

Part 1 – Help in the ‘Day of Trouble’

In chapter 19, part 1 we learned that Psalms 19 was written totally by David (and the Holy Spirit within him), not by two different people or at different times, as some scholars think. And we learned the reason that the first part speaks of the heavens, while the second is about the written Word of God, is that they are simply teaching us that God has manifested Himself, and His plan of Salvation (the Messiah’s life, death, resurrection and second coming), *in two different ways*. One is literally in the heavens (via the Zodiac’s constellations) for they indeed tell the story of God’s plan of salvation through Jesus Christ. And this knowledge was passed onto mankind by God Himself. Archeology itself tells us that ancient civilizations had knowledge of the Zodiac and the book of Job tells us that it was well known in his time, which was thousands of years before the coming of Jesus Christ. Paul also wrote in a couple places in the book of Romans that the heavens themselves testify the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world. We also learned of several other places in the Bible that refer to the constellations. Therefore, the heavens are indeed a witness of who God, and the Savior, is. However, we are not to worship the sun, moon or stars nor do they have any control over our lives (as in astrology). In the first chapter in Genesis, God has told us that He gave us the sun, moon and stars for days, years, seasons and for signs. So, it’s ok to study and have a ‘working knowledge’ of them (astronomy) but *not* to worship them. In fact, we *should* be familiar with the Zodiac, for in Mth 24:30, Jesus even told us that *the sign of the Son of man in heaven* shall appear right before He returns. So, astronomy (studying the constellations and knowing about them) is ok but astrology (worshiping them and thinking they have control over us) is not.

In part 2 we learned that the heavens declare God’s glory because they teach us (through the constellations in the Zodiac) God’s plan of Salvation, which includes the glory that Jesus Christ had in overcoming death (His resurrection) as well as the glory He’ll have when He returns to earth to take complete control over all that’s in heaven and earth. And even simply looking up at the heavens on a starry night shows God’s glory because they are *so very beautiful*, especially when we see ‘shooting stars’. We also learned that even the sky (firmament) shows God’s handywork because we can see the clouds and weather and even birds flying effortlessly. And even the fact that mankind has airplanes that can now fly in the sky shows how God’s flying vehicles (which have much more advanced technology than we do) can gloriously fly in the sky too (as His Written Word also tells us). We also learned that God’s nature (in the stars, sun, moon, sky and on earth) also reveal to us *what we can’t see*. We can learn spiritual truths from things such as fire, water, food and even our own bodies too (which are made in God and the ‘angels’ image). So, indeed, the heavens do declare God’s glory in many ways (as does His nature) and they also show His ‘handywork’ too, in various ways. If we simply take the time to *observe* the heavens, sky and nature, we’ll be able to see God’s amazing glory and grand creativeness.

In part 3 we learned how the heavens and firmament above can ‘speak’ and ‘show knowledge’ to the entire world – it’s because *pictures are a ‘universal language’*. Therefore, the ‘pictures’ of the constellations in the Zodiac indeed to ‘speak’, as well as ‘teach’ the entire world about our

Heavenly Father, *and* His Savior – they teach us God’s plan of Salvation through Jesus Christ. There’s no place in the world they do not ‘speak’ to, so all nations throughout all time have had this ‘testimony’ to learn from. Therefore, the people living in the days that Jesus was born *should* have noticed the *very* bright star that signified His birth, but it was only the ‘wise men’ from the ‘east’ who noticed it and traveled a long way just to worship the Messiah. This shows us the importance of having a working knowledge of the Zodiac. Although we’re not to worship the stars or think they have any influence over us (as astrology teaches) we should be familiar with the Zodiac and what it teaches (astronomy) because we might just see some signs that give us a ‘second witness’ to what is written in the Word of God. And this is important because we’re coming into some very important times in our day and age where the world is being set up to receive the false Christ (Satan) who comes *before* the true Christ. And we need to have the Word of God solid in our heart, and mind, so we’re not fooled into worshipping Satan instead of the *true* Jesus Christ (who comes only *after* Satan does). So, the Zodiac warns us, as does God’s Word, of the war between Jesus Christ and Satan and thus the heavens are good ‘second witness’ for us to watch. Again, we should not ‘make a religion out of it’ but, as Jesus said: *watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man* (Luke 21:36).

