

## **THE GREAT TRIBULATION AND THE MILLENNIUM** **(Sermon by Late Head Pastor Ambrose Clark)**

Anyone who had not given their life to God, through faith in Christ and been taught and led by Him into the Truths of the Bible, the condition of the world at the present time is very perplexing and mystifying. Neither the world nor carnally-minded fake Christians have any idea of the cause of all this trouble. Furthermore, they do not know God's plan for making an end of it and restoring the earth to what it was in the Garden of Eden.

### **Satan, The Cause of all our Trouble, Through Sin**

The Bible not only makes these things plain, but also reveals the underlying cause of all the evil things that are happening in the world. The Bible also gives us God's plan for solving every problem in individual lives, homes and between nations.

The cause of all trouble is living in the great sin that Adam committed. When God created Adam and Eve, He made them perfectly happy, gave them everything they needed and desired and best of all, they had the presence of God, a full knowledge of His Great Love, Mercy and Power and also had real fellowship and communion with Him.

### **The Misuse of Our Power of Choice**

When Satan told Adam and Eve that if they would disobey God by eating fruit from the forbidden tree, they would become gods themselves – they would know as much as God knew and be able to do everything He did. They also became obsessed with the idea that they could be their own god, make their own Garden of Eden and find perfect happiness by their own efforts. And man has been trying to do this for six thousand years. Every human being has been born obsessed with the same idea that Adam had, that they could get what they would like to have and find perfect happiness in this world by their own efforts. The results have been terrible. They used their power of choice to believe what Satan said and turned aside from God's Word. This made an entire change in their characters. They lost all conception of God, became afraid of Him and had no confidence whatever in Him. This sin has caused all the trouble that has ever come to individual lives, to families and to the world as a whole. This sin gave Satan the power to control the world and do all the terrible things he has done.

The foundation cause of this time of trouble is, of course, the fruits of living in Adam's sin, shutting God out of their lives and using their own fleshly efforts to get what they would like to have. The most serious form of this sin is found under a profession of religion. It is bad enough to live in Adam's sin openly and with no hypocrisy connected with it. But to profess to be a child of God and a follower of Jesus Christ and still live a life of self-effort and be under Satan's control, not only in their own personal lives but in religious work, is the worst sin that could be committed. They have accepted the meanest and most contemptible lie that Satan could ever tell about God: that He has changed and will not deliver us out of the troubles of this life as He did in Bible times.

### **The Devil's Lie and Strategy**

In human affairs we would consider it a terrible crime for someone to kidnap a child and then convince them that their parents would not have them back, would not want them, and would not do a thing for them. And yet this would be directly opposite to the real facts. However, the kidnapper would convince them that their parents would give them a wonderful funeral after they were dead. This is the real attitude of the average professing Christian and church member today. They teach and are firmly convinced that God will not do a thing for them in this present life; they have to do

exactly accordingly to Adam's great sin, get what they desire by their own efforts, but God will surely take them to Heaven when they die! This is nothing more than an "Undertake" religion. Such people are always preached into Heaven, but they haven't a single mark of a true Christian; there is no comparison at all between them and the children of God in the Bible. They haven't a particle of hope of Heaven; they will go straight to the lake of fire when they die and spend an eternity in such distress that all the troubles of this present life would not compare to the terrible torture they will suffer.

### **Solemn Warning about Impending Terrible End**

We have often been accused of judging people (which is forbidden in the Sermon on the Mount) when we expose these wicked ideas and teaching. But this is not our object at all. It is to give the most solemn warning in the strongest language possible to warn people about a terrible and never-ending fate.

If a man in an automobile was going along a road on a dark night and a bridge further ahead had been washed away, would any sensible person call it judging if somebody warned him against certain death? They would be justly condemned if they did not warn him. No one for a single moment would ever think that he was judging the man by warning him about being on a road that would end in destruction.

These deceived, fake Christians and church members, who in reality are controlled by Satan, have never been taught to trust God for anything; never taught to obey all the teaching of His Word; have never even given God an opportunity to teach them anything; they have never been born again or filled with the Holy Spirit and have no hope of Eternal Life. They will not only lose their lives here, but go to the lake of fire that is too terrible for words to describe.

Any man who had been called as a minister of God's Word, taught and prepared by the Holy Spirit, who would refrain from warning people in such a condition and exposing the terrible deception of the devil that they are under, would utterly fail to perform a most solemn duty.

