

Can We

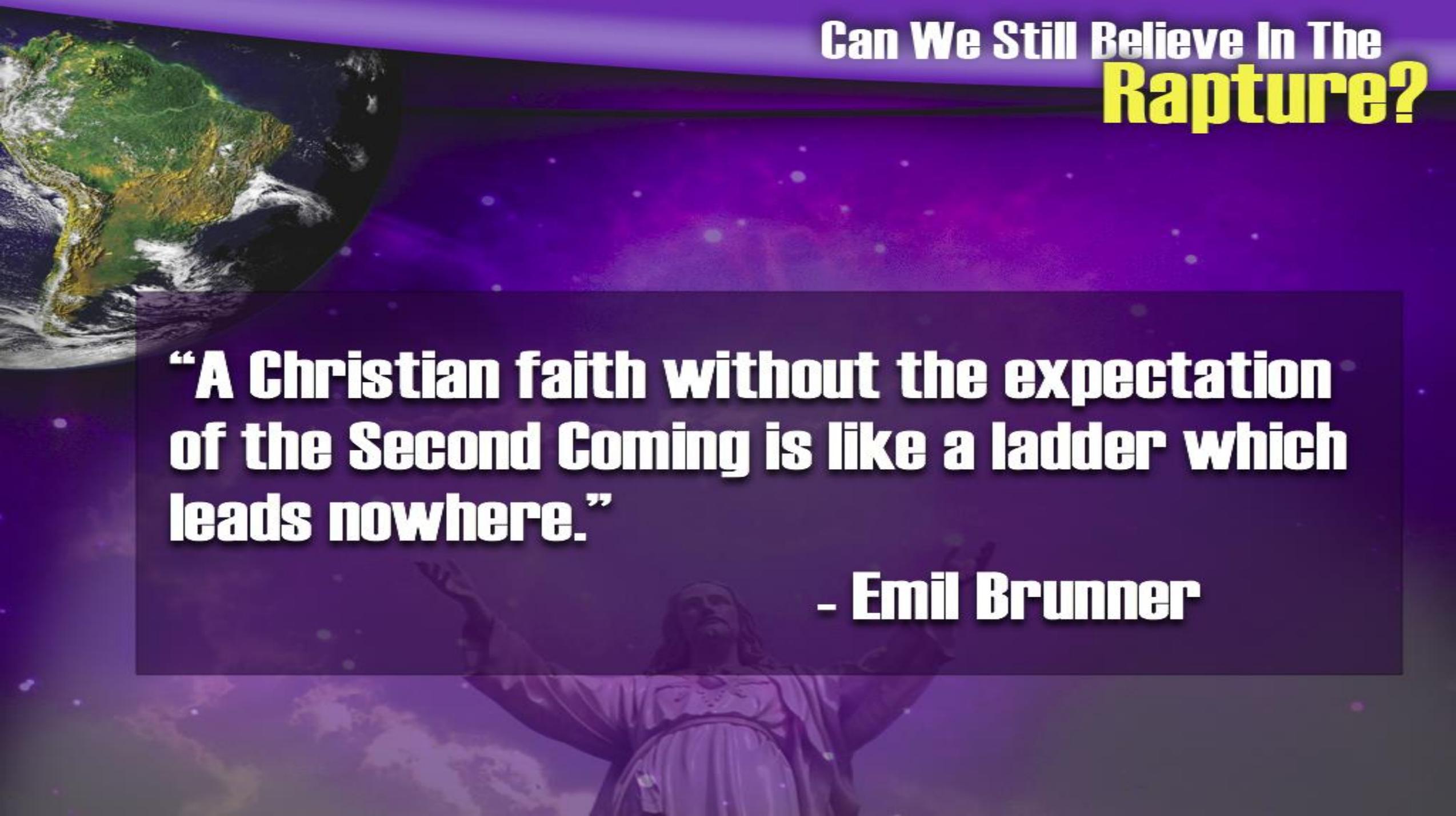
Still

Believe in the

Rapture?

