



## Nicolae: The Rise of Antichrist

*Tim LaHaye , Jerry B. Jenkins , Frank Muller (Narrator)*

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First they were left behind. Then they formed the Tribulation Force. Now they must face Nicolae.

## Nicolae: The Rise of Antichrist Details

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# From Reader Review Nicolae: The Rise of Antichrist for online ebook

## Amélie Rêverie says

Blogger and journalist Fred Clark has repeatedly attacked the book as being "Bad Writing and Bad Theology"[1] in a long running series of weekly posts[2]. He feels that after the Rapture the people of the world, including the heroes of the story, assimilate the disappearance of all the world's children with a monstrous rapidity that displays the ways that the authors have allowed their checklist of prophecies to be fulfilled to outweigh the consequences these events would have on the psyches of real people[3]. He also criticized the book for being written in "slapdash" manner in just 28 days, which in Clark's opinion betrays the Christian (Protestant) notion of the importance of treating one's craft being a vocation for God. I enjoyed reading this series; solely based upon the premise I am an "historical fiction" lover. Take what you need leave the rest behind.

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## David Nichols says

In which 25% of the remaining Non-Raptured Persons (NRPs) is killed by meteors, the Global Community bombs a few cities for peace, and Rayford Steele tries to convince Hattie not to abort the Devil's Spawn.

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## Lauren says

[audiobook]

At this point I'm only listening to these for laughs and because they don't require much thought to follow. Being the third book in the series, there's a lot of time spent recapping the entire premise of the original story and the previous books, but most of this doesn't show up until the last third of the book.

Again, the author shows that he has very limited knowledge of science despite attempting to throw terms into the book, even allowing for dating technology back about 15 years to publication. Concepts which are included erroneously in this book are centrifugal force, internal bleeding, flight ranges of specific aircraft, satellite dishes, truth serum, earthquakes / plate tectonics, and meteors / meteorites.

Women are less disparaged in this book than in the past two, but only because they are almost completely inconsequential or stereotypical. The only women included are wives of main characters, a bitchy lesbian, a secretary, and a woman included in order to be able to preach the Christian standing on abortion. There are no female doctors, sales people, preachers, ambassadors, pilots, presidents, etc. There is one nurse and one policewoman mentioned in passing, because all nurses are women and the policewoman is incompetent.

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## Amanda says

First, I must dispute some of the claims made by other reviewers. They claim that this series is sexist, mainly because of the character of Hattie Durham. That is ridiculous, not only because such women exist in the world, but especially because there are other female characters (Chloe, for example) who do not behave in this manner. Additionally, there are male characters who have impure sexual motives as well. So, calling this

book sexist is utterly unfounded. Secondly, they have called this book "racist." Now that I didn't get at all, since race is not even mentioned in this book... so I can't fight fire with fire when there isn't any fuel. And lastly, they claimed that this book is "offensive to anyone who isn't a born-again Christian." Well, I'm not. I'm Catholic, and I'm not offended. But I also have more than half a brain to think with.

The authors' theology does come on a bit strong -- but really, consider the source. Both are established Christian writers. What did you think they would write about? Some sort of philosophy in which God doesn't really care about our ultimate fate? That seems to be the popular idea nowadays, but still not one everyone embraces. These authors are writing from their ideas and their life experiences, which surely are different from mine or yours. Additionally, if you are trying to compare this fictional work with the text of the Bible, this series will come up short every time -- it is FICTION for a reason! It is someone's idea of what COULD happen, not a definite foretelling of what will happen.

I enjoyed this book because it is a fascinating look at what COULD happen at the end of time. How the "Rapture" will effect the global economy, politics, and families. How easily people can be deceived and killed with kindness. It makes the reader reflect on what he or she would do in that situation. It was a very easy read, and very entertaining. I will absolutely be reading the next in the series.

Nicolae is the third book in the Left Behind series, and in my opinion, it is the best one so far. This book gets into some real character development, which seemed to be lacking in the previous two books. The characters are multi-dimensional and face real problems and need to make serious decisions, and seem to have deep emotions. Significant characters do pass on in this book, and as the reader I felt all of the emotions connected with the loss. Additionally, the suspense is definitely more engaging in this book, and I kept the pages turning and am looking forward to reading "Soul Harvest."

