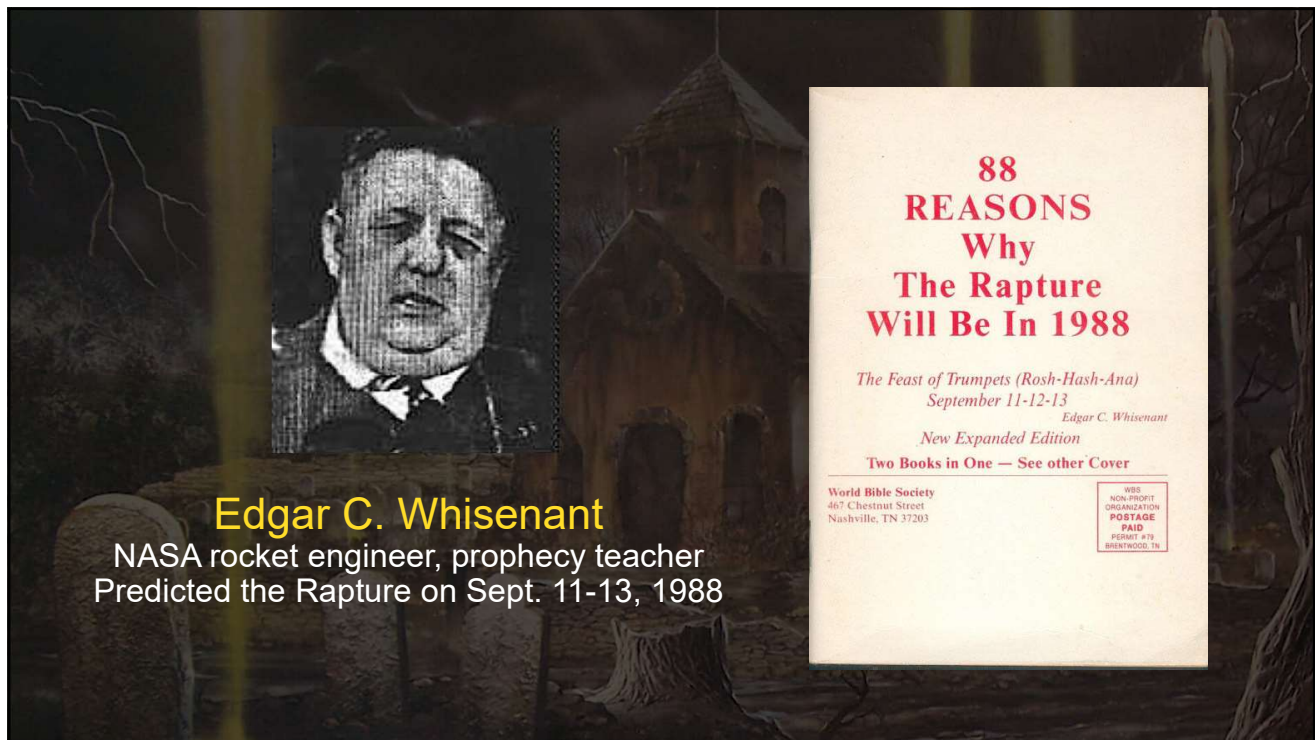


Why the Rapture?

1



2



**Edgar C. Whisenant**

NASA rocket engineer, prophecy teacher  
Predicted the Rapture on Sept. 11-13, 1988