I Thessalonians 4:13-18





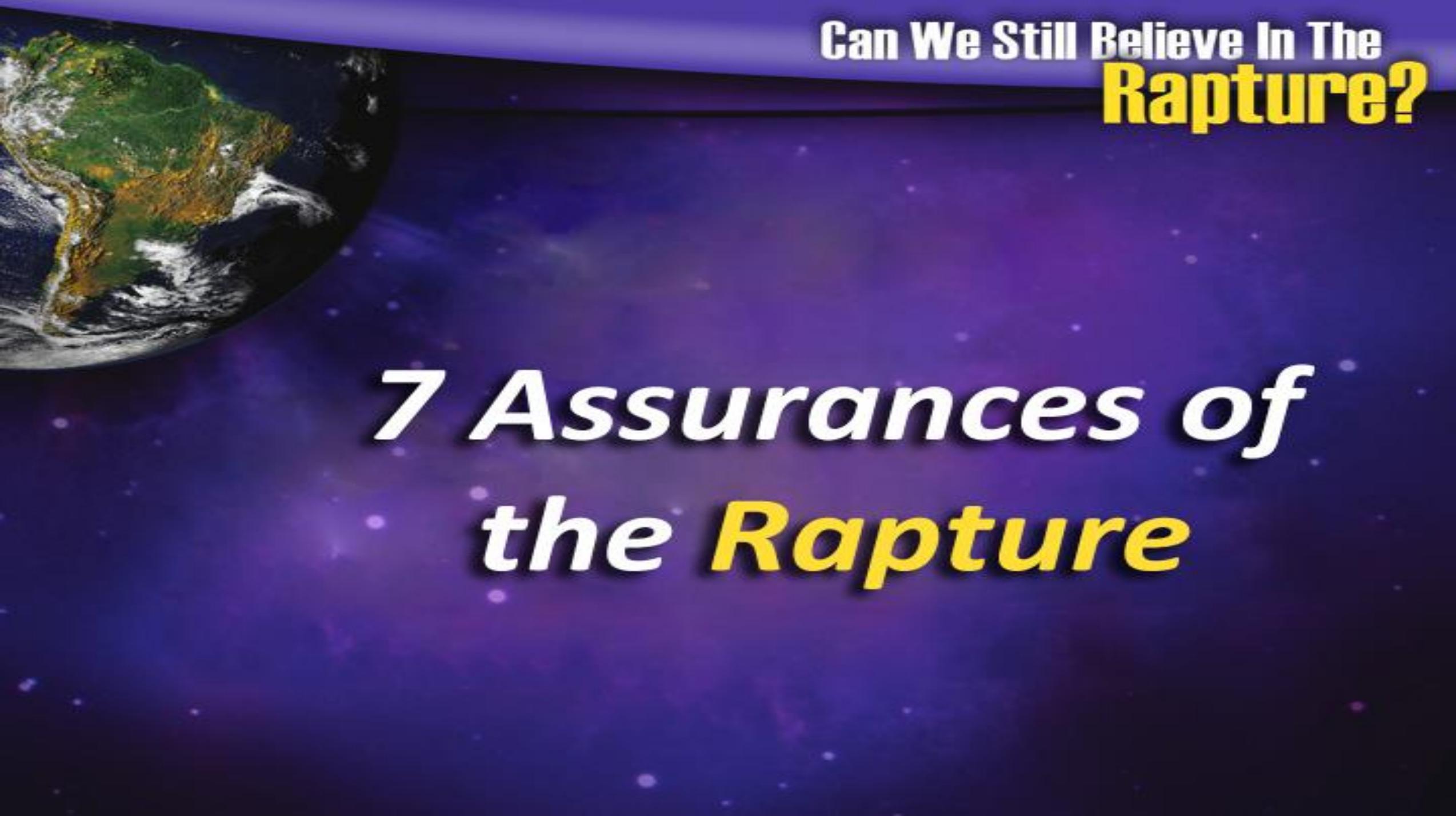
**Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?**

“A Christian faith without the expectation of the Second Coming is like a ladder which leads nowhere.”

- Emil Brunner

Can We Still Believe In The **Rapture?**





Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

***7 Assurances of
the Rapture***



Can We Still Believe In The **Rapture?**

1. Reminder: **Do Not Grieve**

- **Asleep or “sleeping”**
present active participle of koimao
Acts 7:60 “Stephen fell asleep.”



Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

2. Reassurance: **Dead will return**

- **Will bring** - *future active indicative meaning "to lead"*
- **Word** - *Greek, logos*
- **Coming** - *Greek, parousia*
always refers to the second coming



Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

3. Return:

Lord Himself will return

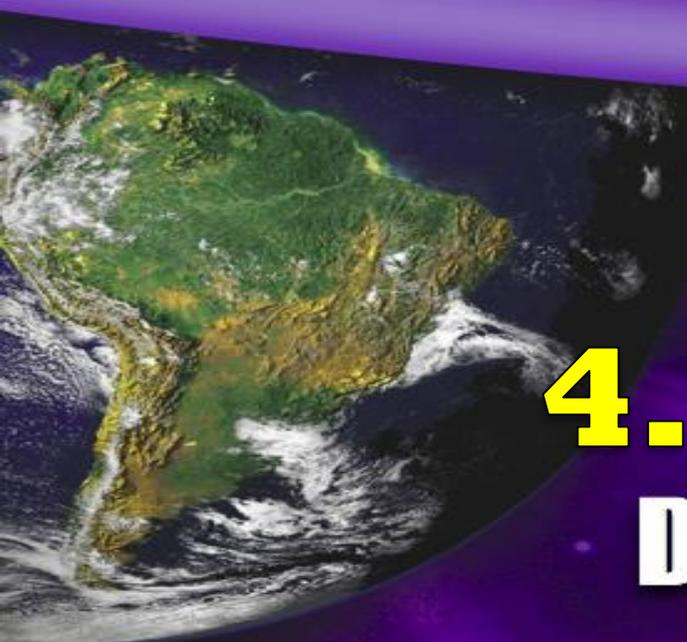
- **Will Descend** - *future active verb, "will come down"*
- **Precede** - *KJV, prevent*
Greek phtano, "go before"



Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

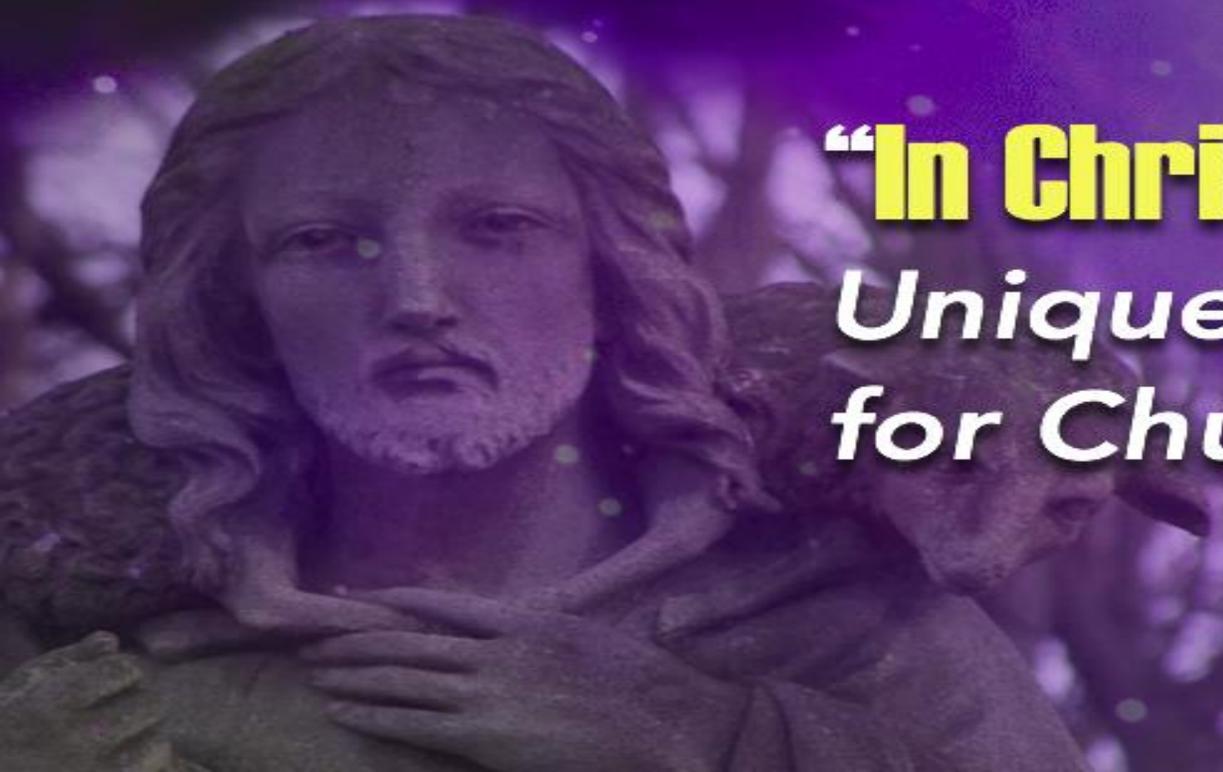
Three Signals to Believers

- **Triumphal Shout**
- **Voice of Archangel**
- **Trumpet of God**



Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

4. Resurrection: **Dead in Christ Rise First**



“In Christ” -
*Unique designation
for Church - Bride of Christ*



Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

5. Rapture:

Living will be caught up

- **Rapture** - *from Latin rapio
Greek, harpazo, "snatched away."*
- **Examples** - *Enoch, Elijah, Philip,
Paul, Christ, & two witnesses*

