

## TRIBULATION:

### PROTECTION BY REMOVAL OR PRESERVATION?

#### I. THE CHURCH WILL BE HERE!

- A. ***Jesus returns after tribulation.*** (Mat 24:29 KJV) Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: (Mat 24:30 KJV) And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. (Mat 24:31 KJV) And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.
- B. ***The righteous will never be removed.*** (Prov 10:30 KJV) The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.
- C. ***Tribulation directed toward saints of God--comes from Satan, not from God. Wrath of God comes from God.***

#### II. PREPARATION FOR STORM.

- A. ***Wise and foolish builders*** - Mt. 7:24-29. (Mat 7:24 KJV) Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: (Mat 7:25 KJV) And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. (Mat 7:26 KJV) And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: (Mat 7:27 KJV) And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.
  - 1. Building on right foundation.
  - 2. Hearing and doing the Word of God.
- B. ***Put on the whole armour of God*** to stand in evil day. (Eph 6:11 KJV) Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (Eph 6:12 KJV) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. (Eph 6:13 KJV) Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

#### III. GOD DESIRES OVERCOMERS, NOT COPER-OUTERS.

- A. ***Desire for glorious, victorious church.***
- B. ***Keep them from the evil.*** (John 17:15 KJV) I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.
- C. ***Kept from the hour of temptation.*** (Rev 3:10 KJV) Because thou hast kept the

word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

**D. *Protection by preservation, not removal.***

IV. SATAN'S APPEAL TO FEAR.

- A. ***No spirit of fear.*** (2 Tim 1:7 KJV) For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.
- B. ***Men's hearts failing because of fear.*** (Luke 21:26 KJV) Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.
- C. ***More emphasis on suffering tribulation than overcoming tribulation.***
- D. ***More emphasis on Mark of Beast than Mark of God.***
- E. ***More emphasis on Antichrist than Body of Christ.***
  - 1. (Dan 2:44 KJV) And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.
  - 2. Armies of God will prevail!
- F. ***Failure to distinguish between tribulation and wrath of God.***

V. WHAT IS TRIBULATION?

- A. ***Afflictions, persecutions from Satan.***
- B. ***Power was given to wear out the saints.***
  - 1. (Dan 7:25 KJV) And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.
  - 2. (Rev 13:7 KJV) And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.
- C. ***Pestilences, plagues, famines, earthquakes, wars, sickness, starvation, etc.***
- D. ***Foxes Book of Martyrs - untold persecutions.***
- E. ***Tribulation in our day--what will God say to them?***

VI. THE WRATH OF GOD.

- A. ***The day of judgment or recompense.***
  - 1. (2 Th 1:7 KJV) And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, (2 Th 1:8 KJV) In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:
  - 2. (Isa 13:6 KJV) Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. (Isa 13:7 KJV) Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: (Isa 13:8 KJV) And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their

faces shall be as flames. (Isa 13:9 KJV) Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

3. (Joel 1:5 KJV) Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine, for it is cut off from your mouth.
4. (Joel 2:1 KJV) Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; (Joel 2:2 KJV) A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.
5. (Zep 1:14 KJV) The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. (Zep 1:15 KJV) That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, (Zep 1:16 KJV) A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. (Zep 1:17 KJV) And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung. (Zep 1:18 KJV) Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD'S wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land.

**B. *Comes upon children of disobedience.***

1. (Eph 5:6 KJV) Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.
2. (Col 3:5 KJV) Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: (Col 3:6 KJV) For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

**C. *Protection from wrath of God through the blood of Jesus.***

1. (Rom 5:9 KJV) Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
2. (1 Th 5:9 KJV) For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

**D. *Protection of Israelites from the plagues of Egypt.***

1. Death of cattle. (Exo 9:4 KJV) And the LORD shall sever between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt: and there shall nothing die of all that is the children's of Israel. (Exo 9:5 KJV) And the LORD appointed a set time, saying, To morrow the LORD shall do this thing in the land. (Exo 9:6 KJV) And the LORD did that thing on the morrow, and all the cattle of Egypt died: but of the cattle of the children of Israel died not one.
2. Hail. (Exo 9:25 KJV) And the hail smote throughout all the land of

Egypt all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field. (Exo 9:26 KJV) Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail.

