

Will Any be Alive at the End of Our Age?

After going through the Book of Rev., reading about the seven Seals, the seven Trumpets, the three Woes, the seven Plagues of God's Wrath, the two Witnesses, and the three plus Angels warning the world of the end of the age calamities, one would think it would be obvious that the world as we know now will no longer exist at the end of this (our) age. But we all seem to be in denial. I say "At the end of this age" because the very next age will be the one where Jesus returns and gathers his "elect" in a resurrection and begins the next age ruling on the earth. It is called the millennium which means "thousand". This next age is the only age that has been limited to a specific time period of one thousand years. The question is: how many people will be left alive when Jesus returns and who will they be? This study is an attempt to answer this question.

What will it be like when this happens? We will look for the answers in the book of Revelation and Ezekiel.

Rev.12:14-15 tells us the second Woe has passed so we enter into the third and last Woe which is at the end of the last seventh Trumpet. We see it is near the time for the Lord and His Christ to appear and the efforts of Satan to try to thwart the plan of God. In chapter 13 we see an introduction of the Beast which clearly is Satan's political system and military power. In vision John sees a powerful beast which represents a powerful worldwide ruler.

2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. This no doubt is a one world government that rules the world.

3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

4 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?

This government will get it's power from Satan and is very vicious and militarily strong.

5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

God is allowing this power to take control because of the sins of the world, as punishment for their rebellion against Him.

6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

He has no respect for God or for anyone whose faith is in God.

7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

This is the same time Christ alluded to in Luke 21:16-20

This ruler or government proceeds to destroy all living humans who disagree with its policies. Those who refuse to pledge their loyalty to him will be killed. This is the time of the great tribulation to Israel and God's people. All known believers in Christ will be martyred. But their names are recorded in the book of life.

8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

By this time everyone left will have succumbed to the Beast power.

9 If any man have an ear, let him hear.

Jesus says, "pay attention to this". It will all turn around. The wicked will get their just rewards. But in the meantime believers, be patient and faithful.

10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with this sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints. Believers are not to retaliate.

11 ¶ And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

This next beast is a different religious type that supports the first power. Remember, all the true believers are being martyred. This is a forced substitute religion, accompanied by magical displays of wonderment.

13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

This religion requires a worship of the first power in the form of an image that is programmed to keep track of those who do not conform to the rules or they would be killed. It seems that there will still be some who continue to rebel against this type of idolatry. But they, too, will lose their lives for their stand.

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the Beast or the number of his name. The rules of this second beast introduces another way to force the nations into submission by controlling their food supply. They either comply or starve to death.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

This ends chapter 13 with any and all true believers martyred. For information regarding those who do

take the mark we go to Rev. 14:8.

8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

(Babylon is weakening, in the process of falling. However, it's still hanging on.) There is an angel still warning any who will listen.

9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

This is strong language. If you succumbed to the powers of Satan you will suffer the consequence as described in these verses. There leaves no doubt that this world, as we know it, will not have any believers left alive. Only the wicked survive.

12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Here we see the importance of keeping the commandments of God. These have patiently kept the commandments and their faith in Jesus.

13 ¶ And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

The spirit of God witnesses that they are now dead, have been harvested by Jesus and are resting from their persecutions and are awaiting their resurrection and rewards. These believers will not have to experience the next great outpouring of the seven bowls of God's wrath as was promised in Rev. 3:7-14 to the Philadelphia church. They, too, are promised to escape the time of God's 7 bowls of wrath.

7 ¶ And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

9 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.

10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Keep in mind that we are still in the last trumpet, the third woe and the beginning of the seven last plagues of God's wrath getting ready to be poured out upon the remaining world of rebellious peoples.

Chapter 16 details the activities of the outpouring of the seven last plagues upon a rebellious world. Satanic powers lead them to band together in the valley of Meggido or Armageddon to fight against a returning Christ at the "great day of God Almighty". 17:14 ¶ These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful. The King wins, of course.

Rev. chapter 17 gives us more details of the powerful Babylon The Great, which by the way is a great city, and the Beast power that had been powerful in the past, had lost its power, then comes an eighth king that comes into power in the end of the age but will go into perdition.

Then there's ten powerless kings that will join the beast just to gain some power.

12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

These kings have a seething purpose for joining the beast. They want to destroy the great city of Babylon. They hate her with a passion. Could this not be Islamic nations? They are the ones God uses to destroy Babylon the Great. V.17

15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

This great city has gained control over the Beast and many nations of the world.

16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. These ten kings unite with the beast to destroy the great city's hold on the world.

18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

Chapter 16 gives gory details of the seven plagues being poured out on the earth. This is the time Christ spoke of in Luke 21:22-26

18:1 ¶ And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of

her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

As Babylon looses her grip on the nations and the beast power weakens some are being awakened and are half heartedly repenting.. God is still, in his mercy, patiently calling to them to “come out of her my people” prior to the seven plagues that are to be poured out upon the Beast and Babylon. But the majority of the believers who have survived have become luke warm and hardened by their wealth.

Rev. 3:14 ¶ And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Another offer of mercy to this Gentile congregation. But it seems they are not going to pass the test during the great tribulation to the whole world with the outpouring of God’s wrath. We know they are Gentile because all seven of the churches in Rev. are Gentile congregations.

The rest of chapter 18 describes in detail the effects Babylon’s fall has on the wealthy nations of the world.