

rapture catholic answers

Rapture Catholic Answers: Unpacking the Eschatological Mysteries

Introduction:

The Rapture—a pre-tribulation snatching away of believers before a period of tribulation—is a concept deeply rooted in Protestant evangelicalism. However, its interpretation within the Catholic Church is significantly different, often leading to confusion and misinterpretations. This comprehensive guide delves into Catholic teachings on the end times, addressing common questions about the Rapture and providing clarity based on official Church doctrine. We'll explore the Catholic understanding of the Second Coming, the Last Judgment, and the ultimate triumph of Christ, offering a nuanced perspective that moves beyond the simplistic interpretations often associated with the term "Rapture." Prepare to gain a clearer understanding of Catholic eschatology and its perspective on the events surrounding the end of times.

I. Understanding Catholic Eschatology: A Foundation for Understanding "Rapture"

Catholic eschatology, the study of end times, is rich and complex. It doesn't neatly align with the pre-tribulation Rapture scenario popularized in some Protestant circles. Instead, the Catholic understanding emphasizes the following:

The Parousia: This refers to the Second Coming of Christ, a single event where Christ returns in glory to judge the living and the dead. There's no separate "Rapture" event beforehand.

General Judgment: This is the final judgment of all humanity, both the living and the dead, by Christ. This judgment determines each individual's eternal destiny.

Resurrection of the Body: Catholics believe in the resurrection of the body, a bodily reunion with the soul, essential for experiencing the fullness of eternal life or punishment.

The Kingdom of God: The ultimate goal is the establishment of the Kingdom of God, a state of perfect communion with God, characterized by peace, justice, and love.

II. The Absence of a "Pre-Tribulation Rapture" in Catholic Theology

The concept of a pre-tribulation Rapture, where believers are secretly taken

away before a period of great tribulation, is not found in Catholic teaching. The Catechism of the Catholic Church doesn't support this interpretation. The Church's understanding of the Second Coming is a single, visible event, not a secret, pre-tribulation event. This doesn't mean Catholics don't believe in a period of trial or suffering before the final judgment, but it is understood differently than the Protestant pre-tribulation Rapture.

III. Interpreting Biblical Passages Related to the "Rapture" through a Catholic Lens

Many Protestant interpretations of biblical passages, used to support the Rapture, are reinterpreted within Catholic theology. Passages often cited are examined within the broader context of the entire Bible and tradition, leading to different conclusions. For example, the "catching up" in 1 Thessalonians 4 is understood within the context of the general resurrection and the Second Coming, not as a separate event.

IV. The Role of the Church in the End Times

Catholic theology emphasizes the Church's role in the world until the end. The Church is not removed before tribulation; rather, it actively participates in God's plan of salvation until Christ's return. This active role includes proclaiming the Gospel, serving the poor, and witnessing to faith amidst persecution.

V. Purgatory and its Relation to the Final Judgment

Catholic understanding includes Purgatory, a state of purification after death for those who die in God's grace but still need purification before entering Heaven. This is distinct from the concept of a "tribulation" period before the Rapture. Purgatory is a process of cleansing, not punishment, and doesn't negate the final judgment.

VI. Hope and Perseverance in the Face of Uncertainty

Catholic teaching offers comfort and hope in the face of uncertain future events. While the exact timing of Christ's return remains unknown, the focus is on living a life of faith, love, and service, preparing for the final judgment. The emphasis is on living a virtuous life now, rather than speculating on the precise details of the end times.

VII. The Importance of Scripture, Tradition, and Magisterium in Understanding Eschatology

Catholic theology relies on a harmonious understanding of Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, and the Magisterium (the teaching authority of the Church).

This integrated approach prevents misinterpretations and ensures a consistent understanding of end-times events.

VIII. Dispelling Common Misconceptions about Catholic Beliefs on the End Times

Many misconceptions surround Catholic beliefs on the end times. This section will address those misconceptions, providing clarity and correcting inaccurate understandings.

IX. Living a Life of Faith in Light of the Future

The final section will encourage readers to focus on living a life of faith, hope, and love, regardless of the uncertainties surrounding the end times. The true focus is on living a life pleasing to God now, preparing oneself for eternity.

