

Israel in the Tribulation

By C. E. Foster

PREFACE

REFERENCES USED IN THIS PUBLICATION

- **American Standard Version** (ASV or AV) is a version of the Bible that was released in 1901. It soon came to have other names, such as the American Revised Version, the American Standard Revision, the American Standard Revised Bible, and the American Standard Edition. By the time its copyright was renewed in 1929, it had come to be known by its present name, the American Standard Version.
- **Diaglott** is a two-language polyglot translation, of the New Testament by Benjamin Wilson, first published in 1864. It is an interlinear translation with the original Greek text and a word-for-word English translation in the left column, and a full English translation in the right column.
- **King James Version** (KJV) references are used throughout this publication unless otherwise noted.
- **Revised Version** (RV) (or English Revised Version) of the Bible is a late 19th-century British revision of the King James Version of 1611. It was the first and remains the only officially authorized and recognized revision of the King James Bible.
- **Wuest:** Kenneth Samuel Wuest (1893–1962) was a noted New Testament Greek (Κοινή) scholar of the mid-20th century...produced his own English translation of the New Testament (the Wuest Expanded Translation – abbreviated WET) based on Nestle's critical text.

Note: *Definitions of references pulled from WikipediA, The Free Encyclopedia, January 2013.*

DISCLAIMER

This document has been formatted, proofed, and its verbiage modernized so as to save it into an easily read and/or printed electronic format.

"But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." [Mat.10:22, 24:13; Mar.13:13]

This passage of scripture is often quoted in these days by many who do not know its meaning; and therefore they apply it wrongly. Thus they hinder their own spiritual progress and confuse others that are not established in the truth. To understand any passage of scripture we must consider the connecting verses, and find out to whom the passage is spoken, and to what time it refers. As one has said,

"Every book of the Bible has its key hung up by the door, and if we have and know the key, we are able to unlock and know the truth the book contains."

The Gospel of Matthew presents Jesus as King, and therefore speaks much of The Kingdom. This is the key to Matthew. The connecting verses of Matthew give us the explanation of this verse. Comparing it with other scriptures makes it unmistakably plain that this statement has reference to Israel in the Great Tribulation and not to The Church in this age. Let us consider a few quotations and let God's Word speak to our hearts.

- The first 3 verses of Matthew 24 show us clearly that Jesus is speaking of Israel in reference to the temple at Jerusalem, and concerning His 2nd Advent and the end of this age. Read Matthew 23:37-39, the last of which declares: "*Ye shall not see me henceforth till ye shall say, Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.*" Read also Matthew 24:1-3, and observe the double question, "*What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the age?*" The temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. fulfilling Luke 21:20-24; and Jerusalem is still trodden down of the Gentiles.
- The Roman armies surrounding Jerusalem was the sign of its destruction then; but the sign given in Matthew 24:3 is altogether different, and refers to a time yet future [Mat.24:15-31], when "*the abomination that maketh desolate*" will be "*set up*" [Dan.12:11]. This will be done by...
 - "*the little horn*" of Daniel 7:8,
 - "*the prince that shall come*," of Daniel 9:26-27,
 - "*the king*" of Daniel 11:36-45,
 - "*the man of sin*" of 2 Thessalonians 2:4-8,
 - "*that Antichrist*" of 2 John 2:18, and
 - "*the beast*" of Revelation 13:1-10.

The Church is having her tribulation now, especially those who are obedient and walking in the light [Joh.16:33, Act.14:22, Rom.5:3]; and she will escape the awful time of trouble that is coming upon Israel—"*the great tribulation*" [Mat.24:21], "*the hour of temptation which shall come upon all the world*" [Rev.3:10] (see also 1Th.4:13-18). The 4th and 5th Chapters of Revelation show us the Bride of Christ in heaven enthroned and crowned with "*the crown of righteousness*" before the book of

judgments is opened in the 6th Chapter. The crowning day begins when Jesus comes to catch away the ready ones [2Ti.4:8].

