

September 27, 2023

Christ The Rock Church

AND THEN WE TOLD THEM



**FREEDOM OF SPEECH THREATENS
FREEDOM OF SPEECH**

Jacinda Ardern (former Prime Minister of New Zealand), continued her call for international censorship at the United Nations. Ardern is now one of the leading anti-free speech figures in the world and continues to draw support from political and academic establishments. In her latest attack on free speech, Ardean declared free speech as a virtual weapon of war. She is demanding that the world join her in battling free speech as part of its own war against “misinformation” and “disinformation.”

Her views, of course, were not only enthusiastically embraced by authoritarian countries, but the government and academic elite.

In her speech, she notes that we cannot allow free speech to get in the way of fighting things like climate change. She notes that they cannot win the war on climate change if people do not believe them about the underlying problem. The solution is to silence those with opposing views.

Stunning numbers among Dems in RCOR's new poll on free speech and censorship: 47% of Dems say free speech should be legal 'only under certain circumstances. 34% of Dems say Americans 'have too much freedom' 75% of Dems say government has a responsibility to censor 'hateful' social media posts Only 31% strongly agree with the statement, "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.'

<https://realclearpolitics.com>

Matt Walsh Blog

YouTube is demonetizing all of Russell Brand's accounts based on unproven allegations made in the media. He hasn't even been criminally charged with anything. The precedent being set here is extremely bad.

Lawlessness

Matthew 24:12

“And because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will become cold.”

Last night, 8:00 pm,

Groups of teenagers swarmed into stores in Philadelphia's Center City, stuffing plastic bags with merchandise and fleeing, although police made several arrests, authorities and witnesses said. (Apple Store, LuluLemon)

The thefts also occurred on the same day that **Target** announced it will close nine stores in four states, including one in New York City's East Harlem neighborhood, and three in the San Francisco Bay Area, saying that theft and organized retail crime have threatened the safety of its workers and customers.

Who Is Our God???

Follow the Money

CBO projections show US Federal debt rising by \$5.2 billion per day for the next 10 years.

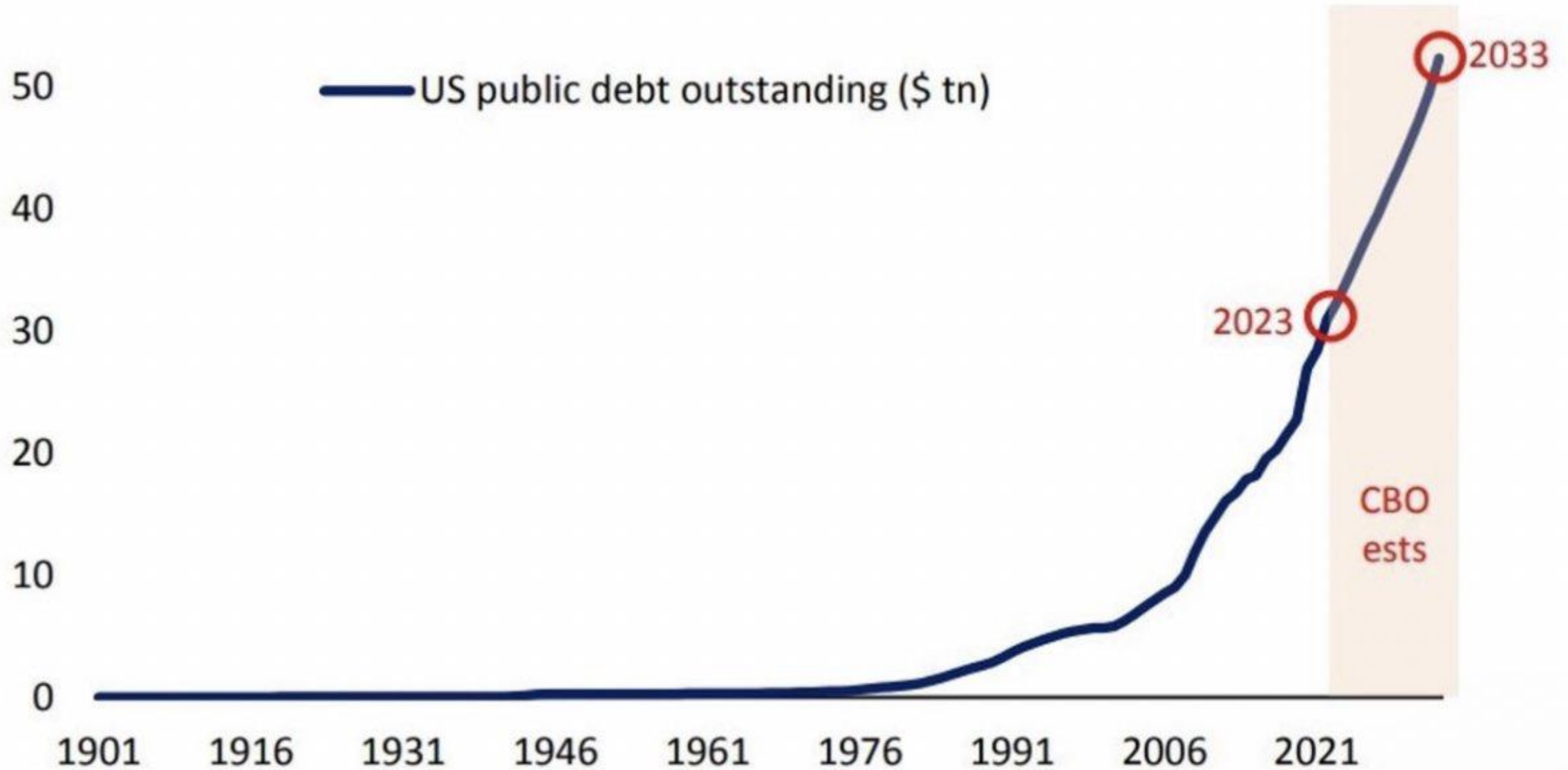
However, since the debt ceiling “crisis” came to an end, US debt has jumped by \$30 billion per day.

