

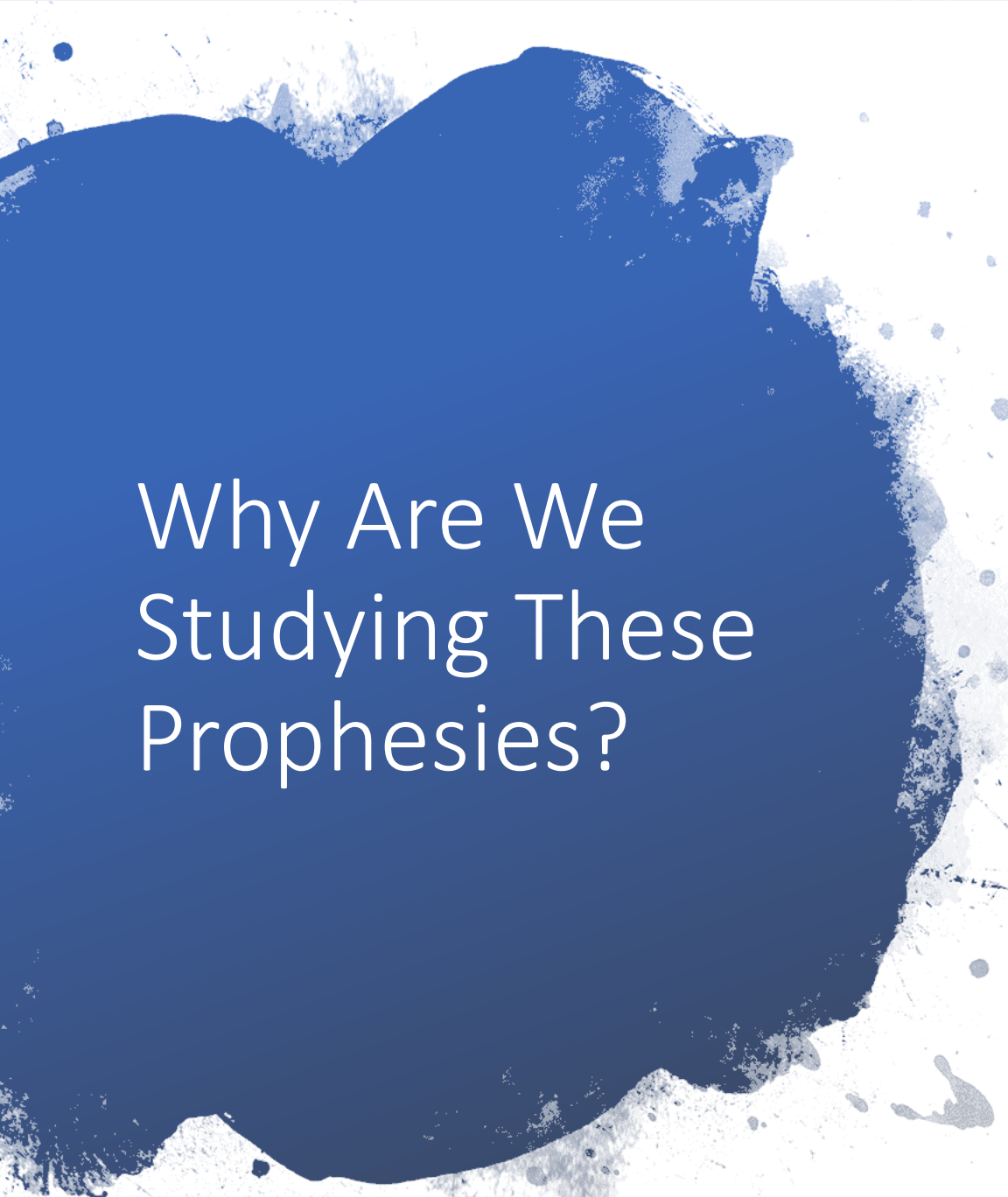


Christ's Prophecies of the

END TIMES

Ed Foley and Leigh Kelleher, Presenters  
Carole Hoy and Kevin Kelleher, Readers

Sundays @ 6:30-8:30 PM, Feb. 23, March 1, and March 8  
Created & Sponsored By The Willowdale Small Group Leadership Team



# Why Are We Studying These Prophecies?

- Recent small group leader survey: “more Bible”
- Revelation/prophesy seldom discussed because it is
  - Difficult to understand
  - Theologically disputed
  - Controversial from its original inclusion

# What Do We Know Collectively?

In terms of your knowledge about end times biblical prophecy, where do you land?

