

THE TRIBULATION

A SERIES ON END OF THE WORLD EVENTS – PART III

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”

~ Matthew 24:21

1. Introduction

- a. End times study concerns when Christ returns and how Prophecy will be fulfilled
- b. The next thing that will happen is God’s removal of the church from the earth
- c. The Lord’s coming for the church can happen at any moment (imminent)
- d. The Lord’s coming to conquer and reign in Israel is preceded by many signs/events
- e. In bad times, people fear we are in prophetic tribulation with signs everywhere

2. What is it?

- a. It is not general trouble/suffering – 2 Co 1:4, Rom 5:3, Phi 1:29, 1Thes 3:2-5
- b. It is a time of the righteous judgment from God – 2 Thess 1:4-7
- c. “Day of the Lord” –Isa 2:12,13:6-9,Jer 46:10,Joel 1:15, 2:11,Am 5:18, Zp 1:14-15
- d. “Great Tribulation” unlike any other – Matt 24:21, Daniel 12:1
- e. “Jacob’s trouble” – none other day like it, but Israel shall be saved - Jer 30:7
- f. What kinds of things? 25% of the earth dead by war, hunger, disease, wild beasts
- g. Great earthquakes, worldwide lightning, angels, devils, poison water, serpents
- h. When will these things be? – Matt 24:3, 15

3. Daniel’s 70th Week

- a. “Seventy weeks are determined...to seal up prophecy” – Daniel 9:24, Rev 10:7
- b. The time of the coming Messia, and his being cut off - Dan 9:25
- c. The destruction of the city & temple, and the prince that shall come - Dan 9:26
- d. “Confirm the covenant with many for one week” – the 70th week – Dan 9:27
- e. The 70th week of Daniel’s prophecy includes the great tribulation

4. The Purpose of the Tribulation

- a. The great controversy of Zion – Deu 25:1, Is 34:8, Jer 25:31, Hos 12:2
- b. “*Times of the Gentiles*” – Luke 21:24, Jer 30:3, 8-11, 16-24
- c. To conquer the Gentile nations –Zech 14:1, 14:8-9 (Rev 22:1-2)
- d. Preparing Israel for restoration – Isa 4, 61:2-4; Mal 3:2-3; Zech 12:9-10
 - i. Peter preached repent for the trouble was coming - Acts 2:17-20, 3:19-21
- e. No mention of the church is ever found in tribulation passages
- f. The tribulation is a part of future Prophecy that does not concern the church