

The ANTICHRIST & FALSE PROPHET

☆ THE ANTICHRIST - The Beast Out Of The Sea -

[Translators do not agree on the first verse of this chapter. Some say, the one standing on the shore of the sea was the Dragon, while others say it was John. I will show both views, then allow you to decide. The same applies to verse 10, the contrast comes from dissimilarities in Greek texts.]

I stood on the shore of the sea. (KJV, NKJV, AMP)

THE DRAGON Stood on the shore of the sea. (NIV, RSV, ASV, NWT)

And I saw **a beast rising up out of the sea, he had seven heads and ten horns, and ten crowns on his horns, and blasphemous names on his heads.** The beast that I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. **THE DRAGON GAVE THE BEAST HIS POWER, HIS THRONE, AND GREAT AUTHORITY.**

It looked as though one of its heads had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. **The whole world was amazed and followed the beast. They worshiped the dragon who had given power and authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is equal to the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" He was given a mouth speaking blasphemies and arrogant things, and HE WAS GIVEN AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE FOR FORTY TWO MONTHS (3 1/2 YEARS).** He opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His Name, His Tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

HE WAS GIVEN POWER TO MAKE WAR WITH THE SAINTS, AND TO OVERCOME THEM. He was given power over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell on the earth shall worship him, those whose names are **not** written in the Lamb's book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world.

If any man has an ear, let him hear. He that leads into captivity shall go into captivity, he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and faith of the saints." KJV & NKJV (Other translators render verse 10 thus: He that is to go into captivity shall go into captivity, he that is to be killed by the sword shall be killed by the sword. This calls for patient endurance and faith on the part of the Saints.) ASV, NIV, NAS, NWT Revelation 13:1-10

This is the Antichrist, to which all references in the Bible point. The true embodiment of Satan, the man of sin. All that came before were foreshadows of this one. Jesus spoke of him in the description of the things coming, signs of the End Time, as the **False Christ who was accompanied by the False Prophet, working miraculous signs to deceive the world. They are the ones who set up the Abomination of Desolation in the Temple.** Satan's job is to do everything in his power to persuade men to rebel against God, he has proved himself very dexterous.

THE FALSE PROPHET

☆ THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH - The Great Deceiver -

Then I saw **another beast coming up out of the earth.** He had two horns, like a lamb, and spoke like a dragon. **HE EXERCISES ALL THE POWER OF THE FIRST BEAST in his sight and CAUSES THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE EARTH TO WORSHIP THE FIRST BEAST,** whose deadly wound was healed. **HE PERFORMS GREAT MIRACULOUS WONDERS, he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.**

HE DECEIVES THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE EARTH BY MEANS OF THE MIRACLES HE WAS GIVEN POWER TO DO in the sight of the beast; COMMANDING THOSE WHO DWELL ON THE EARTH TO MAKE AN IMAGE TO THE BEAST who was wounded by the sword and yet lived.

HE WAS GIVEN POWER TO GIVE LIFE TO THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast, to be killed.

HE CAUSES ALL, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, TO RECEIVE A MARK ON THEIR RIGHT HAND OR ON THEIR FOREHEADS, that no one may buy or sell except the ones who have the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Here is wisdom. Whoever has understanding, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666. Revelation 13:11-18

This beast is known as the False Prophet, who is destroyed along with the First Beast, in the Lake of Fire. He is involved in the evil done for Satan by the First Beast, even commanding the world to worship the First Beast or face death.

Satan is the Master Deceiver and this is his hour of glory. He is allowed to do his very best to destroy the spirit of all men who can be deceived in any way. It is the ultimate test of the faith and commitment of the Saints (see Deut 13:1-4).

The False Prophet is not the Antichrist, but the religious leader who performs the miraculous signs for the Antichrist with all the power of Satan. By worshipping the Antichrist, the world will, in turn, be worshipping Satan himself who gave the power to the Antichrist and to the False Prophet. Thus, the deception is complete, their doom is sealed.

In Revelation 17:1-18, we learned that:

- † **THE SEVEN HEADS** of the beast are **seven mountains on which the woman sits**. They are also seven kings. Thereby representing both the Antichrist and location of the city of his authority.
- † **THE WOMAN** is the **great city** (Rome) **which reigns over the kings of the earth**.
- † **THE TEN HORNS** are **ten kings** (European Community of Nations) (United States of Europe) that join with the beast to fight against the Lamb (the Lord and His army) at the battle of Armageddon.

