

Kept you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world.

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[Revelation 3:7-13](#) To each of the seven churches in Revelation chapters 1-3 Jesus says "he who has ears to hear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches" and in Revelation 1:3 "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near." In these three chapters and to the seven churches, Jesus shows us all that he wants His churches to be, His rules, His ways, His rewards and His disciplines. Five of the churches, Jesus has complaints against them and two He hasn't.

This morning we will look at the church at Philadelphia. Revelation chapter three. For the sake of time most of the gems we will look at next time with a few thoughts from Laodicea. This morning we will focus on one phrase:-

Revelation 3: ¹⁰ 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

Some say we go through the trial that is coming and we go through the wrath of God even though the scripture says we are not appointed to wrath ([1 Thessalonians 5:9](#)). Since this scripture says keep from the trial that is coming and this is an Assembly of God belief, so we have the right to preach this. Most of you here today will believe this also, even though many attack this view today. You know what you believe and today I will give a defence to what you believe so the mockers can't confuse you.

[Revelation 1:19](#) "What is now and what's to come. Chapter 6 onwards is the trial to come.

All the Prophecies of Christ first coming, were literal and so will be the ones of His second coming. Satan being bound by a chain wouldn't be a real steel chain, just meaning he is bound. Most language is explained. We need to study to show ourselves approved and a mystery needs to be sought out. [Revelation 1:20](#) "The **mystery** of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches". [Revelation 17:7](#) "But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the **mystery** of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. **The mystery explained.**" ⁹ "Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman ¹² "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet."

So, as we read and study, we are blessed and believe things will come literally to pass just as He says even though we may not understand everything. Before you can believe literally things of the end times you have to believe the 70th week of Daniel is in the future and hasn't happened yet .

The Seventy-Weeks Prophecy [Daniel 9: 24](#) “Seventy weeks are determined For your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy. ²⁵ “Know therefore and understand, *That* from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, *There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks*; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times. ²⁶ “And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it *shall be* with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined. ²⁷ Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate.”

The word *determine* means:- dividing, the time was divided on Jerusalem and the Jews, meaning the 490-years are segmented (7 weeks+ 62 weeks + 1 week= 70 weeks). Each week is seven Years.

[Daniel 12:11](#) “And from the time *that* the daily *sacrifice* is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, *there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days*.”

Three and a half years. If that's the middle of the week then two three and a half years is 7 years making 7 years one week. In the middle of the tribulation, the book of Revelation, the term 42 months or one thousand two hundred and ninety days or three and a half years is mentioned. [Revelation 12:6](#) and [13:5](#). Add the first half and you have one week or seven years. Since most of us are not rocket scientist or Mathematicians so let's let others do the work

Most denominations including christadelphians, Jehovah Witness, SDA, Mormons all believe in the 70th weeks of Daniel and 69 weeks to the crucifixion. The only difference is when the 70th week happens.

Amillennialism and most denominations will say 70th week of Daniel comes after 69 and all 70 weeks are dealing with Jews not the Church, God has finished with National Israel the destruction of Jerusalem in 70. Ad making the completion of all things. The Church is now spiritual Israel and all prophecy is now symbolic. There no great tribulation, no antichrist, no mark of the beast, and none of the judgements of Revelation, no millennial reign to literally take place.

There is no bible verse to say there is a gap between the 69th and the 70th week. However, it's been over 2000 years with no everlasting righteousness Christ has not returned and it isn't symbolic. Israel is a nation again as prophesied. The Jews are back in the land. They now have Jerusalem as their Capital, Israel is booming, they have the language back as prophesied and God hasn't finished with national Israel. [Luke 21: 24](#) and [Romans 11](#). The seventieth week is yet to happen. It has nothing to do with the church, that's why we believe the church is raptured, kept from the hour of trial

An example of another Gap. [Isaiah 9:6-7](#) For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. ⁷ Of the increase of His government and peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice. Verse seven follows after six and yet there is over a 2,000 year gap between the two. We know because one has happened and one hasn't. Christ is not ruling yet.