Article Outline:

Title: Rapture Catholic Answers: Unpacking the Eschatological Mysteries

- I. Introduction: Briefly introduces the topic and the article's purpose.
- II. Catholic Eschatology: Explains the Catholic view of the end times, highlighting key differences from the pre-tribulation Rapture.
- III. The Parousia and General Judgment: Details the Catholic understanding of the Second Coming and the final judgment.
- IV. Resurrection and the Kingdom of God: Explains the Catholic belief in the resurrection of the body and the ultimate establishment of God's Kingdom.
- V. Absence of Pre-Tribulation Rapture: Clearly states the Catholic Church's rejection of the pre-tribulation Rapture.
- VI. Biblical Interpretations: Discusses how Catholic theology interprets relevant Bible passages.
- VII. Role of the Church in End Times: Explains the Church's ongoing role until Christ's return.
- VIII. Dispelling Misconceptions: Addresses common misunderstandings about Catholic eschatology.
- IX. Conclusion: Emphasizes living a life of faith in anticipation of the future.

(Detailed explanation of each point in the outline is provided above in the main article body.)

FAQs:

1. Does the Catholic Church believe in a Rapture? No, the Catholic Church does not believe in a pre-tribulation Rapture as understood in some Protestant interpretations.
1. What is the Catholic understanding of the Second Coming? The Catholic Church believes in a single, visible Second Coming of Christ, called the Parousia, for the final judgment.
1. What is the General Judgment in Catholic theology? It's the final judgment of all humanity, both the living and the dead, by Christ.
1. What is the Catholic perspective on the tribulation? While the Catholic Church acknowledges periods of suffering and trial, it doesn't align with the pre-tribulation Rapture scenario.
1. Does the Catholic Church believe in Purgatory? Yes, Purgatory is a state of purification after death for those who die in God's grace but require further purification before entering Heaven.
1. What is the role of the Church in the end times according to Catholic teaching? The Church continues its active mission until the Second Coming, proclaiming the Gospel and serving humanity.
1. How do Catholics interpret biblical passages related to the "Rapture"? Catholics interpret these passages within the broader context of the entire Bible and Church Tradition, leading to different conclusions.
1. What are some common misconceptions about Catholic beliefs on the end times? Common misconceptions include the belief that Catholics believe in a secret Rapture or that they don't believe in a final judgment.

1. How should Catholics prepare for the end times? Catholics are called to live a life of faith, hope, and love, focusing on living a virtuous life now.

Related Articles:

1. Catholic End Times Beliefs: A summary of core Catholic teachings on eschatology.
2. The Second Coming in Catholic Theology: A deeper dive into the Parousia.
3. The General Judgment: Catholic Perspective: An explanation of the final judgment.
4. Purgatory Explained: A Catholic Understanding: Details about the state of Purgatory.
5. Heaven and Hell in Catholic Doctrine: An overview of Catholic teachings on the afterlife.
6. The Resurrection of the Body: A Catholic Belief: Explanation of the belief in bodily resurrection.
7. Biblical Eschatology and Catholic Interpretation: Comparing different interpretations of biblical passages.
8. The Kingdom of God: Catholic Understanding: Exploring the meaning of the Kingdom of God in Catholic theology.
9. Living a Life of Faith in Preparation for Eternity: Guidance on living a Christian life in anticipation of the end times.

rapture catholic answers: Why We're Catholic Trent Horn, 2017-05 How can you believe all this stuff? This is the number-one question Catholics get asked and, sometimes, we ask ourselves. Why do we believe that God exists, that he became a man and came to save us, that what looks like a wafer of bread is actually his body? Why do we believe that he inspired a holy book and founded an infallible Church to teach us the one true way to live? Ever since he became Catholic, Trent Horn has spent a lot of time answering these questions, trying to explain to friends, family, and total strangers the reasons for his Catholic faith. Some didn't believe in God, or even in the existence of truth. Others said they were spiritual but didn't think you needed religion to be happy. Some were Christians who thought Catholic doctrines over-complicated the pure gospel. And some were fellow Catholics who had a hard time understanding everything they professed to believe on Sunday. Why We're Catholic assembles the clearest, friendliest, most helpful answers that Trent learned to give to

all these people and more. Beginning with how we can know reality and ending with our hope of eternal life, it's the perfect way to help skeptics and seekers (or Catholics who want to firm up their faith) understand the evidence that bolsters our belief and brings us joy --