Little or  
none

Some

Fairly  
high

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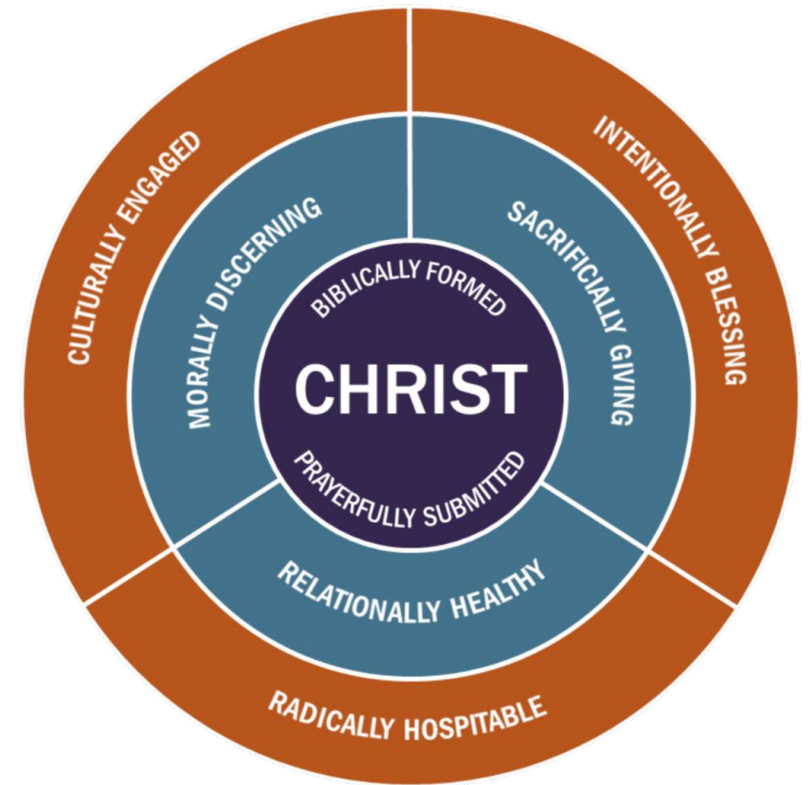
# Managing Expectations

- This is an overview course -- content at a *high-level*
- Predominantly looking at Matthew, Revelation, and Daniel for prophecies
- Educating ourselves on various theologies and views
- Presentation, then Q and A period twice each session
- Only 2 requests:
  - No political comments
  - No comments about other religions or Christian “sects”

# Objectives for This Course

To grow together in our faith and become more:

- Biblically formed: walk away with the Big Picture of prophecies for future
- Energized to share the gospel with those “far from God but close to us”
- Encouraged by the great ending!





# Agenda Over the Next Three Weeks

- Tonight:
  - Background on Revelation
  - Timeline and Events Leading to Christ's return
  - Controversies about Christ's return
- Next Week:
  - Key Players, Prophecies, Plagues & Judgments to come
- Third Week:
  - The Last of the Plagues
  - The Battle of Armageddon
  - The Millennium
  - The New Heaven and Earth

# About the Book of Revelation

- **Author** -- “*The Revelation of ???*” (Rev. 1:1-3)
- **Date** -- circa A.D. 60 or A.D. 90. (Rev. 1:9-11)
  - John exiled to Patmos
  - Christians -- severe persecution
  - “In the Spirit”
- **Why** –To encourage new Christians
  - To be “overcomers,” faithful to the end
  - To not compromise or dilute the faith to the world’s dictates
- **Form** -- Literary form is *Apocalyptic (symbolic) literature*
- **Structure:** “write what you have seen” in 2 parts (Rev. 1:12, 19)
  - a) Letters to the churches
  - b) Visions and Prophecies





What Will Take Place  
Later:  
*The Prophecies*





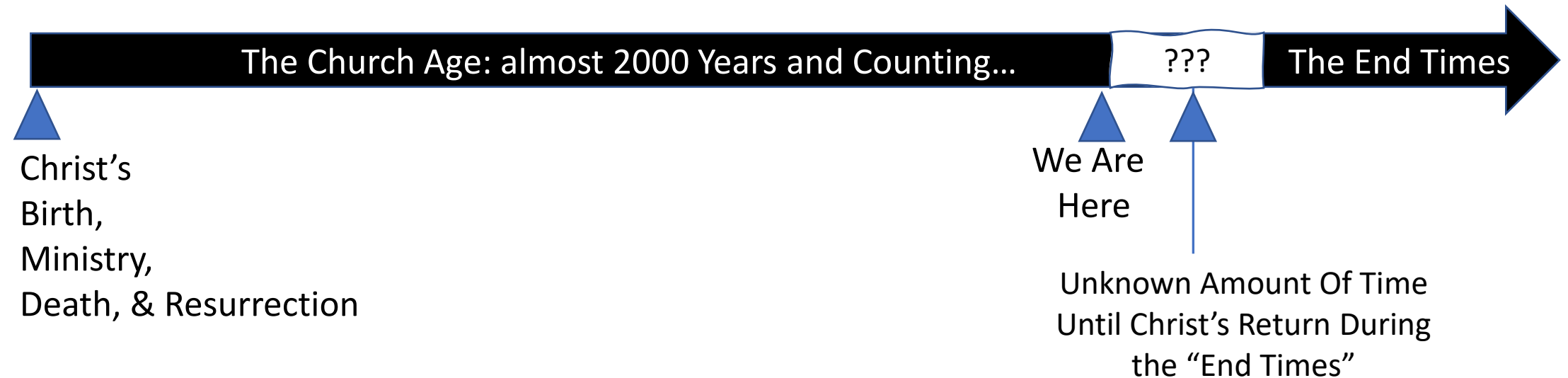
# Diverging Views of *What Will Take Place Later*

- ***Preterists:*** Revelation's prophecies already occurred in the first century
- ***Historists:*** Prophesied events started at Patmos and continue through the end of earth's history
- ***Futurists:*** Events occur in the future during the End Times
- ***Idealists:*** The book just symbolizes God's victory over evil; not to be taken literally