What Is The Hour of trial [Revelation 3:10](#)? Gods wrath and Judgements

[Revelation 1: 19](#) Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this. **[Revelation 4: 1](#)** “After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard *was* like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, “Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this.” Revelation chapter six to chapters nineteen is the trial that is to come. In chapter six the sixth seal we have an earthquake the sun becomes black, the moon like blood, the sky is split apart and every mountain and island is moved out of its place and it says and from the wrath of the Lamb for the great day of their wrath has come and who is able to stand and Revelation 6:8 When the fourth horse rider start riding a fourth of the earth will die from hunger, pestilence and the sword and that's at the beginning of the trial to come. Then comes the trumpet judgements in chapter eight, a third of the trees and grass are burnt up, a third of the see turns to blood, a third of the fish are gone and a third of the ships destroyed. A third of the rivers and springs become bitter and the bowls full of the wrath of God haven't even started yet, **[Revelation 16:21](#)** we have huge hailstones of 50 kilos falling to the ground. In **[Revelation 16:13-16](#)** Demons go out to gather the kings of the earth for the war of the great day of God the almighty and they gathered them together in a place called Ha-Magedon and God defeats his enemies at Jerusalem. **[Revelation 19:14-21](#)**. **Thats just a part of the trial to come.**

The trial to come is also The Great Tribulation. [Mathew 24:21-22](#)” For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. ²² And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.”

The trial to come is also Daniels 70th week. [Mathew 24:15](#): “When you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of by Daniel the Prophet standing in the Holy place.”

The trial to come is also The Day of the Lord.

[Joel 2:2, 30-31](#). “For the day of the LORD is coming, For it is at hand: ² A day of darkness and gloominess, A day of clouds and thick darkness,³⁰ “And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.³¹ The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.”

[Joel 3:1-2](#) “For behold, in those days and at that time, When I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, ² I will also gather all nations, And bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; And I will enter into judgment with them there.”

[Zechariah 14](#) “is the same thing it's the day of the Lord, the day of Judgement, it's the great tribulation it's the end of the 70th week, when all nations gather against

Jerusalem, it ties in with [Revelation chapter 19](#) where Christ destroys His enemies and puts the beast and the false prophet in the lake of fire”

The Day of the Lord. [2 Peter 3:10](#) “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”

Heaven and earth passing away. [Revelation 21:1](#) “This part of the day of the Lord is after the 1,000 year reign of Christ The day of the Lord is not one particular day , it is covering all of Gods judgements in the last days”

This Is the trial we shall be kept from

We have just learned we have been kept from the hour of trial [Revelation 3:10](#). Now we need to examine the scripture we are not appointed to wrath.

- **Explain [1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#) and the Day of the Lord.**
[1Thessalonians.5:1-11](#)

Some say not appointed to wrath means you don't go to hell and it has nothing to do with end times. However, when the New Testament was written there was no commas, full stops, paragraphs or chapters

[1 Thessalonians 4:](#) ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words. **And in the next breath**
[1 Thessalonians 5:1](#) But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. ² For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. ³ For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. **And they shall not escape.** .Notice the day of the Lord, the trial to come, the tribulation, Daniels 70th week the day of the Lord will come like a thief and verse.4 and 5 says ⁴ But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. ⁵ You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness and verse 9, says ⁹ For God did not appoint us to **wrath**, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. ¹¹ Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

In context, then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus, we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words. The comfort is that we are raptured, caught up in the twinkling of an eye, resurrected. The day of the Lord, the tribulation the 70th week of Daniel the text says won't catch us like a thief is not for us we are not appointed to it and the last words of verse 11 “Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing”. This means you are caught up in the air comforting one another with the words of [1 Thessalonians 4:18](#). This means you are raptured kept from the trial to come and not appointed to wrath.

Show church in Heaven, and a seven year gap

[1 Thessalonians 4](#) says we are caught up comfort one another with these words. They will say there is no mention of going to heaven for 7 years and I can say it doesn't say we come straight back down. They will say there is only one second coming so we must come straight back down. I say one coming two stages. They say there is no bible verse saying you go to heaven for seven years so how can you force gap. My answer is the 69 weeks were in succession 70 follows and there is no 2,000 year gap bible verse but you found by using the bible a gap and now you say I cant do the same. That is not fair, but by using my bible I can find a 7 year gap.