We have added roughly \$1 trillion per month in US debt since then.

That means EVERY HOUR the US is borrowing \$1.3 billion and paying \$125 million in interest.

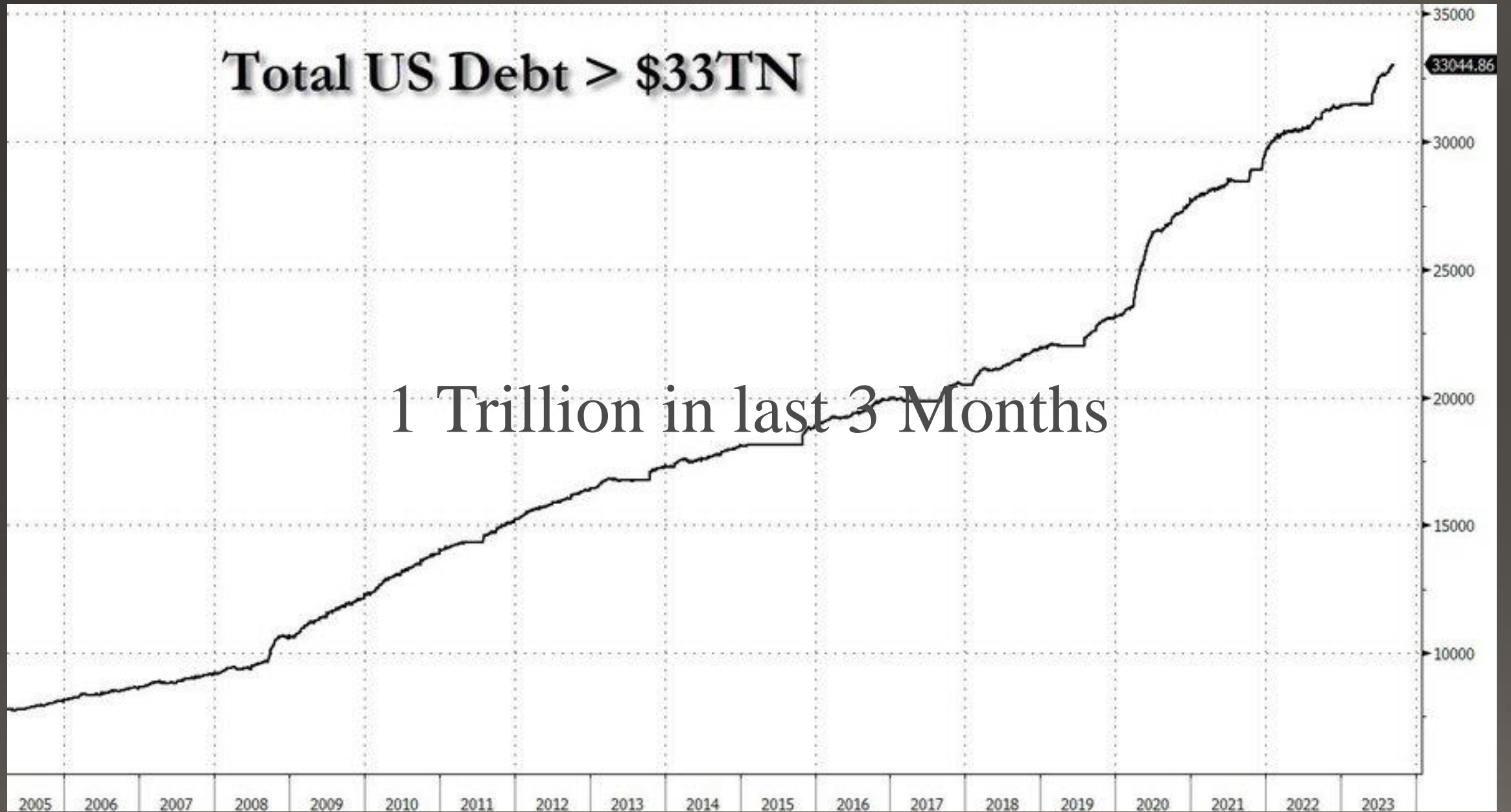
Chart 2: US public debt to rise by \$5.2bn every day next 10 years