In part 4 we learned that God’s written Word is the *complete truth* and thus it converts us from sin because it *teaches us the truth* – it teaches us what sin is and how to do what’s right (from the heart), which is what we need *to live eternally*. Therefore, it also makes the ‘simple (the foolish who are easily seduced into sinning) wise in that it teaches us how not sin and how to do what’s right, from the heart. We also learned that His statutes (laws pertaining to governmental administration) are right (righteous) and when they are obeyed, they do ‘rejoice the heart’ of the people because justice is implemented and peace is the result. We also learned that God’s commandments are pure – they are totally without fault and give us the best ‘advice’ we’ll ever find. They indeed ‘enlighten’ our eyes by *giving us the truth* that we need to live eternally, as well as to be happy, healthy and prosperous even while living in these flesh bodies. And we also learned that God’s Laws have not been ‘done away with’ when Jesus Christ shed His blood for our sins. Only the blood sacrifices were ‘done away’ with because Jesus Christ *fulfilled* them once and for all (Mth 5, Heb 10:10). As such, the Holy Spirit is given to us when we believing in Jesus’ atoning blood (and repent for our sin) and that’s what teaches us how to do what’s right, when we study His Word sincerely. Truly, God’s Word (and Laws) work together with the Holy Spirit to create a ‘new man’ within our soul who *learns how* to do what’s right, *wants* to do what’s right and He also gives us the internal strength *to actually do* what is right. And this is (in a ‘nutshell’) how Jesus Christ ‘saves’ us from our sins.

In part 5 we learned that the ‘fear of the Lord’ is ever so cleansing. Not only for our soul but all of society. And this is because when we ‘fear’ the Lord (YHVH) then we will *fear to do evil*. And, while God doesn’t want us to be so afraid of Him that we’re afraid to even to seek Him (He *really wants* to have a personal relationship with us) He does want us to *fear to disobey Him*. He wants us to seek Him so we can learn to do what’s right and stop being rebels, because those who rebel against Him always end up doing wicked things. This is because, if people think there is no

higher authority than earthly rulers, there is no evil they won't stoop to, so long as they think they won't be punished by earthly rulers. This is why governments so often become corrupted. The more power people have, the more they tend to be corrupt. That is why it's truly amazing that David stayed loyal to God his entire life. He not only was king of Israel but he also ruled the most powerful nation in the world at that time. Yet, the few times he did sin he humbly repented from the bottom of his heart. Which is why God always forgave him. And so, we learned how the 'fear of the Lord' is indeed cleansing. It cleanses our soul because, when we fear God's wrath for sinning against Him, we'll try hard to obey Him sincerely. But the 'fear of the Lord' is also cleansing to nations. For indeed when any government tries to obey God's laws, they too will be blessed, for criminals will be punished and the law-abiding citizens will be rewarded with freedom from crime, the economy will flourish along with many other blessings outlined in Lev 26 and Deut 28.

We also learned a very important lesson about the fact that: we live in a world where the governments are nearly all corrupt, and it's only going to get worse as the leaders of the world push us into a one-world government so that the world will be ready to accept Satan as the 'king of the world' when he is kicked out of heaven, to earth (with his fallen angels too). And the lesson is that: *we must learn to let God take vengeance*. We are not to be 'rebel rousers' or try to overthrow our governments when they become crooked. Instead, we should call out sin as the Holy Spirit leads us to, continue to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and obey God's laws in our life the best we can. And if (or *when*) the government tries to stop us from obeying and/or worshiping our Heavenly Father (and Jesus Christ), then we must *not comply*. We also covered a couple of excellent examples of this when Daniel refused to stop praying to the Lord (YHVH) and was saved from the lion's hungry mouths. And Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego were also thrown into a fiery furnace for refusing to bow down and worship the king's image of gold. They even told the king they knew God *could* deliver them *if* He wanted to but *if* He did *not* want to, they would rather die than to worship another god (or idol). Indeed, God saved them out of the fire and even their clothes did not smell from being in the furnace that was so hot it even killed the men who threw them into it. So, our Heavenly Father indeed is able to protect His servants but sometimes He does allow us to be physically persecuted, or even to physical die because it's simply 'our time to die' (as it was for Stephen in Acts 7). But as Jesus told us in Matt 10:28, we should *fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell*. It's far better to have salvation for our soul (eternal life) than to keep our flesh body alive for a bit longer. When we 'fear God' then He will save our soul and that's the 'bottom line' we should always remember, and why fearing the Lord (YHVH and Jesus Christ) is so important in life.