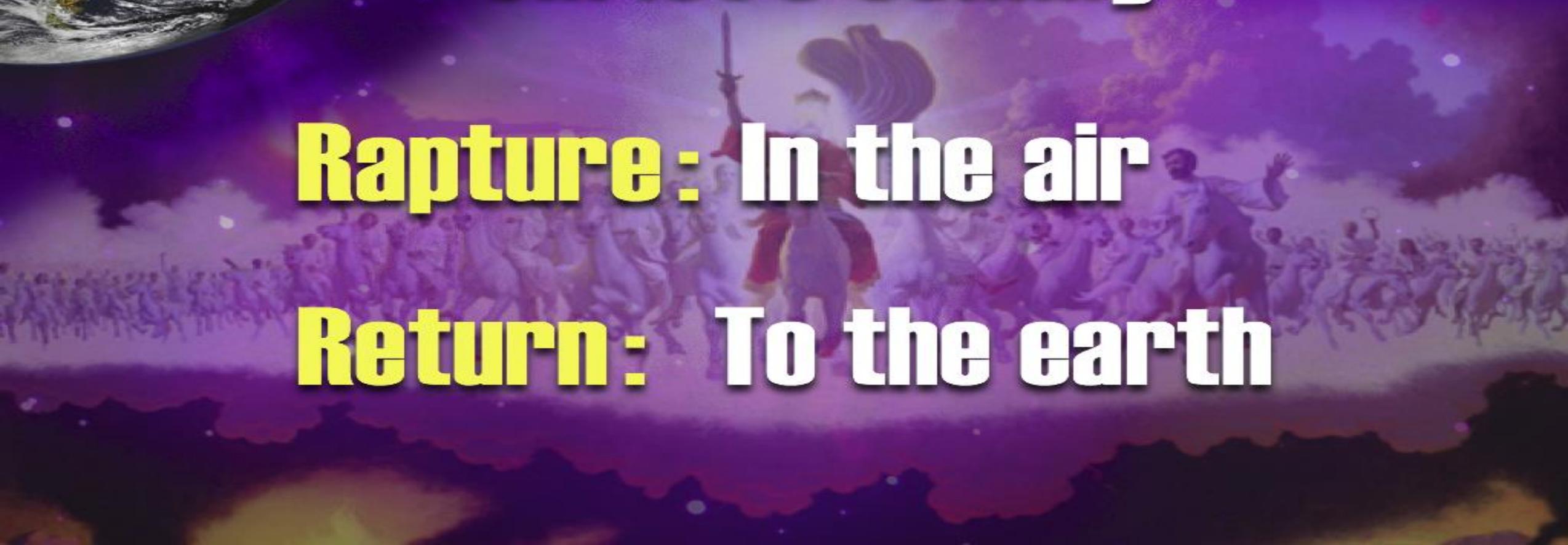


Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

Two Aspects of Christ's Coming

Rapture: In the air

Return: To the earth



Rapture/Blessed Hope

1. Christ comes in the air for His own
2. Rapture/translation of all Christians
3. Christians taken to Father's house
4. No judgment onto earth at Rapture
5. Church taken to Heaven at Rapture
6. Rapture imminent
7. No signs for Rapture
8. For believers
9. Time of mourning
10. Before tribulation
11. No mention of mourning
12. The Judgment Seat of Christ
13. Marriage of the Lamb
14. Only His own see Him
15. Tribulation begins

Glorious Appearing

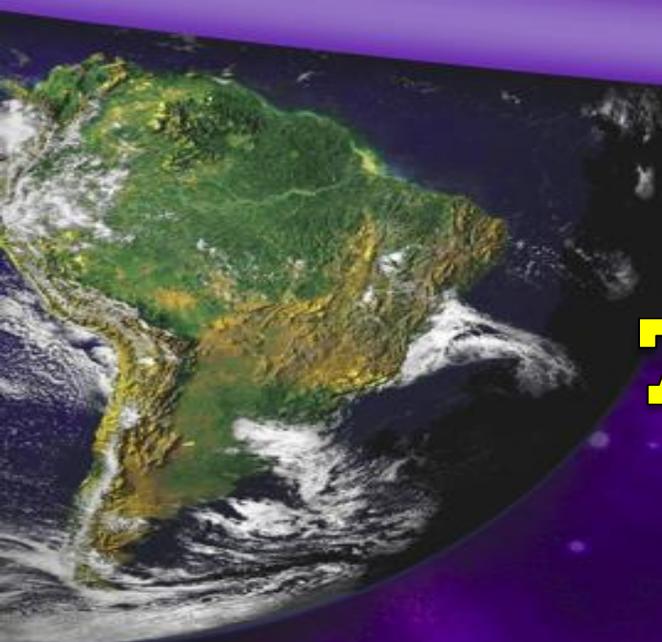
1. Christ comes with His own to earth
2. No one translated
3. Resurrected saints do not see Father's house
4. Christ judges inhabitants of earth
5. Christ's kingdom on earth
6. 1000 years
7. Physical
8. Tribulation
9. Mourning
10. "Immediately after Trib."
11. Satan bound/bottomless pit for 1000 years
12. No time or place for Judgment Seat
13. His bride descends with Him
14. Every eye shall see Him
15. 1000 year kingdom of Christ begins