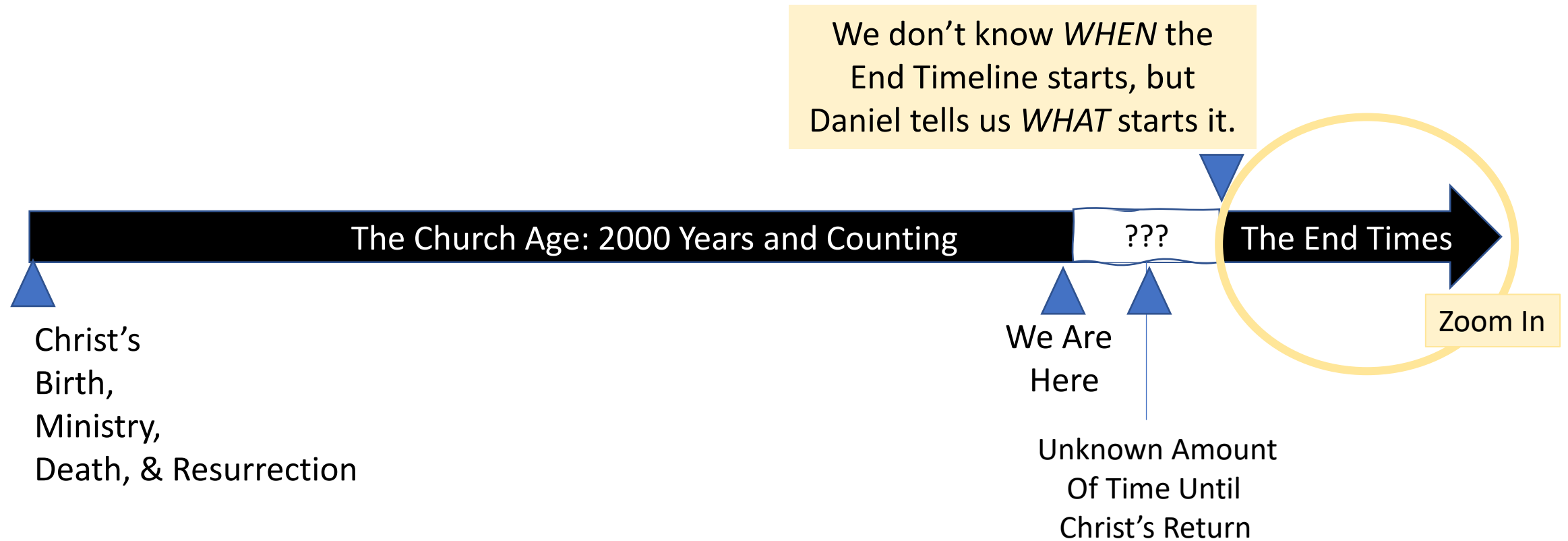
(We'll view prophecies primarily from *Futurist* view)

# Establishing a “Common View” Timeline

“End Time” events do follow a timeline in the Bible,  
and **most bible scholars agree on the basic timeline...**



# Zooming In on the End of The Timeline



# The Beginning of the End...The Kickoff Event

Daniel 9:27 predicts a final seven-year period: "He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.'"



A Seven Year Period

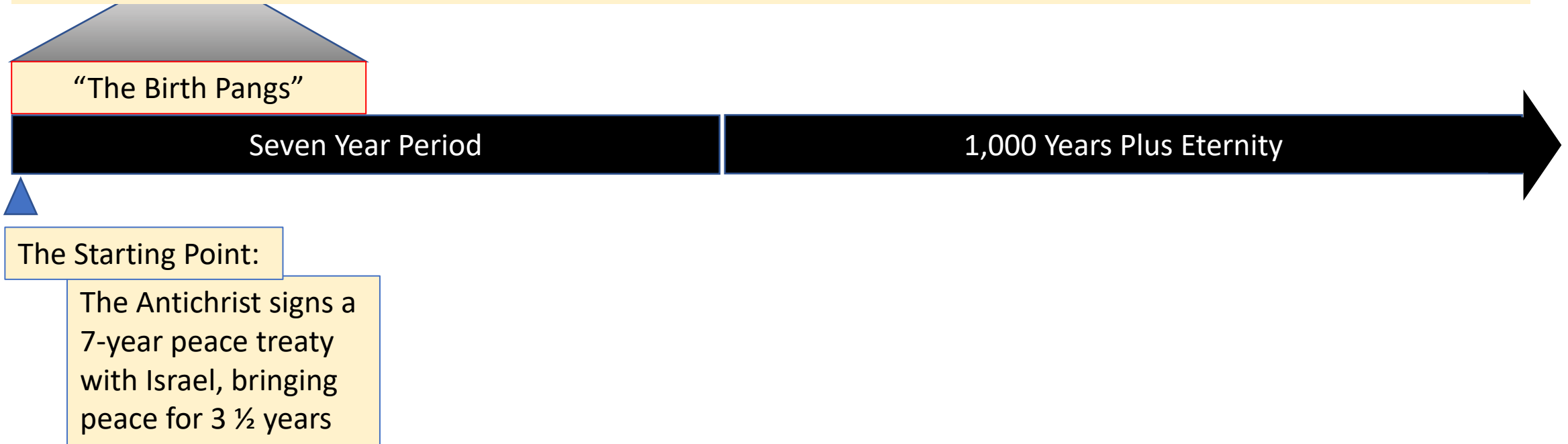
1,000 Years (Millennium) Plus Eternity

The Starting Point:

The Antichrist signs a 7-year peace treaty with Israel, bringing peace for 3 ½ years

# Three and a Half Years of “Sorrows”

After the treaty is signed, then begins a 3 ½ Year Period of “Birth Pangs,” aka “Beginning of Sorrows”: A time of peace, but with distresses on earth like famines, plagues, and pestilences.



