

Benjamin:

I agree with most of the "What is the Great Tribulation (Wrath)? Document. I have been teaching most of what it says since the 1990s. However, because of the sequential events laid out in Revelation, during the time of the Great Tribulation, which begins 1260 days after the "Covenant with Death" (Isaiah 28:15) is confirmed "with the many," as Daniel puts it (Daniel 9:27), I separate out the persecution of the Jews, and those who "hold to the testimony of Jesus" (Christians) (See Rev 12:17), and taking of the mark of the Beast (See Rev chapter 13), from God's Wrath as represented by the Trumpets and bowl judgments in Revelation. This is called the "Pre-wrath rapture" position. There are several places in Revelation we see "the saints" still present on the earth after the reign of the Antichrist begins. We see them needing to "patiently endure." We see them being pursued by the Antichrist. To be clear, this says that the rapture takes place sometime after the midpoint of the tribulation period, but some unknown time before the end of the 7 years as God's wrath is poured out on the inhabitants of the earth.

Although we know the Great Tribulation starts at the midpoint of the seven-year period, when the Antichrist is revealed and commits the abomination of desolation, we do not know when the sixth seal will be loosed. When the 5th seal is loosed we see martyrs showing up in heaven, which we can associate with severe persecution under the Antichrist after he is revealed at the midpoint of the tribulation. It is only after the breaking of the sixth seal in Rev 6:12 that we see the final sign occur (sun black, moon red, stars fall, worldwide earthquake) before a great crowd (the elect) shows up in Heaven. That is the rapture and the second coming at the same time when we tie all the scriptures together that pertain to this event. At the same time, we see the 144k remnant of faithful Jews being sealed and miraculously protected from what is going to happen, while we see the rest of Israel (the unfaithful) having to endure God's wrath. It is also the beginning of God's wrath being poured out on the earth. Nothing prior can be considered God's wrath. The first-time wrath is mentioned in Revelation is Rev 6:17. The first sign of it being poured out is with the playing of the first trumpet in Rev 8:7.

Regarding the second item you sent, from your "hebrews and greeks bible study," I scanned the document. Aside from a couple specific things pertaining to their timing theories, and some of their numerology theories, I am familiar with everything I read in it. I agree with many points in the document, and don't agree with many others. They don't even acknowledge the Pre-wrath rapture position. There have been many books written about it (including my own) since the early 1990s. It would take far too much time for me to address all the points made in that document which I don't believe to be correct. However, I do address most of them in my book. I can send you a pdf copy of the book for free if you are interested, otherwise it is available on-line. I am also willing to answer your specific questions.

You seem to have a lot of passion for watching for the return of Yeshua the Messiah. That is fantastic. I encourage you to keep seeking the truth about His return. There is a lot of garbage being taught by many people. I used to believe in some of that garbage myself (some of which I read in the second document you sent). Thank God He kept me studying even after I believed I had it all correct. The beautiful thing is we don't have to have it all correct. God will execute His plans perfectly without our agreement or understanding of what they are. I trust Him and His plan.