From this description, it seems reasonable to expect the False Prophet to be the accepted leader of the largest religious order in the world, having world-wide influence like the Pope of the Roman Catholic Church. Even today, the Pope is exercising his influence on the political world and heads of states around the world. **The city of Rome, known as THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, fits the description of the WOMAN better than any other city.**

The Beast and the False Prophet are last mentioned, as the Devil joins them, in the Lake of Fire after the Thousand Year Reign of Christ. We also learn that the Beast and False Prophet are still there, and alive a thousand years after they were cast into it.

And the devil, that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, **where the beast and the false prophet are**. They shall be tormented day and night forever and ever. Revelation 20:10

The Bible does not support the concept that when you die, you are dead and cease to exist. But rather, **when you are dead, you face the eternal destiny chosen by what you did in this life.**

Anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire. Revelation 20:15

For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more sacrifice for our sins, but a definite and fearful expectation of divine judgment and fiery indignation, that shall devour the enemies of God. Hebrews 10:26-27

And again: **It is appointed to men once to die, but after this the judgment.** Hebrews 9:27

Therefore, **when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION**, spoken of by Daniel the prophet [Daniel chapters 9, 11, and 12] **standing in the Holy Place** (whoever reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judea flee into the mountains. Do not let him who is on the housetop come down to take anything out of his house. Do not let him who is in the field go back to get his cloths. Woe to those women who are pregnant and to those with nursing babies in those days! But pray that your flight may not be in winter nor on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, nothing like it has ever been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. Unless those days are shortened, no flesh will be saved, but for the sake of the elect those days shall be shortened.

Then if anyone says to you, "Look, here is Christ!" or "There!" do not believe it. For **FALSE CHRISTS and FALSE PROPHETS will arise and show GREAT MIRACULOUS SIGNS AND WONDERS, so much so that if it were possible, even the elect shall be deceived.** Behold, I have told you beforehand. Therefore, if

they shall say to you, "Behold, He is in the desert!" do not go out, or "He is in the inner rooms!" do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and is seen to the west, so also shall be the coming of the Son of Man. Matthew 24:15-27

Now brother will betray brother to death, and the father his son, and children shall rise up against their parents and cause them to be put to death. And you shall be hated by all men for My name's sake. But **he that shall endure to the end, it is he that shall be saved.**

When you shall see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, **standing where it ought not** (let the reader understand), then let those that are in Judea flee to the mountains. Do not let him who is on the housetop go down into the house, nor enter inside to take anything out of his house. Do not let him who is in the field go back to get his garment. But woe to those women who are pregnant and to those with nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in the winter.

For in those days shall be tribulation, nothing like it has ever been from the beginning of creation which God created until this time, nor shall it ever be again. Unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would survive, but **for the sake of the elect whom He has chosen, He shortened the days.**

And **then** if any man shall say to you, "Look, here is Christ"! or "look there he is"! Do not believe him. For **FALSE CHRISTS, and FALSE PROPHETS shall arise, and shall show SIGNS AND WONDERS to deceive even the elect if it is possible.** Take heed to yourselves, behold, I have told you all things beforehand. Mark 13:12-23

I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me, **if another comes IN HIS OWN NAME, you will receive him.** John 5:43

Let no man deceive you by any means, for that Day shall not come unless a FALLING AWAY comes first, and the MAN OF SIN is revealed. He is the son of Perdition, who exalts himself above and opposes all that is called God or that is worshiped. **He sits himself as God in the temple of God, proclaiming that he is God.**

Don't you remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And now you know what is restraining his revelation, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will continue to do so until He is taken out of the way.

Then the wicked one shall be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the Spirit of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. **The coming of the wicked one is in conformity with the working of Satan, with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all wicked deception for those that perish.**

They refused to love of the truth, that they might be saved, and for this reason God shall send them strong delusion that they should believe the lie, so all who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness, may be condemned. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12

✠ - FOUR GREAT BEASTS - INTERPRETATION [of Daniel 7:1-28]

THE FOUR GREAT BEASTS ARE FOUR KINGS which shall arise out of the earth. **THE FOURTH BEAST** - (Roman Empire) shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be different from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. (The Roman Empire set the political stage for Modern forms of Government).

THE TEN HORNS - (Ten Kings in the End times who unite with the Antichrist) out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise.