rapture catholic answers: The Late Great Planet Earth Hal Lindsey, 2016-10-11 The impact of *The Late Great Planet Earth* cannot be overstated. The *New York Times* called it the no. 1 non-fiction bestseller of the decade. For Christians and non-Christians of the 1970s, Hal Lindsey's blockbuster served as a wake-up call on events soon to come and events already unfolding -- all leading up to the greatest event of all: the return of Jesus Christ. The years since have confirmed Lindsey's insights into what biblical prophecy says about the times we live in. Whether you're a church-going believer or someone who wouldn't darken the door of a Christian institution, the Bible has much to tell you about the imminent future of this planet. In the midst of an out-of-control generation, it reveals a grand design that's unfolding exactly according to plan. The rebirth of Israel. The threat of war in the Middle East. An increase in natural catastrophes. The revival of Satanism and witchcraft. These and other signs, foreseen by prophets from Moses to Jesus, portend the coming of an antichrist . . . of a war which will bring humanity to the brink of destruction . . . and of incredible deliverance for a desperate, dying planet.

rapture catholic answers: Will Catholics Be Left Behind? Carl Olson, 2009-09-03 This powerful and timely book, written by a former Fundamentalist, is a thorough critique of the popular Fundamentalist notion of the Rapture, the belief that Christians will be removed from earth prior to a time of Tribulation and the Second Coming. It examines the theological, historical, and Biblical basis for premillennial dispensationalism, the belief system based around the Rapture, and popularized in the best-selling *Left Behind* books and taught by Bible prophecy writers Tim LaHaye, Hal Lindsey, Jack Van Impe, and many others. Written for both the lay person and the serious student, this book combines an engaging, popular approach with detailed footnotes and exhaustive research. Beginning with the big picture, it focuses first on key concepts such as eschatology, the Parousia, and the relationship between the Kingdom and the Church. It then examines the Book of Revelation, providing insights into the nature and purpose of that difficult, final book of the Bible. Another chapter looks at the concept of the millennium and how it has been understood by various Christians over the centuries. Olson then shows how *Left Behind* creator LaHaye's many works on Bible prophecy are filled with attacks on Catholicism, and often rely on sensationalism, shaky scholarship, and subjective interpretations of Scripture. Olson, a former dispensationalist who now edits *Envoy* magazine, also presents a history of apocalyptic belief and theology, beginning with the Early Church Fathers and including the Montanists, St. Augustine, Joachim of Fiore, the Protestant Reformers, and the American Puritans. He shows how John Nelson Darby, an ex-Anglican priest, developed the premillennial dispensationalist system, which hinges on the Rapture, in the 1830s and how Darby relied upon faulty assumptions about Jesus Christ, the Church, and the Bible. The second part of the book, *A Catholic Critique of Dispensationalism*, focuses on three important topics: the relationship between Israel, the Church, and the Kingdom; the interpretation of Scripture; and the nature of the Rapture event. Filled with a wealth of information drawn from both Protestant and Catholic sources, this section provides a complete rebuttal to the premillennial dispensationalist system and the left behind theology. The book concludes with a reflection on the Catholic understanding of the end times, salvation history, and the final judgement. Glossaries of key persons and terms are also included. A strong, but fair, critique of a dangerous and popular belief, *Will Catholics Be Left Behind?* provides Catholics and Protestants, lay people and clergy, and students and scholars with important answers and information about the roots and meaning of the Rapture. Millions of Americans believe the Lord will snatch them up any day now, leaving the rest of us to the horrors of a seven-year tribulation. The hitch is that the 'Rapture' has no pedigree. As Carl Olson shows, no Catholic or Protestant believed in it prior to the nineteenth century. It is an authentic Fundamentalist 'invention'. Karl Keating, Author, *Catholicism and Fundamentalism* In this extraordinary book, Carl Olson uses a surgeon's scalpel to cut through the mass of confusion that dominates contemporary reflection on the Last Things. Achieving far more than a refutation of

millennialist errors and other disordered apocalyptic theories, he illumines the Church's majestic vision of time and eternity and demonstrates that Jesus Christ is the Lord of History and its end.
Michael O'Brien, Author, Father Elijah

