

## “The Coming Kingdom of Jesus” Daniel 7:8-28

3.24.24

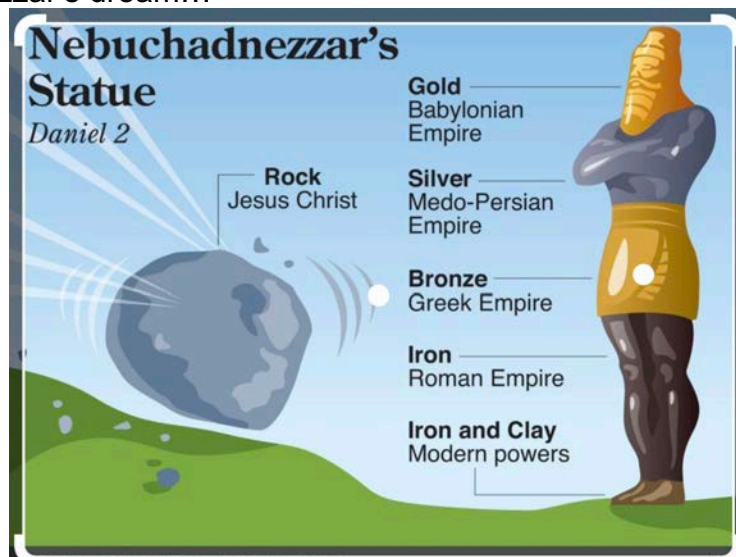
There's a battle between good and evil that's being waged in this world, every day, and this battle is not only occurring on this earth, but it's also happening in the spiritual realm. That's what we learn from Ephesians 6:12 that “we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of the unseen world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” And those principalities are ruled by Satan and he wages war against the One he hates: GOD. Yes, ever since Satan sought to rebel against God in heaven and was subsequently kicked out, and banished to the earth, along with 1/3 of the angels who wanted to follow him in his rebellion, Satan has been waging a non-stop campaign to destroy human souls. And that battle rages on...as it will, even in this room today.

---

Yes, it's a sobering fact that a war is being waged for your soul...the souls of your children and grandchildren. And Satan seeks to use positions of authority and power, by way of earthly kingdoms to deceive, delude and dupe humanity into believing that this world is all there is. Get all you can, while you can, and spend it before you kick the can! And so, man seeks to build his kingdoms and believe that he has all power and all authority...but, he doesn't. There is One to come who will crush and destroy the kingdoms of man and His name is Jesus...the God-man from heaven.

---

We've seen this reality portrayed in the Book of Daniel. You'll remember how Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar that his kingdom would fall and be replaced by another. Remember the statue, depicting Nebuchadnezzar's dream...



That statue represents the kingdoms of the world...and a stone that would come from heaven (that's Jesus Christ, the Rock) and destroy those kingdoms. We've depicted this way:



And church family, we must understand, as we talked about a couple of weeks ago...the Bible contains prophecies that were fulfilled concerning the first coming of Jesus...and there are prophecies that have yet to be fulfilled concerning Jesus' Second Coming. In fact, out of the 7,959 verses in the New Testament, 330 of them are about the Second Coming. That's 1 out of every 25 verses. Next to the subject of FAITH, no subject dominates the NT more than the second coming of Christ. Did Jesus come the first time, just as was prophesied? Yes! Guess what? He's coming again! Just as prophesied!

---

And that's the visions God gave to Daniel. But Daniel's visions of the future were not of a beautiful, majestic statue, made with gold, silver, bronze and iron...but instead, beasts... Remember this...



four beasts that were grotesque and frightening. We saw those four beasts a couple of weeks ago in detail. Those beasts representing the kingdoms of the world...see them:

# Four Beasts in Daniel 7

	<p><b>1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Like a Lion</li><li>• With eagle's wings</li><li>• Wings plucked later</li><li>• Lifted up from earth</li><li>• Man's heart given</li></ul>		<p><b>2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Like a Bear</li><li>• Raised up on its side</li><li>• Had 3 ribs in its mouth</li><li>• Was told to arise and devour much flesh</li></ul>
	<p><b>3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Like a Leopard</li><li>• With 4 fowl's wings</li><li>• Had 4 heads</li><li>• Given dominion</li></ul>		<p><b>4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exceedingly dreadful, terrible beast</li><li>• Iron teeth, brass nails</li><li>• Had 10 horns</li><li>• A little horn, which plucked 3 horns</li></ul>

