

Is There a Rapture of the Church prior to 7 Years Tribulation?



"Left Behind" Books & Movie: *The Rapture*

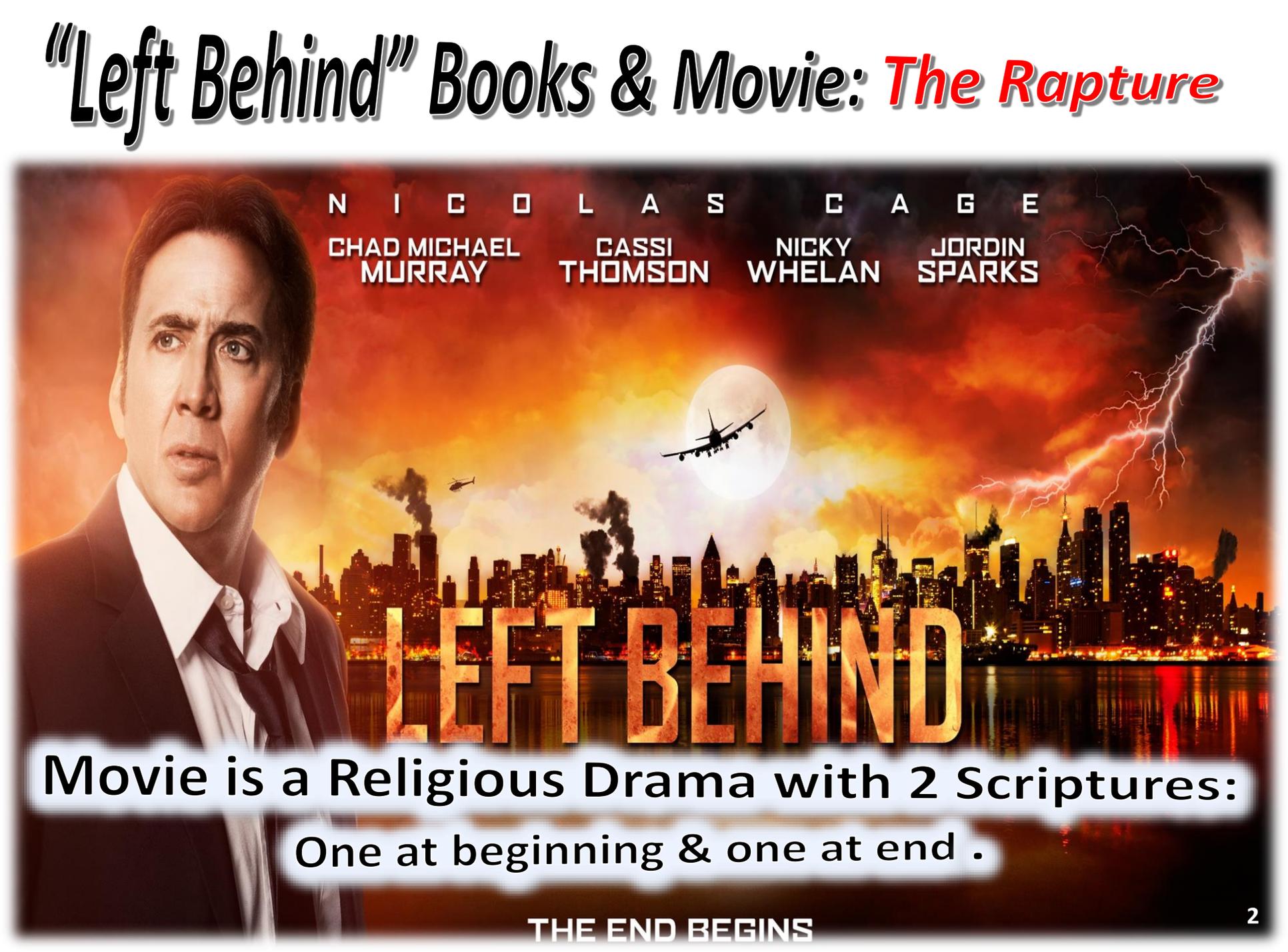
N I C O L A S C A G E

CHAD MICHAEL
MURRAY

CASSI
THOMSON

NICKY
WHELAN

JORDIN
SPARKS



LEFT BEHIND

Movie is a Religious Drama with 2 Scriptures:
One at beginning & one at end .