# At the Seven Year Midpoint: The Abomination of Desolation



“The Birth P

Seven Year Period

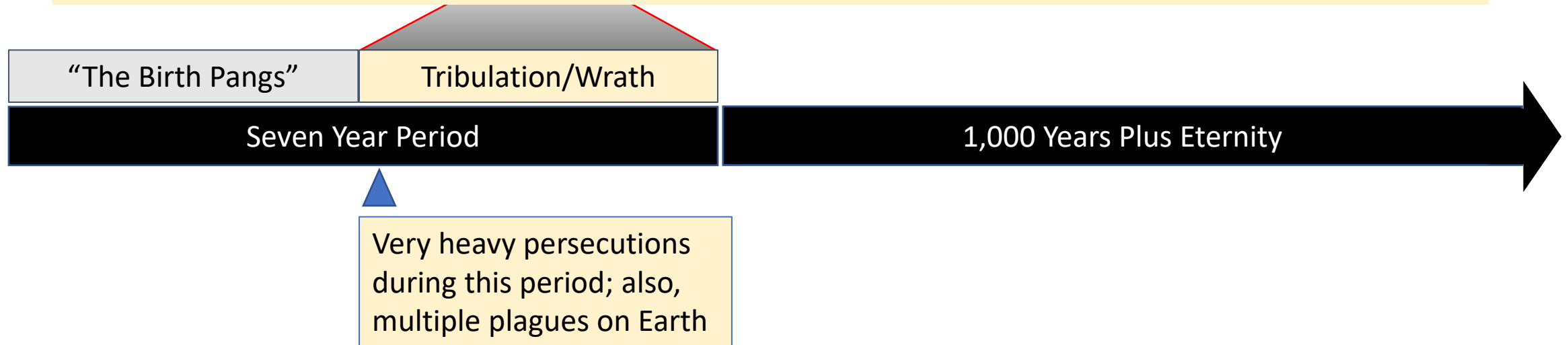
After the 7 Years: 1,000 Years Plus Eternity

Halfway through the  
7 Year Period:

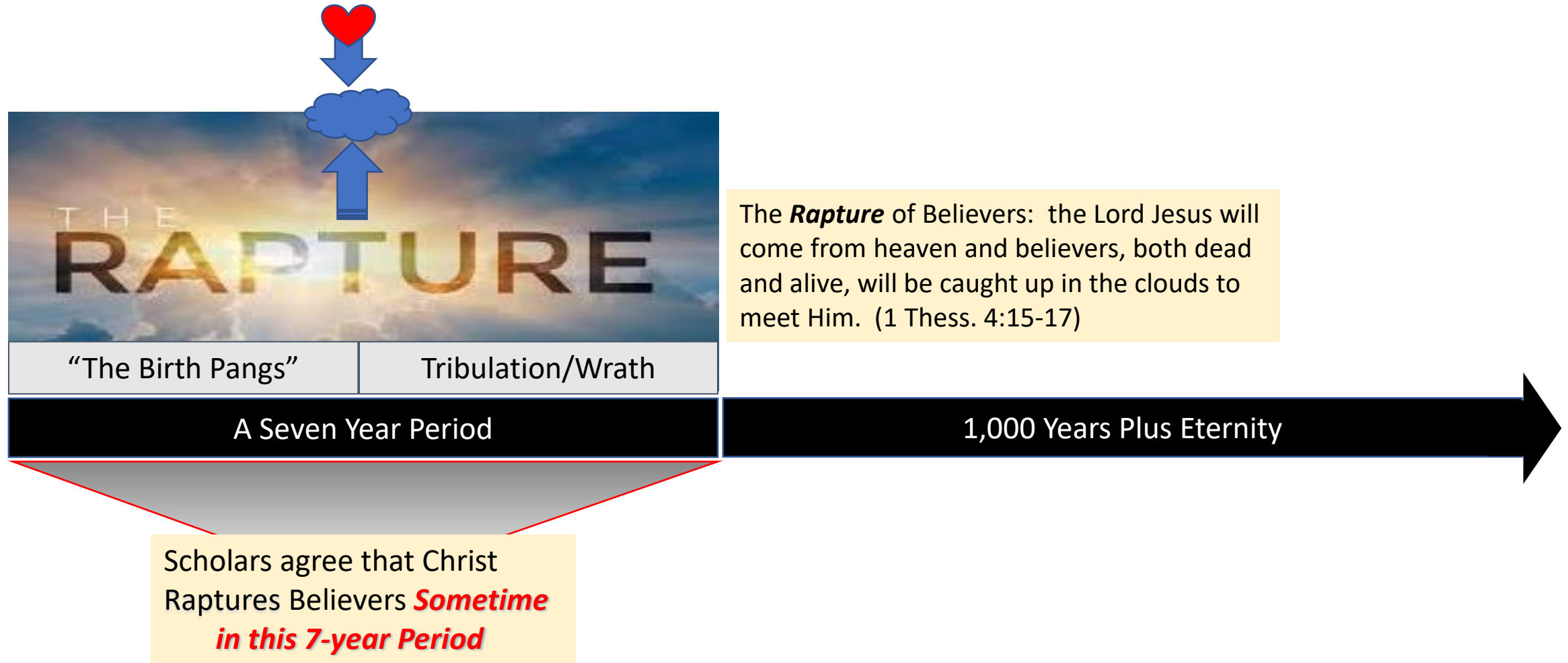
The Antichrist halts the  
Jewish sacrifices; breaks  
the covenant with Israel;  
and names himself as God  
in the Temple

