

FAQ 26

Title of the FAQ

Q #26 Don't you face a chronological inconsistency concerning the false christs and false prophets of Mt. 24:23-26 and that which the **TEXT** teaches comes **AFTER** these false teachers—that is, the heavenly signs and the sign of the Son of Man (Mt. 24:29, 30)?

Another good question!

The text explicitly teaches these false christs and false prophets come on the scene (with their false messages concerning the physical location of Christ) **AFTER** the great tribulation. (Most popular end-time chronologies do not allow for the natural flow of this text when it comes to this data.) What we also affirm is the word “immediately” of verse 29. Simply stated, and in answer to the question immediately above, we believe the great tribulation is cut short for the sake of the elect. “Immediately” thereafter, the heavenly signs begin to take place. Shortly after these signs, the sign of the Son of Man unfolds. Then the false prophets (those claiming to know where Christ had gone to) begin bringing these deceptions.

Please recall this *Son-of-Man* sign. (Mt. 24:30 and, we believe, Revelation 6:14-17 disclose some information about this initial appearing of Christ.) This sign occurs after the heavenly signs. This sign of the Son of Man represents Christ's initial appearing (only). After this event in the clouds, He disappears. This explains why the false christs and false prophets then go on to bring deceptive messages concerning the whereabouts of Christ. And, according to our Lord's insight and counsel, His Saints/followers are not to believe these false reports. You see, the Rapture event is still yet to take place!

So, in light of the question posed above, no, we do not bear a chronological inconsistency due to the heavenly signs which are stated by the text to occur “immediately” after the great tribulation is cut short (Matthew 24:29 – “immediately”; vs. 30 – “then”). “Then” the false christs and prophets appear. This is a viable understanding of the text given the terms used to describe the end-time account. By the way, two questions for you: 1. How does your end-time view answer the question of these events taking place **AFTER** the great tribulation? 2. How does your view accommodate the false messages of the bad guys of verses 23 – 26 according to the chronological flow of the authoritative text?

So, as you've possibly noted within this appeal, this proposal has recommended a departure from the relatively recent view presently in majority. Instead, it suggests the two events of Daniel 12:11 are separated by 1,290 days. This proposal also suggests the 70th Week of Daniel does **not** conclude (terminus ad quem) with the Great Tribulation as many end-time charts teach. In light of the potential construct of Daniel's 70th Week as presented by this view (a view which has been held throughout church history), and in light of the explicit content of Matthew 24, days follow the Great Tribulation, ones which include the period of the stellar signs, the sign of the Son of Man and the days of the false christs and prophets who bring signs and proclamations concerning the whereabouts of Christ. (Remember, He appears in the sky – accounted in His initial appearing [Matthew 24:30; Revelation 6:14-17]. The people of the

earth go on to wonder where He's gone. The false prophets will take advantage of this opportunity and will mislead many.) These days are followed by the events unfolding during the season of the trumpet blasts. At the final trumpet, in harmony with Mt. 24:31, John 14:1-4, I Cor. 15:51, 52, I Thess. 4:13-18 and Revelation 11:15ff and 14:14-16, the Rapture event occurs. This is why, in part, we can indeed claim we have explicit warrant for this Final Trumpet Rapture Gathering. The Rapture event, as stated in black and white in Scripture, occurs at the last trump. Please see [this link](#) which helps to set this concern in context.