Now we also learned that God's judgments are 'true and righteous altogether'. Indeed, if we would obey God's judgments in our courts, our society would not be plagued with crime. However, it won't be until the true King of kings and Lord of lords (Jesus Christ) returns that we'll get to see how 'true and righteous altogether' that God's Laws are because the return of Jesus Christ is the *only* time true justice and judgment will ever be enforced on the earth *with perfection*. But we can do 'our part' now by learning to have 'good judgment' in our own life and

see just how much God will bless us personally for doing what's right, even in the face of fierce opposition and/or people trying to get us to revert back to sinning as a lifestyle. God is always fair and righteous and obeying Him will always bring blessings and peace of mind (and heart) to us, even if we are persecuted and even when our nation is truly going to 'hell in a handbasket'.

In part 6 we learned several analogies David used to explain how precious God's Word is. He first likened it to being better than having a lot of fine gold, which is the purest gold there is. In other words, God's Word is better than all the riches this world has to offer because 'fine gold' can usually buy anything. But having wisdom and understanding from God is better than any (all) earthly riches because it not only teaches us how to treat people right (and thus usually brings good relationships with people, even those who don't like us) but it also gives us great peace of mind, which is far more valuable than all the riches in the world and can be gotten no other way than having a personal relationship with our Heavenly Father (through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ). Further, trusting in God's Words (and the promises in it) give us freedom from fear, anxieties and worries that plague so many people in the world, especially those who have 'lots of money'. The second analogy was honey and the honeycomb. David pointed out that God's Word is 'sweeter' to our soul than honey is to our tongue. And this is true because God's Word gives us *truth*, which brings the sweetness of peace of mind and gives us the spiritual attributes (characteristics) we need to live forever.

David also pointed out that obeying God's Word warns us how to avoid the cursings (bad things) that come in life, because it teaches us how to stop sinning, for sin always brings troubles and eventually death too (even spiritual death if we don't repent and accept Jesus Christ). He also pointed out how keeping God's Word (obeying as well as guarding them in our heart and mind so no one can shake our faith in God and Jesus Christ) brings great rewards. Indeed, even in this life obeying God's Word brings health, prosperity and true peace of mind that can't be gotten any other way than having God's Holy Spirit in our soul nourishing us, cleansing us and strengthening our 'inner man' day in and day out. So, we have learned many good reasons to study, and believe in, God's Holy Word. It's truly what edifies our soul because it teaches us the difference between right and wrong while God's Holy Spirit helps us to understand it, want to obey it and gives us the inner strength (will power) to actually obey it no matter what situation comes up in life. Thus, God's Word and Holy Spirit work together to save our soul and the blood of Jesus Christ forgives us when we fall short, so long as we continue to repent sincerely when we do sin. So, God's Word truly is *everything* to us and thankfully, we also have the heavens above that also testify to us His beautiful plan of salvation.

In part 7 we learned of David's beautiful prayer, which is one we should pray too for he asked God to help him see the error of his ways – the 'secret sins' which he couldn't see. And, since we all have sins we can't see, even when we're *sincerely trying* to see our sins, this is a good prayer for us to pray also. David also asked God to keep him from 'presumptuous sins' which come from being prideful because that's what leads us into the 'great transgression' of outright rebellion to our Heavenly Father - which is what Satan is doing and trying to cause all of God's children to do too. David also asked God to help the words of his mouth and meditation