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### **BAM The Bibliomaniac says**

You know for born-again Christians these are some selfish, self-centered, entitled people? Or is that redundant?

Statements one doesn't hear everyday:

"I had to kiss my husband goodbye in front of the Antichrist this morning."

"Cabbie, the wailing wall please."

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### **Ralph says**

This reminds me of someone in the news today.

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### **Sarah Swann says**

Good follow up! The craziness that the characters went through in this one were fast paced and had me on the edge of my seat. And I loved the way it ended.

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## David Sarkies says

### Another fictional account of the Christian end-times

18 August 2012

I believe that I finished this book and I read about three pages of the forth book before I thought 'this is rubbish' and metaphorically threw it away (because I was reading it on a laptop at the time – I didn't end up throwing away the laptop). I guess it was simply the really poor writing skills of the author that ended up putting me off because reading even one sentence would make me cringe. Granted there are a lot of cringeworthy books out there, but I generally do not read them. It is not that I have anything against pure escapism, but even then the Left Behind series would hardly be called escapism: I would describe them more as being 'fear evangelism'.

In the previous book I spoke about pre-millennialism, and I has spoken about 'fear evangelism' elsewhere, so I think I might spend some time talking about amillennialism and post-millennialism (which does not get all that much press, unfortunately). The concept of amillennialism is that we are currently living in the millenium which began when Christ ascended into heaven and ends when Christ returns. The time of the return is unknown, meaning that it could happen tomorrow, or it could happen in another two thousand years. We simply do not know. While there is an essence of urgency, as I have indicated elsewhere, the fact that we could get hit by a tram while crossing Flinders Street and killed puts the whole idea of Christ's return in a new perspective: let us realise that while Christ can return at anytime, but we could also die at anytime, and as such, being caught with our metaphorical pants down is a concern that of which we need to be aware. Mind you, the metaphorical pants down could simply be us being oblivious to how we are offending God, even if we profess Jesus as Lord. Remember that James says that even the demons know that Jesus is lord, and tremble with fear.

Let me outline something that Graeme Goldsworthy indicated in his book, *The Gospel in Revelation*, that I looked at previously. He speaks of the concept of us being washed clean and being given new clothes. This is an image that appears throughout the bible, but I did not fully understand it until I read Goldworthy's book. The idea of being given new clothes is another analogy of us being cleansed of our sins. However, there is a story of a wedding feast in Matthew where the host comes in to see a person dressed inappropriately, and as a result he is tossed out. This could be anyone of us, and because I did not fully understand the nature of this analogy, I would always worry about being this person (simply because I never seem to be able to know how to dress). However, the clothes are an analogy that represents how God views us. We all wear dirty clothes in God's eyes, but what Jesus has done, with his death, is that he has removed our old, soiled, clothes and put on new ones. However some of us, while paying lip service to God, have never actually had our clothes removed, so while we might go through life believing God owes us because of our self-righteousness, when we arrive at the wedding feast, the bouncer will say 'I'm sorry, there is a dress standard, and you are not dressed appropriately.' So, as Plato says through the mouth of Socrates, 'the unexamined life is not worth living', meaning, let us continue to examine our lives, and our relationship with God, so that that may not happen.

Now, another aspect of amillennialism is the struggle between wanting Christ to return soon, and wanting time to be able to finish the work that we have been put here to perform. Now, when the proverbial shit hits the fan, and life simply sucks, we want Jesus to come and take us away, however, when I look at the piles of books that I want to read and comment on, and all of the people that I have not met, I desire for there to be a delay. I am not the only one in that boat because Paul the apostle was in that boat as well. I guess what we need to remember is that the days are short, and Christ can come at anytime, so let us take whatever opportunity arises to continue God's work.