THE END BEGINS

The Rapture – Left Behind !

Cute graphic—but impossible



At least if the owner of the clothes is the author of the sign.

LEFT BEHIND

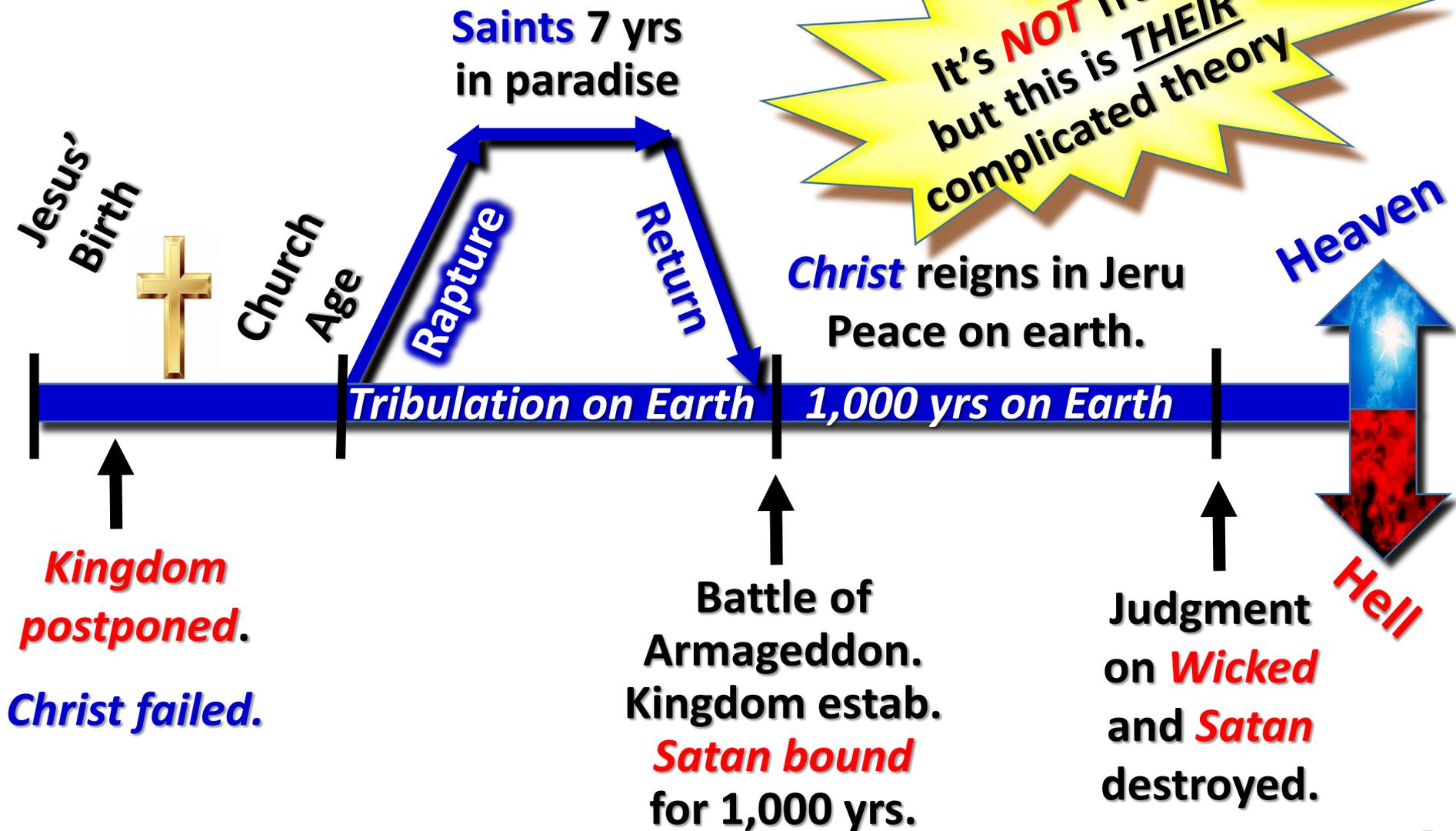
The false teaching that *Christians* will be lifted up into the air prior to 7 years Tribulation on earth.