### **Warning About The Great Tribulation**

Conditions have grown worse with the years and the Bible tells us what the outcome will be, and that is, the world is going to have the worst time of trouble in its history. It is called "The Great Tribulation," and will take place at the close of the Gospel Age. The things that are going to happen in the world would destroy the life of every human being if the days were not shortened.

Rejecting God's real Truth and accepting and living according to a false religion is the reason for the Great Tribulation. In 2nd Thessalonians 2:10-12, Paul tells us that "because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

God has told us plainly in His Word that real Christians would be very few in the closing days of the Gospel. Jesus said it would be as the days of Noah and Lot. He also said: "When the Son of Man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?"

In the 24th chapter of Matthew, verse 22, we are told that there would be tribulation at the close of the Gospel Age with such trouble as never has been before and never would be again. "And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." We are told the same in

the 12th chapter of Daniel, verse 1, where we have the same prediction as Jesus gave, that it would be a time of trouble such as never was before and never will be again.

We also have a description of this time of trouble in Isaiah 13th chapter, verses 6-11.

"6Howl ye, for the day of the LORD is at hand! It shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. 7Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt. 8And they shall be afraid; pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them. They shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth; they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames. 9Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel, both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and He shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. 10For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light; the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. 11"And I will punish the world for their evil and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible."

It is also described in many other parts of the Old Testament and a detailed account of it in the Book of Revelation, beginning with the 6th chapter and ending with the 18th.

### **Secret Rapture for True Christians**

The true Christian's concern with respect to the Great Tribulation is to continue to live a life of obedience to faith in Christ under His Grace and Love, because

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of Heaven, but my Father only. 37But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. 38For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark. 39And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. 40Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 41Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 42Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. 43But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. 44Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." Matthew 24:36-44.

### **Therefore: Watch and Pray**

"So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the Kingdom of God is nigh at hand. 31Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. 33Heaven and earth shall pass away: but My Words shall not pass away. 34And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. 35For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." Luke 21:31-36

God has told us what will take place at the beginning and also the things that are going to happen during the Tribulation. It is very valuable to get the real Scriptural light and Truth concerning these events, as some of the important signs are taking place right before our eyes.

### **Punishment for Fake Christians and Non-Christians**

The Great Tribulation is meant for all professed Christians who have not completely surrendered their will and life to Christ or those who refused to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior and are living according to a false religion.

The spiritual condition, the political situation and the business condition of the world, all seem to tell us that the world is ripe for the judgments of a righteous God. However, the Lord Jesus gave us a specific sign in the 24th chapter of Matthew, verses 7-8, "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilence, and earthquakes, in diverse places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."

Over in the 6th chapter of Revelation we have about the same order of events. In the 4th verse we find peace being taken from the earth and "they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword." This is exactly what the Lord said in Matthew. Then in the 5th and 6th verses we find famine conditions prevailing. "A measure of wheat for a penny" means a choenix of wheat for a denarii. That is, a quart of wheat for fifteen cents or \$4.80 a bushel or about \$28.00 a barrel for flour. Surely a famine price!

These war-time conditions are practically the same as the Lord Jesus Christ predicted. The latter part of the Tribulation is worse than the beginning. In the 8th chapter of Revelation, we find the supernatural judgments beginning.

**The First: Hail Mingled with Fire and Blood** "6And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. 7The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth; and a third part of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up." Revelation 8:6-7

**A Third Part of the Sea Turned into Blood** "And the second angel sounded and, as it were, a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea; and a third part of the sea became blood; and a third part of the creatures which were in the sea and had life, died, and a third part of the ships were destroyed." Revelation 8:8-9

**A Third of the Rivers and Fountains of Water Made Bitter** "And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as if it were a lamp, and it fell upon a third part of the rivers and upon the fountains of waters; 11and the name of the star is called Wormwood. And a third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died from the waters, because they were made bitter." Revelation 8:10-11

**A Third of the Sun, Moon and Stars Darkened** "12And the fourth angel sounded, and a third part of the sun was smitten, and a third part of the moon and a third part of the stars, so that a third part of them was darkened; and a third of the day shone not, and the night likewise." Revelation 8:12

**Plague of Locusts** "And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth; and to him was given the key to the bottomless pit. 2And he opened the bottomless pit, and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. 3And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth; and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. 4And it was commanded to them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree, but only those men who have not the seal of God in their foreheads. 5And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months; and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion when he striketh a

man. 6And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. 7And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared for battle; and on their heads were, as it were, crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. 8And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. 9And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots with many horses running to battle. 10And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stingers in their tails; and their power was to hurt men five months. 11And they had a king over them, the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue his name is Apollyon." Revelation 9:1-12