ANOTHER - (Antichrist The Little Horn) shall arise after them: He shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. He shall speak great words against the MOST HIGH, and shall wear out the Saints of the MOST HIGH, and think to change times and laws. The Saints shall be given into his hand until a time, times, and the dividing of time (3 1/2 years).

BUT THE JUDGMENT SHALL SIT - (Thrones and judgment of Revelation 20:4-6) and **they shall take away his dominion to consume and destroy it to the end.** **THE KINGDOM AND DOMINION AND THE GREATNESS OF THE KINGDOM UNDER THE WHOLE HEAVEN, SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE PEOPLE THE SAINTS OF**

THE MOST HIGH, WHOSE KINGDOM IS AN EVERLASTING KINGDOM. ALL DOMINIONS SHALL SERVE AND OBEY HIM.

[This text was introduced in the chapter on “Seals” and written in its entirety on pages 56 to 57.]

✠ - SCARLET BEAST ON WHICH THE WOMAN SITS - INTERPRETATION [of Revelation 17:1-18]

THE BEAST THAT WAS, IS NOT, YET IS - will ascend out of the Bottomless Pit and go into Perdition.

PEOPLE WILL WORSHIP THE BEAST - the people whose names are not written in the Book of Life.

SEVEN HEADS - these are **seven mountains on which the woman sits**, also they are **SEVEN KINGS**. (At the time the Revelation was given to John around A.D. 90) **Five have fallen, one is present (the Roman Empire), one is to come (Modern form of Government following the fall of the Roman Empire), the Beast (Antichrist kingdom) is the eighth which is going into Perdition as the Antichrist is cast into the Lake of Fire at the Battle of Armageddon.**

TEN HORNS - these are **ten kings who receive power at the time of the Beast, then join with the Antichrist as a united political force, being submissive to him. They make war with the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ, and are destroyed at the Battle of Armageddon.**

[This complete text will be given in the section on “Babylon the Great” page 94].

✠ - VISION OF THE RAM AND HE GOAT - INTERPRETATION [of Daniel 8:1-27]

RAM WITH TWO HORNS - is the kingdom of the Medes and Persians.

SHAGGY GOAT - is the king of Greece.

LARGE HORN - between his eyes is the first king.

FOUR HORNS - that replace the one broken off, represent four kingdoms that will emerge from his nation but will not have the same power. **In the latter part of their reign, when rebels have become completely wicked, a STERN-FACED KING - (Antichrist), a master of intrigue, will arise. He will become very strong, but not by his own power (he will be empowered by Satan the Dragon).** He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy the mighty men and the holy people. He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. When people feel secure, **he will destroy many and take his stand against the Prince of princes (The Lord Jesus Christ).** Yet he will be destroyed, but not by human power (at the Battle of Armageddon).

THE TIME SPAN - THE DAILY SACRIFICE WILL BE STOPPED AND THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION WILL BE SET UP. The sanctuary and the Host will be given over and trampled underfoot for 2,300 days (6.38 years), until the sanctuary shall be cleansed. **THE VISION APPLIES TO THE TIME OF THE END.**

The LITTLE HORN (Dan 7:8), the STERN FACED KING (Dan 8:23), and the KING of the APPOINTED TIME OF THE END (Dan 11:36) are the same man, the Antichrist.

[This text was introduced in the chapter on the Seals and written out in its entirety, pages 57-58]

✠ - THE GREAT IMAGE OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR - INTERPRETATION [of Daniel 2:31-45]

 **VISION OF THE LAST DAYS** **FOUR KINGDOMS OVER ALL THE EARTH:**

1. **BABYLONIAN**
2. **MEDO PERSIAN**
3. **GRECIAN**
4. **ROMAN**

 **THE ROMAN EMPIRE DIVIDED INTO THE EAST AND WEST (INDICATED BY THE FEET AND LEGS).**

 **IN THE LAST DAYS IT WILL BE REPRESENTED BY THE TEN TOES AS THE TEN KINGS THAT UNITE WITH THE ANTICHRIST.**

 **THE STONE CUT OUT OF THE MOUNTAIN WITHOUT HANDS - IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD, THE MILLENNIUM KINGDOM WHICH SHALL STAND FOREVER.**

[This text is introduced in the chapter on Seals and written out in its entirety, page 55-56]

SEVENTY WEEKS ARE DECREED to end transgression and bring in everlasting righteousness.

From the decree of Cyrus to rebuild Jerusalem (538 B.C.), to the time of the Anointed Prince will, be 69 WEEKS.