© The Knowledge Of The Truth

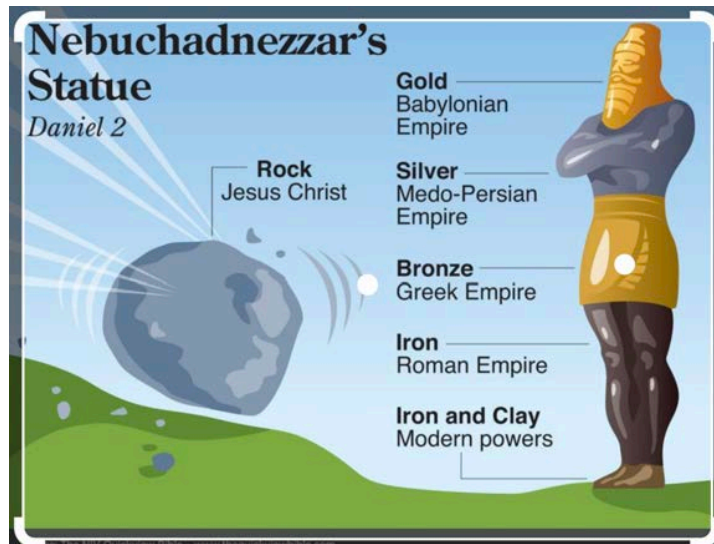
All culminating with the most grotesque beast, bottom-right. A beast that Daniel described as terrifying... Let's be reminded...look at verse 7...

## Daniel 7:7-8

<sup>7</sup>After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. <sup>8</sup>I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots. And behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things.

Now remember, apocalyptic writing, which this part of Daniel's writing is...is symbolic. It's "apocalyptic" because it reveals God's plan for how "end time events" will unfold. So, our job is to seek to interpret the meaning of this symbolism. And that's what we've been doing with these statues and beasts...now we have this little horn on this fourth beast...a horn that pops up after three of the ten horns have been plucked up by the roots.

Now, church...honestly, I have no idea what this means in regards to who those three horns might be, (what world powers they will represent), but we do know who the little horn is...that's the Antichrist. The fake Christ who will come on the scene and deceive the world. Now, some scholars believe the Antichrist is going to emerge from a revived Roman Empire. Remember the toes mixed with iron and clay.



That iron represented the Roman Empire (two legs) and the clay the fickleness and brittleness of future kingdoms. When thinking about the Roman Empire, we still have vestiges of the Roman system because of our form of government with chamber of government such as a Senate. Our language has many of its derivatives that originate from Latin. And many point to the fairly recent development of the European Union as a possibility for the Antichrist to rise out of. The point is...WE JUST DON'T KNOW. It remains to be seen. Daniel tells us more about this future world ruler who comes from the fourth beast.

**Daniel 7:19-20**

<sup>19</sup>“Then I desired to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the rest, exceedingly terrifying, with its teeth of iron and claws of bronze, and which devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet,<sup>20</sup> and about the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn that came up and before which three of them fell, the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and that seemed greater than its companions.

Now again, this little horn appears to take power from three of the 10 horns that had risen to prominence, but are no longer in control. This little horn comes out of nowhere and it had a mouth that spoke great things...greater than all others. Now look at verse 23.

**Daniel 7:23-24**

<sup>23</sup>“Thus he said: ‘As for the fourth beast, there shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all the kingdoms, and it shall devour the whole earth, and trample it down, and break it to pieces. <sup>24</sup>As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them; he shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings.

This little horn, antichrist, is going to be tremendously powerful. He’s going to have amazing oratorical skills, political skills...literally, I believe he’s going to be a political genius...a political mastermind. You can read Revelation 18, how he’ll devise a worldwide economy that’s intermeshed with a one-world government and one-world religion. He’ll be able to do all of this because of his amazing charisma...people will be drawn to him...like flies to honey.

You say, “Wait a minute. Are you telling me there will be a false church on this earth.” Yes. But that shouldn’t surprise you, because there is one now. There are churches throughout this country and the world, who don’t teach the Bible. They teach DEI, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion...you know: “He Gets Us,” it’s about the “LGBTQ agenda” and why it’s “loving” to have an abortion to save a woman from an unwanted pregnancy, and this is the type of “false church” that I’m convinced will flourish under the reign of the Antichrist.



