

FAQ 4

The Strength Of Our End-Time Position

Q #4 Aren't there grounds for rejecting *The Final Trumpet Rapture Gathering* position?

We believe the “final trumpet” of I Corinthians 15 is the “Seventh Trumpet” of Revelation 11. Some have asked, “On what grounds do you believe this given the difficulties tied to this position?” We have already made reference to the *who/Who* it is who blows the trumpet in a prior question (Q#1). This more thorough response seeks to demonstrate there is indeed warrant for the possibility of equating the two trumpets mentioned above. We’ve chosen to address the question by beginning with the “whys” some have given for “rejecting” the possibility. (For our more developed handout on this issue, write to us and we will be more than happy to send it to you. When you write, will you also prayerfully consider supporting this ministry through your prayers and/or through a financial contribution? If you are willing to support us prayerfully, please communicate your commitment to pray for us by emailing us; If you are agreeable to helping us financially, please make your check out to “Endurance Ministries” and send it to the mailing address *below*. Note: All of our donations go to direct ministry efforts. Endurance Ministries has **no** salaried positions, **no** real estate [property], **no** monthly office rental space, **no** benefits given to active members—including board members, etc. All of our donations go directly toward covering our general operating costs—web development and hosting, office supplies [including a U.S. post office box], seminar costs, and “gifts” to those responding to our web site offers—those desiring additional information about cultural concerns relating to our thematic emphases.)

Here are the reasons some have given against equating the “final trumpet” of 1 Corinthians 15 with the “seventh trumpet” of Revelation 11:

According to those who reject our position:

Mt. 24:29-31 teaches Jesus will come with His angels, a coming that includes a trumpet blast.

Revelation chronology says Matthew 24:29-31 will happen after the 7 trumpets.

Paul, in the book of I Corinthians, was writing before the Book of Revelation had been written.

Our response to their arguments:

We agree, but we go on to **ADD**: the passage also includes the event of the gathering (of God's elect in Jesus Christ - vs. 31).

We do not find this teaching stated in God's Word—the Book of Revelation, included.

We agree, but we do not believe this substantiates the author's conclusions that Paul could not have meant the 7th Trumpet of Revelation. Progressive revelation of the New Testament canon should be considered, not to mention: Whose revelation is it?

Continued ...

**According to those who reject
our position:**

Our response to their arguments:

There will be trumpet blasts
which follow the "final trumpet."

We agree (though not with the same degree
of conviction as some hold), but we define
the eschatological "final trumpet" in a way
that affirms the analogy of Scripture.

"Trumpet blasts" (plural usage)
do not equate to "a trumpet blast"
(singular usage).

We agree, but we are simply saying it is
the 7th Trumpet of Revelation that is the
"final trumpet" of I Cor. 15.

(The above reasons for rejecting our position are summarized in the book by Dr. Renald Showers titled, *Maranatha: Our Lord Come!* 1995. pp. 159-169.) Once again, a more developed response can be secured by writing to Endurance Ministries; P.O. Box 92098; Portland, Oregon 97292. Ask for our "Response to Showers" article. (Only snail-mail requests are being processed at this time.)

Given our responses above, there is not sufficient warrant to reject the possibility that the "final trumpet" of I Corinthians 15 is the "seventh trumpet" of Revelation 11. We would ask you to further consider the proposal, especially in light of the full Counsel of the Word of God. The analogy of Scripture is indeed an important hermeneutical consideration.