After the sixty two weeks Messiah shall be cut off (killed), but not for Himself. And the army of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and to the end there shall be war, desolations are determined. Summary of Daniel 9:24-26

HE SHALL CONFIRM A COVENANT WITH MANY FOR ONE WEEK (7 YEARS). BUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WEEK (3 1/2 YEARS) HE SHALL PUT A STOP TO SACRIFICE AND OFFERING. And ON A WING OF THE TEMPLE (or at the corner of the altar), ONE WHO CAUSES DESOLATION WILL PLACE AN APPALLING ABOMINATION, even UNTIL the completion of that which is determined is poured out upon the desolate. Daniel 9:27

✝ SUMMARY [of Daniel 11:21-45]

1. - The king shall do according to his own will (Antichrist)
2. - At the appointed time
3. - Stops sacrifice and offering
4. - Abomination of desolation is set up
5. - Exalts himself above every god
6. - Speaks blasphemies against the God of gods.
7. - At the time of the end
8. - Plant his tents between the seas and the holy mountain
9. - Comes to his end and no one will help him.

✝ - THE MORTAL WOUND THAT WAS HEALED -

Woe to the WORTHLESS SHEPHERD that leaves the flock! The sword shall injure his **arm** and his **right eye**; **his arm shall be completely withered, and his right eye totally blinded.** Zechariah 11:17

- TIME FRAME FOR ISRAEL AND THE SAINTS - Last 3 1/2 Years

At that time Michael shall stand up. (Michael, the great angelic prince who stands beside the children of your people). And **there shall be a time of trouble, such as has never been since there was a nation, even**

until that time. At that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who shall be found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament (sky). And those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever.

But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro (travel far and wide), and knowledge shall be increased.

Then I, Daniel, looked, and there I saw two others standing, one on the near bank of the river, and the other on the far bank of the river. One of them said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, **"How long shall it be until the end of the fulfillment of these wonders? Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for A TIME, TIMES, AND A HALF A TIME (3 1/2 years). WHEN THE POWER OF THE HOLY PEOPLE HAS BEEN UTTERLY DEVASTATED, THEN ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE FINISHED.**

I heard, but I did not understand. So I said, "O My lord, what shall be the outcome of these things?" And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for **the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end.** Many shall be purified, made white, and be tried (refined); but the wicked shall do wickedly, and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

From the time the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination of desolation set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days (3 1/2 years + 30 days). Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty five days (3 1/2 years + 75 days which is 45 days later).

But **go your way till the end.** You shall rest, and **you will rise to stand in your place at the end of the days (to receive your inheritance).** Daniel 12:1-13

All the kings under consideration face the Lord at the end in battle as a united force and are overcome.

† CALL FOR ENDURANCE OF THE SAINTS

He that is to go into captivity shall go into captivity, he that is to be killed by the sword shall be killed by the sword. This calls for patient endurance and faith on the part of the Saints. Revelation 13:10

The souls under the Altar in the Fifth Seal are instructed to wait a little longer until the number is complete of those who are yet to be killed.

DECEPTION - WARS - BETRAYALS - PERSECUTIONS & MARTYRDOM will continue throughout the Great Tribulation.

"When the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished."
Daniel 12:7

Jesus said, **"If the time is not cut short no flesh would survive. But, for the sake of the elect the time is cut short."**

The saints will be touched by these persecutions to prove the depth of their commitment to God. Knowing in advance will help them face the trials successfully.

The patience and faith of the saints is helped by knowing that no matter what the enemy does, he will face the righteous judgment of God Almighty and experience the fate his wickedness deserves. This reveals the full impact of the statement, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord." Romans 12:19

No matter what evil is forced on the Saints, the end will bring rewards and justice from God that will prove it truly is worth it all, even if we are tortured and die in the process.

We can't expect much good in this world. **Our hope is in the life after death, which is eternal in glory.** The abundant life Jesus promised in this world is the blessing of living in pure confidence in our relationship with God, and the joy we find in our relationship with the family of God, and with each other.

This confident relationship gives us total peace in our spirit. Peace with God, peace with ourselves, peace with our loved ones, and peace with the world around us. **Peace and an inner joy based on confidence with God, will give us strength through the deepest trials that come along.**

The wars, deception, betrayals, persecution and martyrdom are all troubles brought on by the political turmoil of the times. The righteous influence of the church has been removed from the earth by the rapture. Satan's spirit of hatred has come into full force in the hearts of wicked men. The only controls are the controls of force by the hand of the strongest, forcing his will on all others who are weaker or less organized.

