Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

OPERATING IN THE SPIRIT REALM

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PART 12: PROTECTION FROM THE ANTICHRIST

In the previous message we examined how living in the supernatural is the only way for a Christian to survive during the time of the Antichrist. Your life in the future will be comparable to that of the Israelites when they came out of Egypt and walked in the wilderness for forty years.

Christian ministers have for centuries been writing books about the end times, sometimes setting a date, other times trying to figure out who the different kings and nations are going to be. It is apparent that we are getting close to the coming of the Antichrist, and as I have proven from the Bible, there will not be a catching away (rapture) just before the Antichrist takes control of the earth. This presents a great need to prepare to live through this time period.

CHAPTER TWELVE OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

The twelfth chapter in the Book of Revelation contains a number of different messages. You will end up confused if you try to read this chapter as one story. The division into chapters and verses came long after the Bible was written; therefore, if several stories have been put together in one chapter, it does not necessarily mean it is one message. Let's divide this chapter into segments:

- 1. Verses 1-2 refer to Mary, the mother of Jesus and the birth of the Messiah.
- 2. **Verses 3-4** tell the story of the angelic rebellion, the fall of Lucifer and how one third of the angels followed him in rebellion against God. This event took place before Adam and Eve were created.

There is a giant leap in time in the latter part of verse four when we are told the dragon is standing before Mary as she is ready to give birth to Jesus in order to kill him. In verse 9 the dragon is identified as the Devil. This prophetic word had already taken place when the Book of Revelation was written and we find this to be true in the Gospel of Matthew when the Devil used King Herod to try to kill baby Jesus. **Matthew 2:7; 16-18**

- 3. **Verse 5** is the description of Jesus appearing during the future 1,000 years kingdom. **Revelation 20:4**
- Verse 6 refers to the time that Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus had to flee to Egypt and live there until King Herod was dead. Matthew 2:13-15; 19-23
- 5. **Verses 7-9** refer to the time period before Adam and Eve, when Lucifer rebelled against God and started a war in the universe which he lost.
- 6. **Verses 10-11** provides a summary of the redemptive work by Jesus on the cross; we can overcome Satan by the blood of Jesus and our testimonies of salvation and deliverance.



7. **Verse 12** is a warning that the Devil is on the rampage; he is aware that time is short before he is cast into the Lake of Fire.

PROTECTION

The first promise of protection from God is found in the Book of Revelation and refers to the 144,000 persons from the 12 tribes of Israel; they will be sheltered from God's judgment against the people living under the Antichrist system. **Revelation 7:1-4**

The second promise of protection is a general protection for all Christians who have been sealed. The plague described in this chapter is part of God's judgment on the people in the Antichrist system. **Revelation 9:1-4**,

The third promise of protection applies to the two prophets standing in Jerusalem. They will be in a hostile environment for a period of 3.45 years (1260 days), during which time they cannot be killed. At the end of this time period, the protection is withdrawn and they will be murdered; however, just 3.5 days later they will be resurrected. **Revelation 11:3-12**.

The only general protection for Christians is found in **Revelation 12:13-17**. The woman in these verses is not Mary, the mother of Jesus, but the church and Jesus is the bridegroom. **Matthew 9:14-15**

The surviving Christians will be transported to a wilderness area where God will protect and supply their needs.

GOD'S PROTECTION IN THE PAST

God is not going to operate any differently than He has done in the past.

- 1. When God judged the people in the world with a flood, He protected Noah, his family and the animals. **Genesis 6:13-22**
- 2. God protected Daniel and his three friends. Daniel 3:16-28; 6:14-24
- 3. God protected the apostle Peter. Acts 12:1-17

DO NOT FEAR!

Whether you like it or not, we cannot stop whatever is going to happen in the future. We have to trust God and rely upon His provision. **Matthew 10:26-33**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?