## Will the Church Go Through the Great Tribulation?

The purpose of this document is not to convince you of a particular answer, but to present a summary of Endtime Ministries' position on this subject and then for you to make up your mind based on your own study.

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The following post-tribulation summary (Exhibit 3) was not developed from my research of several hundred hours, but from Rev. Irvin Baxter's published works and endtime prophecy study and research spanning 50 plus years and over 100,000 hours. His media products produced include DVD's, CD's, books, tracts, and a bi-monthly magazine with the largest distribution of any religious magazine in the world. Other ministry activities include: a daily TV/radio broadcast; week-end prophecy conferences in the U. S., Canada and other countries; two prophecy tours to Israel each year; building and managing a Jerusalem Prophecy College (Class room and on-line), Endtime University (DVD and on-line), and serving as the president of Endtime Ministries, with a headquarters in Dallas, Texas. Refer to Exhibit 9 for a summary list of the media products developed and produced by Endtime Ministries.

During the three years of work volunteering at Endtime Ministries, my wife and I witnessed firsthand Rev. Baxter's intense burden, sacrifice, and work ethic. I have not met anyone that I admire more for their courage, faith, vision, depth of ministry and impact on the entire world. Once every few hundred years there are people like Steve Jobs and Bill Gates, of my generation, whose uncommon dedication and leading-edge innovation pushed the frontiers of technology and dramatically changed the world of computer hardware and software forever. From my perspective that is what Rev. Irvin Baxter did in the most difficult and challenging office of a modern-day prophet (connecting biblical prophecies to current events).

His voice may be heard in 8 languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Hebrew, Italian, Russian and Spanish) which has the potential to reach 90% of the world. Endtime ministries is now reaching tens of millions of people each month through radio and TV broadcast (including Daystar and TBN which has the largest TV network in the world), internet, social media, and media products.

In recent years, the most asked question, by people calling into Endtime Ministries, those attending Endtime conferences, and other settings became: "When will the rapture happen?" Rev. Baxter had not produced media regarding this subject for many years since it was a controversial subject. However, when this issue could no longer be ignored, he developed a DVD to address this question. Endtime Ministries is about much more than this single issue since they address many other prophecy and non-prophecy subjects. This DVD is only one in the many hundreds of prophecy DVDs developed by Rev. Baxter on many other subjects, as shown in Exhibit 8.

Endtime Ministries provides a balance for the complete revival and evangelism life cycle. However, prophecy is what proves that the Bible is true

- (1) Attracting with Bible Prophecy, whose ultimate goal is to reach souls for Jesus Christ.
- (2) Winning with the Salvation Package.
- (3) Retaining and Making Disciples -- Endtime University (83 DVD hours).

**Note:** End of the Age+ includes all the above products and are available streaming on ETM's platform for \$ 12.95 per month.

#### **Notes:**

- (1) This document was developed to provide a summary of Endtime Ministry's position on this subject particularly for those calling in on ETM's phone lines and in other settings, asking this question.
- (2) As explained by Rev. Baxter, with many examples in his publications, the book of Revelation is not in chronological sequence. Not recognizing this makes it much more difficult to understand the sequence of events recorded in this book of prophecy. Refer to Exhibit 3, number 14 for examples of this.
- (3) This document is a **draft** summary of this very challenging and important subject. Any comments pro or con regarding the contents of this document are welcomed and encouraged. This document is not intended for publication, and certainly not to argue or debate, but to serve as a strawman to open up discussion in an area that we are all trying to gain a better understand. May God bless and multiply your efforts as we labor together with **tolerance in non-essentials** (contents of this document), **unity in essentials** (doctrine and salvation issues), **and love in all things**. (James Twentier)

**Persecution during the Great Tribulation:** Refer to in a few of the scriptures shown below and many other scriptures included in Exhibit 3, "Will the Church Go Through the Great Tribulation".

Daniel 7:19-25 The Antichrist persecutes the saints for 3½ years until the Ancient of Days comes.

Daniel 8:23-25 The Antichrist shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.

Daniel 12:1, 5-9 The Antichrist has power to scatter the power of the Holy People for 3½ years.

Revelation 13:5-7 Power is given unto the Antichrist to continue forty and two months . . . to make war with the saints, and to overcome them.

But the church is also predestined for ultimate victory at the sounding of the seventh and last trump: "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. (Rev 11:15)

The Pre-tribulation Rapture issue is in play, to some degree, at the individual level since God may call us home at any time and we do not know the day or the hour. Those who go by way of the grave will not experience the Great Tribulation, which is the wrath of Satan and not the wrath of God.

The Wrath of Satan starts at the beginning of the 3.5-year Great Tribulation as described in Revelation 12:9-16: "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death . . . Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. 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 [3.5 years], from the face of the serpent . . . . And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The Wrath of God is described in the 6th Seal, Rev. 6:12-17. It specifically calls it the Wrath of God: "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood. For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"

The book of Acts church repeated: We as apostolics have preached for many years about the restoration of the church. We have also fervently prayed for the supernatural power and evangelism of the first century church to be repeated in our time. On the first day of the church, in Acts chapter two, 3,000 souls were added to the church. In Acts chapter three, the first recorded miracle, after the ascension of Jesus, the lame man at the temple gate was healed. And in Acts chapter four, the results of that miracle were recorded: "Many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand." Considering that families were much larger than today, 25 - 30,000 people were added to the church in a short period of time. That is the magnitude of revival we believe for in every city, in every nation, in this endtime harvest to significantly reach our world.

However, we must be reminded that this first-century church went through great tribulation to experience the spread of the gospel to their known world. They experienced the wrath of Satan at the hands of demonpossessed men. All of the apostles, except for John, wrote their final testimonies in blood at the hands of evil vicious men (refer to Exhibit 4). Hebrews chapter 11 (tortured, cruel mockings and scourgings, bonds and imprisonment, stoned, sawn asunder, slain with the sword, destitute, afflicted, tormented), the Fox's Book of Martyrs and many other sources have documented the persecution, torture and massacre these martyrs experienced at the hands of their tormentors and yet they were faithful to their deaths. They counted it a

privilege to suffer for the cause of Jesus Christ: "Rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer for His name." (Acts 5:41)

Corrie Ten Boom wrote: "Millions of Christians were tortured to death in China. Later I heard a Bishop from China say, sadly, we should have made the people strong for persecution rather than telling them Jesus would come first. Tell the people how to be strong in times of persecution, how to stand when the great tribulation comes - to stand and not faint." Refer to Exhibit 1 for the complete article.

Ruth Graham wrote in 1975: "The news from around the world of Christians suffering unbelievably is bound to make "pre-tribbers" do some serious thinking. I would rather prepare myself to go through the tribulation and be happily be surprised by an unexpected rapture, than expect to be raptured only to find myself going through the tribulation." Refer to Exhibit 2 for the complete letter.