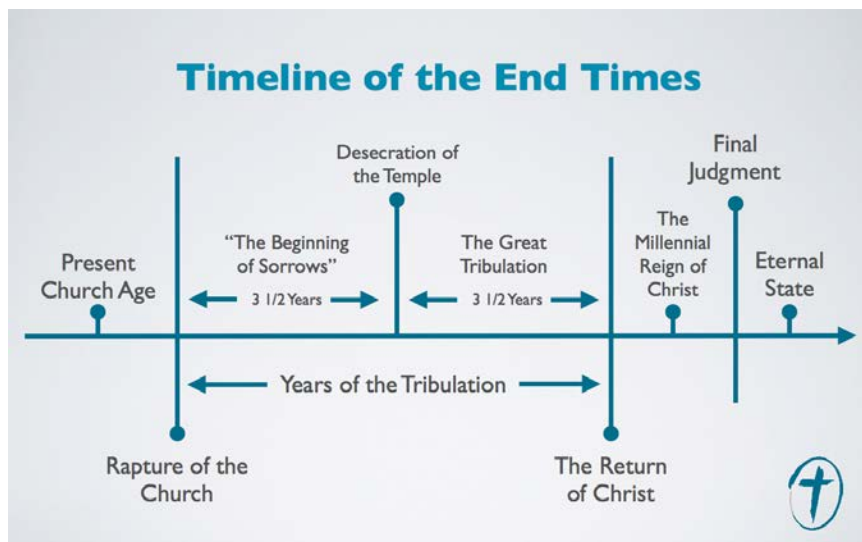
You see, church family, the Antichrist will be a pawn of Satan. So, he'll be very clever, very shrewd, and he'll deceive people. So, much so that as Pastor Dale showed us last week, the Apostle Paul, in describing the Antichrist to the Thessalonian church, see it again, says this:

**2 Thessalonians 2:9-12**

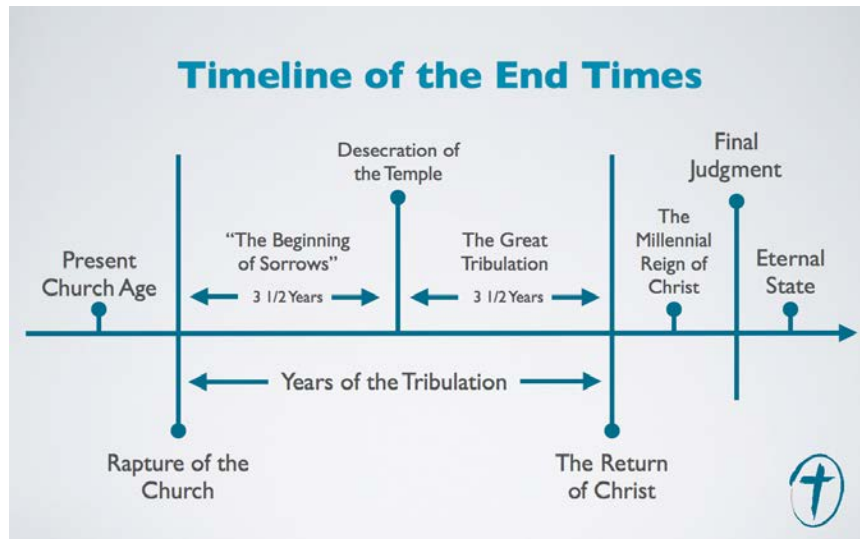
<sup>9</sup>The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, <sup>10</sup>and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. <sup>11</sup>Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, <sup>12</sup>in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

---

So, the Antichrist is going to have the power to deceive and the power to convince people to do whatever he wants. And he'll be able to do something that will seal the deal when it comes to taking world-wide power... He'll make peace in the Middle East by signing a pact...a peace agreement, a covenant, with the nation of Israel... (We'll get to this when we come to Daniel 9.) Let me show you this chart again...



This chart shows you the way I believe the End Time Events will unfold. There are those who have varying understandings regarding the timeline of the End Time Events. In fact, there are some who would out-right disagree with the timeline I'm showing you, totally. Some believe the church is going to go through the Tribulation Period, (meaning the church will endure God's wrath that will be unleashed on this earth). I don't. [I have chapter and verses that I could show you as to why I believe this...but, I don't have time...but, our next series is going to be the book of the Revelation and I'll spell it all out then.] For now, see it again:



I believe the Rapture (far-left) is going to occur before the Tribulation...and the Rapture is when Jesus will return in the air, (as 1 Thessalonians 4 describes) and we will be snatched off of this earth, (harpazo), and the bride (the Church) will be rescued from the wrath to come upon those who take the Mark of the Beast: 666.

666 (the Mark of the Beast), will be placed on either the hand or the forehead. And if you don't take the mark, you can't buy or sell. And if you don't take the mark, then you plainly identify yourself as revolutionary, as someone part of a rebellion. Ultimately, if you don't take that mark and you're found out...you will be killed. There will be carnage across this earth. You can read all about in the book of the Revelation starting in chapters 6 and 7 when the 7 seals are broken on the scroll, the title deed of this earth...and then chapter 8 when 7 trumpets are blown bringing more judgment and then chapter 16, when 7 bowls of God's judgment are poured out on this earth. The carnage will be everywhere.