These two events cannot occur simultaneously



Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

6. Reunion:
With the Lord forever



Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

7. Resolution:

Comfort one another

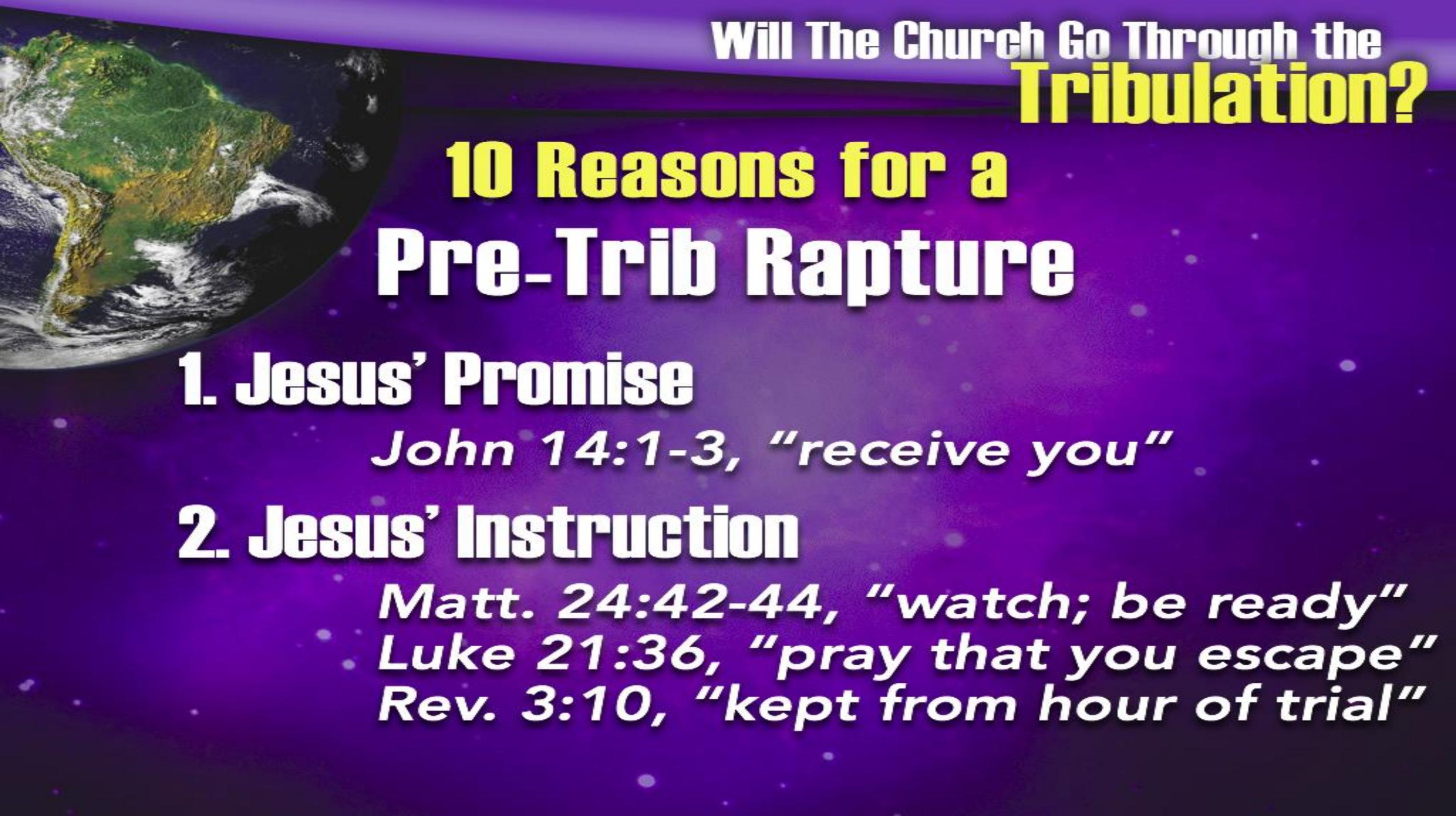
- **Greek** - *parakaleo*,
"come alongside" or "encourage"
Similar to paraklete.
- 



Can We Still Believe In The
Rapture?

Purpose of the Rapture

- **Bride to Father's House** - *John 14:1-6*
- **Judgment Seat of Christ** - *Romans 14:10*
- **Marriage of Lamb** - *Revelation 19:7-9*
- **Triumphal Return** - *Revelation 19:14*



Will The Church Go Through the
Tribulation?

10 Reasons for a Pre-Trib Rapture

1. Jesus' Promise

John 14:1-3, "receive you"

2. Jesus' Instruction

Matt. 24:42-44, "watch; be ready"

Luke 21:36, "pray that you escape"

Rev. 3:10, "kept from hour of trial"



Will The Church Go Through the
Tribulation?

**10 Reasons for a
Pre-Trib Rapture**

3. Persecuted Woman Symbolizes Israel

*Rev. 12:1-2 "The Mother is not the
Bride!"*

4. Church Not the Object of Divine Wrath

1 Thess. 5:9



Will The Church Go Through the
Tribulation?

10 Reasons for a Pre-Trib Rapture

5. Rapture is Imminent

Titus 2:13 "blessed hope"

6. Rapture is Instantaneous

1 Cor. 15:51-52 "twinkling"

7. Rapture is Unique

1 Thess. 4:13-18 "in Christ"



Will The Church Go Through the
Tribulation?