Considering the above, the issue regarding "The church going through the Great Tribulation", possibly becomes less of an issue, since those who go through the Great Tribulation will not be called on to experience more suffering than the millions in centuries past who saw their loved ones tortured before their eyes and then experienced the same fate themselves? The worst that evil men can do to us in the great tribulation is to kill us: "And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. (Luke 12:4-5)

The first perquisite for us to become a disciple of Jesus Christ is to be willing to give our life for the one who gave His life for us, dying in agony from a cruel beating and crucifixion: "Jesus said unto them, whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it." (Mark 8:35)

Considering the atrocities that have been perpetrated on untold millions of Christians in every century over the past 2,000 years, will we who desperately seek a revival of world-wide proportions, demanded by this last endtime harvest, be willing to suffer the trauma, persecution, and violent death of tribulation. After all, the symbol of our great cause is the cross which represents suffering and death as experienced by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The blood shed by Jesus on the cross and countless saints through the centuries of time was not in vain. I understand that the sinless precious blood shed by Jesus on the cross provided the atonement for all of mankind for all time. But I also believe every drop of blood that has been shed by a son of God left a legacy of bravery and valor to those who witnessed their undying faith and love for God. And only eternity will reveal the multitudes who have been saved as a result of the uncommon dedication, bleeding-edge sacrifice and blood shed of those valiant soldiers of the cross who fell in battle against sin and wrong. Many of the great revivals of the past 2,000 years have been planted in suffering accompanied by a ground soaked with the blood of valiant warriors of the cross. Rev. D. Scott, Sr., missionary to South America, wrote about this in the November 2020 issue of "Pentecostal Life", article, "Blood: The Lubricant of Apostolic Revival."

God placed such high value on those who refused to recant or deny his name while being viciously tortured and killed, that He included them in the "hall of faith": And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith." (Heb 11:36-39)

#### Love Grew Where the Blood Fell

John Starnes

See my Jesus on the cross, the people crying. Looking on, a man would think it tragedy. But what the world could not see was when they nailed Him to that tree It would break the chains of sin's captivity.

Love grew where the blood fell. Flowers of hope sprang up for men in misery. Sin died where the blood fell. I'm so glad this precious blood has covered me.

Thorns of violence, thorns of hate were growing wildly, all the pain that sin had caused was plain to see.

But when the blood came streaming down that cross, where my Savior bled and died

It broke the chains of sin and set me free.

Love grew where the blood fell. Flowers of hope sprang up for men in misery. Sin died where the blood fell. I'm so glad this precious blood has covered me.

## Corrie Ten Boom's Article Regarding Enduring Terrible Atrocities in a Nazi Concentration Camp and the Slaughter of Christians Around the World

The world is deathly ill. It is dying. The Great Physician has already signed the death certificate. Yet there is still a great work for Christians to do. They are to be streams of living water, channels of mercy to those who are still in the world. It is possible for them to do this because they are overcomers.

Christians are ambassadors for Christ. They are representatives from Heaven to this dying world. And because of our presence here, things will change.

My sister, Betsy, and I were in the Nazi concentration camp at Ravensbruck because we committed the crime of loving Jews. Seven hundred of us from Holland, France, Russia, Poland, and Belgium were herded into a room built for two hundred. As far as I knew, Betsy and I were the only two representatives of Heaven in that room.

We may have been the Lord's only representatives in that place of hatred, yet because of our presence there, things changed. Jesus said, "In the world you shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." We too, are to be overcomers - bringing the light of Jesus into a world filled with darkness and hate.

Sometimes I get frightened as I read the Bible, and as I look in this world and see all of the tribulation and persecution promised by the Bible coming true. Now I can tell you, though, if you too are afraid, that I have just read the last pages. I can now come to shouting "Hallelujah!

Hallelujah!" for I have found where it is written that Jesus said, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things: and I will be His God, and he shall be My son." This is the future and hope of this world. Not that the world will survive - but that we shall be overcomers in the midst of a dying world.

Betsy and I, in the concentration camp, prayed that God would heal Betsy who was so weak and sick. "Yes, the Lord will heal me,", Betsy said with confidence. She died the next day and I could not understand it. They laid her thin body on the concrete floor along with all the other corpses of the women who died that day. It was hard for me to understand, to believe that God had a purpose for all that. Yet because of Betsy's death, today I am traveling all over the world telling people about Jesus.

There are some among us teaching there will be no tribulation, that the Christians will be able to escape all this. These are the false teachers that Jesus was warning us to expect in the latter days. Most of them have little knowledge of what is already going on across the world. I have been in countries where the saints are already suffering terrible persecution. In China, the Christians were told, "Don't worry, before the tribulation comes you will be translated - raptured." Then came a terrible persecution.

Millions of Christians were tortured to death. Later I heard a Bishop from China say, sadly, "We have failed. We should have made the people strong for persecution rather than telling them Jesus would come first. Tell the people how to be strong in times of persecution, how to stand when the tribulation comes - to stand and not faint."

I feel I have a divine mandate to go and tell the people of this world that it is possible to be strong in the Lord Jesus Christ. We are in training for the tribulation, but more than sixty percent of the Body of Christ across the world has already entered into the tribulation. There is no way to escape it. We are next.

Since I have already gone through prison for Jesus' sake, and since I met the Bishop in China, now every time I read a good Bible text I think, "Hey, I can use that in the time of tribulation." Then I write it down and learn it by heart.

## Exhibit 1: Correy Ten Boom's Article Regarding Suffering and Persecution

When I was in the concentration camp, a camp where only twenty percent of the women came out alive, we tried to cheer each other up by saying, "Nothing could be any worse than today." But we would find the next day was even worse. During this time, a Bible verse that I had committed to memory gave me great hope and joy. "If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you; on their part evil is spoken of, but on your part He is glorified." (I Peter 3:14) I found myself saying, Hallelujah! Because I am suffering, Jesus is glorified!"

In America, the churches sing, "Let the congregation escape tribulation", but in China and Africa the tribulation has already arrived. This last year alone more than two hundred thousand Christians were martyred in Africa. Now things like that never get into the newspapers because they cause bad political relations. But I know. I have been there. We need to think about that when we sit down in our nice houses with our nice clothes to eat our steak dinners. Many, many members of the Body of Christ are being tortured to death at this very moment, yet we continue right on as though we are all going to escape the tribulation.

Several years ago I was in Africa in a nation where a new government had come into power. The first night I was there some of the Christians were commanded to come to the police station to register. When they arrived, they were arrested and that same night they were executed. The next day the same thing happened with other Christians. The third day it was the same. All the Christians in the district were being systematically murdered.

