



Are You Tribulation Minded?

In the Old Testament, the believers were servants. Moses was a servant of God. At best they were adopted sons and daughters of God.

In the New Testament, the believers are sons of God. Paul was a born again son of God. We are all born again, spirit filled, with the seed of God in Christ in us, making us intimate family. This time was only wondered about. It is called grace, yet the Old Testament believers really didn't know the reality of what we now have. They could only guess.

In the time after the grace period, after the gathering together of Thessalonians, there will be a



reinstatement of the Mosaic law for a very short period of time. The third Temple of God will be built in Israel, and the Law will once again come into full force. The chosen of God at that time will serve God in His Temple for 3.5 years. Then the anti-Christ will take over the Temple and rule from there for another 3.5 years. At the end of that time, those people will witness the outbreak of the first part of the book of Revelations (starting with chapter five). Shortly thereafter, the devil will be thrown into a bottomless pit for 1000 years.

During this time of tribulation, after the three and a half years of Jewish rule, people without the mark of the beast on their forehead or on their right hand will not be allowed to buy or sell. Many will be killed for their witness of the truth. Their mark of service will be to remain a steadfast witness of God and His Christ and to not deny them. For this, they may face an earthly death.

If you think you now live in this later, tribulation time, you are nuts. Did I get your attention? I hope so, because many false teachers are teaching Christian believers that they now live in the revelation

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time period. They couldn't be farther from the truth, *and if you believe them, you couldn't be farther from the truth.*

Satan has worked overtime these last 2000 years to MAKE the Christian Church "tribulation minded!" That's right. Most main stream Christians believe that they are seldom righteous, that they have to repent numerous times a week, and that lack, frustration, despair and poor health is the way life is supposed to be. Well, it's not! Today's Christians are supposed to be Ephesians minded. *They are supposed to believe that they are seated in the heavenlies, so heaven-bound that all hell can't stop them, free from sicknesses and financial problems* and the list goes on and on and on.

But they're not!

The goal of this teaching is to stop you from being tribulation minded, and to start you on the way to become "Christianity" minded. I'll do that by showing you how the people of that time will have to be when Satan takes over the third temple after the gathering together.

What will the first part of this time be like?

John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; (Revelation 1:4)

There are seven spirits before the throne of God whose mission and tasks are to support Jesus Christ in all of his activities at that time.

Jesus Christ will make the people of this time Kings and Priests.

And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. (Revelation 1:6)

It is called, "The Lord's Day."

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, (Revelation 1:10)

The revelation in this book fits a specific time, not our time, but a future time, one that is called, "the Lord's Day." Don't try to make it your time, for this time is not yet.

Many preach that this time is upon us, but these records indicate that that simply cannot be.

There are seven churches mentioned. What are the names of the seven churches?

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Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea. (Revelation 1:11)

These seven churches are not yet. They are future, and they will be the only churches at that time, a far cry from what's available "church-wise" today.

John then saw seven golden candlesticks and seven golden stars.

And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; (Revelation 1:12)

And he had in his right hand

seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength. (Revelation 1:16)

What are these golden candlesticks and stars?

The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches. (Revelation 1:20)

Each of these seven churches has an angel (called a star), one responsible to God for it. Each church is referred to as a golden candlestick. *These seven, the biblical number for spiritual perfection, will be the light of the world at that time.*

These churches have not yet come

into being. How do you know this? For one thing, you don't belong to one of them. You don't even live in that land. For another, God hasn't declared in His Word that he has provided an angel over your churches today, an angel responsible for the actions of the people. *These letters will be delivered to those churches when they come into being, at a designated time.* They are already written though, a really cool thing God did for us, allowing us to look into that time.

These churches will be populated with people in Asia. They will be ruled by an angel of God, one with free choice. These people will be called Jews. Jesus Christ will spend his time walking among these churches (spiritually) and the angels will answer directly to him. Jesus Christ had John write a message to each of these angels, prophecy yet to come.

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The letters are filled with hope and admonishment, blessing and correction.

Now that you know that these seven churches just spoken of are not you or your church, you need to know what character these people will be required to have.

The faithful of these churches will be the ones who serve God in very special ways.

What kind of people will these be?

They are called Jews.

I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan. (Revelation 2:9)

At that time, there will literally be a synagogue of satan. It will be a physical place in Asia and he will rule the world from there. There's no such place like that today.

Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. (Revelation 3:9)

Today, we see none of this kind of thing happening, absolutely none of it.

John was asked to write several things to each of the seven churches:

Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter; (Revelation 1:19)

The things which are (those things

which will currently be going on when these letters are in force), and the things which shall be hereafter (the rewards and consequences of how these people lived) are two things that John was asked to write.

Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand [Jesus Christ], who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; (Revelation 2:1)

He wrote about their need to put up with the many tribulations of this future time by laboring with patience and to keep from fainting.

And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. (Revelation 2:3)

He wrote about not standing firm

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on God's Word.

Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. (Revelation 2:5)

And he wrote about future rewards.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. (Revelation 2:7)

This is only the first record to the first church. In the first four chapters of Revelation, you will find that each church is written to and in each of these writings you will find encouragement, admonition and rewards. These

people are expected to walk according to the angel's teachings and Christ's commandments. They are expected to do according to the words of Revelation

In synopsis, I've listed what you will find in each of these seven letters for three different categories including the character these people will need to maintain, warnings they will need to adhere to, and the rewards that they will receive if they stand fast through out their lives.

Character

Have Patience

Labor for Christ

Not faint

Hate the deeds of the Nicolaitanes

Endure tribulation (mental pressure)

Endure poverty (being poor)

Don't fear suffering

Be faithful until death

Put up with the devil casting them into prison.

Being tried for being a faithful Jew

Overcome these many trials

By standing against satan, they will receive no other burden from Christ.

Hold fast unto what they have until he comes for them.

Be watchful

Strengthen the things that remain.

Hold fast

Repent

Don't defile your garments

Don't let anyone take your crown

Admonitions

Don't depart from Christ

If they depart, they can repent and come back to do the Word as commanded.

If they depart and do not repent, their church will not be anymore.

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Get rid of those who have the doctrine of Nicolaitanes. If the angel does not, Christ will come and remove them.

Don't allow people to commit spiritual fornication. For, if they don't repent, they will be cast into great tribulation unless they repent of their deeds..

Don't eat things offered unto idols.

Be zealous that Christ rebukes and chastens

Rewards

Eat of the tree of life in the midst of the paradise of God.

Be given a crown of Life

Shall not have a part of the second death.

They shall eat of the hidden manna.

They will be given a new name on a white stone that only the person receiving will know.

Those that overcome will be given power over the Gentiles to

rule with a rod of iron

Those that overcome will be given the morning star.

They shall walk with Christ in white; They shall be clothed in white garments

Their names shall not be blotted out of the book of life.

Them that overcome will Christ confess before God and the angels.

Them that overcome will be made as a pillar of God's new Temple. They will forever be in God's presence.

Them that overcome will be given three names; the name of Christ's God, the name of the city of Christ's God, and the name of Christ's new name.

Them who overcome will sit with Christ on His throne

I've given you an ever-so-brief view into these people's lives.

From what you've seen, you should be able to clearly realize that you are not one of these people, nor

are these things required of you.

What is also true is that your spirituality will never be determined by a walk such as these people will have to walk.

What God placed within you when you became born again determines your spirituality. If you are "tribulation-minded," more than likely, you believe that you have to do an assortment of things to "stay" accepted by God. You talk of your life being "tested" day in and day out. You believe that all your sins may not be forgiven, and you even wonder if you'll make it to heaven. This is all "tribulation-minded" thinking.

These rewards, doctrines and admonitions are a far cry from what we, as Christians, have been called to.

Theirs is conditional.

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Ours is permanent.

Theirs is painful.

Ours is healthful.

Theirs is poverty.

Ours is a rich abundance.

Theirs is hard work.

Ours is a steady and peaceful walk.

Theirs is an infiltration of satan directly.

Ours is an infiltration of satan indirectly.

Theirs is a walk of suffering.

Ours is a walk of strength and power.

Theirs is a death march in a sense.

Ours is a victory march over the power of death.

Theirs is imprisonment.

Ours is liberty in Christ.

Theirs is a trial.

Ours is judgment past.

Theirs is a burdensome walk.

Ours is carefree in Christ.

Theirs is a holding fast or losing it all.

Ours is being held fast without any fear of loss.

Theirs is constantly being watchful.

Ours is constantly being watched after.

Theirs is being filled with weakness and reaching out to the angel who might strengthen.

Ours is being filled with spiritual strength and reaching out with that strength to others.

Theirs is a walk of continuous repentance and possibly going astray.

Ours is a walk of eternal salvation

after a one-time repentance.

Folks, these people will live in great fear and wondering. We live in great peace and knowing. ***They might reach paradise; we will already be in heaven awaiting the new heaven and earth's paradise.*** They are called out for a second time (as Jews) and asked to open their home if Jesus Christ knocks. We were called out since the foundation of the world, once, and confessed Jesus as Lord and entered God's kingdom, never again to leave. We have entered into glory and we don't even know it. We have been delivered from wrath and don't even realize it. ***We have been freed from more than we could ever imagine and we often don't show it.***

Yes, there is a definite contrast of peoples and times. For us, times

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that ushered in newness and glory and perfection as newborn babes, ready to lay at the Almighty's feet and serve His very own family for all of eternity. Yes, the contrast is there, and we are a gleaming breath of it. *Let us recognize who we are and where we are, and never fall prey to any who say otherwise.* There is a time to come for a people yet to be, but we are not in that time and we are not of those people!

Much love in Christ,

Jerry D. Brown

Oh, one other thing. Have you seen anyone running around with "666" on his forehead or right hand? You just gotta think about things a bit more!