Morality and Godliness are considered as weaknesses and enemies, anyone confessing belief in God and righteousness will be considered a traitor and executed. This is the setting in which Antichrist will rise and gain power and authority granted to him by Satan himself.

God continues to call men to repentance throughout the Great Tribulation, and repentance continues to be in order and acceptable to God.

Those who turn to God will do it at the risk of their lives. They will certainly face a martyrdom of being beheaded for the Word of God and for their testimony of Jesus (see Rev. 20:4-6). Still so many will turn to God they will not be able to be numbered (see Rev 7:9-17). This strength to stand is only available through the Holy Spirit resident in them, it would not be possible without Him. Then speaking of the Saints, Daniel says:

Those among the people who are wise and understand shall instruct many. Yet for many days they shall fall by the sword, or be burned, or captured, or plundered. Now when they fall, they shall receive a little help but many shall join them with flatteries and hypocrisies (through intrigue). **Some of them of understanding shall fall, to test them, to purge them, and make them white until the time of the end. Still it remains for the APPOINTED TIME.** Daniel 11:33-35

When the Saints of God are killed for the Word of God and their testimony of Jesus, God sees it as, a thing that is desirable.

God will have pity on the poor and needy, He will save their souls. He will redeem their soul from oppression and violence. **Their blood will be precious in His sight.** Psalm 72:13-14

Precious in the sight of the Lord, is the death of His Saints. Psalm 116:15

INTERMISSION 3

✠ - **Song and identification of 144,000 on Mount Zion -**
[The 144,000 were introduced in Revelation 7:1-8]

I looked, and saw the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him **ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY FOUR THOUSAND,** who had **HIS FATHER'S NAME WRITTEN ON THEIR FOREHEADS.** And I heard a voice from heaven, like the sound of many waters, and like the sound of great thunder. I heard the voice of harpists playing their harps. They sang a **new song** before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders. No one could learn that song except the **hundred and forty four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.**

These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones that follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits to God and to the Lamb. No guile was found in their mouth, for they are without fault before the throne of God.
Revelation 14:1-5

A close look at the description of these 144,000 reveals that **all are natural descendants of Israel, 12,000 from each tribe indicated. All are servants of the Living God. All are virgin men, not defiled with women. All are righteous and holy men, in their mouth was found no guile, for they are without fault. All have the seal of our God "HIS FATHERS NAME" on their foreheads** to protect them from the plagues of the Great Tribulation. And **all follow the Lamb wherever He goes.**

As followers of Jesus, and servants of God, **these 144,000 are special, powerful preachers of the gospel assigned to minister throughout the Great Tribulation. Since they are "the first fruits to God and to the Lamb redeemed**

from among men," they may also have their glorified bodies. The book of Romans tells about the redemption as being the (changing) of our bodies:

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. The earnest expectation of all creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was made subject to fragility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope. The creation itself also, shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption (decay and death), into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

For we know that the whole creation groans together in the pains of labor until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, who have the first fruits of the spirit. Even we ourselves groan within ourselves eagerly waiting for the adoption, which means the redemption of our body. Romans 8:18-23

The Glorified Bodies are described in 1 Corinthians 15:35-54 where Paul says that we shall be changed from corruptible to incorruption, from mortal to immortality, **from a natural body to a spiritual body.**

† FLYING ANGEL - Calling men to Fear, Glorify and Worship God -

Then I saw another **angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those that dwell on the earth** - to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people - saying with a loud voice, "**Fear God and give Him glory, for the hour of His judgment has come. Worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.**" Rev. 14:6-7

This is where, the prophecy of Jesus stating, "THIS GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM SHALL BE PREACHED IN ALL THE EARTH FOR A WITNESS TO ALL NATIONS," is completely fulfilled. God Himself will see to it that all men hear the gospel. There will be no chance that anyone will not have heard the call to repentance, nor that any prophecy should fail.

† SECOND FLYING ANGEL - Announcing the fall of Babylon the Great -

A **second angel followed** saying, "**Babylon that Great City is fallen, is fallen, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.**" Revelation 14:8

God remains faithful, even to the point of supernatural means, to call his people out of the path of His Wrath, and to warn the people who will be involved before destruction comes, in order to allow an opportunity for repentance.