But initially, all will be well for the first 3 1/2 years as he controls the world...but, 3 1/2 years in, the Antichrist will snap! Watch...

**Daniel 7:25**

***25 He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.***

What is that? Let me show you:

<b>Time</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Times</b>	<b>2 years</b>
<b>Half</b>	<b><u>1/2 year</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 1/2 years</b>

Satan is going to drop the hammer on the Christians during the Tribulation period... You say, "Wait a minute, I thought all of the Christians were raptured off the earth 3 1/2 years earlier." They were. But there will be those who will be saved during the Tribulation by the preaching of two witnesses as described in Revelation chapter 11 (whom I believe could be the return of Moses and Elijah) and also, by 144,000 messengers sealed by God for the purpose of sharing the Gospel, and some will believe. (That's Rev. 14).

And that's when the antichrist will finally say, "Enough! Everyone must worship me and take my mark (666)." And he'll go into the Temple, (that will have been rebuilt on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem)

and he'll have an image of himself set-up that everyone will have to bow down and worship and if you don't, you'll be decapitated. Paul told the Thessalonian Church about this as well.

### **2 Thessalonians 2:3-4**

<sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, <sup>4</sup> who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

---

Let me show you what the Apostle John saw concerning the Antichrist, who is called the beast in this apocalyptic writing:

### **Revelation 13:5-10**

<sup>5</sup> And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. <sup>6</sup> It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. <sup>7</sup> Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, <sup>8</sup> and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain. <sup>9</sup> If anyone has an ear, let him hear: <sup>10</sup> If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes; if anyone is to be slain with the sword, with the sword must he be slain. Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

---

“Saints.” Yes, there will be people saved during the Tribulation period...but, it's going to be really hard and really tough for them...such an awful time on earth. Daniel describes in more detail about this little horn, the Antichrist. Verse 11.

### **Daniel 7:11-12**

<sup>11</sup> “I looked then because of the sound of the great words that the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was killed, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. <sup>12</sup> As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

---

“For a season and a time.” Church family, we mark time by seasons of the year: winter, spring, summer and fall. We mark time by seasons in our lives: young, middle-age, old. God marks seasons of time and the season of time that He has allowed for man will eventually end. God stands outside of time and that's why is described as the “Ancient of Days.” Go back up to verse 9.

### **Daniel 7:9-10**

<sup>9</sup> “As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire. <sup>10</sup> A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

---

Church, that's a description of God and it's figurative. Why is that? Because God doesn't have a body, wear clothes or grow white hair...God is Spirit. These things are symbolic of His nature and character and power. That description of fiery flames reminds us of the prophet Ezekiel's description of God as wheels of flaming fire. God is eternal, holy and sovereign (in total control). But you know what, God came in the flesh, with a body, hair and clothes... Jesus...the stone...the rock...would come to this earth and eventually He'll come a second time and destroy the kingdoms of the earth...



### **Daniel 7:13-18**

<sup>13</sup>“I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. <sup>14</sup>And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed. <sup>15</sup>“As for me, Daniel, my spirit within me was anxious, and the visions of my head alarmed me. <sup>16</sup>I approached one of those who stood there and asked him the truth concerning all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of the things. <sup>17</sup>‘These four great beasts are four kings who shall arise out of the earth. <sup>18</sup>But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, forever and ever.’

---

Jesus will come to destroy Satan and his puppet-leader, the Antichrist and that will make the Antichrist seek to destroy God’s people...

### **Daniel 7:21-22**

<sup>21</sup>As I looked, this horn made war with the saints and prevailed over them, <sup>22</sup>until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints possessed the kingdom.

---

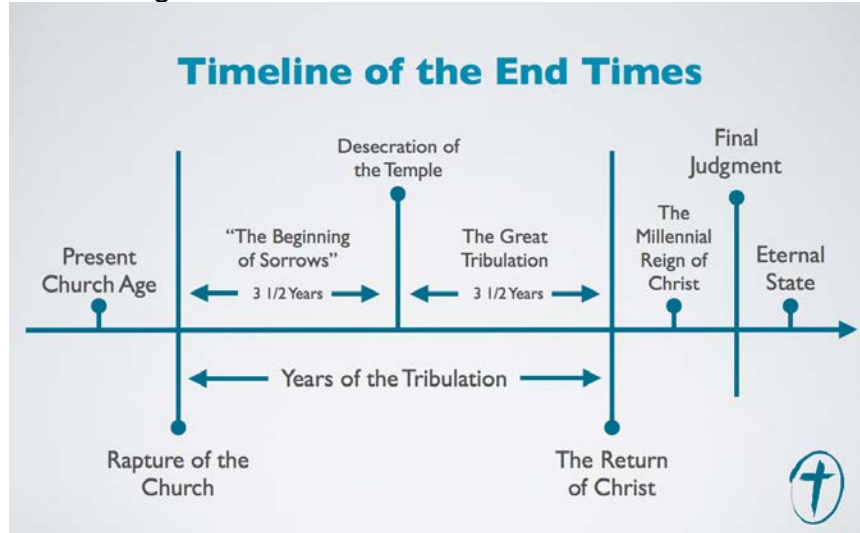
“The saints will possess the kingdom.” Yes...Jesus will ultimately overthrow Satan and the Antichrist and they will rule and reign with Jesus in power! It made me think of the song: When the saints go marching in...