The fourth day I was to speak in a little church. The people came, but they were filled with fear and tension. All during the service they were looking at each other, their eyes asking, "Will this one I am sitting beside be the next one killed? Will I be the next one?" The room was hot and stuffy with insects that came through the screenless windows and swirled around the naked bulbs over the bare wooden benches. I told them a story out of my childhood.

"When I was a little girl, "I said, "I went to my father and said, "Daddy, I am afraid that I will never be strong enough to be a martyr for Jesus Christ." "Tell me," said Father, "When you take a train trip to Amsterdam, when do I give you the money for the ticket? Three weeks before?" "No, Daddy, you give me the money for the ticket just before we get on the train." "That is right," my father said, "and so it is with God's strength. Our Father in Heaven knows when you will need the strength to be a martyr for Jesus Christ. He will supply all you need - just in time."

My African friends were nodding and smiling. Suddenly a spirit of joy descended upon that church and the people began singing, " In the sweet, by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore." Later that week, half the congregation of that church was executed. I heard later that the other half was killed some months ago.

But I must tell you something. I was so happy that the Lord used me to encourage these people, for unlike many of their leaders, I had the word of God. I had been to the Bible and discovered that Jesus said He had not only overcome the world, but to all those who remained faithful to the end, He would give a crown of life.

How can we get ready for the persecution? First we need to feed on the word of God, digest it, make it a part of our being. This will mean disciplined Bible study each day as we not only memorize long passages of Scripture but put the principles to work in our lives. Next we need to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Not just the Jesus of yesterday, the Jesus of History, but the life-changing Jesus of today who is still alive and sitting at the right hand of God.

We must be filled with the Holy Spirit. This is no optional command of the Bible, it is absolutely necessary. Those earthly disciples could never have stood up under the persecution of the Jews and Romans had they not waited for Pentecost. Each of us needs our own personal Pentecost, the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We

## Exhibit 1: Correy Ten Boom's Article Regarding Suffering and Persecution

will never be able to stand in the tribulation without it. In the coming persecution we must be ready to help each other and encourage each other. But we must not wait until the tribulation comes before starting. The fruit of the Spirit should be the dominant force of every Christian's life.

Many are fearful of the coming tribulation; they want to run. I, too, and a little bit afraid when I think that after all my eighty years, including the horrible Nazi concentration camp, that I might have to go through the tribulation also. But then I read the Bible and I am glad.

When I am weak, then I shall be strong, the Bible says. Betsy and I were prisoners for the Lord, we were so weak, but we got power because the Holy Spirit was on us. That mighty inner strengthening of the Holy Spirit helped us through. No, you will not be strong in yourself when the tribulation comes. Rather, you will be strong in the power of Him who will not forsake you.

For seventy-six years I have known the Lord Jesus and not once has He ever left me or let me down. Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him, for I know that to all who overcome, He shall give the crown of life.

Hallelujah!

Corrie Ten Boom 1974

#### Ruth Graham's Letter Regarding the Great Tribulation

(Written to Dave MacPherson whose book exposes the error of a pre-tribulation rapture)

Little Piney Cove Montreat, North Carolina 28757

March 31, 1975

Dear Dave:

Thank you for your letter of January 22nd. We were out of the country at the time and I am still finding letters on my desk that have not been answered.

And thank you for the copy of your book, "Late Great Pre-Trib Rapture".

The news from around the world of Christians suffering unbelievably is bound to make a "pre-tribber" do some serious thinking. Of course, I am sure they would say that the tribulation they have undergone is nothing to be compared with the great tribulation, and they may be right. However, I would rather prepare myself to go through the tribulation and be happily surprised by an unexpected rapture, than expect to be raptured only to find myself going through tribulation. Perhaps not a very scholarly way of approaching the problem, but true none the less.

I was talking recently with an elderly missionary from China who told me that her greatest regrets now are not having prepared the Chinese Christians for the tribulation they would undergo. She said in her years in China she went everywhere teaching the pre-tribulation rapture and getting Christians to believe that they would not have to suffer for the Lord in that sense. The "great tribulation" may absolutely stagger the imagination, but still there is only so much one person can suffer.

Anyway, thank you for your thought provoking book. I shall see that it gets into Bill's hands. I'm sure it's going to do a lot of good. Thanks for writing it.

Cordially,

Ruth B. Graham

Mr. Dave MacPherson Heart-of-America Bible Society, Inc. 5528 Lydia Street Kansas City, MO 64110

## Will the Church Go Through the Great Tribulation <sup>1</sup>

Discussion of Bible prophecy subjects should not cause division or disunity in the body of Christ. We should have unity in essentials, tolerance in non-essentials and love in all things. However, it is beneficial and wise to study differing positions and keep an open mind to Bible prophecy as there is greater understanding available to us during the endtimes in which we live.

Men of God in the endtime are not smarter or more spiritual than their predecessors, but by God's design some prophecies were not meant to be understood until the endtimes in which we live. God told Daniel to seal up his prophecies until the time of the end: "But Daniel, keep this prophecy a secret; seal it up so that it will not be understood until the endtimes" (Daniel 12:4 TLB). We are now living at the end of the age, during the time of promised greater revelation of endtime prophecies; and may we all earnestly seek God and search the scriptures for greater understanding.

Also, in the twentieth century there have been many prophecies fulfilled that gives us greater insight to those yet to be fulfilled. Two examples of these are:

- (1) The opening of the **fourth seal** (Revelation 6:8), the pale horse ("chloros" green horse, Strong's Greek/Hebrew definition #5515), which is the spirit of Islam rising in the world today. Green is Islam's official color. The colors of the other 3 horses have been identified for some time: Red Communism, White Catholicism, and Black Capitalism. Zachariah 6:5 identifies these four horses as spirits.
- (2) The **third trumpet**, the Chernobyl disaster (Revelation 8:10-11 star called Wormwood) identified in the May/June 1995 Endtime Magazine. To commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear meltdown, on April 26, 2011, the Ukrainian and Russian presidents visited the site. The memorial complex was named, "Star of Wormwood" and a part of the memorial was a statue of an enormous angel blowing a trumpet. Refer to Exhibit 7 for a picture of this memorial. To view details, go to the Ukraine website: www.president.gov.ua/en/news/19939.html.

#### The Great Tribulation is the wrath of Satan -- not the wrath of God

It has been taught by some that the Great Tribulation is the Wrath of God. The Bible teaches that God's Wrath begins when the Great Tribulation ends.

Proof: One of the events that take place during the Wrath of God is that the sun, moon, and stars will go dark. It is described in the 6th Seal – Revelation 6:12-17. It specifically calls it the Wrath of God:

12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood. 17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

## Exhibit 3: Will the Church Go Through the Great Tribulation?

The sun and moon going dark is also spoken of by Jesus in Matthew 24:29, and in this scripture Jesus gives us the timing. He says that it occurs *after* the Great Tribulation. Matthew 24:15-31 says:

15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:). . . 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. . . 29 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: 30 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. 31 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.

