



GREAT TRIBULATION

SCRIPTURAL LESSON: *Matthew 24:15-28*

GOSPEL TRUTH:

Jesus Christ prophesied the coming Great Tribulation as a time not seen or experienced since the beginning of the world (*Deuteronomy 4:23-31; Jeremiah 30:4-7*). Jesus Christ then proclaimed, “*These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world*” (*John 16:33*).

GOLDEN SCRIPTURE:

For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be (Matthew 24:21).

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH DOCTRINES:

1. Mankind’s first choice is to either accept or reject Jesus Christ as their personal Savior to receive eternal life in heaven above; or, eternal damnation in hell below as evidenced by the Great Tribulation to come (*Mark 16:15-18; John 4:19-24; Romans 6:20-23*).
2. The Great Tribulation will occur after the Lord Jesus Christ raptures His Bride, the Church, calling them up to meet Him in clouds of glory saying, “Come up hither” (*Ephesians 3:16-21; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 4:1*).
3. During the Great Tribulation many souls will be martyred for the *Word of God*, and beheaded for standing as a witness for Jesus Christ instead of taking the mark of the Beast, the Anti-christ (*Revelation 7:9-17; 13:11-18; 15:1-4; 20:4*).
4. Today is mankind’s day of salvation: tomorrow may be too late, and there is no promise of tomorrow (*Romans 1:16; II Corinthians 6:1-2; I John 2:20-25*).

BACKGROUND SETTING:

God’s Word describes the tribulation period as “*the time of Jacob’s trouble*” (*Jeremiah 30:7*), lasting a full seven years. The Great Tribulation is the last three and one-half years of those seven years. The tribulation period is described as the unparalleled time of great trouble (*Isaiah 26:19-21; Daniel 9:24-27; Matthew 24:21-28*).

Hence, God sent Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, to redeem the sins of all mankind from the wrath to come if they willingly accept Him as their personal Savior, Master and Lord (*John 3:3-7; Acts 2:36-38; 4:12; Galatians 4:4-7; Titus 2:11-15*).

LESSON SUMMARY:

The Great Tribulation period will include the entire earth, but will primarily bring God’s judgment upon the nation of Israel and the Jewish people to restore His covenant with them, as His chosen people (*Daniel 12:1-3; Matthew 24:15-20; Revelation 3:9-13*).

The coming Great Tribulation serves as God’s warning to every man, woman, and child to prepare themselves and avoid this time of trouble as declared in *God’s Word*: “*And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them*” (*Revelation 9:6*).

As God’s Headquarters for the Gospel of the Kingdom of God for the whole world, our mission within the Apostolic Faith Church here in Hawaii and the Philippines is to see souls saved. And, we will continue to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God that Jesus saves, Jesus heals, Jesus baptizes with the Holy Ghost and with Fire, and Jesus is coming soon until Jesus Christ, Himself, returns in clouds of glory (*Matthew 4:23-25; Acts 20:24; II Corinthians 4:1-5*).

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