**The Testimony of the Two Witnesses** "1And there was given me a reed like unto a rod; and the angel stood, saying, "Rise, and measure the temple of God and the altar, and them that worship therein. 2But the court which is outside the temple, leave out, and measure it not, for it is given unto the Gentiles; and the Holy City shall they tread under foot for forty and two months. 3And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth." 4These are the two olive trees and the two candlesticks, standing before the God of the earth. 5And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth and devoureth their enemies; and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. 6These have power to shut Heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy, and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will. 7And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them and kill them. 8And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. 9And they of the people and kindreds, and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and a half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. 10And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another, because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth. 11But after three days and a half, the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them that saw them. 12And they heard a great voice from Heaven, saying unto them, "Come up hither!" And they ascended up to Heaven in a cloud, and their enemies beheld them." Revelation 11:1-12

**A Great Earthquake** "And that same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth part of the city fell; and in the earthquake were slain seven thousand men, and the remnant were seized with fear, and gave glory to the God of Heaven." Revelation 11:13

**The man child caught up to Heaven – another aspect of the rapture** "1And there appeared a great wonder in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars. 2And she, being with child, cried, travailing in birth and in pain to be delivered. 3And there appeared another wonder in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4And his tail drew a third part of the stars of heaven, and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to be delivered to devour her child as soon as it was born. 5And she brought forth a manchild, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up unto God and to His throne. 6And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days." Revelation 12:1-6

**Satan's access to Heaven stopped and he cast down to earth** "7And there was war in Heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in Heaven. 9And the great dragon was cast out -- that serpent of old called the Devil and Satan, who deceiveth the whole world. He was cast out onto the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 10And I heard a loud voice saying in Heaven, "Now have 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, who accused them before our God day and night. 11And 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. 12Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! For the devil has 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 who brought forth the manchild. 14And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the face of the serpent. 15And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. 16And the earth helped the woman; and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. 17And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and he went to make war with the remnant of her seed, who keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12: 7-17

**The Ten-Kingdom Confederacy formed by Satan, reign of the Antichrist** and establishment of universal boycott of those who refuse to receive his mark "1And I stood upon the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. 2And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. 3And I saw that one of his heads was, as it were, wounded to death, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world wondered after the beast. 4And they worshiped the dragon which gave power unto the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" 5And there was given unto him a mouth, speaking great things and blasphemies, and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. 6And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in Heaven. 7And 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. 8And 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. 9If any man have an ear, let him hear: 10He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity. He that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints. 11And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon. 12And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him; and he causeth the earth and them that dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. 13And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. 14And he deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast, saying to them that dwell on the earth that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword and lived. 15And he had power to give life unto the image of the

beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause to be killed as many as would not worship the image of the beast. 16And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads, 17that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark or the name of the beast or the number of his name. 18Here is wisdom: Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man; and his number is six hundred threescore and six." Revelation 13:1-18

**Fate of all who do receive mark of the Antichrist** "9And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead or in his hand, 10the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out unmixed into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." Revelation 14:9-11

**A noisome and grievous sore** "1And I heard a great voice out of the temple, saying to the seven angels, "Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth." 2And the first went and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men who had the mark of the beast and upon them that worshiped his image." Revelation 16:1-2

**Turning of seas, rivers and fountains of water into blood** "3And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man, and every living soul died in the sea. 4And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. 5And I heard the angel of the waters say, "Thou art righteous, O Lord, who art, and wast, and shall be, because Thou hast judged thus; 6for they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and Thou hast given them blood to drink, for they are worthy." Revelation 16:3-6

**Scorching Heat from the Sun** "8And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. 9And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God, who hath power over these plagues; and they repented not to give Him glory." Revelation 16:8-9

**Darkness and Great Pain on Followers of the Antichrist** "10And the fifth angel poured out his all upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness, and they gnawed their tongues from pain; 11and they blasphemed the God of Heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds." Revelation 16:10-11

**A Great Earthquake** "18And there were voices and thunders and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as has not been since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake and so great. 19And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and great Babylon came to remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. 20And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. Revelation 16:18-20

**A Plague of Great Hail** "And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent. And men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, for the plague thereof was exceeding great." Revelation 16:21

**A Picture of the Roman Catholic Church** "1And there came one of the seven angels,

who had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, "Come hither; I will show unto thee the judgment upon the great whore who sitteth upon many waters, 2with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication." 3So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting upon a scarlet-colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, and having seven heads and ten horns. 4And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and bedecked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication; 5and upon her forehead was a name written: Mystery, Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth. 6And I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I wondered with great amazement." Revelation 17:1-6

