

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Chapters 8-11 – The *Second* Journey Through the Tribulation Period – Addendum 9

WHY IS THERE A TRIBULATION PERIOD?

So far in our recent study of Revelation 4-5 we have seen that the church is caught up off the face of the earth and called to heaven. In chapters 6-9 we learned the world is peaceably and deceptively subdued by the antichrist. Then later after his powerbase is established he reveals his true identity propelling all creation into a horrific time of chaos and _____, referred to in scripture as the *great tribulation*.

As we ponder the sequence of events, interesting questions arise: Why does God allow this to happen? Why does the earth and the nation of Israel have to endure the reign of the antichrist? Why is there a _____ period? Why do we have tribulation in our lives now? Today our message will seek to answer these basic questions from the only reliable source we can trust—the word of God.

1. Why is there a tribulation period?

a. Because God is _____ and can _____ whatever he wants to _____

- He is all powerful (omnipotent), all knowing (omniscient), and everywhere at all times (omnipresent)

Job 42:1-6; 38-42; Ps. 135:6; Is. 46:8-10 – also see every chapter from Genesis to Revelation

b. Because God will _____ the nation of Israel for their _____ of Christ

- It is the fulfillment of Bible prophesy – Deut. 4:29-31; Daniel 9:24-27
- It will cause Israel to receive Christ – Zech. 12:10
- It is the event that will cleanse the nation allowing the kingdom to be established in Jerusalem – Zechariah 13:1
- It is the catalyst that will be used to ultimately _____ Israel – Romans 11:25-27

c. Because God will judge the _____ of the earth...

- For not obeying His word – 2 Thess. 1:8; 1 Peter 4:17
- For rejecting Christ – Ro. 2:8-9; 2 Thess. 1:8-9
- For persecuting _____ – Is. 54:17; Hag. 2:22; Zech. 12:2-3, 9
- For their evil behavior and unrepentant heart attitude toward sin – Rev. 9:20-21

d. Because God is going to terminate the rule of _____

- The earth's dominion was usurped from Adam – Genesis 1:28 *contrasted with* Luke 4:5-6; 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2

- Christ will seize control of the planet by _____ – Ro. 16:20a; 2 Thess. 1:4-10; Rev. 11:15; 19:20

2. Why is our present time period so disgusting, dark, and dangerous?

- We live in the Laodicean period of church history, the _____ period before the second coming of Jesus Christ – Rev. 3:14-22
 - Laodicea – Civil rights, my rights, me, myself, I; the most self-centered prideful time in all of human history. A time marked by selfishness, demands, unreasonableness, division, and an entitlement mentality
 - These are the most _____ times of human history – Mt. 24:1-51; 2 Ti. 3-4
- We live in the time butted right up against the tribulation period and second coming of Jesus Christ
 - History repeats itself over and over and over again – Ecc. 1:9; 3:15

Jesus' second coming will be like his first coming:

First Coming

Heralded by John the Baptist/prophesy
Appears first secretly, then publicly
Arrives after 400 years of silence
Riding on donkey
Rejected by Israel
Peace with God by his blood sacrifice
Roman Empire in control of world
False Christs, false doctrines rampant
Devils and devil possession rampant

Second Coming

Heralded by Elijah/Moses the law giver
Appears first secretly (rapture), then publicly to world
Arrives after 400 years of silence (since completion of AV 1611)
Riding a white horse
Accepted by Israel
Peace on earth by shedding the blood of enemies
Roman Empire (in some form) in control of world
False Christs, false doctrines rampant
Devils and devil possession rampant???

3. What do we do about our current tribulations?

- Endure hardness and do not get _____ in the affairs of this life – 2 Ti. 2:1-4
- Exemplify genuine Christian character – 1 Thess. 5:14-24
- Do not be _____ – Acts 20:24; 21:13; Ro. 8:15; 2 Ti. 1:7; 1 Jo. 4:18
- Know that vengeance belongs to the Lord, there will be a reckoning soon – Deut. 32:35, 41, 43; Ps. 94:1; 149:7; Is. 34:8; 35:4; 61:2, 4; Jer. 46:10; Mt. 10:28; Ro. 12:19; 2 Thess. 1:6-8; Heb. 10:30; Jude 1:7; Rev. 6:10-11

Know that God grants us *revenge* on all the disobedience happening around us – 2 Cor. 10:6

Know that Jesus has overcome this world – Jo. 16:33