# The Second Half: The Tribulation Period

Second 3 ½ Year Period: The Great Tribulation, when terrible judgments, in the form of plagues, pestilences, scorched earth, ruined water, and other calamities occur. A time of terrible persecutions by the Antichrist and his followers.



# The End of the Beginning Timeline...





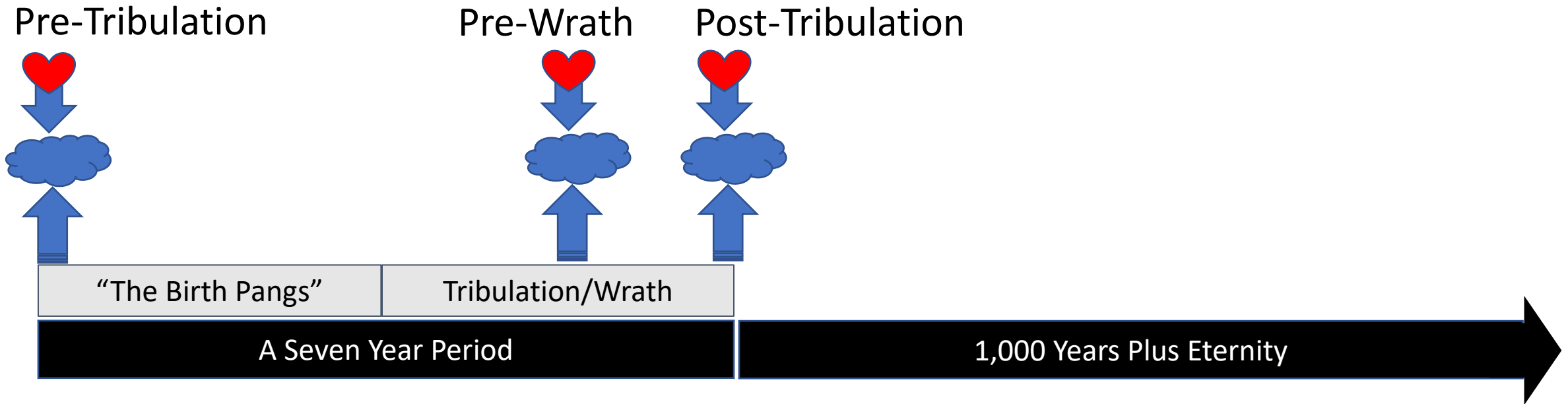
# Where Scholars *Disagree*: *The Timing of Christ's Return*

The Big Question is – WHEN  
does Christ return?

What have you heard about  
the TIMING of Christ's return?




# Three Primary “Timing Views” of the Rapture





Please put questions on the 3x5 cards  
and pass them to the Front



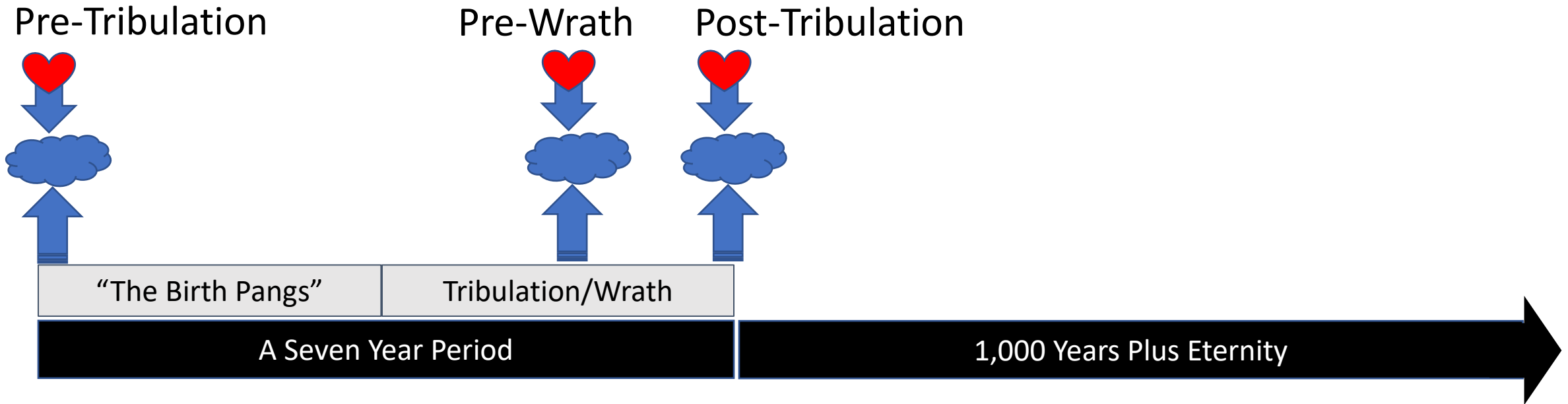
# Table Discussion and 10 Minute Break

- Why should we care when Christ returns to call us up?
- Do you have a strong opinion on the timing of His return? Please feel free to share your view with the table.