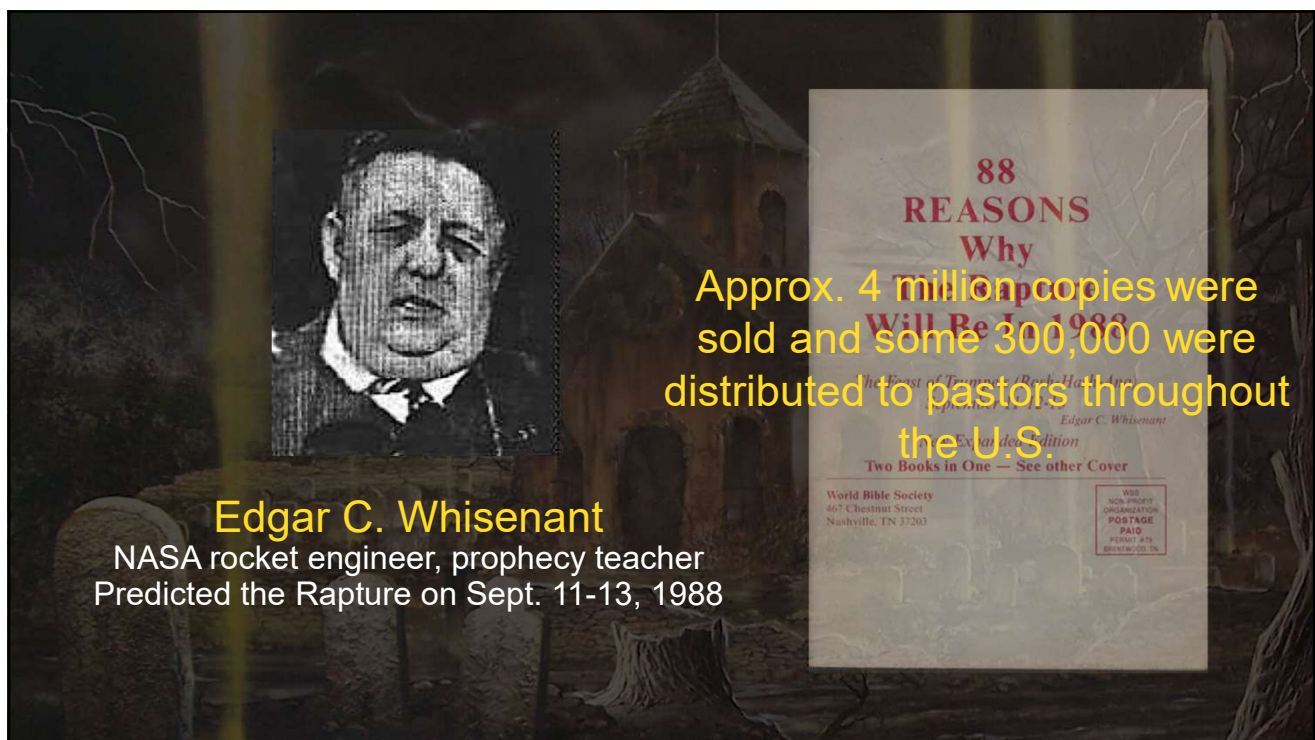
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REASONS  
Why  
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Will Be In 1988**

*The Feast of Trumpets (Rosh-Hash-Ana)  
September 11-12-13*  
Edgar C. Whisenant  
New Expanded Edition  
Two Books in One — See other Cover

World Bible Society  
467 Chestnut Street  
Nashville, TN 37203

WBS  
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BRENTWOOD, TN

3



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Approx. 4 million copies were  
sold and some 300,000 were  
distributed to pastors throughout  
the U.S.

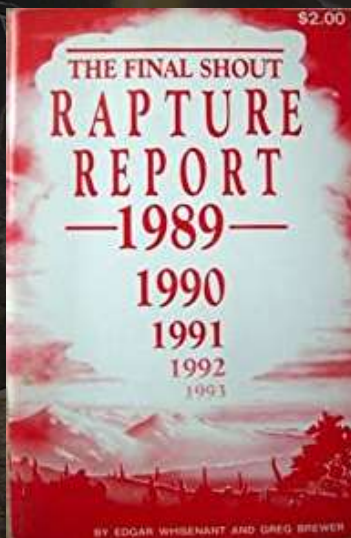
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When nothing happened by the end of September 13, Whisenant revised his prediction, suggesting the Rapture would come at 10:55 AM on September 15. When that failed, he revised it to October 3.

“The evidence is all over the place that it is going to be in a few weeks anyway,” he told *Christianity Today*.

5



Claiming that he had made a slight miscalculation of one year because of a fluke in the Gregorian calendar. Jesus was actually going to return during Rosh Hashanah of 1989! Whisenant published his discovery in *The Final Shout--Rapture Report 1989*. “The time is short,” he said. “Everything points to it.” This publication was subsequently retitled *The Final Shout--Rapture Report 1990* and has since been re-titled yearly as *The Final Shout--Rapture Report 1991*, 1992, 1993, 1994 and so on.