## Satan's wrath begins at the beginning of the 3½ year Great Tribulation

Revelation 12:7-17 describes the events of the Great Tribulation. This can be proven by comparing it with all other passages in the Bible that speak of a three and one-half year period of time (1,260 days, 42 months, "time, times, and half a time"). Verse 12 calls the Great Tribulation the time of Satan's wrath. God does not persecute His own people -- Satan has since the beginning of time.

(Rev 12:7-14, 17)

7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. 12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. 13And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. 14 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 [3.5 years], from the face of the serpent. 17And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ].

## If necessary, the church could be protected from God's wrath on the wicked

It would not be necessary for God to rapture the church to protect His people during His wrath on the world. They could be protected here on earth as His wrath is poured out on the enemies of God. The precedent in scripture was when God poured out His wrath (plagues similar to the vials of wrath) on Pharaoh (type of the Antichrist); the children of Israel (type of the church) were still in Egypt (type of the world). However, God miraculously protected His people still living in Egypt.

#### Saints response to the wrath of Satan in the past

The saints of God have experienced the wrath of Satan at the hands of demon-possessed men from the time of the first century church until now. All of the apostles with the exception of John wrote their final testimonies in blood. Hebrews 11:36-40, Fox's Book of Martyrs and other sources have documented this persecution, torture and massacre. These martyrs experienced great tribulation (stoned, sawn asunder, slain with the sword, destitute, afflicted, tormented) and yet were faithful to their deaths – counting it a privilege to suffer for the cause of Jesus Christ.

## Exhibit 3: Will the Church Go Through the Great Tribulation?

1 Thessalonians 5:9 teaches that God's people are not appointed unto God's Wrath. The post-tribulation rapture teaching agrees with this. As stated above, the Great Tribulation is not God's wrath. It is Satan's wrath. As in the past, saints today and in the future will not be immune from the trials, temptations, and persecutions of Satan. It has been said that God would not beat up His bride before marrying her. That is certainly true. He wouldn't -- but Satan would.

- (1) First century saints: Rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer for His name. (Acts 5:41)
- **(2) Apostle Paul**: For you have been granted [the privilege] for Christ's sake not only to believe in (adhere to, rely on, and trust in) Him, but also to suffer in His behalf. (Philippians 1:29 AMP)
- (3) The hall of Faith in Hebrews chapter 1 describes the torture and killing of many early Christians: Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance that they might obtain a better resurrection: And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment; They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise. (Heb 11:35-39)
- **(4) Twelve Apostles' Final Testimony Written in Blood:** Doubtless, these great men and the churches of their day prayed for deliverance and protection. But they embraced the will of God and their final testimonies were written in blood. And may we, like them, be willing to give our live for the gospel of Jesus Christ. Refer to Exhibit 4 for how all the apostles were tortured and killed.
- (5) Scriptures Stating that the Christian Will Suffer Persecution: Refer to Exhibit 5.

#### Saints' response to the wrath of Satan in the future

Referring to those killed during the Great Tribulation: "They did not love and cling to life even when faced with death" (Revelation 12:11 AMP). Other scripture references regarding God's will for the Christian to suffer for His cause: Matthew 5:10-12, Luke 6:22-23, 2 Corinthians 12:10, and 1 Peter 4:13-16. May we as bornagain Christians have the same response if called on to give our lives for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Why would we expect the endtime church to be exempt from the wrath of Satan experienced by the first church in the book of Acts and churches in every century since then? When anyone has been tortured and killed for the gospel, they have experienced their great tribulation. Although the Great Tribulation will be more global than experienced in the past, no one will experience any greater sacrifice and tribulation than to be tortured, and killed and to witness the same for their family and friends. As in centuries past, God will deliver some and will provide grace for others to give their lives as martyrs.

## Pre-tribulation vs. post-tribulation rapture beliefs

Although this is not a salvation issue, there may be a danger to those who expect to escape the Great Tribulation and the mark of the beast, if in fact the church is destined to be on earth at that time. May we all, regardless of our views on prophecy, embrace unity in essentials, tolerance in nonessentials and love in all things as we partner together to complete the tremendous task of reaping the endtime harvest.

Refer to Appendices 2 and 3 for Corrie Ten Boom's and Ruth B. Graham's letters regarding tribulation.

#### **Summary of additional post-tribulation scriptures**

The following pages are a partial summary of additional scriptures relating to the rapture of the church after the Great Tribulation. Please refer to your Bible for the complete scripture text since space is limited here for including the complete text.

#### 1. Jesus teaches that the rapture will occur after the Great Tribulation:

Matthew 24:15-42 clearly says that the rapture happens after the Great Tribulation. Some will say that "the elect" in this passage applies to the Jews, but there is no scriptural proof of this. Furthermore, a study of the word "elect" or "election" in the New Testament reveals that every time the word is used, it refers to the church, not to the Jews. Even in Matthew 24, Jesus uses the word "elect" (verses 22 and 24) to refer to the church, not the unbelieving Jewish people.

Further support of verse 31 as the rapture of the church are verses 40 and 41 that follow it: "Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left." **This is the rapture.** 

Jesus' answer to His disciples' question: "What shall be the sign of thy coming (this is the rapture of the church) and of the end of the world?"

15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet there shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. ... 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 then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven . . . coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 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 . . . Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

31 The great trumpet will sound, and he will send out his angels to the four corners of the earth, and they will gather his chosen people from one end of the world to the other. GNT

Mark 13:27

27 And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.

New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance Hebrew Dictionary:

"from the four winds". NT:417 anemos (an'-em-os); from the base of NT:109; wind; (plural) by implication (the four) quarters (of the earth).

"uttermost part of the <u>earth</u>" NT:1093 the solid part or the whole of the terrene globe (including the occupants in each application).

## 2. The Antichrist will be revealed before the rapture of the church:

Apostle Paul clearly states in 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 that the Antichrist will be revealed before the rapture:

1-4 Relative to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah) and our gathering together to [meet] Him, we beg you, brethren, . . . Let no one deceive or beguile you in any way, for that day will not come except the apostasy comes first [unless the predicted great falling away of those who have professed to be Christians has come], and the man of lawlessness (sin) is revealed, who is the son of doom (of perdition), [Daniel 7:25; 8:25]. Who opposes and exalts himself so proudly and insolently against and over all that is called God or that is worshiped, [even to his actually] taking his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming that he himself is God. [Ezekiel 28:2; Daniel 11:36, 37]. AMP

#### 3. Those killed during the Great Tribulation are a part of the first resurrection:

Revelation 20:4-6 says that saints who were killed and had not taken the mark of the beast during the Great Tribulation - would be part of the "first" resurrection. First Thessalonians 4:16-17 describes the same event the first resurrection -- the rapture of the church.

