



The Judgments Series Part 30

The Participants of the Tribulation - Part 1



**Since the church is gone, caught up to be with the Lord-
(1 Thess. 4:13-18), the Tribulation begins with only
unbelievers.**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 New Living Translation

The Hope of the Resurrection

13 And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died[a] so you will not grieve like people who have no hope.

14 For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died.

15 We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died.[b]

16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died[c] will rise from their graves.

17 Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.

18 So encourage each other with these words.





It is particularly a time of judgment on “those who dwell upon the earth” which seems to be a technical term in Revelation meaning “**earth dweller,**” a reference to those who have no interest in the things of God:

Isaiah 24:17 New International Version

17

Terror and pit and snare await you,
people of the earth.

Revelation 3:10 New International Version

10 Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.

Revelation 6:10 New International Version

10 They called out in a loud voice, “How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?”

Revelation 8:13 New International Version

13 As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice: “Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!”

Revelation 11:10 New International Version

10 The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth.

Revelation 13:8 New International Version

8 All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the Lamb’s book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.^[a]

Revelation 13:14 New International Version

14 Because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth. It ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived.

Revelation 17:8 New International Version

8 The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and yet will come up out of the Abyss and go to its destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast, because it once was, now is not, and yet will come.



Soon, however, 144,000 will come to Christ from the nation of Israel and will evidently become the evangelists of the world who lead people to Christ from every tongue, tribe, and nation:

Revelation 7:1-9 New Living Translation

God's People Will Be Preserved

7 Then I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds so they did not blow on the earth or the sea, or even on any tree.

2 And I saw another angel coming up from the east, carrying the seal of the living God. And he shouted to those four angels, who had been given power to harm land and sea,

3 “Wait! Don’t harm the land or the sea or the trees until we have placed the seal of God on the foreheads of his servants.”

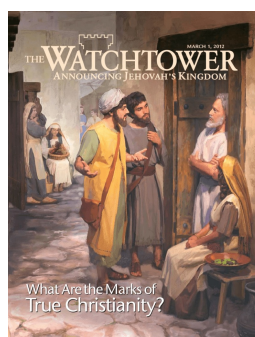
4 And I heard how many were marked with the seal of God—
144,000 were sealed from all the tribes of Israel:

5 from Judah	12,000
from Reuben	12,000
from Gad	12,000
6 from Asher	12,000
from Naphtali	12,000
from Manasseh	12,000
7 from Simeon	12,000
from Levi	12,000
from Issachar	12,000
8 from Zebulun	12,000
from Joseph	12,000
from Benjamin	12,000

Praise from the Great Crowd

9 After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands.

** These are the 144,000, Preachers and Teachers, as promulgated in Verse 9, that come from the aforementioned tribes of Israel, that will be preaching and teaching the gospel, to those that are enduring the tribulation, **and NOT the 144,000 persons selected as the Jehovah's Witnesses misconstrue, and represent, in their bible, as being the "Chosen" remnant of Christ, that will be called up to heaven with Christ !**



The Nature and Character of the Tribulation

(1) Though the Tribulation begins as a time of peace, it soon becomes a time of unprecedented trouble:

Joel 2:2 New Living Translation

2

It is a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of thick clouds and deep blackness.
Suddenly, like dawn spreading across the mountains,
a great and mighty army appears.
Nothing like it has been seen before
or will ever be seen again.

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.

Everything about this time will be unprecedented:

Zephaniah 1:15 New Living Translation

15

It will be a day when the Lord's anger is poured out—
a day of terrible distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and desolation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and blackness,

(2) It is a time of God's wrath or indignation and the vindication of God's holiness:

Rev. 14:7, 10; 19:2).

Zephaniah 1:15 New Living Translation

15

It will be a day when the Lord's anger is poured out—
a day of terrible distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and desolation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and blackness,

Zephaniah 1:18 New Living Translation

18

Your silver and gold will not save you
on that day of the Lord's anger.
For the whole land will be devoured
by the fire of his jealousy.
He will make a terrifying end
of all the people on earth.[a]

Revelation 6:17 New Living Translation

17 For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to survive?"

Revelation 14:7 New Living Translation

7 "Fear God," he shouted. "Give glory to him. For the time has come when he will sit as judge. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and all the springs of water."