RAPTURE

Proponents say **Mat 24:3-14** are end time signs !

But is THAT true?

Pre-Tribulation Rapture Theory !



Problems with the Rapture Theory !

1. Mis-identifies the People Matt 24:3 “As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives...” The Disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be...”
v4 And Jesus answered and said to them.”



Problems with the Rapture Theory !

The Tribulation Begins

2. Mis-identifies the Time

This was to happen in the
1st Century generation! (Mt 24:34)

Matt 24:4 "And Jesus answered and said to **them**,
" See to it that no one misleads **you** ."

v6 "And **you** will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars;
see that **you** are not frightened, for those things
must take place, but that is not yet the end

v7 "For nation will rise against nation, & king against king,
and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.

v8 "But all these things are merely the beginning of the pangs.

v9 "Then they will deliver **you** to tribulation, and will kill **you**,
and **you** will be hated by all nations on account of My name."

Apostles
experienced this
2 Cor 11:24 -26

Problems with the Rapture Theory !

3. Mis-identifies the Signs

Matt 24:10 "And at that time many will fall away and will deliver up one another **and**

Tit 3:3 "We lived... being hated **hate one another. and hating one another."**

v.11 "**And many false prophets will arise, and will mislead many.** **12** "And because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold."

2 Pet 2:1f "Will be **false prophets** among you." **1 Jn 2:18**

THE END TIMES

v.14 "This gospel ...**shall be preached in the whole world ... and then the end shall come.**"

Col 1:23 "Gospel was proclaimed **in all creation..**"

Problems with the Rapture Theory !

4. Misidentified the Abomination of Desolation

Matt 24:15 "When **you** see the **abomination of desolation** which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place.."



Luke 21:20 "But when **you** see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her **desolation** is at hand."

Roman Army **destroyed** Jerusalem
AD 70; under Vespasian's son Titus

Problems with the Rapture Theory !

Problems with the Actions to Take

Book: **Jesus is Coming**
cites more than 700 scriptures.
10 references to Mat 24 alone.
But not ONE word about
Mat 24:15 - 20 !!!

Matt 24:17 "Let him who is on the housetop not go down to get the things out that are in his house."

v18 "And let him who is in the field not turn back to get his cloak."

v19 "Woe to those who are with child & who nurse babes in those days!

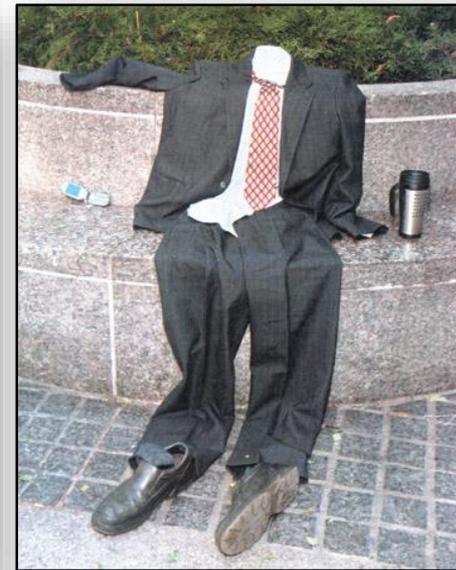
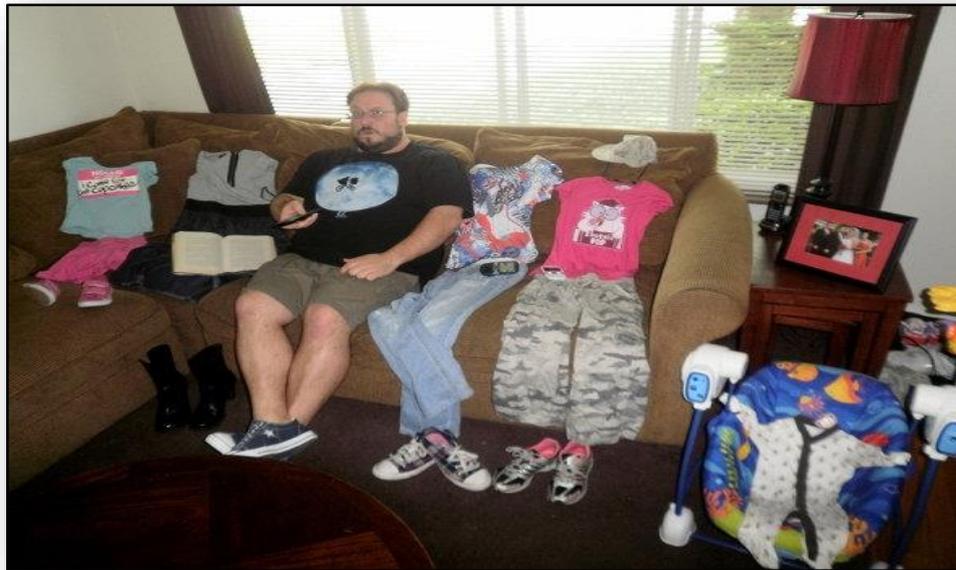
v20 "Pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath."