**10 Reasons for a
Pre-Trib Rapture**

8. Rapture Precedes Bema Seat

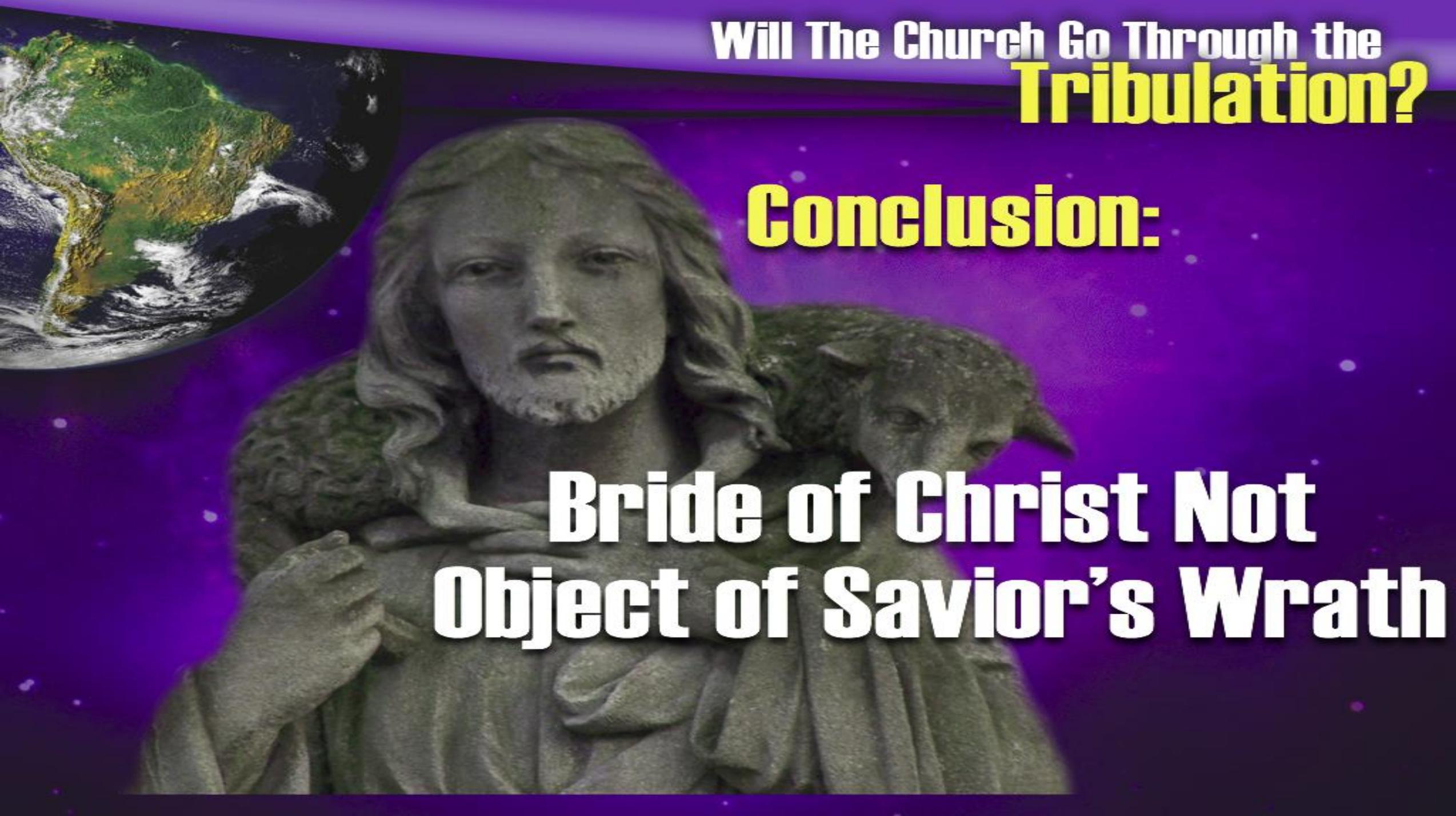
2 Cor. 5:10

9. Rapture Precedes Marriage

Rev. 19:7-8

10. Rapture Precedes Armageddon

Rev. 19:14



**Will The Church Go Through the
Tribulation?**

Conclusion:

**Bride of Christ Not
Object of Savior's Wrath**



Can We

Still

Believe in the

Rapture?

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