Revelation 14:10 New Living Translation

10 must drink the wine of God's anger. It has been poured full strength into God's cup of wrath. And they will be tormented with fire and burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and the Lamb.

Revelation 19:2 New Living Translation

2

His judgments are true and just.

He has punished the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality.

He has avenged the murder of his servants.”

1 Thessalonians 1:10 New Living Translation

10 And they speak of how you are looking forward to the coming of God's Son from heaven—Jesus, whom God raised from the dead. He is the one who has rescued us from the terrors of the coming judgment.



God's wrath against man's sin and rebellion will be withheld no longer.



(3) It is a day of utter darkness, gloom, and extreme cloudiness:

Zephaniah 1:15 New Living Translation

15

It will be a day when the Lord's anger is poured out—
a day of terrible distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and desolation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and blackness,

Joel 2:2 New Living Translation

2

It is a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of thick clouds and deep blackness.
Suddenly, like dawn spreading across the mountains,
a great and mighty army appears.
Nothing like it has been seen before
or will ever be seen again.

(4) It is a day of destruction and global catastrophes:
Rev. 6-19).

Joel 1:15 New Living Translation

15

The day of the Lord is near,
the day when destruction comes from the Almighty.
How terrible that day will be!

Joel 2:3 New Living Translation

3

Fire burns in front of them,
and flames follow after them.
Ahead of them the land lies
as beautiful as the Garden of Eden.
Behind them is nothing but desolation;
not one thing escapes.

1 Thessalonians 5:3 New Living Translation

3 When people are saying, “Everything is peaceful and secure,” then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman’s labor pains begin. And there will be no escape.

Read Revelation Chapters 6-19:
(Too Exhaustive to Place all of these Chapters here)

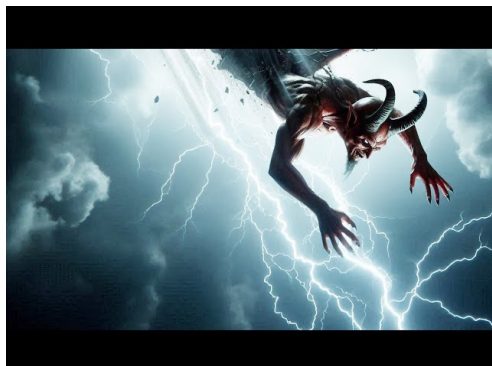
(5) It is a day of extreme lawlessness, sin, and demonic activity:

Revelation 9:20-21 New Living Translation

20 But the people who did not die in these plagues still refused to repent of their evil deeds and turn to God. They continued to worship demons and idols made of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood—idols that can neither see nor hear nor walk! **21** And they did not repent of their murders or their witchcraft or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

2 Thessalonians 2:12 New Living Translation

12 Then they will be condemned for enjoying evil rather than believing the truth.



(6) It is a day of extreme deception and delusion:

Daniel 8:24 New Living Translation

24 He will become very strong, but not by his own power. He will cause a shocking amount of destruction and succeed in everything he does. He will destroy powerful leaders and devastate the holy people.

2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 New Living Translation

9 This man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles.

10 He will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction, because they refuse to love and accept the truth that would save them.

11 So God will cause them to be greatly deceived, and they will believe these lies.

12 Then they will be condemned for enjoying evil rather than believing the truth.

Revelation 9:1 New Living Translation

The Fifth Trumpet Brings the First Terror

9 Then the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen to earth from the sky, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit.^[a] Revelation 13:2-3 New Living Translation

2 This beast looked like a leopard, but it had the feet of a bear and the mouth of a lion! And the dragon gave the beast his own power and throne and great authority.

3 I saw that one of the heads of the beast seemed wounded beyond recovery—but the fatal wound was healed! The whole world marveled at this miracle and gave allegiance to the beast.

Revelation 13:11 New Living Translation

The Beast out of the Earth

11 Then I saw another beast come up out of the earth. He had two horns like those of a lamb, but he spoke with the voice of a dragon.

These events are caused by:

- (1)** the removal of the church and
- (2)** increase in demonic activity.



(7) It is a time of death Large portions of the populations of the earth will be wiped out suddenly, both human and animal:

Revelation 6 New Living Translation

The Lamb Breaks the First Six Seals

6 As I watched, the Lamb broke the first of the seven seals on the scroll.^[a] Then I heard one of the four living beings say with a voice like thunder, “Come!”