Rapture proponents say we're snatched away, not **runnin'** away ! 10

Problems with the Rapture Theory !



Mat 24:7 *“Him who is on the housetop not go down to get the things”*



Problems with the Rapture Theory !

6. There's problems with Believers in the Tribulation.



Matt 24:21 "For then there will be a **Great Tribulation**, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall.

v.22 "And unless those days had been cut short, **no life would have been saved**; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short."

Christians shouldn't face **the Great Tribulation in Rapture theory** ! 12

Problems with the Rapture Theory !

7. Mis-understand Symbolic Language.

Mat 24:29 "But **immediately** after the tribulation of those days..."

IMMEDIATELY... After Rome's attack!
Mat 24:15

v.29b "The **sun** will be darkened, the **moon** will not give its light, and the **stars** will fall from the sky."

Egypt's Fall Ezk 32:7-8 Stars, Sun, Moon Dark

Edom's Fall Isa 34:3-5 Stars wear away...

Babylon's Fall Isa 13:1, 10 Constellations not flash light, Sun and Moon dark

v.29c "And **the powers of the heavens** will be shaken."

Babylon's Fall Isa 13:1, 13 The Heavens tremble, earth shaken from it's place.

Mat 24 Rome's attack brought about **the collapse of Jerusalem's religious and political governing bodies**. It ended in AD 70.

Problems with the Rapture Theory !

8. Mis-interpreted the **Consequence**.

Matt 24:31 “He will send forth His **angels**”

Angeloι ,
Messengers.

By implication:
pastor. *Strongs*

“with a **great trumpet**”

The call to assemble God’s people.
Isa 27:12-13 “Trumpet will be blown...
come worship the Lord”

“And they will gather together His **elect** from the **four winds**, from one end of the sky to the other.

Mark 13:27 “And will gather together His elect from the four winds, from **the farthest end of the earth...**”
Not a resurrection from tombs !

The universality of the Gospel Luke 13:29 “They will come from East, West, North, South & will recline at the table in the Kingdom of God.”¹⁴

Problems with the Rapture Theory !

9. Mis-understanding HOW people are "TAKEN" IN WAR!

Matt 24:40 "Then there shall be two men in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. v.41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. 42 "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.



