

A globe of Earth is shown, surrounded by a thick, bright orange and yellow ring of fire. The fire appears to be consuming the globe, with flames and smoke rising from the bottom. The background is dark, making the fire and the blue and white of the globe stand out.

**Matthew 24**  
**...then shall be**  
**great tribulation...**

**Neal Parker**

# 'DEATH TO ISRAEL, U.S.' CHANTS IN TEHRAN



Those who have  
knowledge, don't  
predict. Those who  
predict, don't have  
knowledge.

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# Reasons To Study Great Tribulation Prophecies

- **Retain our spiritual composure in tribulation**
- **John 16:33**
- **I Thessalonians 1:6**
- **Matthew 24:9-13**
- **Acts 14:21-22**

# What Is Tribulation?

- **Tribulation** - distress or suffering resulting from oppression or persecution; *also* : a trying experience
- **Tribulation** – Greek “thlipsis” (Strong’s Concordance #2347): Affliction or to be afflicted; When thlipsis is used in the scriptures, it shows us that there is pressure that is almost beyond human endurance. This word is often translated as the following: hardships, sufferings, troubles, tribulations, and afflictions.

# Olivet Prophecy

## Matthew 24:21-22

For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

## Mark 13:19-20

For those days will be a time of tribulation such as has not occurred since the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will. Unless the Lord had shortened those days, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect, whom He chose, He shortened the days.

# Olivet Prophecy

## Luke 21:23-24

...for there will be great distress upon the land and wrath to this people; and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

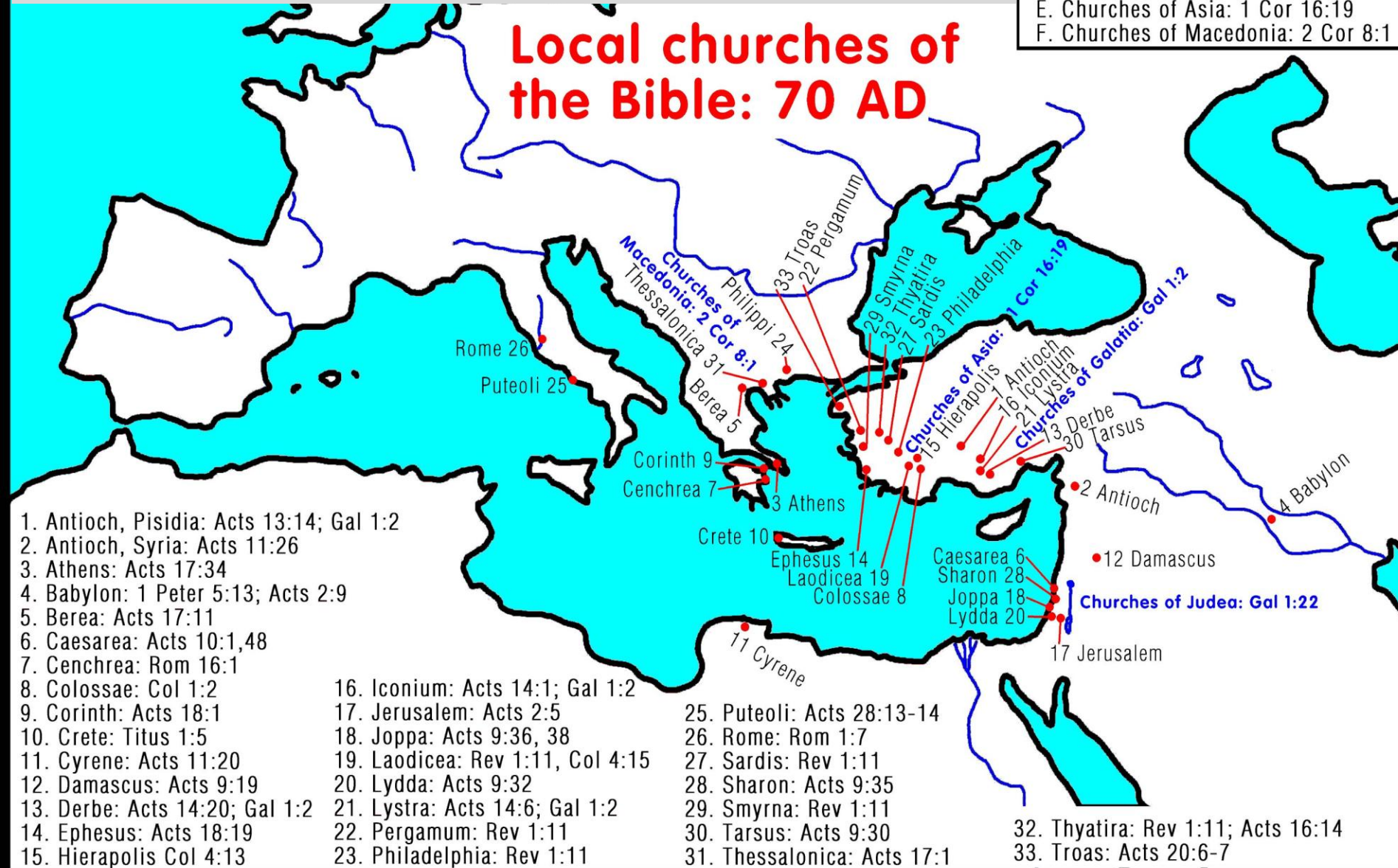
- Could this time of great tribulation or distress be the time mentioned in **Daniel 12:1**?
- Could the time of great tribulation or distress be precede by the time of Jacob's Trouble for Israel and Judah mentioned in **Jeremiah 30** and **Ezekiel 5**?

