

Prophecy devo #21 – Why the church will not go through the Tribulation

Reason #8: The tribulation of the church and the Great Tribulation are not the same.

There are two types of tribulation. (1) There is a tribulation that Jesus said would come upon the church. “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). The church’s tribulation originates in the world. It comes from the world system that is controlled by Satan. “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places...” (Ephesians 6:12-13). The church’s tribulation will last throughout the entire church age. (2) The Great Tribulation originates in Heaven. It will last seven years, then Christ will return. During the end-times Tribulation, God’s wrath will be poured out on sinners who have rebelled against Him and His Christ (Psalm 2:2). “He shall speak to them in His wrath...” (Psalm 2:4). When God’s judgments are released in the Tribulation, people will call for the rocks and the mountains to fall on them to hide them from God’s wrath. They will cry out, “Who is able to stand?” (Revelation 6:16). These trials come from God, not from the Devil. There is a great difference between the tribulation of the church and the end times Tribulation. The contrast is seen in these prophetic words, “The hand of the Lord shall be known to His servants, and His indignation to His enemies” (Isaiah 66:14). God will send the Great Tribulation, but not on the church. That is reserved for His enemies.