rapture catholic answers: Dare We Hope - 2nd Edition Hans Urs von Balthasar, 2014-11-20
This book is perhaps one of the most misunderstood works of Catholic theology of our time. Critics contend that von Balthasar espouses universalism, the idea that all men will certainly be saved. Yet, as von Balthasar insists, damnation is a real possibility for anyone. Indeed, he explores the nature of damnation with sobering clarity. At the same time, he contends that a deep understanding of God's merciful love and human freedom, and a careful reading of the Catholic tradition, point to the possibility—not the certainty—that, in the end, all men will accept the salvation Christ won for all. For this all-embracing salvation, von Balthasar says, we may dare hope, we must pray and with God's help we must work. The Catholic Church's teaching on hell has been generally neglected by theologians, with the notable exception of von Balthasar. He grounds his reflections clearly in Sacred Scripture and Catholic teaching. While the Church asserts that certain individuals are in heaven (the saints), she never declares a specific individual to be in hell. In fact, the Church hopes that in their final moments of life, even the greatest sinners would have repented of their terrible sins, and be saved. Sacred Scripture states, "God ... desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all" (1 Tim 2:4-5).

rapture catholic answers: **Purgatory Is for Real** Karlo Broussard, 2020-09-15

rapture catholic answers: *The Essential Catholic Survival Guide* Catholic Answers, 2006-02
Every Catholic will come face-to-face with anti-Catholic attacks that are launched against the Faith. Don't you owe it to yourself to make sure you have the very best in apologetic resources right at your fingertips? There's no better time to arm yourself with what we consider a must for every Catholic's home library. *The Essential Catholic Survival Guide*. By compiling seventy of our best apologetic tracts into one cohesive, comprehensive book that can be used by anyone, anytime, anywhere to defend the Catholic faith, we've created what many consider the go-to resource when it comes to answering questions about the Faith. Topics include: The Church and the papacy-Scripture and Tradition-Mary and the saints-The sacraments-Salvation-Last things-Morality and science-Anti-Catholicism-Non-Catholic churches and movements-Practical apologetics.

rapture catholic answers: The Prophecies of St. Malachy Peter Bander, 1993-07 The short; cryptic prophecies of St. Malachy; the Primate of Ireland; made circa 1140 while on a visit at Rome; about each Pope from his time till the End of Time--all based on visions he had at the time. From what we know of recent Popes; these prophecies are accurate; based on interior evidence alone. What is so very sobering is the fact there are only 2 Popes left after Pope John Paul II!!

rapture catholic answers: **The Rapture Question** John F. Walvoord, 1979 This re-edition of the classic examines four views of the church's role in the tribulation: partial rapturism, pre-tribulationism, mid-tribulationism, and post-tribulationism, with special emphasis on the debate between pre-tribulationism and post-tribulationism. Bibliography and index are included.

rapture catholic answers: *The Millennium* Loraine Boettner, 1972

rapture catholic answers: **The Trail of Blood** J.M. Carroll, 2019-10-24 Dr. JM Carroll's *The Trail of Blood* is a great historical premise concerning the beginnings of the church from Christ it's founder, till the current day. Written in the early 20th century, Dr. Carroll details the history and plight of TRUE bible believers throughout time. Still as relevant today as it was almost 100 years ago, this timeless classic is a must-have part of any Christian's personal reading collection.

rapture catholic answers: **Catholic Answers to Protestant Questions** John Pasquini, 2003-05-06 *Catholic Answers to Protestant Questions* is a must read for those seeking to grow in their Catholic identity. Here are just a few of the questions that are covered in this book: Where did the Bible come from? Was Christ or Constantine the founder of the Catholic Church? Was Peter the first Pope? What do Catholics mean by being born again and why do they baptize children? Where do Catholics find the seven sacraments in the Bible? Why do Catholics believe in the Eucharist as the

Body and Blood of Christ? Why do we need a priest to forgive serious sins? What are indulgences and why are they needed? Where can we find a priest being referred to as Father in the Bible? Do Catholics worship saints? What is the communion of saints? Is Mary the Mother of God? Did Jesus have brothers and sisters? Was Mary assumed into heaven? Is there a purgatory? Is there a rapture? Is salvation assured? Are we justified by faith alone, or by faith and works? Do Catholics practice idol worship?

