



THE PRE-WRATH RAPTURE

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Three Biblical Events

- The Day of the Lord's Wrath
- The Antichrist's Great Tribulation
- The Rapture Event

What the “Day of the Lord” is *Not*

- It is not a literal 24-hour day.
- It is not limited to judgment; but in some contexts it indicates a future eschatological period of reconciliation, blessings, and redemption.
- It should not be identified with “the Tribulation period” or “the Great Tribulation.”
- True believers will not experience the Day of the Lord’s wrath “*For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ*” — I Thess 5:9

Don't Be Deceived

Jesus: “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter into the kingdom of heaven—only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.”

—Matt 7:21

Paul: “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived!”

—1 Cor 6:9

James: “What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Can this kind of faith save him?”

—Jas 2:14

Peter: “make every effort to be sure of your calling and election...”

—2 Pet 1:10

John: “And the person who keeps his commandments resides in God, and God in him. Now by this we know that God resides in us: by the Spirit he has given us.”

—1 John 3:24

The *Concept* of the Day of the Lord

- This exact expression denoting the *concept* of “The Day of the Lord” (*yôm yhwh*) is found in the Old Testament 15 times.
- *However*, the expression “Day of the Lord” is only one of many Biblical terms to describe God’s future eschatological judgment.

- on the Day of the Lord's sacrifice (Zeph 1:8)
- on the Day of the Lord's wrath (Zeph 1:18)
- in the Day of His burning anger (Isa 13:13)
- in that day (Isa 2:11)
- a day of vengeance (Isa 34:8)
- a day is coming for the LORD (Zech 14:1)
- a unique day (Zech 14:7)
- the end of the age/harvest (Matt 13)

“This is the prophetic message that the LORD gave to Zephaniah son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, son of Hezekiah. Zephaniah delivered this message during the reign of King Josiah son of Amon of Judah: “I will destroy everything from the face of the earth,” says the LORD. “I will destroy people and animals; I will destroy the birds in the sky and the fish in the sea. (The idolatrous images of these creatures will be destroyed along with evil people.) I will remove humanity from the face of the earth,” says the LORD....

...The LORD's great day of judgment is almost here; it is approaching very rapidly! There will be a bitter sound on the LORD's day of judgment; at that time warriors will cry out in battle. That day will be a day of God's anger, a day of distress and hardship, a day of devastation and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and dark skies, a day of trumpet blasts and battle cries. Judgment will fall on the fortified cities and the high corner towers. I will bring distress on the people and they will stumble like blind men, for they have sinned against the LORD. Their blood will be poured out like dirt; their flesh will be scattered like manure. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD's angry judgment. The whole earth will be consumed by his fiery wrath. Indeed, he will bring terrifying destruction on all who live on the earth."

—Zeph 1:1–3, 14–18

The Celestial Sign

“I will produce portents both in the sky and on the earth— blood, fire, and columns of smoke. The sunlight will be turned to darkness and the moon to the color of blood, before the day of the LORD comes— that great and terrible day!”

—Joel 2:30–31

Consistency Between Joel and Revelation

The Cosmic Disturbances Announce
the Trumpet and Bowl Judgments



A Seven-Sealed Scroll

First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth
Conquer-Ruler?	Wars	Famine	Death	Martyrs	Cosmic Signs

“Then I looked when the Lamb opened the sixth seal, and a huge earthquake took place; the sun became as black as sackcloth made of hair, and the full moon became blood red; and the stars in the sky fell to the earth like a fig tree dropping its unripe figs when shaken by a fierce wind. The sky was split apart like a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved from its place. Then the kings of the earth, the very important people, the generals, the rich, the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains. They said to the mountains and to the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who is seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb, because the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to withstand it?””

—Rev 6:12-17

The Prelude to God's Wrath

“Now when the Lamb opened the seventh seal there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. Another angel holding a golden censer came and was stationed at the altar. A large amount of incense was given to him to offer up, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar that is before the throne. The smoke coming from the incense, along with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it on the earth, and there were crashes of thunder, roaring, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake. Now the seven angels holding the seven trumpets prepared to blow them.”

—Rev 8:1–6

Trumpet and Bowl
Judgments:
Revelation 8–9, 15–17

Both the Rapture and the
Onset of the Day of the Lord's
Wrath Occur on the *Same Day!*

“Then he said to the disciples, “The days are coming when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. Then people will say to you, ‘Look, there he is!’ or ‘Look, here he is!’ Do not go out or chase after them. For just like the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. Just as it was in the days of Noah, so too it will be in the days of the Son of Man. People were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage—right up **to the day** Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.”

—Luke 17:22–27

What Old Testament
passage is Jesus referring to?

“In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth **day** of the month—on **that day** all the fountains of the great deep burst open and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. And the rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On **that very day** Noah entered the ark, accompanied by his sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth, along with his wife and his sons’ three wives.”

—Gen 7:11–13

To make sure that Jesus is not misunderstood about the "same day" truth, which he is applying to his Return, he cites the Lot and Sodom episode:

“Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot, people were eating, drinking, buying, selling, planting, building; but on the day Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all. It will be the same **on the day** the Son of Man is revealed. **On that day**, anyone who is on the roof, with his goods in the house, must not come down to take them away, and likewise the person in the field must not turn back. Remember Lot’s wife! Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will preserve it. I tell you, in **that night** there will be two people in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. There will be two women grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left.””

—Luke 17:28–35

“For it is right for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to you who are being afflicted to give rest together with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels. With flaming fire he will mete out punishment on those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will undergo the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his strength, when he comes to be glorified among his saints and admired on that day among all who have believed—and you did in fact believe our testimony.”

—2 Thess 1:6–10

Cosmic Sign
Joel 2:31
Sixth Seal



The Day of the Lord



Rapture
Same Day
Wrath Begins