† THIRD FLYING ANGEL -

† Warning of eternal punishment for those who accept the Mark of the Beast -

A **third angel followed them** saying with a loud voice, "**If any one worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand; that same person shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured 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. And the smoke of their torment ascends up forever and ever, and they have no rest day or night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.**" Revelation 14:9-11

Oh the severity of punishment for those receiving the Mark of the Beast. **God in His Great Mercy does everything possible to warn people of the danger of accepting this Mark, even sending supernatural warnings. However, He does not take away their right to choose for themselves how they are to act in response to the warnings. Either way, they chose their own destiny with full knowledge, for they have heard.** They may accept the warning and repent, or they may reject the warnings and seal their doom. God's judgment and their destiny is completely just and fair.

† - VOICE FROM HEAVEN - Encouraging the Saints to keep the faith -

Here is the patience of the saints - these are the ones who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

And I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from this time on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them." Revelation 14:12-13

The martyrs of the Great Tribulation have a special place in the Kingdom of God as priests in His Temple.

The age of Grace is past, the Church has been caught up in the Rapture. These people are not part of the church but instead **these are the Tribulation Saints who face a special time and receive a special reward.**

Their works do follow them because of the price they are required to pay. They are not living as much by faith as by sight. They have seen the Rapture and now are seeing the wrath of God pouring down around them, as the prophets have foretold. They are rewarded for their choice to stand for God and maintain their testimony of Jesus in the face of all the persecution and the pressure from the Antichrist and False Prophet.

† THE REAPER AND THE WINEPRESS OF THE WRATH OF GOD

I looked, and saw a white cloud, and **seated on the cloud was one who looked like the Son of Man**; on His head was a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.

A **second angel** came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

He that sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Then a **third angel** came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also had a sharp sickle.

A **fourth angel**, who had power over fire, came out from the altar, and he cried with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe."

The angel thrust his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great **winepress of the wrath of God**. And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, as high as the horses' bridles for distance of one thousand six hundred furlongs (200 miles). Revelation 14:14-20

The time of the Winepress of the Wrath of God extends into the beginning of the Millennium Kingdom age, through the time of the purge, next mentioned at the Battle of Armageddon.

† SEVEN ANGELS with the SEVEN LAST PLAGUES - The Wrath Of God Is Completed With These Seven Plagues -

Then I saw another sign in heaven, it was great and marvelous: **Seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the WRATH OF GOD is complete.** Revelation 15:1

The statement "for in them the Wrath of God is complete", confirms that the Wrath of God, is indeed, the plagues of the Great Tribulation and not the Lake of Fire. The Eternal Lake of Fire is the just and righteous reward for evil men who refuse to turn to God.

The many cults are made up of people today who reject the concept of the Lake of Fire and cause many to be deceived. Exalting themselves to a position of sitting in judgment against God, and calling God a liar, places them in a dangerous position. Jesus warned about this erroneous teaching when He said:

"Woe to you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you traverse land and sea to convert one proselyte, and when he is converted, **you make him twice more a child of hell than yourselves.**" Matthew 23:15

† SEA OF GLASS MIXED WITH FIRE - Victorious Saints -

I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire. Those who had gained the victory over the beast, over his image, over his mark, and over the number of his name, were standing on (or beside) the sea of glass, holding harps of God. And they sang the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying:

"GREAT AND MARVELOUS ARE YOUR WORKS, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY! JUST AND TRUE ARE YOUR WAYS, O KING OF SAINTS! WHO SHALL NOT FEAR YOU, O LORD, AND GLORIFY YOUR NAME FOR YOU ALONE ARE HOLY.

ALL NATIONS SHALL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU. FOR YOUR JUDGMENTS ARE MADE MANIFEST (DISTINCT)." Revelation 15:2-4

The Overcomers of the Great Tribulation are standing before the Throne of God preparing to take their place as priests in the Kingdom of God. Their worship is awe-inspired for they have witnessed the Wrath of God against the wickedness of mankind. They know, first hand, that God is HOLY, JUST, and RIGHTEOUS in His judgments.

With God all things are seen as finished before they start. The scene in heaven verifies this fact as the Saints praise and acknowledge the completion of the judgments before they begin. Therefore, we have the hope of the right outcome as we enter the period of the plagues. **This knowledge strengthens the resolve of the Saints.**

END OF INTERMISSION # 3

GREAT TRIBULATION RESUMES