US public debt outstanding & CBO projections (\$tn)



Total US Debt > \$33TN

1 Trillion in last 3 Months



The Kobeissi Letter

Bankruptcy filings for companies with at least \$10 million in liabilities are rising sharply.

Since the Fed started raising rates in March 2022, bankruptcy filings have more than doubled.

As rates have nearly tripled on most forms of debt, bankruptcy filings are rising.

Credit card companies are racking up losses at the fastest pace in almost 30 years, outside of the Great Financial Crisis, according to Goldman Sachs.

Americans owe more than \$1 trillion on credit cards, a record high, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Auto Loan defaults at record high

60% of Americans are living
paycheck to paycheck

Why the extreme spending???

Is it political pandering?

Incompetence?

Or is it something more sinister?

Crisis Creation did not begin with the
COVID Scare in 2019.

Crash the U.S. Dollar. Crash the U.S.
economy. Create a level of **fear** that will
have people gladly accepting a
government financial reset in our country.

On March 9th, 2022, President Biden signed an executive order that put into motion the machinery and the mechanism to develop a CBDC. In preparation for the G20 Summit, the Bank of International Settlements published a report laying out the Central Bank's efforts to prepare for a CBDC

If **FedNow** does indeed become a programmable CBDC, then it could theoretically be used to block payments for items the government doesn't favor or to cut out people from the financial system who are seen as threatening in some way to governing authorities, aka, political opponents.

At a recent WEF event, economist Eswar Prasad bragged about how CBDC can be used to limit your purchases of whatever bureaucrats happen not to like—that's where this is headed, and they're not even hiding this.

One hundred nations are now exploring CBDC. Twelve central banks have pilot programs for digital currencies, and the EU already has a “digital euro.”

The problem with CBDCs is that they are programmable, traceable, expirable, and controllable by the government. For example, if a person goes to a gas station and they have a central bank digital currency, it can be determined how much money they are allowed to spend on gasoline.

Rev. 6:5-6

And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

Rev. 13:16-17

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Our God Reigns

Man doesn't reign

Governments don't reign

Satan doesn't reign

Revelation Chapter 4

The Pre-Tribulation
Rapture

Revelation 4:1-2

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the **sound of a trumpet** speaking with me, said, “**Come up here**, and I will show you what must take place **after these things.**” Immediately I was **in the Spirit**; and behold, **a throne** was standing in heaven, and **One** sitting on the throne.

