

**BE READY – 3**  
**JULY 14, 2024**

**1 THES. 4:13-18**

The next event to occur on God's timeline is the Rapture. The Church moves to Heaven for seven years before returning to fight the Battle of Armageddon.

**Come up hither – REV. 4:1-3**

There are three views: Pre, Mid, Post Tribulation. While God's wrath is poured out on Earth, three things happen In heaven. The Bema, the Marriage Supper, and preparation for Armageddon.

**Reasons for Pre-Trib Position (REV. 5:1-14)**

- 1.) God's promise. **ROM. 5:8-9 AMPC** The tribulation is God's wrath (**REV. 6:16-17**). **REV. 3:10 NLT** refers to the tribulation. From, not through.
  - A.) Jesus suffered God's wrath for the Church. **JOHN 16:33** refers to man's wrath, not God's (**PS. 88:6-7**).
- 2.) Purpose of the Tribulation (**DAN. 9:24-27**). For Israel's salvation.
  - A.) Six points made, all refer to Israel.
  - B.) To dethrone Satan from his earthly dominion at Armageddon.
  - C.) To save Israel and set-up His earthly kingdom.
    - Today, Israel is dwelling in part of the land promised to Abraham. But the day will come when they will have all their land and be at peace with all their neighbors.

**The Bema 2 COR. 5:7-10**

Six Questions: Who Participates? What is it? When does it occur? Where does it take place? Why does it take place? How do we prepare?

**Who? 2 COR. 5:10**

Every believer will appear in court. **JOHN 5:22-23** Jesus will be the judge. Daniel Webster: "My accountability to God".

**What? ROM. 14:10-12**

The Bema was a raised platform and official seat of the judge. The Corinthians understood what it was used for: Court of Justice, Military discipline, or rewards; Olympic games. **DAN. 12:10** It involves receiving a refining judgment. We're purified and made white and refined by fire.

**When? LUKE 14:12-14**

After the Rapture. The Resurrection is the Rapture. **1 COR. 4:5** He comes to judge our heart motives.

### **Where? 2 COR. 5:8**

In Heaven. We leave our body, arrive in Heaven, where He judges and refines us.

### **Why? 2 COR. 5:10**

So, we can be recompensed for our deeds, not to determine our salvation. **REV. 4:3** The rainbow is an emblem of mercy, peace, and reconciliation. It's God's covenant of grace.

- **1 COR. 3:10-15 NASB** To evaluate the quality of our building materials: Inferior or superior. If our motives are selfish, our rewards will be lost (**MT. 6**).
- **2 TIM. 4:6-8** Five crowns reveal what's important to God: Life, righteousness, glory, rejoicing, victors.

### **How?**

Treat others (**HEB. 6:10**); use our talents and abilities (**MT. 25**); steward our finances (**PR. 3:9-10**); use our tongue (**MT. 12:36**); handle tests, trials (**JAMES 1:12**); deal with persecution (**MT. 5:11-12**); run our race (**1 COR. 9:24-27**); witness (**DAN. 12:3**); faithful we are (**LUKE 16:10-12**); hospitable we are to the needy (**LK. 14:12-14**).

**CONCLUSION:** We all will face the Judgment Seat of Christ to receive our rewards. This truth should motivate us to judge ourselves and strive to receive God's best (**1 PET. 5:4, PHIL. 3:12-15**). Go for gold.