Church in heaven [Revelation 4:1,4,10](#) & [5:2-5](#) Before the breaking of the seals [Revelation 6](#)

These scriptures show the Elders dressed in white verse four having crowns and verse 10 they are casting their crowns before the Lord singing a song about being redeemed and becoming priests and Kings. A careful look shows the Elders saying who is worthy to open the seals as they are not opened yet. John being caught up to see a vision doesn't prove a rapture. Redeemed people in heaven doesn't either because many are their now although in spirit being only. However, casting their crowns before the Lord is for, we don't get our rewards till he comes at the resurrection of the just. [Luke 14:14](#). People are seen in heaven with their rewards before the tribulation starts. Elders represent the church for we are all gathered at once

Marriage supper in heaven [Revelation 19:7-9 & 14](#) Every one believes in the wedding feast the marriage supper of the Lamb even those who believe we go through the tribulation. After the supper Christ comes back to earth with His saints to defeat His enemies, showing the church is raptured while the tribulation is going on. **To be noted:** a Jewish wedding celebration lasts seven days a week and the 70th week of Daniel is seven years.

Martyred dead raised [Revelation 20:4](#) After the wedding and God defeating His enemies the devil is Chained up then He raises from the dead those who were beheaded for not receiving the antichrist mark and worshiping Him . That's the rapture they say No you were raptured before to be at the wedding. There is no dead in Christ being raised first here with those who are alive being caught, no last trumpet or the trump of God only those were killed for not worshiping the antichrist. Yes, there is only one first resurrection but in stages just as a gap in the 70th week and a gap between the rapture and the second coming Christ being raised is the first resurrection the rapture is a part of the first resurrection and now these saints also become a part of the first resurrection.

We need to go through the tribulation to purify the church, the bible promises tribulation for those who follow Him and we need to be there for the gospel to be preached

No, I am saved purified and sanctified by the precious blood of Jesus. Yes, we can't escape tribulation and we don't want to and many of us may yet have to die for our faith. What we face today is the wrath of man and the Devils wrath. We had murder of 6 million jews, rape murder etc. However, the tribulation, the 70th week of Daniel,

the day of the Lord is Gods wrath and He will discipline us but He not He won't pour His wrath and Judgement on His church.

The wrath of God. How can God pour His wrath on His people.

He can't. Some say we go the tribulation and He can keep us safe as the Israelites were in Goshen, when the plagues came upon Egypt. They say Noah was safe in the flood, Lot and his family were kept safe at Sodom and Gomora but they were still here on earth not in heaven. He does keep Israel safe for they have to be kept safe for all Israel to get saved in [Zechariah 12](#) just before He brings the nations down to Jerusalem to deal with them there. [Joel 3](#) and [Zechariah 14](#).

Israel is kept safe for one thousand two hundred and sixty days. [Revelation 12](#). The three men in the furnace were not touched by the fire. Daniel. God could vaporize a city and you could still be standing there. He could keep us safe but He doesn't. How can be kept safe and be killed at the same time. You can't. [Revelation 13: 15](#) "and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed." [Revelation 20](#) If you don't worship him, you are beheaded

- ✚ Why is the Church not mentioned after chapter four and only tribulation saints? (We are kept from the trial to come)
- ✚ Why do we have 144,000 Jews? [Revelation 7:4-8](#) and two witnesses preaching (We are kept from the trial to come)
- ✚ Why is an Angel preaching the Gospel to every to all and not us? [Revelation 14:6](#) (We are kept from the trial to come)

Could this be a thought worth pondering as a thought. First fruits are harvested first then the main harvest. When dealing with the Jews in Revelation the first peoples to be saved are the 144,00 Jews also called first fruits in [Revelation 14:4](#). and then the rest come in, when they look upon Him who they have pierced. [Zechariah 12:10](#).

But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. [1 Corinthians 15:20](#) and now we are harvested into His Kingdom. The bible says we who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. [Romans 8:23](#). So the thought is we are harvested first, presented to the Lord in the rapture as first fruits being kept from the trial that is coming and then an end time harvest is gathered.

- ✚ **Blessed Hope.** [Titus 2: 13](#) looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

Everyone in every generation has the right to expect His appearing and for example in the 12th century Israel could have become a nation in one day and Jerusalem in their possession the next day and things could have happened very quickly. However, if you went through the trial to come and was killed you would only be looking for the antichrist instead of Jesus Christ.