3. Darkness. (Exo 10:22 KJV) And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days: (Exo 10:23 KJV) They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.
4. Firstborn. (Exo 11:4 KJV) And Moses said, Thus saith the LORD, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt: (Exo 11:5 KJV) And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts. (Exo 11:6 KJV) And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more. (Exo 11:7 KJV) But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.
5. (Exo 12:13 KJV) And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

E. ***The seal of God.***

1. Rev. 7:2-3 - *"And 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 given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads."*
2. (Ezek 6:4 KJV) And your altars shall be desolate, and your images shall be broken: and I will cast down your slain men before your idols. (Ezek 6:5 KJV) And I will lay the dead carcasses of the children of Israel before their idols; and I will scatter your bones round about your altars. (Ezek 6:6 KJV) In all your dwellingplaces the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate; that your altars may be laid waste and made desolate, and your idols may be broken and cease, and your images may be cut down, and your works may be abolished.
3. (Rev 14:1 KJV) And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

- F. ***Place of hiding.*** (Isa 26:20 KJV) Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. (Isa 26:21 KJV) For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

VII. TIME OF GREAT DELIVERANCE.

- A. ***Name in the book.***
1. Dan. 12:1 - "*And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and thee shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.*"
  2. (Rev 13:7 KJV) And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. (Rev 13:8 KJV) And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (Rev 13:9 KJV) If any man have an ear, let him hear.
- B. ***Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all***" (Ps. 34:19).
1. **Three Hebrew Children.** (Dan 3:23 KJV) And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. (Dan 3:24 KJV) Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. (Dan 3:25 KJV) He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God. (Dan 3:26 KJV) Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.
  2. **Daniel.** (Dan 6:16 KJV) Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. (Dan 6:17 KJV) And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. (Dan 6:18 KJV) Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of music brought before him: and his sleep went from him. (Dan 6:19 KJV) Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. (Dan 6:20 KJV) And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? (Dan 6:21 KJV) Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. (Dan 6:22 KJV) My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.
- C. ***Preparation of Ark for safety.*** (Mat 24:37 KJV) But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. (Mat 24:38 KJV) For as in the

days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, (Mat 24:39 KJV) And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

- D. ***The secret place.*** (Psa 91:1 KJV) He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. (Psa 91:2 KJV) I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. (Psa 91:3 KJV) Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. (Psa 91:4 KJV) He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. (Psa 91:5 KJV) Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; (Psa 91:6 KJV) Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. (Psa 91:7 KJV) A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.
- E. ***Elijah's provision for 3 ½ years of famine.***
1. (1 Ki 17:1 KJV) And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word. (1 Ki 17:2 KJV) And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, (1 Ki 17:3 KJV) Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan. (1 Ki 17:4 KJV) And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there. (1 Ki 17:5 KJV) So he went and did according unto the word of the LORD: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan. (1 Ki 17:6 KJV) And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook. (1 Ki 17:7 KJV) And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.
  2. Three and one-half years. (James 5:16 KJV) Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (James 5:17 KJV) Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. (James 5:18 KJV) And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.
  3. Typical of tribulation.
    - a. (Rev 12:13 KJV) And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. (Rev 12:14 KJV) And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.
    - b. (Rev 13:1 KJV) And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of

blasphemy. (Rev 13:2 KJV) And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. (Rev 13:3 KJV) And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. (Rev 13:4 KJV) And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? (Rev 13:5 KJV) And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

4. Ahab and Jezebel typical of beasts.

*Governmental.* (Rev 13:1 KJV) And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

*Religious.* (Rev 13:11 KJV) And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. (Rev 13:12 KJV) And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. (Rev 13:13 KJV) And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

A. *Nancy's vision.*

1. Protection by plastic bubble.
2. Overcame attacks of Satan.

B. *Dream of storm lifting when approaching house of God.*

C. *How oft would I have gathered thee* (Luke 13:34 KJV) O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!

VIII. GREAT DELIVERANCE BY FAITH.

A. (John 16:33 KJV) These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

B. (1 John 5:4 KJV) For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

C. Heb. 11:33 - "*Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.*"

D. Time of preparation is now.

Be filled with the Spirit.

Submit to the discipline of the Spirit.

Dying out to flesh.

- A. Was the lion's den tribulation to Daniel?
- B. Was the fiery furnace tribulation to Three Hebrew Children?

BUT THEY THAT DO KNOW THEIR GOD...

***Shall be strong and do exploits.*** (Dan 11:32 KJV) And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.

***Church to be a light in the darkest hour.***

***We are more than conquerors.*** (Rom 8:35 KJV) Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (Rom 8:36 KJV) As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. (Rom 8:37 KJV) Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.