God's Calendar

Rapture – Collecting His Bride

Bema Seat Judgment – Spiritual Rewards

7-Year Tribulation

Second Coming – Rev. 19:11 - 20:6

What is the (Invisible) Church

Colossians 1:18 - One Body

Eph. 2:11-16 – Jew & Gentile united by faith in Christ

Acts 15:14 – Why? Calling out a people for His name

1 Cor 12:13 – one Spirit all baptized into one Body

Acts 1:5 – Spirit baptism yet future (Day of Pentecost)

Not O.T. or Gospel age “believers”

What is a Pre-Tribulation Rapture

Pretribulationism teaches that the Rapture occurs before the Tribulation starts. At that time, the church will meet Christ in the air, and then sometime after that the Antichrist is revealed and the Tribulation begins. In other words, the Rapture and Christ's Second Coming (to set up His kingdom) are separated by at least seven years. According to this view, the church does not experience any of the Tribulation judgments.

What is the Church

The church is composed of all true believers from Pentecost (Acts 2) until the Rapture. The rapture excludes O.T. saints and Tribulation saints.

What is a Pre-Tribulation Rapture

The church is not appointed to wrath (**1 Thess. 1:9-10, 5:9**), and believers will not be overtaken by the Day of the Lord (**1 Thessalonians 5:1-9**). The church of Philadelphia was promised to be kept from “the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world” (**Revelation 3:10**).

What is a Pre-Tribulation Rapture

The word “**church**” appears nineteen times in the first three chapters of Revelation, but, significantly, the word is not used again until chapter 22. In other words, in the entire lengthy description of the Tribulation in Revelation, the word church is noticeably absent.

The Bible never uses the word "church" in a passage relating to the Tribulation.

Distinctions

Pretribulationism is the only theory which clearly maintains **the distinction between Israel and the church and God's separate plans for each**. The seventy "sevens" of Daniel 9:24 are decreed upon Daniel's people (the Jews) and Daniel's holy city (Jerusalem). This prophecy makes it plain that the seventieth week (the Tribulation) is a time of purging and restoration for Israel and Jerusalem, not for the church.

Distinctions

1 Corinthians 10:32 - Give no occasion of stumbling, either to **Jews**, or to **Greeks**, or to the **church of God**

(Paul makes a distinction between groups)

Historical Support

John 21:22-23: the early church viewed Christ's return as imminent, that He could return at any moment. Otherwise, the rumor would not have persisted that Jesus would return within John's lifetime. **Imminence**, which is incompatible with the other two Rapture theories, is **a key tenet** of pretribulationism.

Didache

The Didache: (non-canonical) 70-100 AD.
Claimed to be the work of the twelve Apostles.
A sort of church manual for early Christians.

Chapter 16: “Watch for your life’s sake. Let not your lamps be quenched, nor your loins unloosed; but be ready, **for you know not the hour in which our Lord will come.**”

Irenaeus (AD 130 to 202)

Against Heresies, Book 5, Chapter 29, Irenaeus wrote this about Jesus' return for his church:

“And therefore, when in the end the Church shall be suddenly caught (Gr. **Harpazo**) up **from this**, it is said, ‘There shall be **tribulation** such as has not been since the beginning, neither shall be.’”

Deliverance of Righteous from Judgment

Enoch – Taken out before the Flood

Noah - delivered thru the worldwide flood

Lot - delivered from Sodom judgment

Rahab - delivered from Jericho destruction

Three (3) Key Rapture Passages

John 14:1-3

1 Cor. 15:51-54

1 Thess. 4:13-18

John 14:1-3

- 1 “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.**
- 2 In My Father’s house are many rooms; if that were not so, I would have told you, because I am going there to prepare a place for you.**

John 14:1-3

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am **coming again** and will take you to **Myself**, so that where **I am**, there **you also will be**.

Jewish Marriage Customs

No courtship – arranged – betrothal a legal contract
Father & Son agree on the purchase price
Father and the Bride discuss the dowry price
If agreed: bride and groom drink cup of wine
Groom leaves- goes to Father's estate (prepare place)
Groom & Bride are “sealed” in this room for 7 days
Father approves when building is complete
Sends Son to collect His Bride

Jewish Marriage Customs

Bride expected to wait faithfully

Kept oil lamp ready

During her waiting the Bride is referred to as:

1) consecrated

2) set apart

3) bought with a price

Had to wear a veil in public (modesty)

Veil removed when Bridegroom comes

Jewish Marriage Customs

Assembled Bridesmaids – each with lamps

Men would routinely “tease” the Groom by

continually asking, “when’s the honeymoon?”

