

Tim LaHaye and the Left Behind Book Series: Rapture Truth in Great Tribulation

Is the church going through the Great Tribulation or is it going to be taken out in a secret rapture? Tim LaHaye in his Left Behind novel book series says yes to rapture. What do you say?

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I remember when I first heard about the pre-tribulation rapture theory when I was attending a Southern Baptist church shortly after being married there in 1981. I had stopped going to church way back in the late sixties and became a Buddhist while attending college and studying to be a psychologist.

Carl Jung, known by many as the father of modern psychology was a Buddhist and that is how I started studying other religions. That led me to Scientology, which proclaimed to be "applied Buddhist philosophy" by L. Ron Hubbard. I then became a Scientologist and joined the Advanced Organization while in Copenhagen Denmark, as I was on leave while stationed in Germany in 1972.

To make a long story short, I came back to Christianity in 1981 while attending this Southern Baptist Church in Golden, Colorado as I said, after reading the book, "Late Great Planet Earth" by Hal Lindsey, which had a huge impact on my life and the thirst for the prophecies in the Bible. I had already been an ardent student of prophecies outside of the Bible, by such people as Nostradamus, Edgar Cayce, Ruth Montgomery, Hopi Indians, the Mayans, Jess Stern and many more as I loved reading about prophecies, but Hal Lindsey's book stood out from all the rest.

Then I started reading all of Hal's books, Jack Van Impe's, Grant Jeffrey's, John Ankerberg, Chuck Missler's and the list goes on and totals almost 300. I could not get enough of writings about Bible prophecy.

Not long after going back to church, I felt the call into the ministry and started attending a non-denominational Bible College in Denver to be a Christian counselor and Pastor. More of the same was taught there about the rapture and the tribulation that I had already read by the authors already mentioned.

After graduating from Bible College I set out to be the greatest pastor I could be, first serving as an associate pastor at an Assembly of God church in Memphis, where I grew up and then later started a church of my own. I continued to teach what I had been taught about the rapture and the tribulation, all the while continuing to study the Bible to get more answers about the tribulation that I was not getting.

Then something strange happened! After much studying I came to the conclusion that what I was teaching was not biblical at all concerning the tribulation and the rapture. This was very unsettling to say the least. I took great responsibility in preaching the truth and interpretation the scriptures correctly. It was indeed a "œhard pill to swallow" now knowing that I had been teaching in error.

At that point I stopped teaching and continued to study day and night about the prophecies contained within the Holy Scriptures and continued to find out that a huge portion of what I had been teaching was in error, just not the pre tribulation rapture teaching.

The Tim LaHaye novels had already been released by now and I read a couple and through the years I have been astonished at the overwhelming success of his series of novels, which to date I believe have sold 40 million copies.

It is not surprising however that they have been received with open arms by most of evangelical Christianity as that is exactly what the vast majority are taught in their pulpits, hear on Christian radio and predominately on Christian Television as well. I don't think I have ever heard anyone except for Pat Robertson on TV or the radio teaching something other than the accepted view of the vast majority which is no doubt is a pre tribulation rapture view.

I spent five years writing three books about the End Times and finished them in 1999 and have up to this point not published them, awaiting the time for their release as I felt directed by God to do so, even though they were on my first and previous website that is no longer online. The first of the three books are now available in print if you want them that way, otherwise you can view them in their entirety at the Tribulation Institute.

Do I have all the truth about end times prophecy contained within the Bible? Of course not. It is a vast subject and as we get closer to the return of our Messiah, we will most definitely have more truth revealed to us by the Spirit of God in the scriptures.

Let me say this. I do not know the motives of some of the major pre tribulation rapture teachers and authors, as I cannot know their heart, but after following this for many years some may in fact have nefarious intentions. I will leave that up for you to judge after seeing some of the facts for yourselves.

"His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. 11 Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough (remind you of any TV and other ministers today?) and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter. 12 Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and tomorrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant (the promises of today's prosperity teachers)! Isaiah 56:10-12

So what is my beef?

The scenario and teachings contained within the "œLeft Behind" novel series is extremely dangerous and can be eternally damaging!

Unfortunately when professing Christians who have taken hook, line and sinker all that is contained within the pre-tribulation rapture view, find themselves right smack dab in the

middle of the Great Tribulation of 3 ½ years, they will question what else were they lied to about from these professing Bible scholars on End Times Prophecy?

I contend that many of them will deny the faith whereby they were once saved and take the infamous Mark of the Beast.

The horrific events that will engulf the entire world that they find themselves in, will in large measure make them not only question the God of the Bible, but the very fundamental tenets of Christianity itself. The strong delusion that God will send will be too much for them to discount and they will fall prey to that delusion. (The great falling away in Thes.)

Instead of being in the place of safety that God promises to those who follow Him will have escaped them, and more than likely they will be the ones who turn in fellow preachers and teachers such as myself, for I am not the only one sounding the alarm on the pitfalls of adhering to false teaching within Christianity about the Great Tribulation.

There is so much bad teaching on the End Times and on so many levels, that it even boggles my mind at times.

Actually most who declare themselves Christians, really aren't, but adhere to a different gospel than that which Paul the Apostle taught. They have made up their own gospel and follow their own selfish wills, and not that of my Father in Heaven!!

I say Woe to the pastors and teachers that are leading the sheep astray, of which much is said about in the Bible. I wish that it wasn't true, but it is!

I am very cautious in this warning, because like I said, I at one time for quite some time was guilty of the same offense. I pray that they would repent of their error and false doctrine as I myself and others have done as well. God's mercy and forgiveness is great and always available to those who repent.

The time is short as the New World Order is rapidly closing in on their proclaimed goal of ushering it in!

And don't think for a moment that just because you are a true Christian, or because you live in the USA that you will escape the things coming upon the earth, for you would unfortunately be gravely mistaken.

For it is the government of the USA that is a major player in ushering in the New World Order and the Mark of the Beast and God will judge her according to her evil deeds, which are many.

Come out of Babylon or partake of her plagues.

So what is my message to Tim LaHaye and to those who espouse the same damning rhetoric and false teaching?

Wake up, forsake your riches for therein you have your reward, follow after righteousness and lead the sheep back to the living waters.

The strongest delusion that the world has ever witnessed will soon appear and most

Christians do not have a clue as to what it is!!

I adjure you to continue to seek after the truth and not let the cares of the world and the lust of other things keep you from being ensnared!

J. Amory Forrester
The Tribulation Institute

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