Revelation 20:4-6

4 And I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the **trump of God**: and the **dead in Christ shall rise first**: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

The second resurrection is the resurrection of the unrighteous for judgment and hell at the end of the thousand years: "And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the **second death**. (Rev 20:13-14)

## 4. The last trumpet -- the Seventh Trumpet -- the rapture:

1 Corinthians 15:51-54 speaks of the last trump. Revelation 11:15-19 speaks of the last trump. The description of what happens in the last (seventh) trumpet in each of these passages are the same -- the rapture of the church.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the **last trump**: for the trumpet **shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible**, and we shall be changed.

Revelation 11:15-19 (The seventh and last trumpet)

15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest **give reward unto thy servants the prophets**, **and to the saints, and them that fear thy name**, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

#### 5. Jesus describes the two simultaneous harvests -- the wicked and the righteous:

The parable in Matthew 13 of the wheat and the tares (verses 24 - 43) describes the harvest of the wicked and righteous as one simultaneous event, not two events separated by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  or seven years. Those who say it does allow for a seven year gap cannot explain away verse 30, which says, "Gather ye together <u>first</u> the tares (the wicked)." According to Jesus, the wheat is not harvested before the tares.

Matthew 13:30

Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

#### Jesus' explanation of the parable of the two simultaneous harvests -- the wicked and righteous

Matthew 13:36-43 ... His disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field. 37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; 38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; 39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. 40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

## 6. John describes the two simultaneous harvests -- the wicked and righteous:

Revelation 14:14-16 (Harvest of the Righteous)

14 Again I looked, and behold, [I saw] a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud One resembling a Son of Man, with a crown of gold on His head and a sharp scythe (sickle) in His hand. [Daniel 7:13.]

15 And another angel came out of the temple sanctuary, calling with a mighty voice to Him Who was sitting upon the cloud, Put in Your scythe and reap, for the hour has arrived to gather the harvest, for the earth's crop is fully ripened. [Joel 3:13.]

16 So He Who was sitting upon the cloud swung His scythe (sickle) on the earth, and the earth's crop was harvested.

#### Revelation 14:17-20 (Harvest of the Wicked)

17 Then another angel came out of the temple [sanctuary] in heaven, and he also carried a sharp scythe (sickle).

18 And another angel came forth from the altar, [the angel] who has authority and power over fire, and he called with a loud cry to him who had the sharp scythe (sickle), Put forth your scythe and reap the fruitage of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are entirely ripe.

19 So the angel swung his scythe on the earth and stripped the grapes and gathered the vintage from the vines of the earth and cast it into the huge winepress of God's indignation and wrath.

20 And [the grapes in] the winepress were trodden outside the city, and blood poured from the winepress, [reaching] as high as horses' bridles, for a distance of 1,600 stadia (about 200 miles). [Joel 3:13.] AMP

## Exhibit 3: Will the Church Go Through the Great Tribulation?

The first harvest, (Revelation 14:14-16) is the righteous caught up to be with Jesus Christ. The second harvest, (Revelation 14:-17-18) is the wicked thrown into the winepress of the wrath of God at the battle of Armageddon.

#### 7. Saints persecuted by the Antichrist during the 3½ year Tribulation:

In Revelation 13:4-8, the Antichrist makes war against the saints who are from all kindreds, tongues, and nations for forty and two months. This marks the beginning of Satan's wrath and the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  year Great Tribulation.

Revelation 13:4-8

4 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?

5 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 [3½ years].

6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

7 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.

8 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.

Numerous scriptures declare that the saints will be subjected to the wrath of Satan during the 3½ year Great Tribulation under the evil leadership of the Satan-possessed Antichrist. That does not describe the Jews only.

Daniel 7:19-25 The Antichrist persecutes the saints for 3½ years until the Ancient of Days comes.

Daniel 8:23-25 The Antichrist shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.

Daniel 12:1, 5-9 The Antichrist has power to scatter the power of the Holy People for  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years.

Revelation 6:9-11 (Fifth Seal) The souls under the altar are asking, "How long until our blood is avenged?" Answer: "There will be a little season of waiting, until their brethren, that should be killed as they were."

Revelation 13:5-7 Power is given unto the Antichrist to continue forty and two months . . . to make war with the saints, and to overcome them.

Revelation 12:6-17... Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for **the devil is come** down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time... And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ, for 1,260 days  $[3\frac{1}{2}]$  years.

#### 8. John records current and future events:

It is taught by some that the rapture is described in Revelation 4:1. John is told here: "Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter." Revelation 4:1 is not the rapture. It is simply the point in John's writings when he begins recording the events of the future. Here is proof: in Revelation 1:19, John is told to write three things in the book – "things he sees" (the visions he is given), "things which are" (what is happening in his present world), and "things which shall be hereafter." In Chapters 2-3, he wrote of the things happening in his present world. Then in the first verse of Chapter 4, he is told, "I will shew thee things which must be hereafter" – future events.

#### 9. Faithful unto death and receive a crown of life:

Revelation 3:10 is cited by some as proof of a pre-tribulation rapture. As God protected the church of Philadelphia from temptations that would come upon the world, so shall He protect us from the Great Tribulation. Is this good scriptural proof? Not really, especially when considering the church at Smyrna. Here was another church that God was pleased with, and yet Revelation 2:10 tells us that they would have to suffer at the hands of Satan. Some would be cast into prison and tried. They would "have tribulation ten days." But they are promised, as are promised all saints of all generations, that if they be faithful unto death, they would receive a crown of life.

#### 10. Days of Noah compared to endtime church:

Matthew 24:37, "But as the days of Noe were so shall the coming of the Son of man be," is offered as proof of a pre-tribulation rapture by some. It is explained that God allowed His chosen people to escape the great tribulation of the flood, and so likewise shall He rapture His church from the coming tribulation. We believe there is a better way to read this scripture. God protected Noah on the earth through the flood. He did not bring Noah into heaven to avoid the flood. The flood cannot be compared to the Great Tribulation because the **flood was the wrath of God** on the earth, not the wrath of Satan.

#### 11. God's Spirit is on the earth during the Great Tribulation:

The pre-tribulation rapture theory teaches that for the Antichrist to rise to power, the Holy Ghost must be removed from the earth. Their basis for this conclusion is 2 Thessalonians 2:7. There are a few problems with this theory. First and foremost, we have already shown (in number 2 above) that the first four verses of this same chapter mandate the revelation of the Antichrist to be before the rapture. Paul would not reverse his position so radically three verses later. Second, it is assumed that the "he" in verse 7 is the Holy Ghost, but there is no proof for this.

