

This is a period of time after Christ has taken His church out of the world and gathered all believers to Himself. The Holy Spirit up to now has held back complete wickedness, but now the antichrist has arrived and is free to torture the wicked. These will be the most wicked days of all mankind in history. These days are carried out against the wicked because they chose to refuse God. They did not want to be saved.

- Dan 12:1 “At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands *watch* over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, *Even* to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Every one who is found written in the book.
- Matt 24:21 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.
- 2 Thess 2:3-10 Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.
- Matt 24:29-31 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 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.
- 1 John 2:18-19 Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

Discussion Item 1: *Have you secured your faith in Christ to know that yo will not remain behind for the tribulation?*

Discussion Item 2: *Why has God planned such punishment on the wicked?*

Life Application: *Envision the tribulation starting tomorrow and personalize those people who do not know Christ and let them know the good news.*

Helpful Definition:

trouble | distress- To cause pain or anguish to; to pain; to oppress with calamity; to afflict; to harass; to make miserable. (*Webster*)

Notes:

Proverb 16:12 *It is an abomination for kings to commit wickedness, For a throne is established by righteousness.*

Psalms 9:7 *But the LORD shall endure forever; He has prepared His throne for judgment.*