6



7



8



**Mt 24:36** “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.

**Mt 24:40-44** Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. <sup>42</sup> Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

**Acts 1:7** And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.

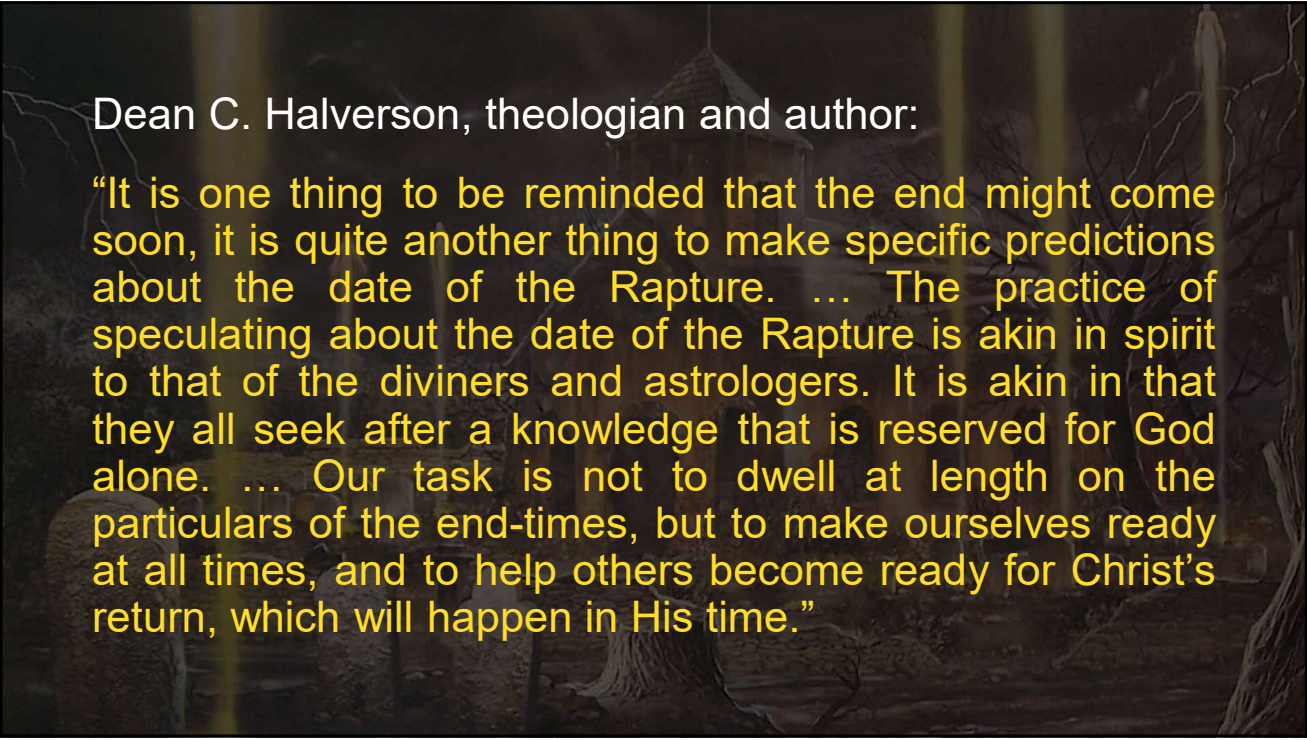
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William Hendriksen, in his commentary on the Book of Matthew, writes:

**“Jesus in Matthew 24:36 proves the futility and sinfulness of every attempt on man’s part to predict the date when He will return.”**



