

Chapter Three

The Timing of the Resurrection and the Rapture in the Old Testament

The question we must now address is when will the Saved Abrahamic Seed Group Remnant of The Old Testament be resurrected and raptured? When we know the answer to this question, we will also know when the "Christian church" will be resurrected and raptured since we have demonstrated that they are one and the same Abrahamic Seed Group.

We begin with the doctrine of the Resurrection and Rapture in The Old Testament. Admittedly, this doctrine in the Old Testament is brief. None the less, there are two scriptures in the Old Testament which definitively show the resurrections. They are Isaiah 26:19-21 and Daniel 12:1-2. We shall deal with the Isaiah passage first.

The Isaiah Passage

Isaiah 26:19-21

19 Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

20 Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.

21 For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

"Those that are Christ's at his coming" and "My dead bodies shall rise" are one and the same group because both are the Saved Abrahamic Seed Group.

In verse 19, we should eliminate the supplied words "men" and "together with". In addition, in the Hebrew, the word "body" is in the plural, that is "bodies". Therefore, the verse simply says "Thy dead shall live, my dead bodies shall rise". The emphasis here is on "my" dead bodies, that is, God's dead bodies. This corresponds with Paul's statement in 1 Corinthians 15:23 which refers to "they that are Christ's at his coming". In other words, "my dead bodies shall rise" and "they that are Christ's at his coming" refer to the same group because both are the Saved Abrahamic Seed Group. This passage in Isaiah refers, of course, to the resurrection of Old Testament Saints. But since New Testament Christians are grafted into the same group, they are resurrected at the same time. More on this later.

Having seen the resurrection of God's people (The Saved Abrahamic Seed Group Remnant in the Old Testament) in verse 19, we turn now to the rapture of those living members of the same Old Testament Saved Abrahamic Seed Group Remnant. This is taken up in verse 20.

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The word "chambers" in verse 20 blows it all wide open

Many hold that verse 20 speaks of God's sheltering, in caves and dens and wherever, those Jews living on earth during the Seven Year Tribulation Period. I disagree with this view for the simple reason that the word "chambers" in verse 20 will not support such a conclusion. Why will this Hebrew word not support this kind of sheltering?

It is a fact that God prepares a place for national Israel still living on earth where He protects them during the Tribulation. But I do not believe that verse 20 speaks of that. I believe verse 20 speaks of the Rapture of the Saved Abrahamic Seed Group Remnant who is living at the exact moment in history when Jesus appears to rapture The Saved Abrahamic Seed Group Remnant with Gentile Christians grafted into it.

Why do I say that the word translated "chambers" will not support the idea of protection during the Tribulation period? Because of the meaning of the word and the way it is used in scripture. The Hebrew word is HEDER which means an interior compartment or room in which one can find privacy. It is used 39 times in scripture and in each occurrence it means private room except in just seven cases where it is used figuratively. In these seven figurative uses, four times it refers to chambers within the belly. The references are Proverbs 18:8, 20:27, 20:30 and 26:22. It is used one time as the equivalent of "Sheol" in Proverbs 7:27. It is used twice as the source of a storm in Job 9:9 and 37:9.

The balance of the 39 times it is used generally as an interior private room or compartment. Many of these times it is used specifically as "the rulers bedroom". See the following scriptures.

Exodus 8:3

3 And the river shall bring forth frogs abundantly, which shall go up and come into thine house, and into thy bedchamber, and upon thy bed, and into the house of thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thine ovens, and into thy kneadingtroughs:

2 Kings 6:12

12 And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.

2 Samuel 4:7

7 For when they came into the house, he lay on his bed in his bedchamber, and they smote him, and slew him, and beheaded him, and took his head, and gat them away through the plain all night.

Joel 2:16

16 Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.

Judges 15:1

1 But it came to pass within a while after, in the time of wheat harvest, that Samson visited his wife with a kid; and he said, I will go in to my wife into the chamber. But her father would not suffer him to go in.

Song of Songs 3:4

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4 It was but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth: I held him, and would not let him go, until I had brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me.

