## WHY WE BELIEVE THE CHURCH WILL BE REMOVED BEFORE THE TRIBULATION

It's first important to understand the purpose of the Tribulation, which is the judgement of Israel for their breaking of the Old Covenant and restoring them back into obedience before they enter the 1000 year Kingdom. More specifically, the Tribulation is *mandated* by the Old Covenant, an agreement made between Israel and God, which the New Testament Church isn't party to. The Church has been redeemed by Christ, whom Israel and the rest of the unbelieving world have rejected and therefore the Church will be removed prior to the Tribulation.

For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief; For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus himself says in Luke 17:26-30:

And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: they were eating, they were drinking... until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

It was the same as happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking... but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.

In both Noah and Sodom's cases, God removed the righteous prior to the outpouring of wrath so that they would not be caught up in the judgment. Noah and his family were instructed to enter the ark 7 days prior to the flood. And Jesus states this would be the same for His return.





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