



The Judgments Series Part 29

An Overview of the Tribulation



An Exegesis on the word Tribulation:

TRIBULATION

trib-u-la'-shun (tsar, tsar, "staid," "narrow," "pent up"; compare Numbers 22:26):

1. In the Old Testament:

Closely pressed, as of seals (Job 41:15 (7)); of streams pent up (Isaiah 59:9 margin); of strength limited (Proverbs 24:10, "small"). Hence, figuratively, of straitened circumstances; variously rendered "affliction," "tribulation," "distress" (Deuteronomy 4:30 Job 15:24; Job 30:12 Psalm 4:2; Psalm 18:7; Psalm 32:7; 44:11, etc.; Psalm 78:42; Psalm 102:3; 106:44:00; 119:143 Isaiah 26:16; Isaiah 30:20 Hosea 5:15 Ezekiel 30:16).

Frequently, the feminine form (tsarah) is similarly rendered "tribulation" (Judges 10:14 the King James Version; 1 Samuel 10:19 the King James Version; 1 Samuel 26:24);

in other places "distress," "affliction" (Genesis 42:21 Psalm 120:1 Proverbs 11:8 2 Chronicles 20:9 Isaiah 63:9 Jeremiah 15:11 Jonah 2:2 Nahum 1:9 Zechariah 10:11).

2. In the New Testament:

The Greek is thlipsis, a "pressing together" (as of grapes), squeezing or pinching (from verb thlibo); used figuratively for "distress," "tribulation";

Septuagint for tsar and tsarah; Vulgate (Jerome's Latin Bible, 390-405 A.D.) tribulatio pressura (from tribulum, "a threshing sledge").

The verb form is rendered "suffer tribulation" (1 Thessalonians 3:4 the King James Version, "suffer affliction" the Revised Version (British and American));

"trouble" (2 Thessalonians 1:6 the King James Version, "afflict" the Revised Version (British and American); compare 2 Corinthians 1:6; 2 Corinthians 4:8; 2 Corinthians 7:5 1 Timothy 5:10; Hebrews 11:37).

The noun form is rendered in the King James Version variously as "tribulation," "affliction," "persecution," though more uniformly "tribulation" in the Revised Version (British and American).

The word is used generally of the hardships which Christ's followers would suffer (Matthew 13:21; Matthew 24:9, 21, 29 Mark 4:17; Mark 13:19, 24 John 16:33 1 Corinthians 7:28); or which they are now passing through (Romans 5:3; Romans 12:12 2 Corinthians 4:17 Philippians 4:14); or through which they have already come (Acts 11:19 2 Corinthians 2:4 Revelation 7:14).

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Biblically, the word “tribulation” comes from the Greek word *thlipsis* which means “affliction, distress.”

In the Bible it is used:

(1) in general of any kind of testing or affliction or distress which people experience throughout life, and especially of the church and her problems in this world:

John 16:33 New Living Translation

33 I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”

Romans 2:9 New Living Translation

9 There will be trouble and calamity for everyone who keeps on doing what is evil—for the Jew first and also for the Gentile.[a]

Romans 5:3 New Living Translation

3 We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance.

Romans 8:35 New Living Translation

35 Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?

Romans 12:12 New Living Translation

12 Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying.

1 Thessalonians 1:6 New Living Translation

6 So you received the message with joy from the Holy Spirit in spite of the severe suffering it brought you. In this way, you imitated both us and the Lord.

Revelation 1:9 New Living Translation

Vision of the Son of Man

9 I, John, am your brother and your partner in suffering and in God's Kingdom and in the patient endurance to which Jesus calls us. I was exiled to the island of Patmos for preaching the word of God and for my testimony about Jesus.

Revelation 2:9 New Living Translation

9 "I know about your suffering and your poverty—but you are rich! I know the blasphemy of those opposing you. They say they are Jews, but they are not, because their synagogue belongs to Satan.

Revelation 2:10 New Living Translation

10 Don't be afraid of what you are about to suffer. The devil will throw some of you into prison to test you. You will suffer for ten days. But if you remain faithful even when facing death, I will give you the crown of life.



(2) Scripture also uses it of a very special and future time of tribulation that is to come upon the whole earth:

Matthew 24:9 New Living Translation

9 “Then you will be arrested, persecuted, and killed. You will be hated all over the world because you are my followers.[a]

Matthew 24:21 New Living Translation

21 For there will be greater anguish than at any time since the world began. And it will never be so great again.

Matthew 24:29 New Living Translation

29 “Immediately after the anguish of those days,
the sun will be darkened,
the moon will give no light,
the stars will fall from the sky,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.[a]

Mark 13:19 New Living Translation

19 For there will be greater anguish in those days than at any time since God created the world. And it will never be so great again.

Mark 13:24 New Living Translation

24 “At that time, after the anguish of those days,
the sun will be darkened,
the moon will give no light,

Revelation 2:22 New Living Translation

22 “Therefore, I will throw her on a bed of suffering,[a] and those who commit adultery with her will suffer greatly unless they repent and turn away from her evil deeds.

Revelation 7:14 New Living Translation

14 And I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are the ones who died in[a] the great tribulation.[b] They have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white.



As a result, Bible students have spoken of a time called “the Tribulation” as that specific future time of trouble as a judgment from God that will come upon the entire world.

It will become unprecedented in its affliction as suggested by the description, “the Great Tribulation” (**Matt. 24:21**), and it will be culminated by the personal return of Jesus Christ to earth - (**Matt. 24:29-31**).

Matthew 24:21 New Living Translation

21 For there will be greater anguish than at any time since the world began. And it will never be so great again.

Matthew 24:29-31 New Living Translation

29 “Immediately after the anguish of those days,

the sun will be darkened,
the moon will give no light,
the stars will fall from the sky,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.[a]

30 And then at last, the sign that the Son of Man is coming will appear in the heavens, and there will be deep mourning among all the peoples of the earth. And they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.[b]

31 And he will send out his angels with the mighty blast of a trumpet, and they will gather his chosen ones from all over the world[c]—from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven.

The Source of the Tribulation some today refuse to distinguish between the general tribulations of this age that the church will endure, and the unique, universal, and unprecedented Tribulation that will come.

They insist that the tribulation is not the judgment of God, but comes from man and Satan bringing persecution to all.

They often see any future tribulation as merely the Devil's wrath poured out against Christians.

Still others today see only the very tail end of the events of Revelation to be the outpouring of the judgment of God and assert that the rest of the events constitute only the wrath or wickedness of man.

But the point of Scripture is that even this is a part of God's judgment upon a world that has sought its answers apart from the true God.

The Tribulation will witness Satan's wrath and the persecutions of his man, the Beast!

How do we obtain the Forgiveness of our Sins?



How do we get right with God, regardless of our individual sins?

Just say this Prayer and all of your sins will be forgotten, and you will have Eternal life, with Christ Jesus, in Heaven:

Lord Jesus, I repent of all my sins, and I ask you to come into my life a be my Lord and Savior.

Friends, if you prayed that prayer, I believe that you are born again, and you have ever lasting life, get in a good bible teaching church, and may you keep growing, in the Lord, and may HE use you to help save many souls for His Kingdom !

In, Jesus Mighty Name!

Rev. Jesus Del Rio, Ed