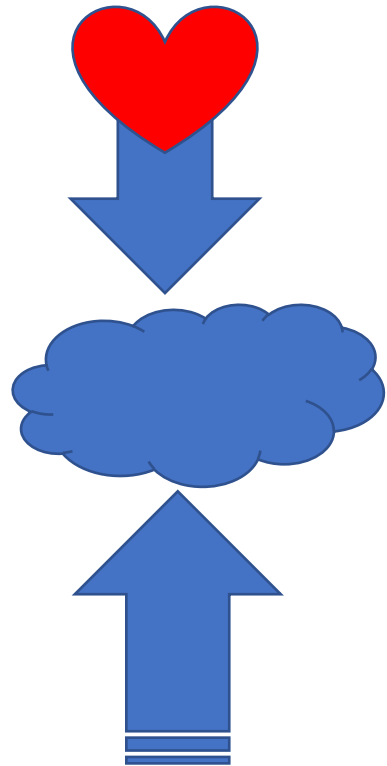


# Questions and Answers

# Three Primary “Timing Views” of the Rapture



# Pre-Tribulation Rapture: We're Outta Here!



Wait for His Son from heaven whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who **rescues us from the Wrath to come.**

1 Thess. 1:10

For **God has not destined us for Wrath**, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thess. 5:9

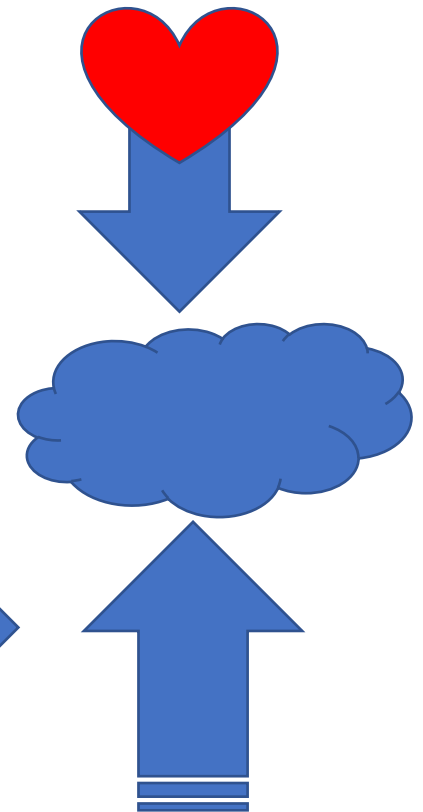
**The Wrath To Come**

# Post-Trib Rapture: We Suffer Through It All

Then ***you will be handed over to be persecuted*** and put to death, and ***you will be hated*** by all nations because of me. At that time, many will fall away from the faith and will betray and hate each other and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Matt. 24:9-11

For ***then there will be great distress*** unequalled from the beginning of the world until now – and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive. ***But for the sake of the elect, those days will be shortened.*** Matt. 24:21-22

**Tribulation**





# Conflicting Views:



***How can all these scriptures be true?***

# Possible Explanation

- “The Tribulation” and “God’s Wrath” are often viewed as synonymous.
- Pre-Wrath view says no, they are **different words**, to resolve the conflict.