His reply, “only my Father knows”

When Father approves, Groom and “friends” set out

Usually at night (no interference, surprise arrival)

Bride was being ‘abducted’ – snatched away

Had to always be ready

Jewish Marriage Customs

When Groom arrived, He couldn't just 'rush' in
'Friends' had to announce, "the Bridegroom cometh"
They would blow horns announcing arrival
Neighbors awakened – knew the marriage finally arrived
Arrive at New house – the door is shut (sealed)
Gifts presented to Bride
Seven Day consummation
Marriage Supper (Rev. 19) comes after that – invited guests

Hebrew Marriage Customs

This is not the

“**Bridal Paradigm**” taught by

I.H.O.P. International House of Prayer (and others)

Jewish Marriage Customs

- **The Ketubah:** Espousal (2 Corinthians 11:2; Isa 61:10; Judges 14:10-11; Jer 2:32; Isa 49:18; Ps 45:8-15):
- **The Dowry:** Payment of the purchase price; set apart (Ephesians 5:25-27 - sanctification)
- **Bridegroom Builds a House:** departs to Father's House: Prepares room addition; bride prepares for his imminent return. (John 14:1-3)

Jewish Marriage Customs

- **Huppah**: Wedding: Surprise gathering (1 Thess 4:16-17; Jer 7:34; 16:9; 25:10; Ps 45:8-15; Mt 25:1-13).
- **Marriage supper**: 7-days (Judg 14:12; Mt 9:15; 22:11-14; Jn 2:1).

Marriage Ceremony

Revelation 19:6-8 – The wedding announcement will be made (v. 6), and the Bride will finally be made ready (v. 7). The reason the Bride will now be fully ready for the marriage ceremony is because she will have on her entire bridal gown (v. 8). This bridal gown is said to be the righteous acts of the saints. This teaches us two things. First, it shows that the process of sanctification will indeed be completed, for all that will be showing on the Bride will be her righteous acts.

Marriage Ceremony

Revelation 19:6-8 – Secondly, this also shows that the marriage ceremony takes place after the Judgment Seat of the Messiah when the saints are rewarded for their deeds on earth (1 Cor. 3:10–15). All the wood, hay, and stubble will have been burned away and all the gold, silver, and precious stones will have been purified.

Bema Seat

A bema was a raised platform on which judges sat to view athletic games. Their job was to make sure contestants followed the rules and to present awards to the victors (see 1 Corinthians 9:24–27). The bema was never a place to reprimand the athletes or to punish them in any way. It was a place of testing and reward. In the same way, the bema of Christ will not be a place of condemnation or censure.

Bema Seat

1 Cor. 3:10-15 – Each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames

Bema Seat

1 Cor. 4:5 – Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God.

Bema Seat

2 Cor. 5:9-10 – So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Marriage Feast

Revelation 19:9 – Since many are bidden or invited to come to the marriage feast, this passage indicates that the marriage supper or feast will be at a different place than the marriage ceremony. We know from the Word of God that the Old Testament saints are not resurrected with the Church before the Tribulation, but at the end of the Tribulation (Dan. 12:2).

Marriage Feast

Revelation 19:9 – John the Baptist, who was the last of the Old Testament prophets, called himself a friend of the bridegroom and did not consider himself to be a member of the Bride of the Messiah, the Church (Jn. 3:27–30). Hence, the “many” who are bidden [to attend] the marriage supper on earth are all the Old Testament saints and the Tribulation saints resurrected after the Second Coming of Jesus the Messiah.

1 Cor. 15:50-54

Now this I say, brethren, that **flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.** Behold, I shew you *a mystery*; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be **changed.**

1 Cor. 15:50-54

For this corruptible **must** put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

Mystery

Mystery (musterion): a hidden or secret thing,
not obvious to the understanding . . .

- a. hidden purpose or counsel, deliberately veiled by God only to be revealed by Him
- b. the secret counsels which are hidden from ungodly and wicked men but plain to the godly.

1 Thess. 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as indeed the rest of mankind do, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose from the dead, so also God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus. 15 For we say this to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

1 Thess. 4:13-18

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who remain, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore, comfort one another with these words.