The word is also used for the inner rooms of the Temple. It is also used to contrast the "outside" with the "inside" in Deuteronomy 32:25.

Deuteronomy 32:25

25 The sword without, and terror within, shall destroy both the young man and the virgin, the suckling also with the man of gray hairs.

Now, if Isaiah 26:20 described the place where God protects what is left of National Israel during the last half of the 70th Week of Years-Great Tribulation-12th and final day of The Lord, Isaiah would have used another word. Why? Because Revelation says that National Israel is hidden in the "wilderness" which is neither the "ruler's bedroom" nor is it "inside".

Revelation 12:14

14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

If we are correct concerning what we have said above, then the Rapture in the Old Testament follows immediately the Resurrection of God's Saved Abrahamic Seed Group Remnant exactly as the rapture follows the resurrection in the New Testament. Paul gave us this same order (Rapture follows Resurrection) in 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17.

1 Thessalonians 4:15-17

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

The question might be raised concerning those who are "the dead in Christ" as to whether or not this is the same group as those resurrected in Isaiah 26:19 mentioned above. The answer is yes.

They are one and the same group. This is so because "in Christ" is a paraphrase of Promise #60 that God made to Abraham. This promise has been cited previously but let me cite it again here.

Genesis 22:18

18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

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Paul said the "seed" in this verse is Christ (see Galatians 3:16). The word "blessed" as noted previously, contains healing, prosperity, well-being for our families in addition to the salvation of the soul.

Galatians 3:16

16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.

In other words, "in Christ" is a synonymous term with "in thy seed" according to Paul.

Since God told Abraham that all nations of the earth (not just Jews) were to be blessed "in thy seed", which is the same expression as "in Christ", then it is obvious that the Jews were already "in thy seed" or "in Christ". Therefore, the "dead in Christ" are the same identical group we see raptured in Isaiah 26:19. See the author's book, *"What Are Abraham's Blessings Anyway?"*

In addition, in both testaments, the tribulation follows the resurrection and the rapture. Here we find this order in the Isaiah passage. Verse 19 speaks of an "indignation" which must overpass and verse 20 declares a punishment coming upon "the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity". This "indignation" and "punishment" is the Tribulation period which is described in detail in Revelation chapters 6 through 20. To put it more precisely, verse 19 in this Isaiah passage shows us the resurrection. Verse 20a shows us the rapture and verses 20b and 21 show us the Tribulation.

In the New Testament, Paul gives us this same order in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11. He says that the dead in Christ rise first, then those living saints rise second and finally the Twelfth Day of The Lord or the Tribulation begins. (There are 11 Days of The Lord in the Old Testament and a 12th and final day of The Lord in the New Testament. In a subsequent chapter, we shall see that scripture uses four names for the same seven year event. The Tribulation, Daniel's 70th Week the wrath of the Lamb and the 12th and final day of The Lord all describe the same seven year event, which is detailed in Revelation chapters 6-19).

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

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- 3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.
4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.
5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.
6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.
7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.
8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.
9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,
10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.
11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

From this passage we see the resurrection in 4:16, the rapture in 4:17 and the Tribulation or Day of the Lord in 5:1-5:11. This is the same order we have in the Isaiah passage considered above.

We shall now consider the Daniel passage mentioned at the beginning of this chapter.

The Daniel Passage

Daniel 11:45

45 And he shall plant the tabernacles of his glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

Daniel 12:1-3

1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

The context of this passage concerns the time when the Antichrist comes to his end.

In the next chapter we demonstrate that this occurs at the Second Coming of Christ to the earth. At this point in time, or as Daniel puts it, "**at the time of the end**", **three basic things happen**.

First, Michael stands aside and does nothing.

The KJV says he shall "stand up". I believe this translation is faulty in this context. He has always been on the scene to "stand up" for the holy people but not now. In this context he "stands aside and does nothing". For proof of this, let's take a look at the Hebrew word translated "stand up" in this passage.

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In the verses listed below, the word translated "stand up" is translated "stand by".