## “Tribulation” (Thlipsis)

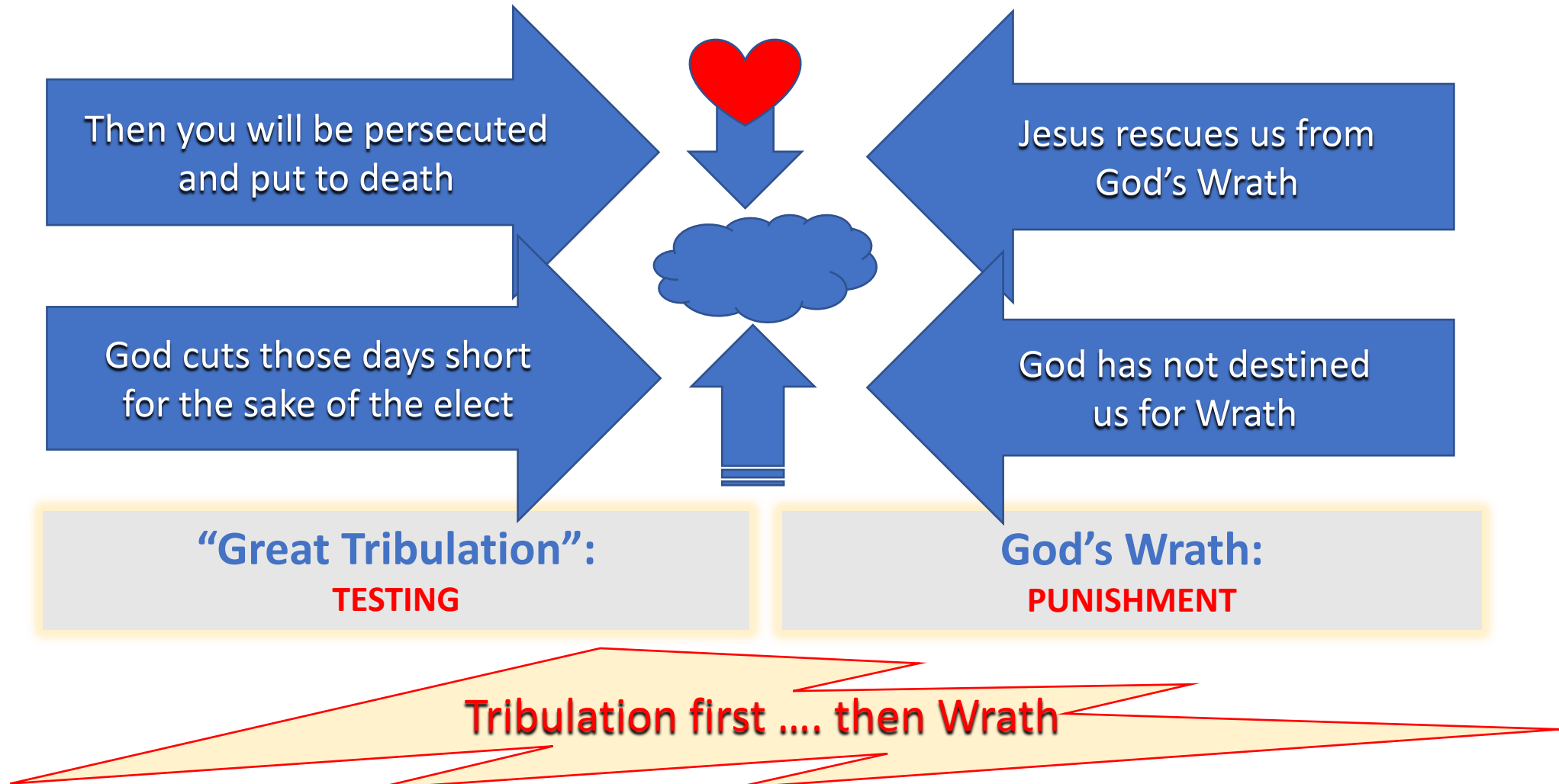
- Affliction
- Anguish
- Pressure
- Persecution
- Trouble
- **TESTING**

## “Wrath” (Orge)

- Violent Passion
- Ire
- Justifiable abhorrence
- Anger
- Vengeance
- **PUNISHMENT**

# Pre-Wrath Rapture View:

Tribulation and Wrath are not at the Same Time



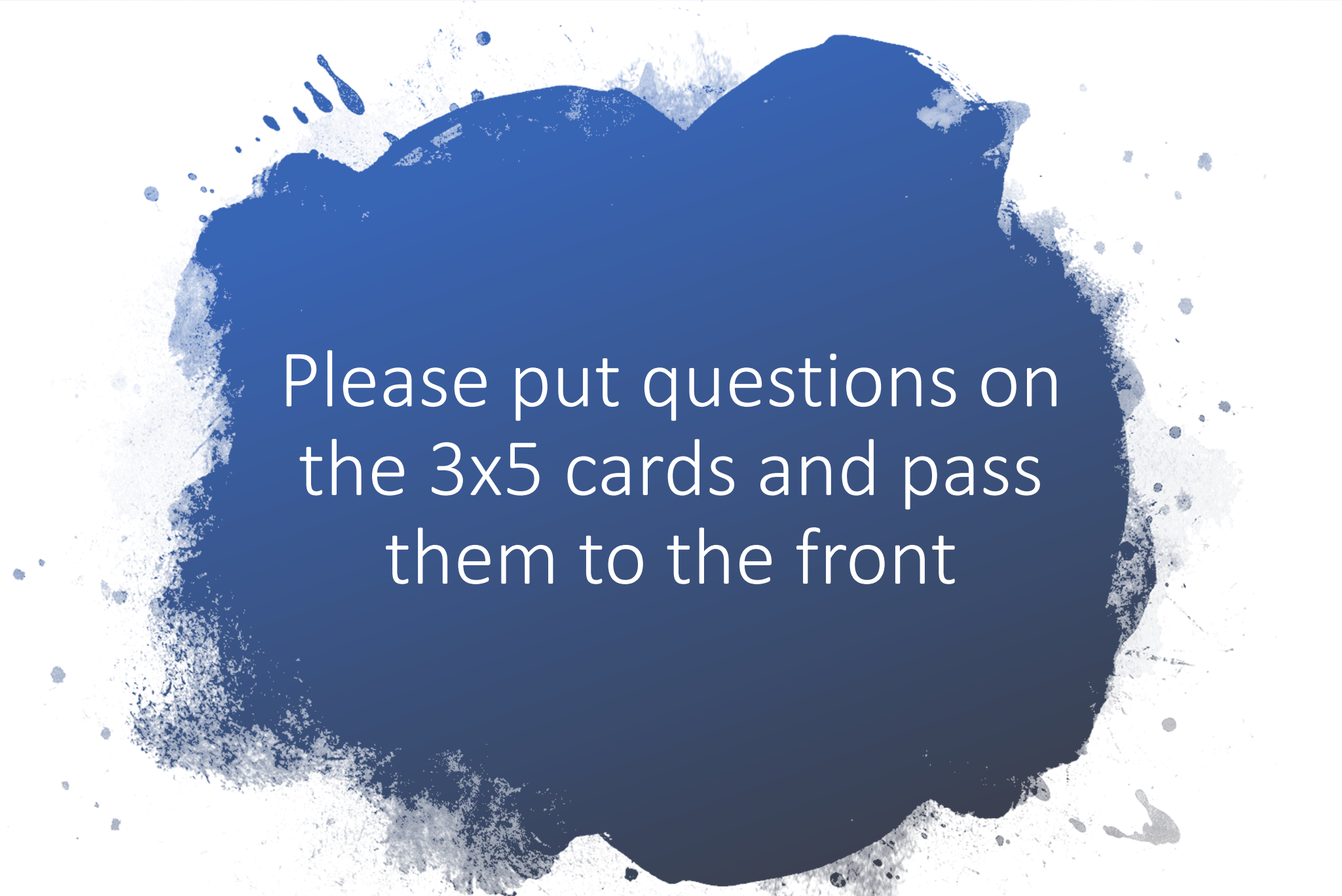
# Please Take Note...