rapture catholic answers: Why Be Catholic? Patrick Madrid, 2014-06-03 The popular blogger and publisher of Envoy magazine offers 10 key reasons why he loves being Catholic (and you should too). Drawing heavily on poignant anecdotes from his own experience as a life-long Catholic born in 1960s, Madrid offers readers a way of looking at the Church--its members, teachings, customs, and history--from perspectives many may have never considered. Growing up Catholic during a time of great social and theological upheaval and transition, a time in which countless Catholics abandoned their religion in search of something else, Patrick Madrid learned a great deal about why people leave Catholicism and why others stay. This experience helped him gain many insights into what it is about the Catholic Church that some people reject, as well as those things that others treasure. Drawing upon Madrid's personal experiences, *Why Be Catholic?* offers a deeply personal, fact-based, rationale for why everyone should be Catholic or at least consider the Catholic Church in a new light.

rapture catholic answers: The Rapture Trap Paul Thigpen, 2001 Thigpen lays out the biblical foundations of Catholic teaching on the close of age-- the end times. Is Jesus coming to rapture Christians in the earth's last days? The short answer: No. Along with Scripture, Thigpen draws from Church history, tradition, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and contemporary experience to reveal the shortcoming of the rapture doctrine. -- adapted from back cover

rapture catholic answers: Born Fundamentalist, Born Again Catholic David Currie, 2009-09-03 David Currie was raised in a devout Christian family whose father was a fundamentalist preacher and both parents teachers at Moody Bible Institute. Currie's whole upbringing was immersed in the life of fundamentalist Protestantism - theology professors, seminary presidents and founders of evangelical mission agencies were frequent guests at his family dinner table. Currie received a degree from Trinity International University and studied in the Masters of Divinity program. This book was written as an explanation to his fundamentalist and evangelical friends and family about why he became a Roman Catholic. Currie presents a very lucid, systematic and intelligible account of the reasons for his conversion to the ancient Church that Christ founded. He gives a detailed discussion of the important theological and doctrinal beliefs Catholic and evangelicals hold in common, as well as the key doctrines that separate us, particularly the Eucharist, the Pope, and Mary.

rapture catholic answers: Dispensationalism Charles C. Ryrie, 2007-02-01 Dispensationalism continues to provoke heated debate within the Christian world. Highly acclaimed theologian, Dr. Charles C. Ryrie, addresses this crucial issue from the perspective of classic dispensationalism. He confronts the views of covenant theology, historical premillennialism, ultradispensationalism, and, in this revised edition, the increasingly popular progressive dispensationalism. In his best-selling book, *Dispensationalism Today*, written more than thirty years ago, Dr. Ryrie made this complex subject more understandable for thousands worldwide. This revised and expanded version of that book will prove to be an invaluable reference tool for your library.

rapture catholic answers: The Fathers Know Best Jimmy Akin, 2010 What Did Early Christians Really Believe? The Answer Will Surprise and Amaze You! *The Fathers Know Best: Your Essential Guide to the Teachings of the Early Church* is a unique resource that introduces you to the teachings of the first Christians in a way no other work can. It is specially designed to make it easy for you to find the information you want and need. Amazing features in this fact-packed book include: More than 900 quotations from the writings of the early Church Fathers, as well as from rare and important documents dating back to the dawn of Christian history. Mini-biographies of nearly 100 Fathers, as well as descriptions of dozens of key early councils and writings. A concise

history of the dramatic spread of Christianity after Jesus told his disciples to evangelize all nations. Special maps showing you where the Fathers lived, including many little-known and long-vanished locations. A guide to nearly 30 ancient heresies, many of which have returned to haunt the modern world. The Fathers' teaching on nearly 50 topics, including modern hot-button issues like abortion, homosexuality, and divorce. This groundbreaking work presents the teachings of the early Christians in a way unlike any other book. It flings open the doors of the crucial but little-known age covering the birth of Christianity and the triumphant march of the gospel throughout the ancient world.

rapture catholic answers: Understanding Roman Catholicism Rick Jones, 1995-10 Are Roman Catholics REALLY Christians? This eye-opening book examines 37 main Catholic doctrines, quoting official Catholic doctrine, then compares each doctrine with the Word of God. Written in a loving style, yet without compromising, this book clearly shows the eternal destiny of those who follow the pope of Rome. If you want to talk intelligently with Catholics about their salvation, you first must know what they believe. If you are like most Christians you will be shocked when you learn what Catholicism really teaches. Must reading for every Christian who knows or talks with any Roman Catholics.