Genesis 18:8

8 And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

Genesis 24:30

30 And it came to pass, when he saw the earring and bracelets upon his sister's hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, Thus spake the man unto me; that he came unto the man; and, behold, he stood by the camels at the well.

Genesis 41:1

1 And it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed: and, behold, he stood by the river.

Genesis 41:3

3 And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill favored and leanfleshed; and stood by the other kine upon the brink of the river.

Exodus 18:13

13 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening.

The preceding verses all translate the word in some form of "stand by".

The next two verses, however, translate it as "stand afar off".

Exodus 20:18

18 And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.

Exodus 20:21

21 And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was.

The next three verses translate this Hebrew word by "stay".

Leviticus 13:5

5 And the priest shall look on him the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague in his sight be at a stay, and the plague spread not in the skin; then the priest shall shut him up seven days more:

Leviticus 13:23

23 But if the bright spot stay in his place, and spread not, it is a burning boil; and the priest shall pronounce him clean.

Leviticus 13:28

28 And if the bright spot stay in his place, and spread not in the skin, but it be somewhat dark; it is a rising of the burning, and the priest shall pronounce him clean: for it is an inflammation of the burning.

Numbers 9:8 translates it by "stand still".

Numbers 9:8

8 And Moses said unto them, Stand still, and I will hear what the LORD will command concerning you.

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Deuteronomy 24:11 translates this word by "stand abroad".

Deuteronomy 24:11

11 Thou shalt stand abroad, and the man to whom thou dost lend shall bring out the pledge abroad unto thee.

The next two verses translate it with our expression, "stand still".

Joshua 3:8

8 And thou shalt command the priests that bear the Ark of the Covenant, saying, When ye are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan.

Joshua 10:13

13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.

There are many, many more scriptures we could cite to show that this word means more than just "stand up". But this is enough to demonstrate that "at that time", when the Antichrist comes to his end, Michael's job is done. There is nothing more he can do. "At that time", Jesus himself takes over for him. When Jesus takes charge, the other two things occur immediately.

The second thing that happens is Daniel's "people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book".

This statement pertains to the Saved Abrahamic Seed Group Remnant who is still alive when Christ comes back to the earth at the end of the 70th Week-Tribulation-12th and final day of The Lord. They will be "delivered" by their conversion to Christ and immediately enter the Millennium. Zechariah 12:10-13:1 agrees with the above.

Zechariah 12:10-14

10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

11 In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon.

12 And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart;

13 The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart;

14 All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.

Zechariah 13:1

1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

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In other words, when Jesus comes back to the earth, National Israel will be saved en masse amidst a lot of heartbreak when they see him and recognize him.

In that day the full fountain of salvation will be opened to them and they will be saved and grafted back into their own olive tree according to Paul in Romans 11:23-29.

Romans 11:23-29

23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again.

24 For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

27 For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

28 As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes.

29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Then, they go into the Millennium still alive, saved and on their feet. Next, we consider the third thing that happens "at that time" when the Antichrist comes to his end.

The third event to occur is the resurrection of the Saved Abrahamic Seed Group Remnant who died during the 70th Week-Tribulation-12th and final day of The Lord. (The Gentiles who are saved during this period are included in this resurrection also.)

Daniel shows us this in verse 3 of chapter 12. We know that this resurrection pertains only to those who died during the final 7 years for a very simple reason. Isaiah showed us the resurrection and rapture of those who lived and died prior to the 70th Week-Tribulation-12th and final day of The Lord. But this resurrection Daniel speaks of occurs after it.

Therefore, what Daniel says here is that many, but not all, of the Jewish people will be resurrected here. Those who are resurrected "at that time" will awake "to everlasting life" but those who do not awake "at that time" will awake at the end of the Millennium to "shame and everlasting contempt". Those who awake "at that time" to "everlasting life" lived and reigned a thousand years with Christ but those who did not awake "at that time" will be resurrected at the end of the Millennium, a thousand years later. Revelation 20:4-5 describes this for us.

Revelation 20:4-6

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

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5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

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