### **The Identity of the Antichrist and an explanation of the ten-kingdom**

**confederacy** spoken of in the 13th chapter "7And the angel said unto me, "Why dost thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. 8The beast that thou sawest was, and is not, and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit and go into perdition; and they that dwell on the earth, whose names were not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, shall wonder when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. 9"And here is the mind which hath wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sitteth. 10And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other has not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. 11And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, yet is one of the seven and goeth into perdition. 12And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, who have received no kingdom as yet, but will receive power as kings for one hour with the beast. 13These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. 14These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them; for He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful." 15And he saith unto me, "The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples and multitudes, and nations and tongues. 16And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh and burn her with fire. 17For God hath put into their hearts to fulfill His will and to agree, and to give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. 18And the woman whom thou sawest is that great city which reigneth over the kings of the earth." Revelation 17:7-18.

**Destruction of Babylon** "1And after these things, I saw another angel come down from Heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened by his glory. 2And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. 3For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication; and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have waxed rich through the abundance of her indulgences pleasures." 4And I heard another voice from Heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues; 5for her sins have reached unto Heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. 6Reward her even as she has rewarded you, and unto her double according to her works; in the cup which she hath filled, fill to her double. 7How much she hath glorified herself and lived voluptuously! That much torment and sorrow give back to

her; for she saith in her heart, `I sit a queen and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.' 8Therefore shall her plagues come in one day" death and mourning and famine, and she shall be utterly burned with fire; for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her. 9"And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived wantonly with her, shall bewail her and lament for her when they shall see the smoke of her burning, 10standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, `Alas! Alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour has thy judgment come.' 11"And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her, for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: 12the merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls; and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet; all scented wood, all manner of vessels of ivory and most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble; 13and cinnamon, and perfumes, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat; and cattle, and sheep, and horses, and chariots; and slaves, and the souls of men. 14"And the fruits that thy soul lusted after have departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly have departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all. 15The merchants of these things, who were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing 16and saying, `Alas! Alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and bedecked with gold and precious stones and pearls! 17For in one hour such great riches have come to nought!" "And every shipmaster and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off; 18and they cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, `What city is like unto this great city!" 19And they cast dust on their heads and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, `Alas! Alas, that great city, wherein all that had ships in the sea were made rich by reason of her extravagances! For in one hour is she made desolate!" 20Rejoice over her, thou heaven and ye holy apostles and prophets, for God hath avenged you on her." 21Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all. 22And the voice of harpers and musicians, and of pipers and trumpeters shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee; 23and the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee. For thy merchants were the great men of the earth, for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. 24And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth." Revelation 18:1-24

### **The Second Return of Our Savior Jesus Christ**

The Great Tribulation will close in complete darkness over the entire earth and then Jesus Christ will appear with a great flood of light and glory and come back to this earth and take possession of it and reign here for a thousand years.

The supernatural judgments are the fruits, as we have said before, of Adam's sin, or the efforts of man to find perfect happiness or make his own millennium or Garden of Eden by his own efforts. The millennium will be a revelation that God is the only One Who can make a Garden of Eden in individual lives and the world as a whole. Jesus Christ came to restore the blessings that were taken from us by Adam. Wherever anyone is willing to lay aside their own efforts and give God an opportunity to teach them what they need to know and make them what they ought to be, they will have a real preparation for Eternal Life. The utter failure of man to find happiness by his own efforts or to make the world what it ought to be after six thousand years of effort,

opens the way for God to reveal how easy, quickly and how perfectly He can restore the Garden of Eden in this world as a whole.

### **Satan Bound In The Bottomless Pit**

One of the first things to take place in the millennium is that Satan is to be bound at the very beginning, put in the bottomless pit and a seal placed upon it. This will make it impossible for him to do any of the evil things or deceive people in the world as he did before he was bound.

### **The Millennium Rule with Jesus Christ**

The most important thing of all will be Jesus Christ Himself here in person, ruling the world. Everything that God's Love, Mercy and Power can do will be manifested to make the world and everything and everybody in it perfect. The Great Tribulation is the result of Satan's rule in the world. The fruit of the Lord Jesus Christ ruling for a thousand years will be perfect peace, happiness and blessings of every kind. We are also told, concerning the millennium, that the nations "shall beat their swords into plow-shares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Micah 4:3.