Verse 6 states the reason that the Antichrist is restrained from being revealed -- so that he might be revealed in his appointed time. What is restraining the revelation of the Antichrist? It is not the appointed time for him to be revealed. This is similar to the first coming of the real Christ: "When the fullness of time had come (God's time), He sent forth His son made of a woman." This could not have happened earlier because God had a plan with an appointed time.

- 2 Thessalonians 2:6-7
- 6 And now you know what is restraining him [from being revealed at this time]; it is so that he may be manifested (revealed) in his own [appointed] time.
- 7 For the mystery of lawlessness (that hidden principle of rebellion against constituted authority) is already at work in the world, [but it is] restrained only until he who restrains is taken out of the way. AMP
- 2 Thessalonians 2:6
- 6 And you know what is keeping him from being here already; for he can come only when his time is ready. TLB

Revelation 13:5-7 and other passages describe people on earth during the tribulation who are born again. How can a person be born again without the Holy Ghost? The pre-tribulation rapture theory states that those who are left behind will have a second chance at salvation. How can this be

## Exhibit 3: Will the Church Go Through the Great Tribulation?

possible without the Spirit of God in the earth? The parable of the ten virgins (Matthew 25:1-13) teaches that He comes once and there are no second chances.

Matthew 25:10-12

10 But while they were gone, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was locked.

11 Later, when the other five returned, they stood outside, calling, 'Sir, open the door for us!'

12 But he called back, 'Go away! It is too late!' TLB

In number 7 above there are 7 scriptures listed that show the Antichrist persecuting the saints during the Great Tribulation. And finally, if there is no Holy Ghost on earth during the Great Tribulation, then what power is being used by the two witnesses to perform all of their miracles? These two witnesses in Jerusalem have power to work extreme miracles in the sight of the world -- turning water into blood, pulling fire down from heaven, killing anyone who tries to kill them, etc. Their ministry lasts for 1,260 days – the time of the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  year Great Tribulation. These are God's two special witnesses during the Great Tribulation working in opposition to Satan's two evil witnesses -- the False Prophet and the Antichrist.

#### 12. Final warning:

Every prophecy student would agree that the rapture is when the Lord comes as a thief to the unsaved. Many warnings are given of this in the New Testament, among them Matthew 24:42-43, I Thessalonians 5:2, and 2 Peter 3:10. One such warning is given in Revelation 16:15. It's the final, last minute warning: "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments..." But notice the context. The following verse is the Battle of Armageddon – the 7th Vial: "And He gathered them to a place called Armageddon". Why would God be issuing a warning that He will be coming as a thief right up until Armageddon, if He came as a thief  $3\frac{1}{2}$  or seven years prior to this event?

#### 13. He comes as a thief only to those living in darkness:

1 Thessalonians 5:1-8 teaches that the church will *not* be taken by surprise by the coming of Christ. Only the unsaved will be taken by surprise.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:2-5
- 2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.
- 3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.
- 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.
- 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

The world in Christ's day, including the so-called religious, missed His first coming because they did not know the prophecies of the Bible. Many will miss Christ's second coming because they do not know the prophecies of the Bible. But the children of the light will be awake, aware, and ready for the coming of Jesus Christ.

## 14. The book of Revelation is not in chronological sequence:

In order to know the timing of the rapture, you must understand how the book of Revelation is structured. The pre-tribulation rapture theory is based on the assumption that Revelation was written in a chronological sequence. This means, it is assumed that the events of the endtime are recorded in Revelation in the order they will happen. First the Seals, then the Trumpets, and then the Vials.

It can be proven however, that Revelation was not written in chronological order. A simple comparison between the 7th Trumpet (Chapter 11) and 7th Vial (Chapter 16) reveals that they are the same, singular event. Add to this comparison the 6th Seal (Chapter 6), Ezekiel 38:18-22, and Matthew 24:29 and we find that all five of these passages describe the exact same event. The 6th Seal, 7th Trumpet, and 7th Vial are one event that is described in Chapter 6, again in Chapter 11, and again in Chapter 16.

- **Seventh Trumpet** (Rev. 11:15-19): great earthquake, great voices in heaven, lightnings and thunderings, God's wrath.
- Seventh Vial (Rev. 16:16-21): Battle of Armageddon great earthquake, mountains and islands move, great voice from temple in heaven, thunderings and lightenings ,great hail, God's wrath.
- **Sixth Seal** (Rev. 6:12-17): great earthquake, sun black, moon as blood, stars fall, mountains and islands move, God's wrath
- Immediately after the Tribulation at coming of Christ (Matt.24:29): sun dark, moon dark, stars fall, powers of heaven shaken,
- Battle of God and Magog (Ezek. 38:18-22: earthquake, mountains thrown down and walls fall, great hail, God's wrath. (same as battle of Armageddon)

If the events in Revelation are recorded in sequential order, then we are presented with a number of theological problems:

- Does Babylon fall once or twice? Revelation 14:8, Revelation 18:2
- Is there one earthquake or five? Revelation 6:12, Revelation 8:5, Revelation 11:13, Revelation 11:19, Revelation 16:18
- How many times will there be great darkness? Revelation 6:12, Revelation 16:10
- How many times will great hail fall? Revelation 11:19, Revelation 16:21
- Will mountains and islands move more than once? Revelation 6:14, Revelation 16:20
- How many times and at what point will the wrath of God be poured out? Revelation 6:17, Revelation 11:18, Revelation 14:9-10, Revelation 14:19, Revelation 15:1, Revelation 16:1

With the chronological theory the above events happen multiple times. With the theory that Revelation is not in chronological sequence, these events happen only once, but are recorded multiple times.

## 15. God Warns His Prophets Before Sending Judgment <sup>2</sup>

If God warned his servants, the prophets, of His plans and timing to destroy the entire world by water and two wicked cites with fire and brimstone, etc., He will surely reveal His plans to a current day prophet regarding the greatest prophetic event since the beginning of time – the rapture of the righteous and the judgment of the wicked.

(a). God said He would do nothing except He reveal it to his servants the prophets. The purpose of God's message to His prophets is for them to warn the people.