***Our church does NOT formally endorse  
any one of these views.***

Jesus said in Matthew 24:36:

***“No one knows about that day or hour, not  
even the angels in heaven, nor the Son,  
but only the Father.”***

*...And a reminder that some of the prophecies are sealed up.  
(Daniel 12:8-9 and Revelation 10:4)*



Please put questions on  
the 3x5 cards and pass  
them to the front



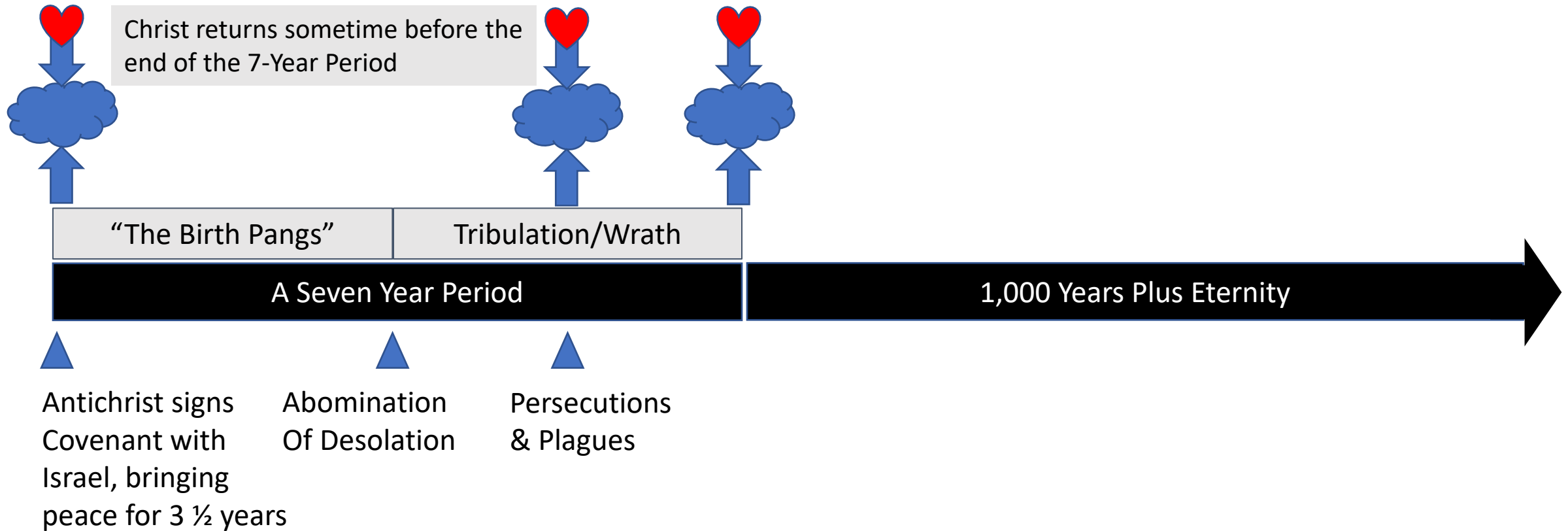
# Table Discussion

- What do you think of these various views?
- Has any of the information you have learned here made you question the view you had when you arrived tonight?
- Recall that the angel tells Daniel to “Go your way, Daniel, because the words are rolled up and sealed until the time of the end.” Why would God have sealed up some of the prophecy?



# Questions and Answers

# Summary: What We Know So Far...





# Key Takeaways

- Christ is coming back to call up believers, both dead and alive
- We have been given signs to watch for Christ's return
- We have been told to watch
  - Matt. 25:13
  - 1 Thessalonians 5:6
  - Parable of the 10 virgins with oil lamps
- Believers may live through the Birth Pangs and Tribulation times
- Believers will not be subject to God's full Wrath
- NO ONE knows the timing of Christ's return but the Father



## Next Week: Delve Further into 7 Year Period

- Key players in the End Times events
- The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse
- Seal and trumpet judgements (plagues plus earthly & cosmic events)

Copies of these slides can be found on the Willowdale website under:

*Our Church/Resources/Christ's  
Prophecies of the End Times*