We are told that the animal kingdom will also undergo a great change. The wild and ferocious animals are to become tame and gentle, Isaiah 11:6-9. 6"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. 7And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. 9They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

The vegetable kingdom is also going to be blessed and the fertility and production of the earth is to be greatly increased, Ezekiel 36: 30,35. And I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the increase of the field, that ye shall receive no more reproach of famine among the heathen. 35And they shall say, "This land that was desolate has become like the Garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined cities have become fortified and are inhabited."

The Bible says that the inhabitants of that land shall not say that "I am sick." It is very reasonable to believe that there will be no sickness during the millennium. The Bible clearly teaches that Satan is the direct author of all sickness. Therefore, when he is bound he will be unable to do his evil work of making people sick, Isaiah 33:24. "And the inhabitant shall not say, "I am sick"; the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity."

### **The Greatest Concern For True Christians**

The greatest concern of the true children of God is to be ready for the appearing of Jesus in the air to translate the living saints and bring back the righteous dead, 1st Thessalonians 4:13-17;

13But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others who have no hope. 14For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so will God bring with Him those also who sleep in Jesus. 15For this we say unto you by the Word of the Lord: that we who are alive and

remain unto the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who are asleep. 16For the Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first; 17then we who 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.

1st Corinthians 15:51-54. 51Behold, I show you a mystery: We shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed 52in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

God has always taken care of His true people and the Bible seems to indicate that just before the supernatural judgments begin proper, Jesus comes for His people, takes them back to Heaven with Him where they will celebrate the Marriage Supper of the Lamb and remain in safety until the end of the Tribulation. Then they will return with Christ at His Second Coming.

"11And I saw Heaven opened, and behold, a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. 12His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written that no man knew, but He Himself. 13And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood, and His name is called, The Word of God. 14And the armies which were in Heaven, clothed in fine linen white and clean, followed Him upon white horses."

Revelation 19:11-14

5And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal. Yea, ye shall flee as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah; and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with Thee. 6And it shall come to pass in that day that the light shall not be clear nor dark. 7But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD -- neither day nor night; but it shall come to pass that at evening time it shall be light. 8And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and half of them toward the hinder sea; in summer and in winter shall it be. 9And the LORD shall be king over all the earth; in that day shall there be one LORD, and His name one. 10All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; and it shall be lifted up and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's Gate unto the place of the First Gate unto the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananeel unto the king's wine presses. 11And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited. Zechariah 14:5-11

"14And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousand of His saints 15to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all who are ungodly among them of all their godless deeds which they have godlessly committed, and of all the harsh speeches which godless sinners have spoken against Him." Jude 14,15.

### **Requirements for Eternal Life with Jesus Christ**

The preparation for the Coming of Jesus Christ and Eternal Life are the most important things for God's true children to consider.

The Bible gives us the standard for Eternal Life. It is very different from what any of us ever knew when we were in the world or the dead churches. It consists of three things:

The first is to repent of our sins. As a result, God grants us forgiveness and cleansing from all sin, which we receive as a Blood-bought right the moment we confess and forsake our evil ways, 1st John 1:9.

The second is to surrender ourselves unconditionally to God for His Will and Word to be our plan of life, and submit to water baptism. God always takes possession of a surrendered soul and will fill them with the Holy Spirit for the asking,

“Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.” Isaiah 55:7-8

“Verily, Verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life.” John 5:24

Anyone who will take these two steps and believe on the authority of God’s Word that they are forgiven and cleansed and filled with the Holy Spirit regardless of sight, feeling or what Satan may say or do, will be in a position to take the third and most important step of all. This has been wholly lost sight of, as the other two steps have, in the Christian world today.

This third step is to learn, under the teaching of God Himself, what His Word says, believe it and obey it. This refers especially to the New Testament and the Old Testament where it refers to or illustrates the Truths of the New Testament.

The overwhelming majority of fake Christians are not taught, nor do they believe, that their welfare and happiness depends on a right attitude to God’s Word. However, the fact remains that every particle of happiness and blessing here and our hope of Eternal Life depends on our becoming perfectly Scriptural in every part of our life here by God’s Grace.

God does not ask us to obey His Word or follow His directions in our own strength. He provides all the light, understanding and strength we need to do this, and anyone who will begin their Christian life in this true Scriptural way and hold steadfast, He will perfect everything that concerns them both for time and Eternity.

“He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.”

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We are always glad to give Scriptural advice and counsel to those who desire to write us about their problems, and to remember their requests for prayer in our services.  
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