Amos 3:7

7 Surely the Lord God will do nothing without revealing His secret to His servants the prophets. [Rev 10:7.] AMP

Rev 10:7

7 But that when the days come when the trumpet call of the seventh angel is about to be sounded, then God's mystery (His secret design, His hidden purpose), as He had **announced the glad tidings** to His servants the prophets, should be fulfilled (accomplished, completed). [Dan 12:6, 7] AMP

Dan 12:6-9

6 And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders? [Dan 10:5.]

7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right and his left hand toward the heavens and swore by Him Who lives forever that it shall be for a time, times, and a half a time [or three and one-half years]; and when they have made an end of shattering and crushing the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished. 8 And I heard, but I did not understand. Then I said, O my lord, what shall be the issue and final end of these things? 9 And he [the angel] said, Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed till the time of the end. AMP

Revelation 10:7 (Barnes' Notes)

[But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel] The days in the period of time embraced by the sounding of the seventh trumpet. That is, the affairs of this world would not be consummated in that period embraced in the sounding of the sixth trumpet, but in that embraced in the sounding of the seventh and last of the trumpets. Compare Rev 11:15-19.

Rev 11:15

15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

**(b).** God warns Noah that in seven days He would send a flood to destroy the earth. Noah was 600 years old at the time of flood. We are now living in the sixth dispensation, at the end of 6,000 years of man's day. God gave Noah seven days warning before He closed the door of the ark. Could it be that God will give seven years warning before the rapture of the church?

Gen 7:1, 4

7 And the Lord said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

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10 And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

#### (c). God tells Abraham before He destroys Sodom and Gomorrah

Gen 18:17, 23, 24

17 And the Lord said, **Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do**;

23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

Luke 17:26-30

26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

28 Likewise also **as it was in the days of Lot**; . . . 29 But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. 30 Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

## (d). God tells Jonah that the city of Nineveh will be destroyed in 40 days.

Jonah 3:4

4 And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

#### (d). God reveals His plans to His friends.

John 15:15

15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

# 16. In the Old Testament the Greatest Revival with World-wide Impact was experienced during Israel's Captivity in Babylon (ruler of the world)<sup>2</sup>

The Jews suffered greatly and faced powerful cultural pressures in a foreign land. Their beloved city of Jerusalem had been destroyed, the walls and gates burned with fire. Yet they maintained their national spirit and religious identity. Elders supervised the Jewish communities, and Ezekiel was one of several prophets who kept alive the hope of one day returning home. During this time, the Jews observed the Sabbath and religious holidays, practiced circumcision, and substituted prayers for former ritual sacrifices in the Temple.

#### Results from Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego being thrown in the fiery furnace:

Dan. 3:28-29 "Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. Therefore, I make a decree, that every people, nation, and language, which speak anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

Dan 4:1-3 "Nebuchadnezzar the king, unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you. I thought it good to shew the signs and wonders that the

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high God hath wrought toward me. How great are his signs! and how mighty are his wonders! his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation."

#### Results from Daniel being thrown in the Lion's Den:

Dan 6:25-27 "Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you. I make a decree, that in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast forever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end. He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

## Results from queen Esther's prayer and fasting when God intervened to save the Jews from an evil plot to have them all killed:

Est. 8:16-17 "The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour. And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a good day. And **many of the people of the land became Jews**; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them.

# We believe that, like Israel's revival during their captivity, the church will experience its greatest world-wide revival during the time of the great tribulation.

Dan 11:31-33 "And armed forces of his shall appear [in the holy land] and they shall pollute the sanctuary, the [spiritual] stronghold, and shall take away the continual [daily burnt offering]; and they shall set up [in the sanctuary] the abomination that astonishes and makes desolate [probably an altar to a pagan god]. And such as violate the covenant he shall pervert and seduce with flatteries, but the people who know their God shall prove themselves strong and shall stand firm and do exploits [for God]. And they who are wise and understanding among the people shall instruct many and make them understand, though some [of them and their followers] shall fall by the sword and flame, by captivity and plunder, for many days. AMP

If necessary, may we be willing to give our lives for the one who gave His life for us and may our response be like that recorded by John in Revelation 12:11: "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death."

## The Twelve Apostles' Final Testimony Written in Blood

Doubtless, these great men and the churches of their day prayed for deliverance and protection. But they embraced the will of God and their final testimonies were written in blood.

	Apostle	Summary	Death
1	Andrew	<ul> <li>Introduced Peter to Jesus.</li> <li>Brought the lad with 5 loaves and fishes to Jesus</li> <li>Brother of Peter.</li> </ul>	Martyr - Crucified at Patrae, Achaia (southern Greece) Hung alive on the cross two days, exhorting spectators.
2	Bartholo- mew	- Jesus saw him under a fig tree.	Martyr - Crucified by the idolaters of India Preached the Gospel in Mesopotamia (Iraq), Persia (Iran) and India.
3	James	<ul><li>A fisherman.</li><li>With Jesus in Gethsemane.</li></ul>	<ul><li>Martyr - Killed 10 years after the first martyr,</li><li>Stephen.</li><li>- His accuser was converted by James' courage and both were beheaded.</li></ul>
4	James	<ul><li>Called James, the less, (younger).</li><li>First Bishop of Jerusalem.</li></ul>	Martyr – At age 90, stoned by Jews.
5	John	<ul> <li>Known as the "beloved disciple".</li> <li>James and John "sons of thunder".</li> <li>At foot of cross with Jesus' mother.</li> <li>Brother of James.</li> </ul>	Natural Death - The only apostle who did not die a martyr's death. Banished by Roman Emperor Domitian to Isle of Patmos where he received the Revelation of Jesus Christ.
6	Judas Iscariot	<ul><li>Treasurer of the apostolic group.</li><li>He betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.</li></ul>	<b>Suicide</b> - Judas cast down the 30 pieces of silver in the temple and went out and hanged himself.
	Matthias	Took Judas' place.	<b>Martyr</b> - Stoned at Jerusalem.

Exhibit 4: The Twelve Apostles' Final Testimony Written in Blood

	Apostle	Summary	Death
7	Jude	- Writer, Book of Jude.	<b>Martyr</b> - Crucified 72AD at city of Edessa (Turkey).
8	Matthew	<ul><li>Also called Levi.</li><li>Tax collector for the Romans.</li></ul>	<b>Martyr</b> - Killed with a sword about 60AD.
9	Peter	<ul><li>A fisherman whom Jesus called the Rock.</li><li>First Bishop of Rome.</li></ul>	Martyr - Crucified at Rome under Nero Crucified up-side-down; did not consider himself worthy to be crucified like Jesus.
10	Phillip	- Brought Bartholomew (Nathaniel) to Jesus.	Martyr - Crucified about 54AD Preached the Gospel in Phrygia, the Roman Province of Asia near Ephesus (Turkey).
11	Simon	- Called "The Zealot" because he was associated with that sect.	Martyr - Crucified in Britain in 74AD Also preached in Africa.
12	Thomas	<ul><li>A fisherman on the same crew as Peter and Andrew.</li><li>Called the "doubter".</li></ul>	<ul><li>Martyr - Killed with a spear in India.</li><li>- Preached the Gospel in Parthia (Iran) and in Kerala (southern India).</li></ul>

To this list of suffering, torture, and death we can add the apostle Paul. After all of this suffering, apostle Paul was imprisoned in Rome for several years and then beheaded: "In labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

But apostle Paul concludes that all of the suffering he experienced increased the spreading of the gospel of Jesus Christ: "But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel." (Phil 1:12)

## Scriptures Stating that the Christian Will Suffer Persecution

#### John 15:20

Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

#### Matt. 5:10

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

#### Matt. 24:9

Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

#### Mark 8:35

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

#### Mark 13:9-11

- 9 But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them.
- 10 And the gospel must first be published among all nations.
- 11 But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.

