

“10 Days for 10 Years”



SUFFERING!

Matthew 24:9-14

“Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and you shall be hated of all nations for My name’s sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations; and then shall the end come.”

Since the beginning of Christ’s Church believers have suffered trials, persecution and martyrdom for their faith at various times throughout history. Suffering, trials and persecution have always served to strengthen and purify God’s people as we remain intimate and confident of His goodness and reliant upon His grace (James 1:2-4; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, Psalm 91). In the above passage Jesus reveals that at the very end of time, which our generation has entered into will be a time of worldwide persecution and martyrdom. Many have taught a pretribulation “Rapture” scenario that has left many born again believers totally unprepared for the severe hatred, persecution and martyrdom we will soon be facing even in North America. Jesus clearly warned that this “persecution madness” as David Wilkerson referred to it would take place before the completion of the great commission and Harvest, that the Church must bring in before the “Rapture” (verse 14). Sadly, Jesus also revealed that it will result in many shallow and unprepared believers being offended and hatefully turning against and betraying their brethren (verse 10; Matthew 13:36-43).

The good news is the Lord is giving us this opportunity to prepare by humbly returning to Him with all our hearts in genuine repentance (Joel 2:12-14). That we may receive His mighty grace to endure hardship (suffering) as good soldiers in this season of purification (2 Timothy 2:3-4). And best of all, as we yield our lives fully He will make us His vessels of honour fit to manifest His glory and bring in the greatest harvest of precious souls in the history of mankind (2 Timothy 2:19-21; Revelation 7:9-14). Beloved you have been called and chosen to be an overcomer in this final leg of your race to victory in this glorious harvest (I Corinthians 9:14-27; Hebrews 12:1-7).

Therefore, be faithful even unto death and you shall receive the crown of life (Revelation 2:10).
(For further study: Psalm 34:19; 2 Tim. 2:12 & 3:12; I Peter 4:12-19; Hebrews 5:8; Rev.6:9-11)