

## Ready For What?

## Q.#3 Aren't we told to be ready for Jesus Christ's coming, not the Antichrist's?

The following is a response to an incorrect appeal by some Pre-Tribulationalists (typically brought against Pre-Wrath and Post-Tribulational perspectives) that says in various forms, "We are looking for Jesus Christ's return; They are looking for the Antichrist. But it's the Return of Christ that we are suppose to be anticipating, not the appearance of the Antichrist."

Actually, those of us who see the Word of God teaching tribulation against God's people in Jesus Christ are very much indeed looking for the glorious Return of Jesus Christ. We simply understand the Bible clearly teaches a time where God's people are eschatologically persecuted before His Son's return whereas the Pre-Tribulationalists assume the church will be absent during this time. There is not one biblical passage articulating the Rapture event will take place before the tribulation of the antichrist and the world against God's people—not one! But please discern another weakness of this argument. It improperly represents the positions that clearly do look forward to our Lord Jesus Christ's precious return. One of the famous Pre-Tribulationalists of our generation has written a book titled, *Rapture [Under Attack]*. In it, he includes groups who completely affirm the gathering of God's people—the Rapture—as those who are attacking the Rapture! "How can this be?" you might ask. It's not the Rapture event that is in question. It's the particular timing of the Rapture that's in question.

Our sub point: It's important to properly/correctly represent the other end-time positions and to do so in a Christ-honoring manner.

Our main point: Those who are Bible believing and who are not Pre-Trib in end-time perspective ARE so looking for the return of our Lord, but first, the anti-christ and the war against the Saints will take place. At the time of the closing of the Trumpets of Revelation, we - God's people in Christ Jesus - will be gathered, thus sparing us from *the hour of trial* that is coming on the whole world. God be praised!