#### Luke 10:3

Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves.

#### Luke 21:12-17

- 12 But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake.
- 13 And it shall turn to you for a testimony.
- 14 Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer:
- 15 For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.
- 16 And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death.
- 17 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake.

#### Acts 8:1

And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against

## Exhibit 5: Scriptures Stating that the Christian Will Suffer Persecution

the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

#### Acts 9:16

For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

#### Acts 12:1-3

- 1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.
- 2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.
- 3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also.

#### 1 Peter 4:12-14

- 12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:
- 13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.
- 14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

#### 1 Peter 1:7

That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

#### 1 Thess. 3:3-4

- 3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.
- 4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.

#### 2 Tim 3:11-13

- 11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.
- 12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.
- 13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

#### 1 Peter 5:10

But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

#### Luke 6:22

Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

## Exhibit 5: Scriptures Stating that the Christian Will Suffer Persecution

#### Acts 14:22

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

#### Rom. 8:35

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

- 2 Cor. 4:8-10
- 8 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;
- 9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;
- 10 Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

#### 1 Thess. 3:3

That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.

#### Heb. 11:25, 35-30

- 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;
- 35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:
- 36 And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:
- 37 They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;
- 38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.
- 39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

#### 1 Peter 4:19

So if you are suffering according to God's will, keep on doing what is right and trust yourself to the God who made you, for he will never fail you.

#### Rev. 7:13-14

- 13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?
- 14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

#### **Daniel's Seventieth Week**

## -- From "Daniel's Equations"

"An Old Testament prophet named Daniel foresaw a period of time which he did not quite comprehend. It was eventually named after him --"Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week". We find this bit of information confirmed in Daniel 9:27: "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate." Daniel did not understand that this week referred to a week of years, or a seven-year period of time. (The Good News Translation renders this passage: "That ruler will have a firm agreement with many people for seven years, and when half this time is past, he will put an end to sacrifices and offerings.") So what do we know? The confirmation of the covenant initiates the final seven years. Three and one-half years after the confirmation, the great tribulation begins.

Jesus Himself prophesied this in Matthew 24:15-21. He said when we see the abomination of desolation occurring halfway through the final seven years (Daniel 9:27), then will be great tribulation. Revelation 13:5-7 teaches the same thing. "And there was given unto him (the Antichrist) a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. 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." This Scripture concurs with Daniel's prophecy - 42 months equals 3.5 years. So we know from these and other Scriptures that the great tribulation will last for three and one-half years.

Therefore, the secrets of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week can be summarized in two equations:

- Confirmation of the covenant + 3.5 years = the great tribulation.
- Confirmation of the covenant + 7 years = Armageddon and second coming of Christ.<sup>1</sup>

Plans for the Temple are ready and construction will start as soon as a sharing arrangement is signed. This sharing arrangement was proposed by President Clinton at Camp David in negotiations with Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. The issue of granting the Jews access to the Temple Mount caused the failure of these negotiations. President Clinton's proposal dealt with sharing the Temple Mount. He stated that Muslims would worship at the mosque and the Dome of the Rock and that "Jews would be allowed to pray on the Temple Mount." This sharing arrangement for the Temple Mount was prophesied in the Bible almost 2,000 years ago (Rev. 11:1-2).

The cornerstone is already cut for the new Temple. The Temple Institute has designed and created the various priests' garments, furniture and vessels that will be used in the new Temple. The golden candlestick (menorah), weighing 1,000 pounds is on display. The golden stand, to hold the loaves of shewbread, and many other articles are exhibited. Priests are now being trained to perform the office of the priesthood as described in the Old Testament. Many other things are being prepared for worship in the new Temple with animal sacrifices and the form of worship performed in Israel's first Tabernacle. <sup>3</sup>



## **Exhibit 8: Notes**

- (1) The Post-Tribulation Rapture Summary items 1-14, Endtime Ministry media
- (2) The Post-Tribulation Rapture Summary items 15 and 16, J. A. Twentier
- (3) Daniel's Equations, Endtime Magazine, November / December 2007, pg. 27
- (4) The Star of Wormwood Memorial (the third trumpet), Ukraine website: www.president.gov.ua/en/news/19939.html

## **Summary List of Endtime Ministry Media Products**

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Revelation Commentary Volume 1 - The Unveiling of Jesus Christ, Book and 10 DVDs Volume 2 - Book and DVDs to released December 2020.

Satan's End Time Plan Revealed DVD

The Final Seven Years

Trump's Peace Plan - English - DVD

The Coming End Time Revival 2 DVDs - 6 Parts

From Here to Armageddon Series - 6 DVDs

#### **UNDERSTANDING THE ENDTIME:**

**DVD** and **CD** Series.

These 14 DVDs are in 8 languages with subtitle text translation and native voice.

#### **OTHER ENDTIME PROPHECY DVDs:**

**America's God-Given Destiny** 

**Another Jewish Holocaust Ahead** 

Final 7 Years: The Prophecy Explained

First Step to Armageddon

The Great Tribulation

Israel's Future According to Bible Prophecy

Master Plan of the Dragon

Satan's End Time Plan Revealed - English

**Seeds of Armageddon** 

# Exhibit 9: Summary List of Endtime Ministry Media Products **This Generation Shall Not Pass** Trump, Jerusalem, Armageddon When Will the Rapture Happen? **World Government Forming Now SALVATION PACKAGE 4 DVD's / CDs Understanding the Godhead** True Christianity vs. False Christianity **Tongues Devilish or Divine Receiving the Holy Ghost** ENDTIME UNIVERSITY: DVD's & LESSON OUTLINES (six semesters / 83 hours) 1. Understanding the Bible - 18 DVD Series 2. Keys to Spiritual Growth - 13 DVD Series 3. Life & Teachings Part 1 - 13 DVD Series 4. Life & Teachings Part 2 - 13 DVD Series 5. Life & Teachings Part 3 - 13 DVD Series 6. Satan Defeated Sonship Restored - 13 DVD Series **JERUSALEM PROPHECY COLLEGE (on-line)**

**END OF THE AGE+ (Streaming Endtime media products: \$ 12.95 per month)** 

ENDTIME MAGAZINE (Largest prophecy magazine distribution in the world)