28th Nov. 2021 Burmah Road Gospel Hall
**The Differences Between Trials and Tribulations
 and The Great Tribulation**

**John 16:33** - *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.*

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

**I. The Usual Trials and Tribulations to be Expected…**

 **P**eople living in the World are to expect **T**rials and **T**ribulations.

1) The **P**enalty of the Fall: Gen. 3:16-19

 a) For the Woman: *I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception…*

 b) For the Man: …*in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life*

 2) The **P**ath of All: Acts 14:22

1. *“that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God”*

b) “*In the world we have tribulation*" Jn. 16:33

**A. By the Church.**
 The Scriptures tell us these tribulations may be due to…

1. **P**revailing national calamities. Acts 11:27-30 Acts 11:27-28

*And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.*

1. **P**ersecution of and **P**rison for the godly – II Tim. 3:12
	1. *Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*
	2. *Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.* Rev. 2:10

**3.** **P**ersonal Suffering **P**ermitted by God.

1. **Job 42:1-6** …*Hear, I beseech thee, and I will speak: I will demand of Thee, and declare Thou unto me.*

*I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth Thee.*

*Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.*

1. **Heb. 12:10** - *For they verily for a few days* ***chastened*** *us after their own pleasure;*

*but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of His holiness.*

c. **II Cor. 12:7** - *And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me* ***a thorn in the flesh****, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure*.

d. **Jn. 15:2** - *Every branch in me that beareth not fruit He taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit*

**4.** **P**unishment for **S**inful **R**ebellion. Rev. 2:22-23
*Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into* ***great tribulation****, except they repent of their deeds.*

*And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am He which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.*

**5.** The **P**urpose of **G**od's sovereign will to **G**lorify Himself thereby. Jn. 9:1-3

*And as Jesus passed by, He saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked Him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?*

*Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but* ***that the works of God should be made manifest in him.***

**B. By Israel**

**1**. The **C**urses for Disobedience. Deut. 28:15-68

*But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee: …*

* + 1. The **C**ovenant **C**hastenings. (See Chart)

**II. The Uniqueness of the Great Tribulation**

 **A.** **to be Experienced by Israel**

**1**. The **P**eriod covered:

* The "TRIBULATION PERIOD" is a definite time during which the world will experience unprecedented tribulation.
* This period is directly related to the Second Coming of Christ
1. It is the **U**nfulfilled Seventieth Week of Daniel’s Prophecy: The **E**xplanation of the week.
2. It is he **U**nprecedented (the) Great Tribulation: The **E**xtraordinary Time of Jacob’s Trouble.
3. It is the **U**niversality of the Great Tribulation at the **E**nd Times of the Gentiles.

**2.** The **P**arenthesis between the 69th and 70th Week of the Church

a. The **M**ajor **P**arts of the 70th week (= Seven years) – Dan. 9:24-27

* The First 3½ Years of The Tribulation.
* The Next 3½ Years of the Great Tribulation.
* 1260 days (Rev. 11:3); 42 months (11:2; 13:5);

a time, times and half a time (12:14)

b. The **M**ain **P**urposes of God’s (the) Great Tribulation for Israel.

1. To **C**hasten (Remove) the Rebels and **C**onvert the Remnant to Him.
2. To **C**onfirm His **C**ovenants with Abraham and David.
3. To **C**leanse them to **C**ommit them to the New **C**ovenant. Jer. 31:27-34

**III. The Great Tribulation of the end times.**

**A. It is the Unique (the) Great Tribulation at the End Times.**

**1**. *At that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a* ***time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time:*** *and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.* Dan. 12:1

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

 **3.** *And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out* ***of the great tribulation****, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.* Rev. 7:14. NKJV

**B. It Is The Ultimate End to the Times of the Gentiles – Lk. 21:24**

1. It is the **T**ermination of the **T**imes of the Gentiles involving the complete destruction of their institutions, their governments and the accomplishments of their judgment *And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.*
2. It **C**ompletes the Gentile times and in it Gentile judgments are accomplished.
3. It is **C**ontrolled by the Man of sin and by the reign of the Beast. I Thes. 2:3, 4; Rev. 13
4. *Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.*
5. *And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?* Rev, 13:4c.

c. It **C**ulminates in the setting up of Messiah's kingdom of righteousness and peace, the Climax of all human history. It is the Consummation of the divine purpose for the earth.

**C. It is Unilaterally terminated by the glorious appearing of Christ in the Revelation. Matt. 24:29-30**

*Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:*

*And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*

**IV. The Unfolding of the Events in The Great Tribulation**
 **A. Its Execution on Israel – Matt. 24**

 **[Timeline of Matthew 24:15-31 – Chart]**

1. The **P**rediction of the Great Tribulation. 24:21

  *For then shall be* ***great tribulation****, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.*

**2.** The **P**ersecution in the Great Tribulation. 24:9

 *Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you:and ye* ***shall be hated of all nations*** *for My name's sake.*

**3.** The **P**eople in the Great Tribulation. 24:15, 16

1. *When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place…*
2. *Let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains…*

**4**. The **P**ictures of the Great Tribulation. 24:38, **39**, 40 cf. Gen. 7:21-23

a. …*the day that Noe entered into the ark.*

b. *Two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left*

**5.** Its **S**equence:

1. ***When*** *ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 24:15*
2. *For* ***then*** *shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. 24:21*
3. ***then*** *shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: 24:30*

***then*** *shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 24:30b*

1. ***Then*** *shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 24:40*

*e.* ***When*** *the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him,* ***then*** *shall He sit upon the throne of his glory: And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:* 25:31, 3

6. The **S**alvation of God’s Elect: 24:22

*And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.*

7. Its **S**igns 24:29-31

*Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*

*And He shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

***And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob****:* Rom. 11:26

**B. its Exemption for the Church.**

**The Divisions of the Book of Revelation.**

**The Church** **Chaps. 1:1-4:1**

 Presence: “…*what the Spirit saith unto the churches*.” (7 occ)

**The Tribulation** **Chaps. 6-10** cf. 13:9 *Absence* of “*what the Spirit saith unto the churches*”.

**The Great Tribulation** **Chaps. 11-19**

 Cf. *If any man hath an ear, let him hear, cf*. 13:9

**The End Times and Eternity. Chaps. 20-22**

**The Exemption for the Church: Rev. 3:10, NKJV**

*Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.*

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