(thoughts, ponderings) of his heart (desires, emotions and intentions) be acceptable in His sight. These are therefore very important things for us to pray for too. Because none of us are without sin, we need help to see our sins so we don't wander away from our Heavenly Father and become entangled with Satan's deceptive lies, because *that's* what will cause us to 'wickedly depart' from God (Ps 18:21) through outright rebellion against Him. And, while our Heavenly Father will indeed help us remain faithful and true to Him, we must do our part by continuing to sincerely study His Word, seek out the wisdom in it, strive to see our sins and kick them out (daily) and work to obey His Words as the Holy Spirit guides us to. As Rom 8:26 promises us, the Holy Spirit helps us with our weaknesses when we're sincerely studying God's Word and trying to do what's right. That indeed is what will keep us from 'wickedly departing' from the one and only true God by falling into the 'great transgression' of rebelling against the Lord (YHVH) and worshiping Satan instead.

So, Psalms 19 was a wonderful Psalm that explains how we have God's written Word which edifies our soul, but we also have a 'second witness' to God's plan of Salvation in the heavens above. And further, God gives us His Holy Spirit when we do seek Him sincerely, which is what helps to keep us from going astray from the one and only true God so long as we remain sincere in our studies and willing to see our 'secret sins'. Indeed, the Holy Spirit will help us see the 'errors' of our ways and help us to change them 'from the heart'. Truly, our Heavenly Father has given us all that we need to be 'saved' from spiritual death through His Son, Jesus Christ. We have only to *continue* to faithfully cleave to Jesus Christ with all our heart, mind, soul and strength to obtain 'victory' over death.

We now move on to another Psalm of David. And while it was written by David it's actually 'the people's prayer' in view of the atonement that the true David (Jesus Christ the Messiah) would (and now has) bring to Israel (yea, all people who believe in Him). This Psalm thus is leading up to the 'great atonement' that Psalms 22 speaks of...

Psalm 20

1 A Psalm of David.

The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee;

The word 'Lord' here is God's Sacred Name, *Yehovah* (#3068), which means the *self-Existent* or *Eternal* One, which only Yehovah (YHVH) is. The word '**hear**' in this verses is a prim root that means *to eye* or (generally) *to heed*, i.e. *pay attention*. And, by implication, it even means *to respond*, or by extension, means *to begin to speak*. It can even mean *to sing, shout, testify, announce* ('anah #6030). So, it's definitely a call for God to hear the 'people's prayer' but also a 'call to action' upon the requests within it. And the prayer request is made clear: please help the people in the 'day of trouble'. *What* 'day of trouble'? We're actually told about the 'day of Jacob's trouble' in the great book of Jeremiah [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Jeremiah/428] ...

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book.

3 For, lo, **the days come**, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.

4 And these are the words that the LORD spake **concerning Israel and concerning Judah.**

5 For thus saith the LORD: We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace.

6 Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness?

7 **Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.**

8 For **it shall come to pass in that day**, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him:

9 But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king [David's name is being substituted here for the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ], whom I will raise up unto them.

10 Therefore fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the LORD; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar; and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid.

11 For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.

Jer 30:1-11

At the time of this writing (prophecy) God had been (through Jeremiah) warning those living in Jerusalem (the people left from the Assyrian captivity) that, due to their gross sins they refused to repent for, they too would be taken captive - just as their brethren had, over a hundred years before, when the Assyrians invaded the northern kingdom of Israel and then *continued on to take* all of the people in the southern kingdom of Judah captive *with the exception of* those in Jerusalem. And the only reason Jerusalem was spared was due to the prayers the few righteous men left (like king Hezekiah and Isaiah the prophet). Hezekiah was actually trying to (like his forefather David) clean things up in Jerusalem and stop the people from worshiping false gods and idols. But, this was not a lasting 'repentance' because after his death, the people (and kings) again followed after false gods (Satan) and idols. So, God used Jeremiah to warn them (for decades) that they too would be taken captive to the Babylonians. And this 'day of trouble' He is referring to is when the Babylonians would invade Jerusalem, which they did actually several times. However, there was a final 'wave' of invasion wherein all the people (except for a few they left to farm the lands) were taken and the city of Jerusalem was destroyed – even the Temple of God, which the people had polluted with their false gods and idols (2 Chron 36). And thus, this 'final wave' of destruction of Jerusalem (and the people in it) was the 'day of Jacob's trouble' God warned about.