The Rapture is a New Doctrine led by John Nelson Darby (1800-1882). This doctrine become popular by 1828. People who are haters of the rapture are very vocal on the Internet saying it is a new doctrine and should not be believed, however

research shows there were a few church fathers who did believe in a pre-tribulation rapture and the church declines quickly and we go through the dark ages where church corruption was everywhere and the common people did not have bible. However, when the reformation came the doctrine slowly emerged again. Research will show that many writings appeared before Nelson Darby and many since then in every century

Irenaeus (AD 130 - 202) *Against Heresies*, Book 5, 5. 29 Bishop of the church in Lyons, France. And therefore, when in the end the Church shall be suddenly caught up from this, it is said, "There shall be tribulation such as has not been since the beginning, neither shall be. For this is the last contest of the righteous, in which, when they overcome, they are crowned with incorruption."

Cyprian (AD 200-258) - *Treatises of Cyprian* was Bishop of the church in Carthage. **Beheaded for his faith**

"We who see that terrible things have begun, and know that still more terrible things are imminent, may regard it as the greatest advantage to depart from it as quickly as possible. Do you not give God thanks, do you not congratulate yourself, that by an early departure you are taken away, and delivered from the shipwrecks and disasters that are imminent? Let us greet the day which assigns each of us to his own home, which snatches us hence, and sets us free from the snares of the world and restores us to paradise and the kingdom."

Victorinus of Petrovium (died 304) bishop in modern Slovenia, martyred during Diocletian's reign.

In his commentary on [Revelation 6:14](#), he writes, "And the heaven withdrew as a scroll that is rolled up. For the heaven to be rolled away, that is, that the Church shall be taken away." Later, while explaining [Revelation 15](#), he writes, "And I saw another great and wonderful sign, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is completed the indignation of God.] For the wrath of God always strikes the obstinate people with seven plagues, that is, perfectly, as it is said in Leviticus; and these shall be in the last time, when the Church shall have gone out of the midst."

Ephraim The Syrian Ephraim (306 AD – 373 AD)

He was made a deacon in the church in Syria in 338 and later became the **bishop of Nisibis**. Some call it "Pseudo" Ephraim because of later dispute over authorship that maybe someone else wrote it However it's still an early rapture document.

In his work, On The Last Times he wrote:

We ought to understand thoroughly therefore, my brothers, what is imminent or overhanging. Already there have been hunger and plagues, violent movements of nations and signs, which have been predicted by the Lord, they have already been fulfilled (consummated), and there is no other which remains, except the advent of the wicked one in the completion of the Roman kingdom. For all the saints and elect of God are gathered, prior to the tribulation that is to come, and are taken to the Lord lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins.

And so, brothers most dear to me, it is the eleventh hour, and the end of the world comes to the harvest, and angels, armed and prepared, hold sickles in their hands, awaiting the empire of the [Lord](#).

Joseph Mede (1586-1639) .”An English scholar educated at [Christ's College, Cambridge](#), where he became a biblical scholar. *Mede, Works*, III, 611 [cited in H. Orton Wiley; *Christian Theology*)

“After this, our gathering together unto Christ at His coming...The saints being translated into the air ... and they may be preserved during the conflagration of the earth, and the works thereof: [2 Peter 3.10](#). that as Noah and his family were preserved from the deluge by being lifted up above the waters in the ark, so should the saints at the conflagration be lifted up in the clouds, unto their ark, Christ, to be preserved there from the deluge of fire, wherein the wicked shall be consumed

William Hook (1600-1677) was an English Puritan clergyman, in New England for nearly two decades, mostly at New Haven. *A Short Discourse of the Nature and Extent of the Gospel-Day* (London, 1673)13,18 20-23.

“There are several Resurrections mentioned in the Scriptures. But great troubles will follow this Resurrection after a short time...which will shake the power of the Beast...till it come to Armageddon... The Beast lives in Hell upon Earth , the Saints in Heaven...when they ascended up to Heaven in a cloud, their Enemies beheld them. They rise up from Antichrist and his Pollutions, and all his earthly and hellish ways...and at last, they shall come with Christ to judge the world

MORGAN EDWARDS (1722-1795) He was the pastor of the Baptist church in Philadelphia and the founder of Brown University, the first Baptist college in America. Following is what Edwards believed about Bible prophecy: *Last-Novelties*, 1744).