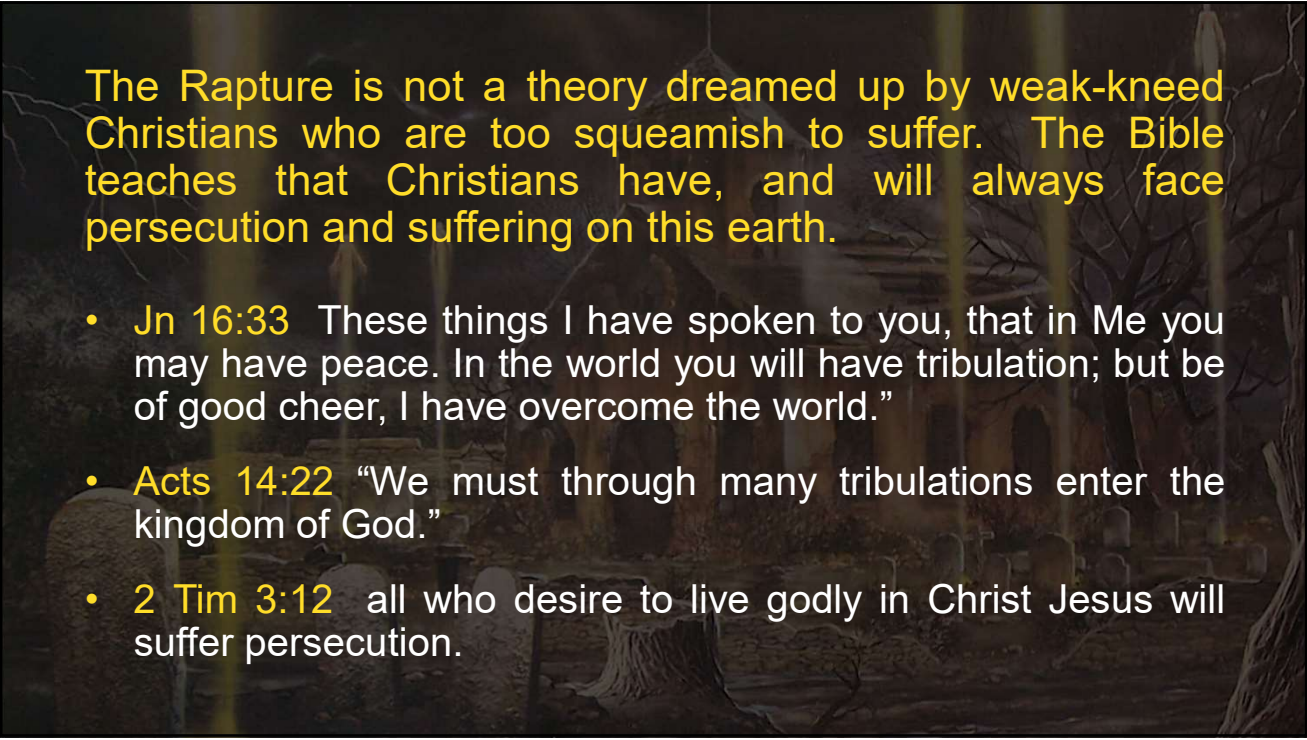
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Dean C. Halverson, theologian and author:

“It is one thing to be reminded that the end might come soon, it is quite another thing to make specific predictions about the date of the Rapture. ... The practice of speculating about the date of the Rapture is akin in spirit to that of the diviners and astrologers. It is akin in that they all seek after a knowledge that is reserved for God alone. ... Our task is not to dwell at length on the particulars of the end-times, but to make ourselves ready at all times, and to help others become ready for Christ’s return, which will happen in His time.”

