

Living in the End Times Session 10 – Tribulation Continues The Worst is Yet to Come

I. Review/Introduction

- **A.** Five sessions on the signs preceding the coming of Jesus.
- **B.** Two sessions on the rapture of the church.
 - 1. The resurrection of the righteous dead.
 - 2. The rapture/catching away of those who are still alive at the time of His return.
- C. Two Sessions on the Tribulation
 - 1. Great Tribulation

<u>Matthew 24:21 (NKJV)</u> – For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

- 2. Revelation 6 The release of six seals upon the earth:
 - The Antichrist Revealed to conquer
 - War
 - Famine and scarcity
 - Widespread death
 - Martyrs persecution of saints
 - Cosmic disturbances

II. What Now?

Still focusing our attention on earth during the great tribulation, what happens next?



A. The 144,000

Revelation 7:1-8 (NKJV) - ¹*After these things I saw four angels* standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. ²Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." ⁴And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed: 5 of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand were sealed; ⁶of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand were sealed; ⁷of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand were sealed; 8 of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand were sealed.

1. 144,000 Israelite Evangelists

- a. They are not the Jehovah Witnesses as claimed by this group. In 1935 the president of the Watchtower Society declared that the full number of Jehovah Witnesses had reached 144,000 and everyone else moving forward would not go to heaven but would have to live on earth for all of eternity.
- b. They are saved Jews who will carry the gospel of Christ to the world during the tribulation especially to the Jewish people.
- c. They are sealed Possession/Protection/Preservation
 These 144,000 will be kept safe during the Tribulation for the
 special purpose of carrying the gospel. This is the Grace of God
 at Work even in the tribulation.



2. The Great Tribulation Harvest

Multitude from the Great Tribulation

Revelation 7:9-17 (NKJV) - ⁹After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen." ¹³Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" 14 And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. ¹⁶They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

- a. This may be the world's greatest revival.
- b. A great number that no one can number mostly made of Israel.
- c. God has not cast away Israel.
- d. When Israel rejected Christ, the Gentile dispensation began –
 the open door for non-Jewish people to receive salvation.
 Prophecy teaches that as the Gentile dispensation closes God
 will turn again to Israel to receive His Remnant.



B. The Seventh Seal

Revelation 8:1-6 (NKJV) — ¹When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ²And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. ³Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. ⁴And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. ⁵Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake. ⁶So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

- 1. Silence in Heaven It is as if all of heaven stands in awe as they realize that God's wrath is about to be released upon the earth.
- 2. Vs 5- An angel takes fire from the altar and cast it to the earth with thunderings, lightenings, and an earthquake.
- 3. It is interesting that immediately following the great harvest comes great judgement. INDICATING that the majority of those who are going to receive have done so. The few remaining that will receive will only do so after they have seen the fierce wrath of God at work.
- 4. Seven Trumpet Judgments Proceed from the Seventh Seal
 - #1 Vegetation Trees and grass 1/3 of all trees
 - **#2** The Seas vs 8 and 9 something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea and a third of the sea became blood. 1/3 of all living creatures in the sea died.



- #3 The Waters of the earth vs 10-11 A great star fell from heaven burning like a torch and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. The name of the star is Wormwood A third of the waters became Wormwood POISON and many men died from the water because it was made bitter- poison.
- **#4** The Heavens vs 12-13 A third of the sun was struck and a third of the moon and a third of the stars. So that a third of them were darkened.

NOTE: FOLLOWING THE FOURTH TRUMPET JUDGMENT A PROCLAMATION IS MADE BY THE ANGEL.

Revelation 8:13 (NKJV) – And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"

AS IF WHAT HAS ALREADY OCCURRED ISNT BAD ENOUGH, THE ANGEL DECLARES WOE – TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH BECAUSE OF WHAT IS YET TO COME. (The Worst is yet to come)

WOE = Exclamation of grief

 #5 and #6 – These last two seals represent demonic creatures and fallen angels that will be released upon the earth for the purpose of tormenting those who are remaining.

Revelation 9:5-6 (NKJV) – ⁵And they were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man. ⁶In those days men will seek death and will not find it;



they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.

Revelation 9:14-15 (NKJV) - ¹⁴saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." ¹⁵So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind.

These angels were not servants to the Lord. They had been bound – imprisoned.

Jude 1:6 (NLT) – And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged. God has kept them securely chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the great day of judgment

These angels had joined with his rebellion against God.

These angels were so evil in their actions that God imprisoned them, only to be released for a season in the Tribulation.

Revelation 9:18-21 (NKJV) – ¹⁸By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed—by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths. ¹⁹For their power is in their mouth and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents, having heads; and with them they do harm. ²⁰But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. ²¹And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts

NOTE: We have now moved forward in the tribulation to the point where there is no repentance.



#7 The Declaration of God's Kingdom Coming to Earth

Revelation 11:15-19 (NKJV) - ¹⁵*Then the seventh angel* sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" 16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. ¹⁸The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth." 19Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

Note: The Announcement – The Return of the King:

III. Closing

- A. Why does God reveal these terrible things that are going to come upon this planet?
 - 1. He desires for us to realize that this world cannot continue as it is in Sin! A fallen world given over to sin = destruction
 - 2. He desires for us to know what is coming so we can avoid judgement.
 - a. It is not God's desire to judge anyone.
 - b. God extends great mercy with extended longsuffering/patience waiting on the harvest to come in.



- 3. He desires to extend Grace and Mercy!
- B. Since there is going to be such a great harvest of souls in the tribulation, I will take my chances and receive Him then.
 - 1. You most likely will not.
 - a. The majority saved in the tribulation will be those who have never received the true message of the gospel.
 - b. If you hardened your heart and set through the many opportunities afforded to you by the Lord now, it is unlikely that you are going to receive in the tribulation.
 - 2. You may not live until the Tribulation.
 - a. You could die at any moment unprepared to meet the Lord.
 - b. You need to be Rapture ready.
 - c. You need to be grave ready.