# Times of Great Tribulation

## Regions of Churches

- A. Region of Phoenicia: Acts 11:19
- B. Region of Samaria: Acts 8:14, 25
- C. Churches of Judea: Gal 1:22
- D. Churches of Galatia: Gal 1:2
- E. Churches of Asia: 1 Cor 16:19
- F. Churches of Macedonia: 2 Cor 8:1

## Local churches of the Bible: 70 AD



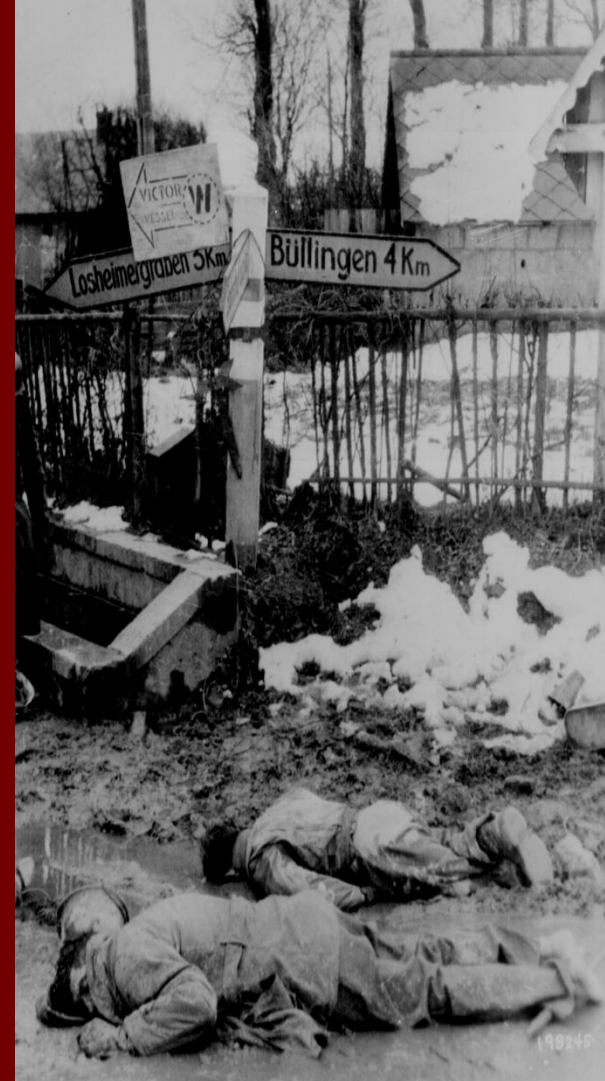
# Great Tribulation In 70 AD



# Great Tribulation During Spanish Inquisition



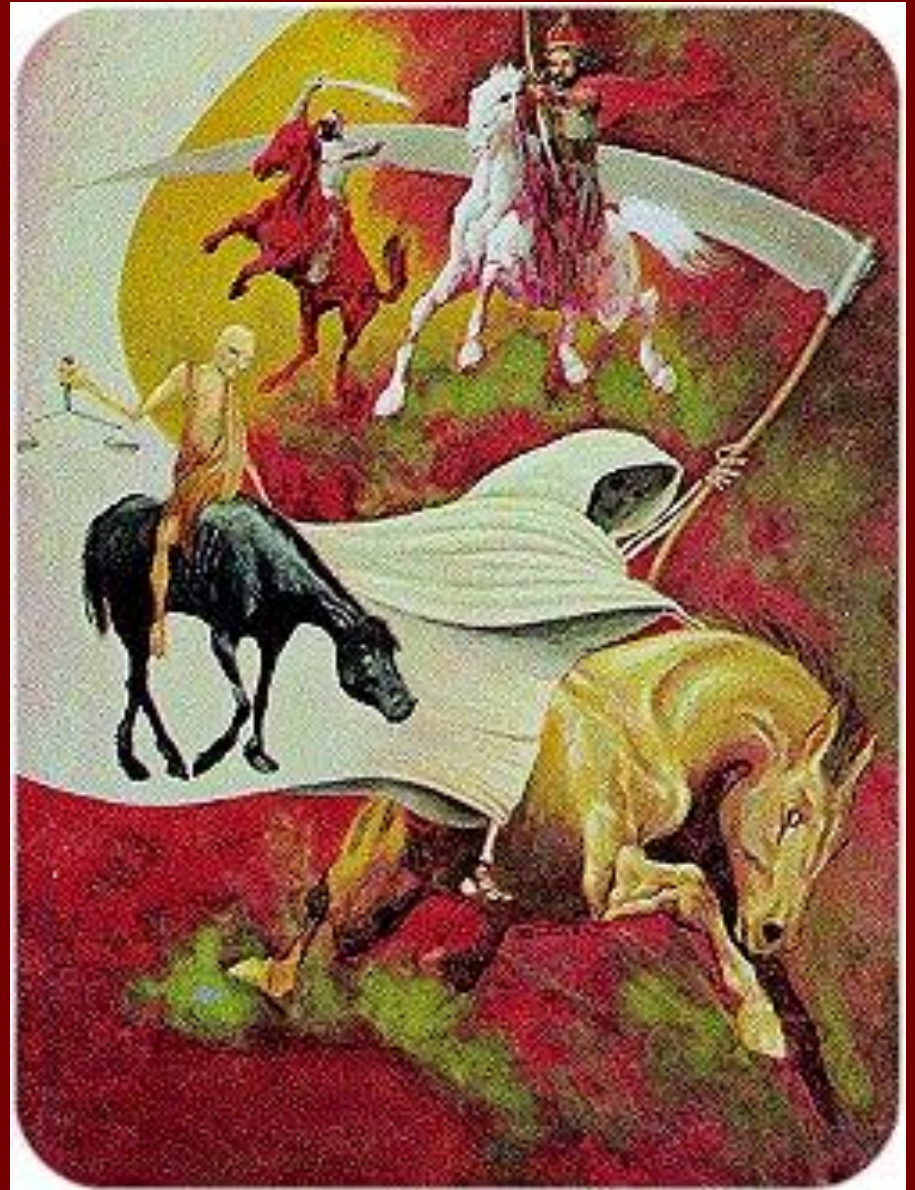
# Great Tribulation During World Wars



# Timing of Great Tribulation

**Revelation 6:1-11**

**Daniel 7:21-25**



# Great Tribulation: Religious Persecution From Within The Church?

## John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly

- Could the “thief” in the Parable of the Good Shepherd, be identified as Satan, in the form of an impostor, for the purpose of attempting to destroy for eternity, the Church?

# **Great Tribulation: Persecution of The Church**

## **Revelation 12:12-17**

**For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child. But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood.**

# **Great Tribulation: Persecution of The Church**

## **Revelation 12:12-17**

**But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth. So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.**

- Could those called the “rest of her children”, be the people spoken of in Revelation 7:9-17?**

# **Great Tribulation: Persecution of The Church**

## **Revelation 7:9-10, 13-17**

**After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands; and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from? I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

# **Great Tribulation: Persecution of The Church**

## **Revelation 7:9-10, 13-17**

**For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them. They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat; for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."**

# Great Tribulation: Reward for the Overcomers

## Daniel 7:26-27

But the court will sit {for judgment,} and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever. Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of {all} the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom {will be} an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.'

- Could Daniel 7:27 be the reward of those who have suffered martyrdom from the past (Revelation 6:9-11) and future (Revelation 7:9-17)?

**...but for the sake of the elect...**

## **Romans 11:1-5**

**I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never be! For I too am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says in the passage about Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? "Lord, THEY HAVE KILLED YOUR PROPHETS, THEY HAVE TORN DOWN YOUR ALTARS, AND I ALONE AM LEFT, AND THEY ARE SEEKING MY LIFE."**

**...but for the sake of the elect...**

## **Romans 11:1-5**

**But what is the divine response to him? "I HAVE KEPT for Myself SEVEN THOUSAND MEN WHO HAVE NOT BOWED THE KNEE TO BAAL." In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to God's gracious choice.**

- Is it our Christian obligation to be "the elect" / "a remnant", in today's society?**

# Reasons To Study Great Tribulation Prophecies

- Keep ourselves “pointing” to God and encouraging others to continue in the faith

- **Revelation 1:9**

- **Mark 4:14-20**

- **Romans 2:9**

- **Revelation 2:8-11**

- **Micah 6:8**