However, this physical historical account was merely a 'type' for the future 'day of trouble' which will come again on the people of Israel, which are now the Christian nations in the world.

And truly, this ‘day of trouble’ will be for the *entire world* for it is when the false god, Satan, is kicked out of heaven (with his fallen angels) to earth so he can enslave (take into captivity, spiritually and physically) the entire world by getting them to believe he is the ‘Savior’ of the world. Satan will spiritually seduce the people of the, and the world leaders (through false promises and flatteries, Dan 11:21), to give him full control of the entire earth and he’ll set up his wicked ‘beast’ governmental system to rule over the entire world (Rev 13, 2 Thess 2).

So, while this ‘day of trouble’ that the Holy Spirit (through David) wrote about here in the Psalms does indeed refer the physical ‘type’ of captivity to the king of Babylon, it is truly just a ‘type’ of what is still yet future. And we should thus remember that God promises to save us out of it. As He promises in verse 8-11 of Jeremiah 30 (above), He will indeed ‘save’ Israel from the ‘day of trouble’ when the ‘king of Babylon’ (who is a type of Satan) will enslave the whole world. As verse 11 says, God will make an end to all nations that Israel was scattered amongst but Israel would not be destroyed and that’s because God has promised Jesus Christ will rule over Israel (and the world) during the Millennium after His Second Advent. This is why God goes on to say that He will ‘correct’ Israel ‘in measure’ and not leave them unpunished. Indeed, because the entire world (all nations) is now corrupted (beyond fixing) God will send Satan and his fallen angels to enslave the world and that is because there is no nation that is righteous anymore. In the past, God would use Israel to punish the heathen nations for their sins and when Israel became corrupted, God used the heathen nations to punish them. But now, the whole world is so corrupted and they are being pushed (by their corrupt leaders) into a ‘world government’ in preparation for Satan’s arrival. It is God’s way to both punish and test His children. One could even say it’s God’s way of getting His children off the ‘fence’ of indecision so they *have* to make a choice between Jesus Christ and Satan – there are not going to be any ‘fence riders’ by the end of this earth age. When Satan is on earth, the people will *have* to make a choice to either worship him or to refuse to do and not be able to ‘buy or sell’ (even possibly face the death penalty). So indeed, this time of ‘Jacob’s trouble’ will test people’s souls just as fire tests metals. Many people like to claim they love Jesus but their actions don’t prove it. When the true Jesus Christ returns, He will know for sure who really is loyal to Him verses those who are truly fake believers.

But, just as He saved Israel out of Jacob’s time of trouble, so too will He save His faithful followers (of all races and nations) from Satan’s iron grip over the whole world. Of course, this will be done by Jesus Christ at His Second Advent [learn more in **A Reminder, What to Expect** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/245>]. And this is why the second part to verse 1 in this Psalm 20 says that ***the name of the God of Jacob defend thee***. In John 5:43, *Jesus said: I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive* [i.e. Jesus pointed out they would rather have Satan rule over them than the Son of God]. Jesus was rejected as the Messiah during His First Advent even though He truly did come in His Father’s name, for Jesus’ name (#2424) comes from the Hebrew word (#3091) *Yehowshuwa`* or *Yehowshu`* which means: ***Yehovah-saved***. In John 7:16 Jesus also pointed out that His doctrine was not His own but His that sent Him – meaning, Jesus came ‘in the name of’ Yehovah, who is God Almighty. Therefore, Jesus taught the people what the Old Testament truly said and how they must keep His Laws from their heart in order to find eternal life. And they (we too) also had

to accept the Messiah (Jesus Christ) that God sent ‘in His name’ because it’s only by believing in Jesus’ righteous blood that we can have our sins forgiven... which is what makes us pleasing to God *so that He will save us*. And God will help you through the tribulation of antichrist (Satan) if you faithfully and consistently study His Word *sincerely* and allow the Holy Spirit to change your heart and mind into His righteous Image (Col 3:10). Thus, when Jesus Christ returns at His Second Advent, it’s only those who are still ‘under the blood’ of Jesus Christ (who have not worshiped Satan) that will be spared God’s wrath when He returns (2 Thess 1:6-12, Rom 1:18-10, Col 3:6-10, Rev 6:16-17).