rapture catholic answers: Pope Peter Joe Heschmeyer, 2020-06-20

rapture catholic answers: The Drama of Salvation Jimmy Akin, 2015-04-01 Where Will You Spend Eternity? The drama of salvation involves every man, woman, and child on earth. In this life, all of us are suspended between heaven and hell. Few people understand what Jesus did or how it affects us. Worse yet, there are endless squabbles between Christians of different persuasions, leading to confusion on a massive scale. In this book, Jimmy Akin uses his expertise in Scripture and Church teaching to cut through the confusion and provide clear answers on important issues like: What we need to do to be saved Whether salvation is a one-time event or a process Whether penance is part of God's plan What indulgences are How faith and works relate What the Church teaches about justification How far apart Protestants and Catholics are on this question Whether you have to be a Catholic (or a Christian) to be saved No other book takes on these questions with the clarity and precision that Akin brings to them and the answer will affect you and those you love . . . forever.

rapture catholic answers: Pints with Aquinas Matt Fradd, 2016-08-10 If you could sit down with St. Thomas Aquinas over a pint of beer and ask him any one question, what would it be? Pints With Aquinas contains over 50 deep thoughts from the Angelic doctor on subjects such as God, virtue, the sacraments, happiness, alcohol, and more. If you've always wanted to read St. Thomas but have been too intimidated to try, this book is for you. So, get your geek on, pull up a bar stool and grab a cold one, here we go! He alone enlightened the Church more than all other doctors; a man can derive more profit in a year from his books than from pondering all his life the teaching of others. - Pope John XXII

rapture catholic answers: Scripture Alone R. C. Sproul, 2013-09-10 In the twentieth century, the doctrine of Scripture became a particular focus of intense criticism. Some of R. C. Sproul's most significant writings have been on the doctrine of Scripture. Not all this material is in print, and no volume has ever collected his best writings on this pivotal doctrine. Scripture Alone consists of four chapters that originally appeared in symposium volumes edited by others and the author's commentary on the Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy. These writings constitute an important restatement of the evangelical doctrine of Scripture. Scripture Alone will help all Christians to stand firm in defense of the truth.

rapture catholic answers: *The Incorruptibles* Joan Carroll Cruz, 1991-11 Continuously popular since it first appeared in 1977, *The Incorruptibles* remains the acknowledged classic on the bodies of Saints that did not undergo decomposition after death, many remaining fresh and flexible for years, or even centuries. After explaining both natural and artificial mummification, the author shows that the incorruption of the Saints' bodies fits into neither category but constitutes a much greater phenomenon which is unexplained by modern science even to this day. The author presents 102 canonized Saints, Beati and Venerables, summarizing their lives, the discovery of their incorruption and investigations by Church and medical authorities. The incorruptible bodies of saints are a

consoling sign of Christ's victory over death, a confirmation of the dogma of the Resurrection of the Body, a sign that the Saints are still with us in the Mystical Body of Christ, as well as a proof of the truth of the Catholic Faith for only in the Catholic Church do we find this phenomenon.

rapture catholic answers: *Give Me an Answer* Cliffe Knechtle, 1986-03-31 Cliffe Knechtle offers clear, reasoned and compassionate responses to the tough questions skeptics ask.

rapture catholic answers: *Does the Bible Really Say That?* Patrick Madrid, 2023-03

rapture catholic answers: Revelation , 1999-01-01 The final book of the Bible, Revelation prophesies the ultimate judgement of mankind in a series of allegorical visions, grisly images and numerological predictions. According to these, empires will fall, the Beast will be destroyed and Christ will rule a new Jerusalem. With an introduction by Will Self.

rapture catholic answers: The Early Church Was the Catholic Church Joe Heschmeyer, 2021-10-15

rapture catholic answers: Not Afraid of the Antichrist Michael L. Brown, Craig S. Keener, 2019-03-19 Despite the popular theology of our day, Christians should not expect to get out of experiencing the tribulation or the end times. Nowhere in the Bible does the Lord promise us this, say Michael Brown and Craig Keener, two leading, acclaimed Bible scholars. In fact, they say, Jesus promises us tribulation in this world. Yet this is no reason to fear. In this fascinating, accessible, and personal book, Brown and Keener walk you through what the Bible really says about the rapture, the tribulation, and the end times. What they find will leave you full of hope. God's wrath is not poured out on His people, and He will shield us from it--as he shielded Israel in Egypt during the ten plagues. So instead of taking comfort in what God hasn't promised, take comfort in the words of Jesus: He has overcome the world, and we live in his victory.