Today is: Palm Sunday. It’s called Palm Sunday because it’s the day we celebrate the fact that Jesus rode on the back of donkey into Jerusalem, as they laid down palm branches...





and shouted: “Hosanna to the King! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.” Yes, they thought Jesus was going to set up His kingdom, right then! But He didn’t come the first time to be King...that’s for His Second Coming. And when He comes the second time to this earth, He will set up His Millennial Kingdom and He will rule and reign for a 1,000-years, keeping His promise to the nation of Israel to rule and reign from Jerusalem on the throne of David. See the timeline again...



The 7 years of Tribulation is also known as the “Time of Jacob’s Troubles.” Jacob, the grandson of Abraham, the son of Isaac. Jacob...his name was changed by God to “Israel” and so, during the Tribulation Period, everything in God’s timeline will be focused once again, on His people, His nation, Israel. But that period of time will be a season of great judgment on this earth.

**Daniel 7:26-28**

***26 But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and destroyed to the end. 27 And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.’ 28 “Here is the end of the matter. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly alarmed me, and my color changed, but I kept the matter in my heart.”***

Church family, one day Jesus is coming back and the kingdoms of this world will be destroyed and Satan along with them. Until then, the battle rages... Satan seeks to control every aspect of our world. He seeks to control the political systems, the education systems, even the things that entertain us. And for the most part, it looks like he’s winning, **but he isn’t**. Satan is a dog on a leash and God holds the end of the leash. Satan is limited in what he can do, where he can go and the power he has.

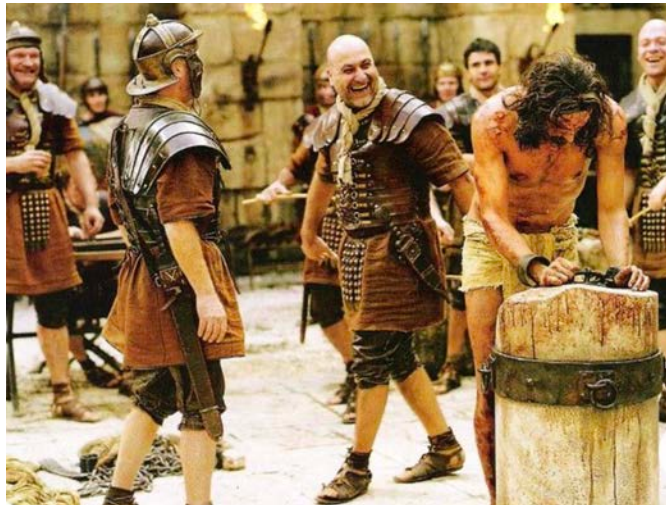
Yes, the battle rages on...and you are a part of this battle... Which side are you on? You say, "I'm on the side of Jesus." Are you? Are you following Jesus? Are you surrendered to Him? Can I implore you as Pastor Dale did last week: Make the decision to trust Him while you can...because if the Rapture takes place today...(and it could)...you are going to be left on this earth without any Christians. You will then have to hope that you will not be deceived by the Antichrist and that you will be saved. But if you are saved...and that will be a stretch, you will have to live in hiding and hope to not be found, because you haven't taken the mark of the beast... I pray you will settle all of this now, because Jesus loves you...

---

Jesus loves me? Yes! We will celebrate that fact this week...It's PASSION WEEK. He came and died for you... Think about that this week. Think of what Jesus endured for you



in the Garden of Gethsemane, sweating drops of blood. Why? Because Jesus loves you! Think of what He endured being beaten...



with the cat of nine tails. Why? Because He loves you! Think of what He endured hanging on the cross,



being forsaken by God, as He cried out, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me...” Why? Because He loves you! See it...



He says, “I did this for you!” Why? Because He loves you! Follow Him today.

---