

FAQ 39

Let's Be Willing To *Call A Spade A Spade*

Q #39 Just how do you "label" those who make false prophetic claims?

What is the authority by which judgments can be made in light of a biblical worldview?

Our opinions don't matter. What matters is that we apply God's standard as our criteria for discerning contemporary teachings, especially if they are expressed as dogma. In light of this plumb line, here's our answer: (NB: We are using the **emphatic** Pre-Tribulation Rapture [PTR] viewpoint as our example.)

Scripture provides a standard for testing those who bring "thus says the Lord" appeals. (Deut. 13 & 18 present some helpful parameters.)

IF someone claims something will take place and it does **not** actually come to pass, how are we to respond (especially in light of Deut. 18 and New Covenant principles)?

In application of God's Word being our compass, how can this be applied to those who teach (dogmatically) the **Pre-Tribulation Rapture**, especially since this teaching is not explicitly stated in Scripture?

More concisely stated, IF the rapture gathering of the Church does NOT take place before the period of Tribulation and Great Tribulation, how are we counseled to respond? Those who taught the Pre-Trib position prior to the tribulation period (which begins, according to the standard [PTR] teaching, at the time the Covenant is made - Daniel 9:27) should actually then be labeled "false prophets," for they have predicted a certain event will take place (namely, the Pre-Trib Rapture) when, in fact, it fails to occur. Please dear Church, be willing to call a spade a spade if this comes to pass.

IF the Antichrist comes on the global scene and the Church has not yet been taken up, are we willing to follow God's New Covenant instruction as to how we should respond to those who have taught falsely on this subject? We sure hope so!

But what about godly teachers and pastors who teach the Pre-Trib view? What are we to do IF this dilemma surfaces? Our suggested answer: Follow the Counsel as clearly outlined by our soon-coming King; follow God's counsel found in His Word, the Bible. Don't look to those who teach extra- or un-biblically for direction. Remember, deception is a major theme during the end times. Our Lord has graced us with wonderful, protective mandates. Will we humble ourselves and follow our Divine Shepherd? We thank the Lord His true sheep will.

Once again we find our message (that is, Endurance Ministries' appeal) most appropriate: Go to His Word for True and Safe instruction through the growing storm until He returns and takes us to Himself before His wrath is poured out upon the earth dwellers.