rapture catholic answers: A Woman Rides the Beast Dave Hunt, 1994-08-15 Are you missing half the story about the last days? Virtually all attention these days is focused on the coming Antichrist—but he is only half the story. Many people are amazed to discover in Revelation 17 that there is also another mysterious character at the heart of prophecy—a woman who rides the beast. Who is this woman? Tradition says she is connected with the church of Rome. But isn't such a view outdated? After all, today's Vatican is eager to join hands with Protestants worldwide. "The Catholic church has changed" is what we hear. Or has it? In *A Woman Rides the Beast*, prophecy expert Dave Hunt sifts through biblical truth and global events to present a well-defined portrait of the woman and her powerful place in the Antichrist's future empire. Eight remarkable clues in Revelation 17 and 18 prove the woman's identity beyond any reasonable doubt. A provocative account of what the Bible tells us is to come.

rapture catholic answers: Sacred Pace Terry Looper, Kris Bearss, 2019-02-26 How do we hear from God and discern His will when it's time to make big decisions? Terry Looper shares a four-step process for doing just that - a process he has learned and refined over thirty years as a Christian entrepreneur and founder of a multi-billion dollar company. At just thirty-six years old, Terry Looper was a successful Christian businessman who thought he had it all—until managing all he had led to a devastating burnout. Wealthy beyond his wildest dreams but miserable beyond belief, Terry experienced a radical transformation when he discovered how to align himself with God's will in the years following his crash and burn. *Sacred Pace* is a four-step process that helps Christians in all walks of life learn how to slow down their decision-making under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, sift through their surface desires and sinful patterns in order to receive clear, peace-filled answers from the Lord, gain the confident assurance that God's answers are His way of fulfilling the true desires he has placed in their hearts, and grow closer to the One who loves them most and knows them best. *Sacred Pace* is not another example of name-it-and-claim-it materialism in disguise. Instead, it walks Christians through the sometimes-painful process of "dying to self" in their decisions, both big and small, so that they desire God's will more than their own.

rapture catholic answers: Revelation Unveiled Tim LaHaye, 2010-02-23 In *Revelation Unveiled*, Dr. Tim LaHaye, co-author of the best-selling *Left Behind* series, reveals the scriptural foundation of beloved novels. In this book, LaHaye explains the biblical topics he and Jerry Jenkins

explored in *Left Behind: The Rapture of the Church: The Return of Christ The Great Tribulation The Final Battle against Satan and His Hosts The Seven Seals The Antichrist The Seven Trumpets The Seven Bowls of Wrath The Great White Throne The Destruction of Babylon The New Heaven and New Earth* Previously titled *Revelation Illustrated and Made Plain*, this revised and updated, verse-by-verse commentary of the book of Revelation includes numerous charts. With simple and accessible language, *Revelation Unveiled* will help you better understand the mysterious, final book of the Bible and its implications. Perfect for fans of the *Left Behind* books and for anyone confused or curious about the book of Revelation.

rapture catholic answers: *Adventures in Revelation Study Set* Jeff Cavins, Thomas Smith, 2007-01 The *Revelation Study Set* provides the home study component of *Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come*. Its ten lessons draw participants into the Revelation to John verse by verse, drawing on pertinent passages from the Old Testament and Catechism of the Catholic Church to help people understand what they read and apply it to their lives. Group discussion of the questions reinforces the lesson, while the suggested responses provide additional insights and explanations. Each lesson should be concluded with the corresponding presentation from the DVD or CD series, which contains expert commentary presented by Jeff Cavins.

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rapture catholic answers: *The Rapture Exposed* Barbara R. Rossing, 2007-03-30 The idea of The Rapture -- the return of Christ to rescue and deliver Christians off the earth -- is an extremely popular interpretation of the Bible's Book of Revelation and a jumping-off point for the best-selling *Left Behind* series of books. This interpretation, based on a psychology of fear and destruction, guides the daily acts of thousands if not millions of people worldwide. In *The Rapture Exposed*, Barbara Rossing argues that this script for the world's future is nothing more than a disingenuous distortion of the Bible. The truth, Rossing argues, is that Revelation offers a vision of God's healing love for the world. *The Rapture Exposed* reclaims Christianity from fundamentalists' destructive reading of the biblical story and back into God's beloved community.

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