

The Ultimate Hope of The Believer

May 21st & May 22nd, 2022

Mark 13:19-20, 24-27

Unprecedented Tribulation

Mark 13:19 “For in those days there will be such tribulation as has not been from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, and never will be.” (ESV)

↳ Suffering and distress in the world will require God’s supernatural intervention.

Mark 13:20 “And if the Lord had not cut short the days, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect, whom He chose, He shortened the days.” (ESV)

↳ In spite of tribulation, we know that God will direct us, protect us, and rescue us from the coming tribulation.

Luke 21:25-28 “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” (ESV)

2 Thessalonians 1:5-7 “This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering — since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels” (ESV)

1 Thessalonians 1:10 “and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.” (ESV)

❖ What is the tribulation that is coming to humanity during the end times?

Mark 13:24-25 “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.” (ESV)

Revelation 6:1-17

❖ Seven Seals

1. A false promise of peace and safety.
2. War that dissolves peace.
3. Financial and economic distress that affect food price.
4. The death of a fourth of the population on the earth due to war, famine, pestilence, and wild beasts.
5. The announcement of the final persecution of the believers and God’s coming justice.
6. The wrath of God displayed over the earth.
7. Silence in Heaven, peals of thunder and lightning, an earthquake.

Revelation 8-9, 11:15-19

❖ Seven trumpets

1. Hail and fire mixed with blood and a third of the earth was burnt.
2. A mountain was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood, destroying life and ships.
3. A star fell from heaven, and a third of the waters became poisonous, killing many.
4. Partial darkness of the sun and the moon causing partial darkness on the earth.
5. The bottomless pit was opened, and an army of demons prepared for battle tormented people for five months.
6. An army of 200 million is set free to kill 1/3 of the earth’s population.
7. The announcement of the kingdom of God, the 24 elders worship the Lord, and God’s temple in heaven was opened.

Revelation 16:1-21

❖ Seven Bowls

1. Harmful sores
2. The whole sea became blood
3. The rivers and springs became blood
4. The sun scorched people with fire
5. Darkness in the kingdom of the beast
6. The drying of the river Euphrates
7. The greatest earthquake ever

Days of evil

Revelation 3:10 “Because you have kept My word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth.” (ESV)

↳ What is the condition of men and the world during this time?

Revelation 6:16-17 “calling to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?’” (ESV)

Revelation 9:20-21 “The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.” (ESV)

Revelation 16:9-11 “They were scorched by the fierce heat, and they cursed the name of God who had power over these plagues. They did not repent and give Him glory. The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues in anguish and cursed the God of heaven for their pain and sores. They did not repent of their deeds.” (ESV)

Revelation 16:21 “And great hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, fell from heaven on people; and they cursed God for the plague of the hail, because the plague was so severe.” (ESV)

The Hope of the Believer...

Mark 13:26-27 “And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And then He will send out the angels and gather His elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.” (ESV)

... As we expect protection from God.

1 Peter 1:3-5 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” (ESV)

... As we expect the rapture.

📖 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

📖 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

... As we experience deliverance.

1 Thessalonians 5:5-8 “For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the Hope of salvation.” (ESV)