11

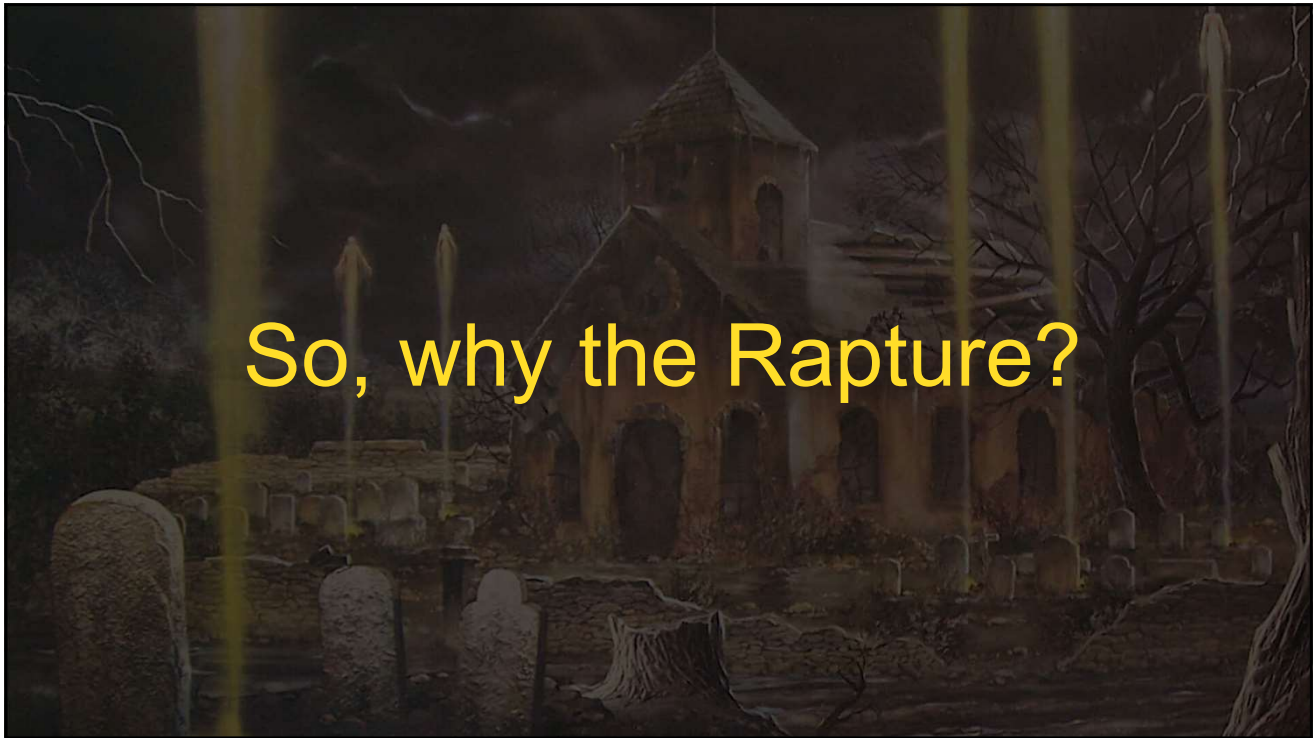


The Rapture is not a theory dreamed up by weak-kneed Christians who are too squeamish to suffer. The Bible teaches that Christians have, and will always face persecution and suffering on this earth.

- **Jn 16:33** These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”
- **Acts 14:22** “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”
- **2 Tim 3:12** all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

12





13

## 1. Christians are not the children of wrath

**1 Thess 5:9** For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

14



15



16





17

## 2. The great tribulation is for Israel

**Dan 9:24** "Seventy weeks [490 yrs] are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

18

## Dan 9:25-27:

The rebuilding of Jerusalem ..... 49 yrs.

The crucifixion of Jesus ..... 434 yrs.

483 yrs.

The “final week” involves the covenant with the Anti-Christ and his breaking of that covenant 3½ yrs. into the covenant. (2 Thess 2:3-4)

19

**Jer 30:7** Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob's [Israel's] trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.

**Mt 24:21-22** For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.<sup>22</sup> And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

20



### 3. God will finish His work through the Jewish people after He is finished with His work through the Gentiles

**Rom 11:1,2,26-27** I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! ... <sup>2</sup> God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. ... <sup>26</sup> And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; <sup>27</sup> For this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins."

21

**Lk 21:24** And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

**Rom 11:25-27** For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel **until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.** <sup>26</sup> And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; <sup>27</sup> For this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins."

22

## 4. The anti-Christ cannot be revealed until the “hindering force” is removed

**2 Thess 2:6-8** And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. <sup>7</sup> For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. <sup>8</sup> And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

23

## 5. Jesus said that some would miss the great tribulation

**Rev 3:10** Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

24



**Jer 30:7** Alas! For that day is great, so that **none is like it**; and it is the time of Jacob's [Israel's] trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.

**Mt 24:21-22** For then there will be great tribulation, such as **has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.**<sup>22</sup> And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

25

## 6. Paul taught the church would be taken out before the tribulation

**2 Thess 2:1-5** Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, <sup>2</sup> not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of [b]Christ had come. <sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of [b]sin is revealed, the son of perdition, <sup>4</sup> who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. <sup>5</sup> Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?

26

## 7. The Rapture only involves believers – the return of Jesus involves unbelievers

**1 Thess 4:15-17** For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

**Rev 19:11-21**

27

## 8. What comes down must first go up

- Believers come down to the earth when Jesus returns – Rev 19:14, 7:13-14
- So they had to first go up to be with Jesus – 1 Thess 4:17

28



## 9. The return of Christ is seen in Scripture as imminent

**Js 5:7-8** Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. <sup>8</sup> You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

**1 Pet 4:7** But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.

**1 Jn 2:18** Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

29

## 10. Believers should be looking for Christ – not the Anti-Christ

**Titus 2:13** looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

**Heb 10:24-25** And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

30

**2 Pet 3:11-12** Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, <sup>12</sup> looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

31

## 7. Jesus taught that there will be two resurrections

**Jn 5:28-29** Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice <sup>29</sup> and come forth—those who have done good, to the **resurrection of life**, and those who have done evil, to the **resurrection of condemnation**.

**Rev 20:5-6** But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the **first resurrection**. <sup>6</sup> Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

32