

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

OPERATING IN THE SPIRIT REALM

RLJ-1438

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PART 9: THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY

REVIEW FROM PREVIOUS MESSAGES

1. The "Reign of the Antichrist" is not the same time period as the "Great Tribulation."
2. The Bible does not say there will be a catching away (rapture) of the Christians prior to the reign of the Antichrist.
3. The Great Tribulation described by Jesus will take place toward the end of the reign of the Antichrist and will be a judgment on the Antichrist and the people who follow him. **Matthew 24:21-22**

WHEN WILL THE HOLY GHOST LEAVE THE EARTH?

The common teaching among evangelical Christians is the erroneous belief that the catching away (rapture) of the church will occur before the Antichrist begins to reign.¹ They also believe that the Holy Ghost will be removed from the earth at the catching away and base it on the following Scripture. **2 Thessalonians 2:3-8**

But this Scripture reference does not say that the Holy Ghost is going to leave the earth or that it is the Holy Ghost that is blocking the Antichrist from revealing himself.

Paul's words only tell us there is a being that is holding back the Antichrist; I believe this can only refer to a holy angel for the following reasons:

- ❖ There were holy angels guarding the entrance to the Garden of Eden. **Genesis 3:24**
- ❖ There is no place in the Bible where it states that the Holy Ghost is holding back evil but we have several recorded instances where holy angels held back or controlled evil. **Revelation 7:1; 9:13-15; 20:1-3**
- ❖ Jesus said He would never abandon His people on earth. **Matthew 28:18-20**
- ❖ Jesus also stated that the Word of God will remain in force until the end of this creation. **Matthew 5:17-18**
- ❖ If any Christian teaches contrary to this doctrine, he will be reduced to the least in the kingdom of Heaven (God). **verse 19**
- ❖ Since Jesus is not personally present on the earth after the ascension to heaven, He is represented by the Holy Ghost that He sent to be with us. **John 16:7-15**

¹ www.eaec.org/sermons/2013/RLJ-1422.htm



- ❖ This representative of Jesus will stay on the earth until the end of the world. **Matthew 28:20**
- ❖ We can therefore conclude that the Holy Ghost will not leave the earth until after the Great White Throne Judgment, when the entire creation will be abandoned by God and his people and dissolved. **2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 21:1**

The Word of God will remain unchanged until the end of this creation and all the promises and obligations from God will also remain in force until the end of this creation. Therefore a Christian living during the reign of the Antichrist can rely upon the full support of God! Hebrews 13:8

WHAT ROLE WILL THE HOLY GHOST PLAY DURING THE END TIMES?

Christians did not discuss what would happen during the reign of the Antichrist for the last 1,900 years since this evil system had not come into being. We know that the Antichrist system is going to be a society controlled by technology but it hadn't been sufficiently developed until recently. With the decline of power in the Christian churches and a rapid increase in technology that has every person under surveillance in the industrialized nations, the handwriting is on the wall as the system is in place and we await the arrival of the Antichrist.

Jesus told us that the ability to buy and sell is going to be controlled by Satan and only those who have the Mark of the Beast can participate in the system. How can a Christian survive in such an environment? **Revelation 13:11-17**

The Holy Ghost will still be on the earth during this time period and He will indwell believers in Christ and the gifts and manifestations of the Holy Ghost will still be in operation. **Acts 2:37-39; Joel 2:28-32**

WHAT DID JESUS SAY ABOUT THIS TIME PERIOD?

During the three and a half years that Jesus spent on earth before His crucifixion, He did not specifically address the reign of the Antichrist. However, He did say there would be horrific persecutions, but they cannot be tied exclusively to the reign of the Antichrist. **Matthew 10:16-21**

Jesus addressed how His disciples should react and respond when there is persecution. This also applies for those who live during the reign of the Antichrist. **Matthew 10:22-23**

In the Book of Revelation, Jesus was specific in how He wants His disciples to function during the reign of the Antichrist. **Revelation 14:12-13**

There are certain things that Jesus demands of His disciples and this will continue to hold true during the reign of the Antichrist:

- ❖ Do not live in fear. **Matthew 10:24-31**

- ❖ If you refuse to confess Jesus before men, He will not confess you before the Father in heaven. **verses 32-33**
- ❖ Jesus did not come to create peace on earth. **verse 34-37**
- ❖ You must take up your cross and follow Jesus. **verse 38**
- ❖ If you try to save your life you will lose it. **verse 39**

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?