Now, post-millennialism is the idea that the millenium has passed as that we are in a new age awaiting God. However God will not return until a certain point has been reached, which involves bringing people into his kingdom. This is not much different from amillennialism, or even pre-millennialism, however the difference is the timing of the millenium, and this could be the period from 500 to 1500, which saw the rise and fall of the Catholic Church in Europe. This, I believe, is a bit problematic simply because it is very speculative. However, moving on we have entered a period of unprecedented evangelism and technological advancement, as well as a period where our understanding and reasoning has expanded. The wonderful thing about humanity is our ability to preserve knowledge and to teach others, particularly the younger generation. Thus, in a way, each successive generation becomes more knowledgeable than the preceding one. This, in my opinion, is the crux of evolution. Humanity was degenerating right up until Christ's first appearance, and with that appearance, history turned 180 degrees and humanity began to evolve again. As history continued, our understanding grew, and our knowledge increased, and we have reached this point. Is this the end, I do not think so, because we still have not evolved out of our greedy and self-centred nature. However, as time moves on, and knowledge increases, we will continue to evolve to a point where we can evolve no further without further intervention from above, at which point Christ returns. While a wonderful idea I feel that it does fall down in a lot of places, namely because there is no one who is righteous, not even one. However, our understanding of human rights, and our desire to step in and help the poor, our overthrowing of corrupt governments, which are among many other aspects of our evolution, have moved us socially forward. Yet, it is also trying to pin point a date, which is something we cannot do. So, in the end, there are probably only two understandings of the millenium which I feel comfortable with, and that is the amillennialist view, and the pan-millennialist view, namely that it will all pan out in the end.

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## **Renee says**

*Nicolae* , book three in the Left Behind Series, was especially exciting to re-read. Bombs are dropping where Chloe and Buck live in Chicago. Rayford is flying Nicolae Carpathia around to New Babylon, Iraq, and other exotic places, while spying on the man he's convinced will soon be revealed as the Antichrist. The story expands to include Ken Ritz, Mac McCullum, and Amanda White, and returns to a familiar character, Hattie Durham, to give her another shot at redemption.

In Israel, biblical scholar Tsion Ben-Judah is hiding out from the men who murdered his family and wish to silence him. Buck attempts a daring rescue of Tsion, and they both become wanted men. Even natural disasters come into play. It's non-stop action from start to cliff-hanger finish.

This episode of the series illustrated something that amazes me about Bible prophecy. ***The story shows how so many will experience cataclysmic events, see all the norms of life change before their eyes, understand that in their humanness they can do nothing to help themselves, and yet turn to a human man to save them.*** While all the time God will continue to reach out to them through supernatural means and through the lives of Tribulation saints.

***I believe that whatever the Bible says will happen in the future is just as settled as what has already happened in the past. So the first time I read this series, I remember being so thankful that two authors, Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, had taken literally the Scripture I've built my life upon and crafted a story from it.*** I felt that same thanks as I re-read each book. While other speculative fiction is fantasy, I know that the concept behind these books is based on truth. This gives each exciting installment eternal consequence.

This is one of my summer reading reviews. If you haven't yet tried the Tyndale Summer Reading Program, you should. You don't need a blog. And for every 5 books you review, you receive a book for free!

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## **Alexander says**

This is the third novel in the Left Behind series. The novel continues to build off of where the last book left off. The book was really intense in some parts, while other parts felt like they were added into the novel to make the book longer. Overall it was a nice installment to the series.

### Pros

Intense

Character development

Plot development

Clift hangers

### Cons

A few slow parts

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## **Christy says**

Once again, I am enthralled by the subject matter of these books but I am so confused as to why it was not executed better. The writing is so laughably lacking in any sort of creative realm it is almost painful to me. The use of metaphoric language is absolutely nonexistent in these novels. Basically, I read this book in a day. And while I am a fast reader, that is a feat I have rarely achieved. I am convinced I did it because they are so simple to read. Straightforward, no frills, just boom boom boom. But not exactly in a good way. While the pace is sometimes exciting, the author's frivolous use of flipping back and forth between stories is obnoxious at times and very unnecessary. I am not sure why this book was titled, "Nicolae" as very little of the book actually had to do with Carpathia. He was around...but the main story revolved around some sickeningly tidy and sugar sweet dual love stories about Buck/Chloe and Rayford and some obscure woman whom we are supposed to care about OUT OF THE BLUE! I am pretty disappointed in mostly the execution of this novel and not so much in the story. The final straw for me was the extremely obnoxious right wing preaching about abortion smack dab in the middle of the book. Uhm, random? To me it was a desperate attempt to throw down a religious agenda that had, up to this point, been coming along nicely with no "in your face" politics involved. Yuck. I'll keep reading because the story of the Rapture is captivating, I just wish someone else had this idea and did it better, because this series could have been absolutely astounding and breath taking, but it just isn't anything more than a little intriguing.