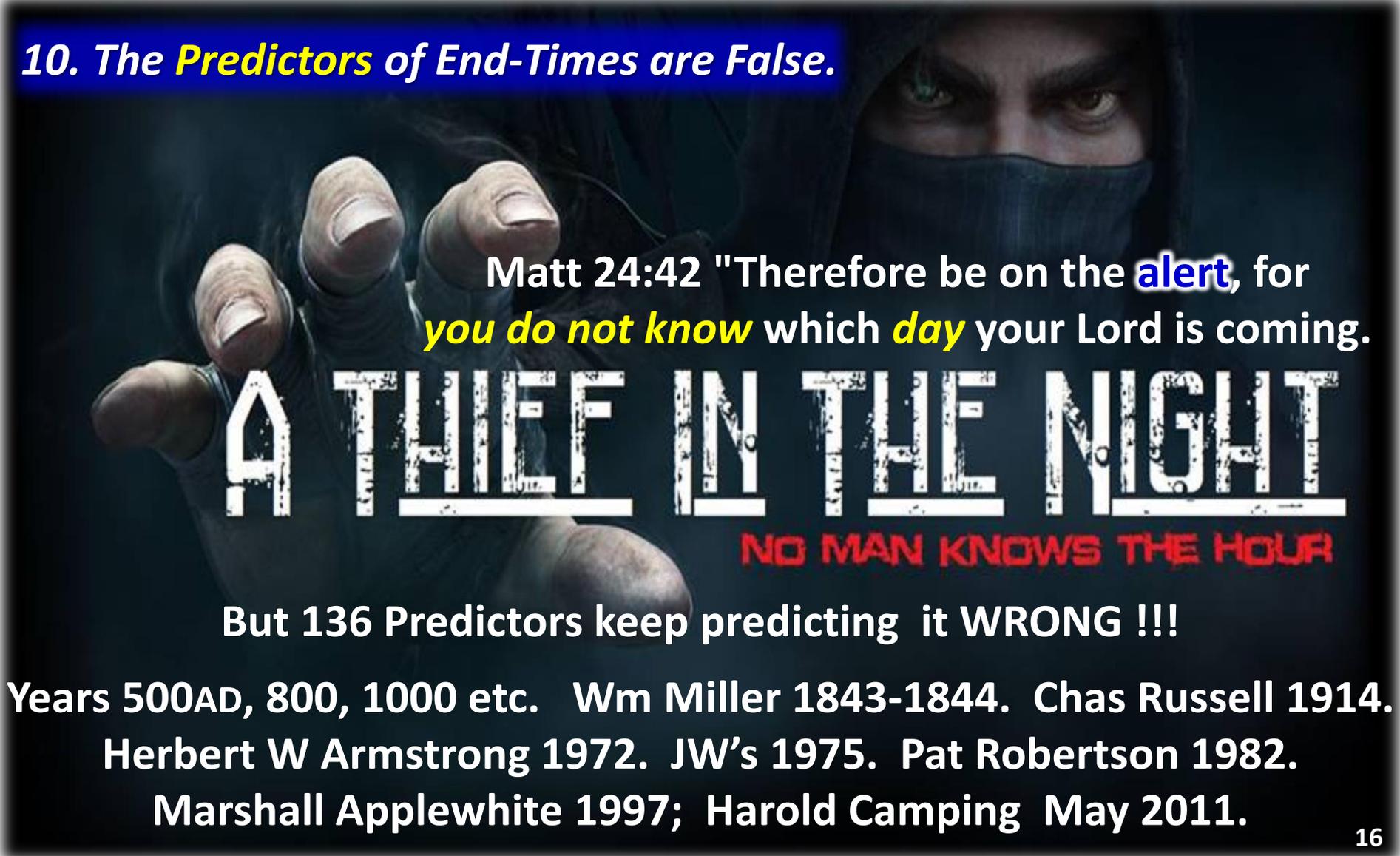
A lot of people won't prepare **and will be killed** in Rome's attack on Jerusalem (Lk 21:20-21)



Mat 24 is not a rapture, but people going on with their daily life v.40f. Then the unprepared ones are "**taken by Death.**" See Barnes

Problems with the Rapture Theory !

10. The **Predictors** of End-Times are False.



Matt 24:42 "Therefore be on the **alert**, for **you do not know** which **day** your Lord is coming.

A THIEF IN THE NIGHT

NO MAN KNOWS THE HOUR

But 136 Predictors keep predicting it **WRONG !!!**

Years 500AD, 800, 1000 etc. Wm Miller 1843-1844. Chas Russell 1914.

Herbert W Armstrong 1972. JW's 1975. Pat Robertson 1982.

Marshall Applewhite 1997; Harold Camping May 2011.

I Believe in the *Resurrection!*



1 Thes 4:16 "The dead in Christ shall rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air & thus we shall ALWAYS be with the Lord . Therefore comfort one another with these words."

