Dr. Alan Kurschner's Pre-Wrath Chaos: A Review of His "7 Pretrib Problems and the Prewrath Rapture"

This paper was prepared in response to a request for an analysis of the arguments propounded in a 2+ hour video presentation of "Seven Pretrib Problems and the Prewrath Rapture," setting forth the Pre-Wrath Rapture views of Dr. Alan Kurschner in particular (<u>7pretribproblems.com</u>).

Apparently other works written in refutation of the Pre-Wrath Rapture theory were felt not to adequately answer some of the arguments of the video presentation in question, and were thus causing some souls to be shaken in mind or troubled thereby.

As a reminder, the "Pre-Wrath Rapture" theory basically propounds the idea that the rapture does not occur till around mid-way through the 2nd half of the 70th Week, after the Church witnesses certain prophetic signs, events and personages, and passes through the Great Tribulation, but before being exposed to the judgments and "wrath of God" poured out in the "Day of the LORD." (This may thus be more accurately labeled as the "≈ Three Quarters 70th Week Rapture," or "≈Mid-Second Half 70th Week Rapture," or "Post Truncated Great Tribulation Rapture".) All of which entails the denial of the imminent or any-moment expectation of the coming of the Lord Jesus to rapture His heavenly people, the Church, His Body & Bride, to their heavenly home and destiny in the Father's house.

After reviewing the video presentation, but before formally preparing our assessment, we revisited the paper prepared by George Zeller titled: "Pre-Wrath Confusion" (<u>middletownbiblechurch.org/proph/prewrath.htm</u>), dealing with Marvin Rosenthal's views. We were reminded afresh, through its perusal, of what a masterful job George Zeller did in that paper, dismantling the system as entirely unscriptural and deleterious. While there are some slight differences between Rosenthal and Kurschner (e.g., the latter more wisely includes the 7 Bowl Judgments as part of the "Day of the LORD"), we believe, nonetheless, that George Zeller's work sufficiently answers Dr. Kurschner's video presentation. For he deals therein with a whole host of disorder and confusion reiterated by Dr. Kurschner:

- CONFUSION #1 : Rejection of the Imminent Return
- CONFUSION #2: Mixes Church History with Jewish History and CONFUSION #8: Why the Church is on the Earth (by involving the Church in the 70th Week of Daniel)
- CONFUSION #3: Misinterprets the Book of Revelation (the divine outline of the book given in Rev. 1:19)
- CONFUSION #4: Tries to Distinguish Great Tribulation from The Day of the Lord
- CONFUSION #5: Unbiblical Distinction between Seal, Trumpet, & Bowl Judgments
- CONFUSION #9: Supposes that the Great Tribulation is Shortened
- CONFUSION #10: Tries to Make a Distinction between the "Time of Jacob's Trouble" and "The Day of the Lord"
- CONFUSION #12: Misunderstanding of "Birth Pangs"
- CONFUSION #13: Failure to Distinguish Cosmic Disturbances (related to Joel 2:30-31, Matt. 24:29 and the 6th Seal Judgment of Rev. 6:12-14)
- CONFUSION #14: Does Not Allow for Church to be Received into Heaven
- CONFUSION #15: Applies Matthew 24:31 to the Church
- CONFUSION #19: The Identity of Those Saved During the 70th Week

All of the above refute the system as set forth by Dr. Kurschner. But George Zeller's paper also refutes other notions that Dr. Kurschner and company did not bother to even touch on in the video presentation:

- CONFUSION #7: Misrepresentation of Revelation 3:10
- CONFUSION #11: Cry for "Peace and Safety" During Troubled Times
- CONFUSION #16: Judgment of Nations Applied to the Church
- CONFUSION #17: Michael the Archangel Called the "Restrainer"
- CONFUSION #20: Misinterpretation of 2 Peter 3:10-1 2

With that said, we offer herein some further thoughts on aspects that were not directly touched on by George Zeller (for who can possibly anticipate every angle and twist imposed on a text to get around a blessed truth of God's Word?!), as well as reinforcement of things he did address. The present paper should, therefore, serve as a sort of companion to George Zeller's work, and Lord willing, will be of some help to strengthen the faith of those who are holding fast to, or be of some use in delivering a few souls from any system that obscures or robs, the blessed hope of the coming of our Lord Jesus for His Bride at any moment (*"I come quickly: hold fast what thou hast, that no one take thy crown,"* the crown jewel of the blessed hope in the heart). That is our prayer, in the name of the Lord Jesus, in the name of all that He is in the infinite value of His Person and Work before the Father on our behalf. Amen!