It is evident from these passages and all scripture as a whole that Matthew 24:13, “*endure to the end,*” refers definitely to Israel in The Tribulation, when the faithful remnant, awakened by the 2 witnesses, will preach “*the Gospel of the kingdom unto all nations for a witness unto them. Then shall the end come*” [Mat.24:14, 25:31-46]. The Gospel to be preached primarily during the Church Age is “*the gospel of the grace of God*” [Act.20:24], and to believers this Gospel brings eternal life. “*These things have I written unto you that believe on the Name of the Son of God, that ye may know that ye have eternal life*” [1Jo.5:13]; because we are saved “*according to His own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before the world began*” [2Ti.1:9]. Therefore, we endure because we are saved; but we do not endure in order to be saved, which would mean salvation by endurance instead of faith. That would be works, which is everywhere condemned because it makes void the grace of God. God has “*saved us and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works*” [2Ti.1:9]. Why do people talk so much about enduring? Why not speak as the Scripture speaks? “*We are kept (not endure) by the power of God thru faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time.*” It could not be otherwise, for “*the Word of the Lord endureth forever*” [1Pe.1:5, 23-25]. Consider also the prayer and promise of Jesus that we be kept in John 10:28-29 and John 17:11-12, 15. Have you ever read Romans 8:28-39? These invincible questions and assertions end by saying that nothing, absolutely **Nothing** “*shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord*” [Rom.8:39]. Read also Acts 13:47-48; Ephesians 1:3-6; Philippians 1:6; and Hebrews 6:4-9, 13, 20.

In The Tribulation, Israel will endure in the flesh. They will physically endure the dreadful afflictions that will come upon the world at that time. Jesus declared expressly that “*except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened*” [Mat.24:22]. The “*elect*” spoken of in this verse are Israel. Compare Isaiah 65:8-9, “*I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains; and mine **ELECT** shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there.*” Please read Jeremiah 30:7, “*Alas for that day is great, so that none is like it. It is even the time of Jacob’s trouble.*” Then observe the comforting assurance, “*but he shall be saved out of it,*” *because the days shall be shortened. Note another promise: “I will bring the third part thru the fire...I will say, it is my people; and they shall say “The Lord is my God” [Zec.13:8-9]. As Noah was preserved through the flood, so the remnant of Israel shall be preserved through the fiery Tribulation. But as Enoch escaped the flood by translation, so The Church escapes The Tribulation through the open door in heaven [Rev.4:1].*

According to Revelation 13:7 and 14:13, some believers (of course they are Israel) will be slain for the Word of God because they refuse the mark of the beast, who will have “*power to make war with the saints and to overcome them.*” But “*blessed are the dead that die in the Lord.*” But they shall not all be killed, for “*the woman*” is protected for 1,260 days [Rev.12:6, 14], or for “*a little moment, until the indignation be overpast*” [Isa.26:20-21]. Some of God’s people are at that late day still in the “*mystery, Babylon the great, the mother of harlots,*” and are called out of her [Rev.17:5, 18:4]. These endure to the end.

During this present Church Age, God is calling out from among the Gentiles “*a people for His name;*” and when this work is finished, He will return and “*build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down*” [Act.15:13-18]. This is quoted from

Amos 9:8-9, where The Tribulation is again referred to and Israel's deliverance assured. Study also Zechariah 14:1-9, 2 Thessalonians 2:8 and Revelation 19:11-21. Israel will be delivered by the appearing of Christ in glory [Mat.24:25-31]. Those who are called out to the Name of the Lord during this age will also appear with Him then in glory.

"When Christ who is our life shall be manifested, then shall we also be manifested with Him in Glory." [Col.3:3]

"Whereunto He called you by our Gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." [2Th.2:14]

That is the glory of "*the heavenly kingdom*" [2Ti.4:18] to which we are called and unto which we are "preserved." But by the power of God, Israel will endure the fires of tribulation to the end thereof, and hence be saved from physical death. Of course, they too will have eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ; but their inheritance will be entirely on the earth.

-- √ --