“The distance between the first and second resurrection will be somewhat more than a thousand years. I say, somewhat more; because the dead saints will be raised, and the living changed at Christ’s ‘appearing in the air’ ([1 Thessalonians 4:17](#)); and this will be about three years and a half before the millennium, as we shall see hereafter: but will he and they abide in the air all that time? No: they will ascend to paradise, or to some one of those many ‘mansions in the father's house’ (John 14:2), and disappear during the foresaid period of time. The design of this retreat and disappearing will be to judge the risen and changed saints; for ‘now the time is come that judgment must begin,’ and that will be ‘at the house of God’ ([1 Peter 4:17](#))”He’s mid trib however it’s still a rapture document before the completion of wrath

John Gill (1748) Dr. John Gill a Calvinist Baptist theologian wrote a full commentary set on the Bible in 1748. In this commentary he made a statement in his notes on 1 Thessalonians 4 that supported a time difference between the rapture of the saints and the coming of Christ to earth. He said: .here Christ will stop and will be visible to all, and as easily discerned by all, good and bad, as the body of the sun at noon-day; as yet He will not descend on earth, because it is not fit to receive Him; but when that and its works are burnt up, and it is purged and purified by fire, and become a new earth, He'll descend upon it, and dwell with his saints in it: and this suggests another reason why He'll stay in the air, and His saints shall meet Him there, and whom He'll take up with Him into the third heaven, till the general conflagration and burning of the world is over, and to preserve them from it.

You knew what you believed and now you can know why you believed it
Ridiculing the Rapture. [Mathew 24:29-31](#) “Immediately after the tribulation of those days ³⁰ they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

The Elect can Be Israel, Angels or the church depending on context

[\(Isaiah 45:4\)](#) For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect ([1 Timothy 5:21](#)) I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, ([1 Peter 1:2](#)) Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:

Some will say the rapture is after the tribulation [Mathew 24:29-31](#), so how are you going to take this verse out of context to keep your rapture. What we are going to do is keep it in context. Remember all the 70th weeks in Daniel 9 are dealing with the Jews. In [Mathew 24](#):

He is talking to Jewish people about the end times and He says when you see the abomination and desolation spoke of by the Prophet Daniel standing in the Holy place verse.15, He is talking to them about the 70th week of Daniel. If you believe everything is symbolic then the elect is the church, and if you believe we go through the tribulation then the elect is the church. However, in context here He is speaking to the Jews about the tribulation period and the 70th week of Daniel, then the elect here is the Jews, Israel. It has nothing to do with the rapture, for the church doesn't exist yet and the rapture scriptures of [1 Corinthians 15:51-52](#) and [1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#). have not been written Yet. In [Zechariah 12:10](#). Just before all nations comes against Jerusalem, they look upon Him who they have pierced. After the elect Israel is saved and the tribulation is over His elect shall be gathered. In context this has nothing to do with the rapture or the church.

Romans says they missed their visitation, and the gentiles were grafted in and [Romans 11:27](#) when the full number of gentiles come in all Israel shall be saved. Since all the seventy weeks are for Israel there is no need for us to be there. Since the scripture says we are kept from the hour of trial and we are not appointed to wrath and in [Revelation 4](#) the church is seen in heaven with their rewards, and we are at the marriage supper of the lamb Revelation 19 while the tribulation is still going. And now we come back with Him and He overthrows His enemies. Since the church not mentioned after chapter four only tribulation saints, and we have converted Jews and an Angel preaching to everyone, the conclusion must be the church is in heaven for the tribulation period.

The next prophetic event on Gods calendar is the rapture of the church, the wedding feast, and the Lord destroys His enemies and we have a 1,000 year reign of Christ. Now you will see who really owns the land. Jesus the Jew, the Semite will rule from Jerusalem, Gaza, and the West Bank and Jerusalem will be the capital city of the world forever. God says Jerusalem is the centre of the earth [Ezekiel 5:5](#) regardless of what Google says.

“For the Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation. This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I *have desired it*. [Psalm 132:13–14](#).

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, May they prosper who love you. [Psalm 122:6](#).

God has the last say.