for the resurrection:**

--One of the greatest surprises in all of Christian apologetics: The **MOST** powerful authenticating evidence for the Resurrection...didn’t come while He was still **WITH** the Disciples...but after He was **GONE**!!!

--The greatest witness of history: After Jesus **LEFT** them...the previously-**COWARDLY** Disciples...went on to courageously **DIE** for their witness of the Resurrection!!!

--The key difference: Lots of people have died for **FALSE** causes that they believe are **TRUE**...but no one dies for a cause that they know is **FALSE**!!!

--The unassailable verification of The Resurrection: A tiny band of cowardly, brokenhearted, disillusioned followers of a **DEAD** and **DEFUNCT** rabbi...became fearless, unshakable, undaunted, courageous **MARTYRS** as a direct result of **DEFENDING**...this very story!!!