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## **Briana says**

This is the last book I read in this series a year or so ago.

It was ok, I guess

3.0 stars

P.S that was a terrible review right there. Smh. This is why I don't wait for so long to write reviews haha

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### **Amy T. says**

Loved this book. The Left Behind series so far has been riveting to me and this book has been the best yet. The writing was not fantastic, at times, but the characters are relatable and easy to attach your heart to. Some parts in this action-packed book had me on the edge of my car seat as I listened, especially the end and also the part in the middle with the escape from Israel!! You watch certain characters wrestle with making the choice to turn to Christ and your heart wrenches as you hope they make that choice on time!! The story is great and is incredibly inspiring.

Many people are overly critical of this series due to the fact that it is a fictional rendition of what is yet to come in the End Times, but I certainly am not one of those people. I love the opportunity it offers me to think about what that time may actually look like and to soften my heart to be ready to share my faith so that those I love can have an opportunity to avoid a time where an anti-christ who maybe will be like Nicolae Carpathia is in charge. This book is worth everyone's time and is the best yet in the series!

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### **Laura says**

I'm really enjoying these books for some reason. They're like a fluffy VC Andrews book without the incest. Granted, I find them a bit heavy-handed on the morals and 'thou shalt nots,' but what else would you expect from a novel about the rapture?

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### **Stepheny says**

In an already exciting series, things really begin to get amped up in this installment. Once again LeHaye and Jenkins do a nice job of bringing biblical events into a believable dystopian setting. Even during the action-packed scenes, we are learning more and more about our characters and getting an in-depth description of the prophecies foretold in the bible.

World War III has broken out as prophesied in the book of revelations. There is mass chaos and destruction. The death of a loved member of the Tribulation Force leaves the small group heartbroken and in search of guidance.

Of course, our band of survivors are scattered throughout the world and are on their own. They're looking for one another not knowing who is alive, who is dead, injured or maybe even captured by the Global Community.

Tsion Ben-Judah, a Jewish rabbi and scholar was commissioned by his home country of Israel to study and analyze these prophecies. His study began three years prior to the Rapture and was meant to help the Jews



recognize the promised Messiah. When Ben-Judah concluded that only one person fit the hundreds of prophecies that mention Messiah, and that person was Jesus Christ of Nazareth. He makes this bold proclamation on national television and is immediately shunned by most of the Israeli community.

But things get even worse for Ben-Judah. His wife and children are brutally murdered, left beheaded in the streets. Amid his grief, he is forced into hiding as the Global Community, led by the antichrist, Nicolae Carpathia, concocts a much different story. They place blame at the feet of Ben-Judah claiming that it was he that murdered his family after their refusal to convert to Christianity.

Chloe was in downtown Chicago at the time that bombs started dropping which resulted in a terrible car crash. Buck tries to locate her which proves even more difficult due to the wreckage from the bombings. Rayford asks his new girlfriend to go and aid Buck and Chloe and make sure they are safe while he is forced to charter the antichrist all over. Luckily for him, his new plane has a bugging system that allows him to know where the next attacks will be so that he can keep his loved ones safe.

What follows is one of the most intense chain of events. Buck, a fugitive on the run from the GC himself, must use one of his many false identities as a reporter to try to locate Tsion and bring him to safety. After receiving fragmented information from their mutual friend Chaim Rozenweig, Buck flies to Isreal in search of Tsion.

Will Buck and Tsion make it back to the United States under the all-seeing eye of the Global Community? Will Rayford and Amanda be able to get back to Illinois for the funeral service of their beloved leader? How many more will die before the Glorious Appearing?

This was one wild ride of a book. Don't even think about picking it up unless you have time to devote to it. Every time I had to set it down, my mind was reeling with questions wondering what could possibly happen next, or how they could make it out of the situations they were in alive. As mentioned throughout all these books the trials and tribulations will only get harder and more severe as they near the Glorious Appearing. With main characters dying, you as the reader will be on the edge of your seat in anticipation about who will survive to see it. I know it may seem as if I have spoiled the whole book, but trust me, this is merely the tip of the iceberg.

You can check out my reviews for the first two books here:

Left Behind

Tribulation Force

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