2 I looked up and saw a white horse standing there. Its rider carried a bow, and a crown was placed on his head. He rode out to win many battles and gain the victory.

3 When the Lamb broke the second seal, I heard the second living being say, “Come!”

4 Then another horse appeared, a red one. Its rider was given a mighty sword and the authority to take peace from the earth. And there was war and slaughter everywhere.

5 When the Lamb broke the third seal, I heard the third living being say, “Come!” I looked up and saw a black horse, and its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand.

6 And I heard a voice from among the four living beings say, “A loaf of wheat bread or three loaves of barley will cost a day’s pay.^[b] And don’t waste^[c] the olive oil and wine.”

7 When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the fourth living being say, “Come!”

8 I looked up and saw a horse whose color was pale green. Its rider was named Death, and his companion was the Grave.^[d]

These two were given authority over one-fourth of the earth, to kill with the sword and famine and disease[e] and wild animals.

9 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of all who had been martyred for the word of God and for being faithful in their testimony.

10 They shouted to the Lord and said, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you judge the people who belong to this world and avenge our blood for what they have done to us?”

11 Then a white robe was given to each of them. And they were told to rest a little longer until the full number of their brothers and sisters[f]—their fellow servants of Jesus who were to be martyred—had joined them.

12 I watched as the Lamb broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake. The sun became as dark as black cloth, and the moon became as red as blood.

13 Then the stars of the sky fell to the earth like green figs falling from a tree shaken by a strong wind.

14 The sky was rolled up like a scroll, and all of the mountains and islands were moved from their places.

15 Then everyone—the kings of the earth, the rulers, the generals, the wealthy, the powerful, and every slave and free person—all hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains.

16 And they cried to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb.

17 For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to survive?”

Revelation 9:15 New Living Translation

15 Then the four angels who had been prepared for this hour and day and month and year were turned loose to kill one-third of all the people on earth.

Revelation 9:18 New Living Translation

18 One-third of all the people on earth were killed by these three plagues—by the fire and smoke and burning sulfur that came from the mouths of the horses.

Revelation 11:13 New Living Translation

13 At the same time there was a terrible earthquake that destroyed a tenth of the city. Seven thousand people died in that earthquake, and everyone else was terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

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 and be my Lord and Savior.

Friends, if you prayed that prayer, I believe that you are born again, and you have everlasting 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

1 James M. Stifler, *The Epistle To The Romans*, Moody Press, Chicago, 1960, p. 31.

2 *Lewis Sperry Chafer Systematic Theology*, Vol. II, Abridged Edition, John F. Walvoord, Editor, Donald K. Campbell, Roy B. Zuck, Consulting Editors, Victor Books, Wheaton, 1988, p. 501.

3 Samuel Hoyt, "The Judgment Seat of Christ in Theological Perspective," Part 1, *Bibliotheca Sacra*, January-March, 1980, *electronic media*.

4 Chafer, p. 502.

5 Dwight Pentecost, *Things to Come*, Dunham Publishing Co., Findlay, OH, 1958, p. 411.

6 Chafer, p. 503.

7 Hoyt, electronia media.

8 Hoyt, electronic media.

9 Lewis Sperry Chafer, *Major Bible Themes: 52 Vital Doctrines of the Scripture Simplified and Explained*, rev. John F. Walvoord, editor, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 1974, p. 282.

10 Lewis Sperry Chafer, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. IV: Ecclesiology-Eschatology, Dallas Seminary Press, Dallas, TX, 1948, p. 406.

11 Hoyt, electronic media.

12 Zane Hodges, *Journal of the Grace Evangelical Society*, Autumn, 1991, p. 7.

13 Hoyt, electronic media.

14 Hoyt, p. 38.

15 Hoyt, p. 38.

16 G. Abbott-Smith, *A Manual Greek Lexicon of the New Testament*, T & T Clark, Edinburgh, 1937, p. 252.

17 Fritz Rienecker, *Linguistic Key to the Greek New Testament*, Cleon L. Rogers, Jr., editor, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 1980, p. 468.

18 Samuel Hoyt, "The Judgment Seat of Christ in Theological Perspective," Part 2, *Bibliotheca Sacra*, electronic media.

