



Believe

JOHN

MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Jesus' Death Absorbs the Great Tribulation

“In a little while, you’ll see me” — Resurrection/Easter or Parousia/End of the Age?

Digging for a Deeper Meaning – Jesus’ Apocalyptic Allusions

- A. Jesus’ Answer is deeper than the Question
- B. Jesus’ ‘Child – birth’ Metaphor has Theological Meaning
- C. Apocalyptic allusions in Jesus’ Answer
 1. “Jewish literature...vary,but...one thing is sure: there will be a tribulation period before the Age to Come is established. Tribulation involves...apostasy, upheaval, suffering, & cosmic disturbances” – Scot McKnight

John’s Glaring Omission of Jesus’ Apocalyptic Prophecy (Mark 13)

- A. John Omits Jesus’ Prophetic ‘Olivet Discourse’ (Mark 13)
- B. Jesus’ Apocalyptic Prophecy – the ‘Olivet Discourse’ (Mark 13)
- C. The ‘Great Tribulation’ in the NT (Mk. 13:14 – 20; Mt. 24:15 – 22; Rev. 7:9 – 13)
- D. The Destruction of Jerusalem in AD70 did not exhaust Jesus’ Prophecies

John’s Gospel reinterprets the Synoptics’ Apocalyptic Prophecies

- A. “John has reinterpreted... the prophecies...in Mark. 13; he no longer understands them to be properly [End – time].” — Dale Allison
- B. Jesus applies Apocalyptic (End – time) Language to His own Death & Resurrection Jesus “clearly connects his own suffering & that of his followers with the tribulation.” – Scot McKnight
- C. John’s ‘Realized Eschatology’ – the Future is Now“

1. 'Realized eschatology'...future expectations are seen to be fulfilled in present events." – Wendy North

1. Example #1: Antichrist

2. Example #2: Satan, the world ruler — judged & cast out

3. Church & the 'Great Tribulation' — John vs. Mark 13

D. The Child – birth Image of Messianic Woes

E. Jesus' Understood his own Death as undergoing the End – time Tribulation

1. "Jesus understood he would die as part of the [End – time] tribulation... as the first to 'run the gauntlet' of the Final Ordeal [the Great Tribulation]." – Scot McKnight

F. Mark portrays Jesus' passion as the Great Tribulation

G. Jesus' Death absorbs the Great Tribulation

1. "John understands Jesus' death on the cross as absorbing the 'messianic woes' ...the Great Tribulation." – C. Marvin Pate

2. "Christ...vicariously embraced the messianic woes (Great Tribulation) so that his people would not have to...By Christ's... cross/resurrection, Christians are 'saved from the [End – time] wrath to come'." – C. Marvin Pate

3. "Jesus thought of his death in terms of the tribulation & that suffering could be described as atoning" – BJ Pitre

Jesus' Final Word of Exhortation (16:33)