As Rom 5:8-9 says, *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him*. 1 Thess 1:10 also tells us *to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come*. 1 Thess 5:9 also says that *God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ*. So, it is indeed the ‘name of the God of Jacobs’ that ‘defends’ us and that’s because our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, came in the name of Yehovah (YHVH) to save us from our sins. And when we cleave to Him (remain faithful to Him) then we will not be deceived by the ‘antichrist’, who is Satan [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/345>], and thus we won’t have God’s wrath poured out upon us (as the rest of the world who does worship Satan will have) when Jesus Christ returns to take full control over heaven and earth (Eph 1:10). So, yes, the name of the God of Jacob (Yehovah) will ‘defend’ Israel (people of all races who believe in Jesus Christ and have remained faithful to Him, Gal 3) from Satan, *and* the wicked rulers of the earth, when He returns to earth to take over completely. So, this is an important verse to remember because it’s another promise from God that He will indeed save us out of all ‘troubles’, spiritual and physical...

Psalm 20

2 Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion;

The first word ‘thee’ is not a good translation because, in the Hebrew, it’s actually the same words as ‘send’ – it is *shalach* (#7971), a primitive root that means: **to send away, for, or out** (in a great variety of applications). So, David (on behalf of the people) is asking God Almighty (YHVH) to send help from His Holy sanctuary. Let’s remember what we learned from a Psalm a few chapters back...

3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Ps 11:3-7

When all governments in the world have been corrupted and are thus persecuting those who remain loyal to God, and Jesus Christ, what can the righteous do? We are to look to our Heavenly Father for help. And indeed, He will send ‘help’ from His Sanctuary because Jesus Christ is at His right hand, *waiting* to return and *help* those who are being persecuted for *serving Him*. So, we must remember that God Almighty is still on the throne and He sees all that is going on. He is not at all (in any way, form or fashion) ignorant of the fact that His faithful servants are being persecuted. He therefore will send help to us now, as well as in the ‘day of Jacob’s trouble’, when Satan is on earth causing all that will *not worship the image of the beast should be killed* (Rev 13:15). While it’s always possible that people will be martyred during Satan’s reign on earth, it is not likely that many (if any but the two witnesses, Rev 11) are literally physically killed simply because Satan’s deepest desire is to get all of God’s children to *worship him and rebel against God*. So, to physically kill a bunch of people (even if it’s only 144,000) would make him look like the tyrant he really is. And while the world ‘killed’ in Rev 13:15 does indeed mean to kill, it can also figuratively mean to destroy (#615). So, while we must be prepared to give our flesh life (if that’s what it comes down to) it’s more likely that those who don’t worship Satan will simply be ‘destroyed’ by being spiritually attacked through Satan’s ‘flood of lies’ (Rev 12) and then not allowed to participate in the ‘beast’ system so that they can’t buy and sell to get the food and other things they need to live with, for Rev 13:17 goes on to say *that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name*. But either way, we shouldn’t let even the threat of death (or being unable to buy and sell) cause us to worship Satan and renounce our faith in the true Jesus Christ because we’re giving up our eternal inheritance of the first resurrection if we do (Rev 20:4-6, Mth 10:28, Mk 8:34-38).

Always remember that God *will* send ‘help’ from His sanctuary. We know this is true because *Scriptures tell us* that *after* Satan rules for a short time (Mth 24:22, Mk 13:20, Rev 9:5,10) the *true* Jesus Christ will return to Jerusalem and take over. That’s why this Psalm says that God will strengthen us ‘out of Zion’. In Acts 1:9-12 we’re told that Jesus Christ will return *the same way*, and *in the same place*, that He rose to heaven. We’re told this is from the Mount of Olives which is just to the East of Jerusalem. Further, in Mth 24, Mk 13 and Luke 21 Jesus told us that when He returns to Jerusalem (the mount of olives) He will destroy the Temple (that Satan will be ruling from) so that it’s reduced to powder (no stone will be standing upon each other). Rev 20:1-3 tells us that Satan is arrested at that time and other Scriptures tell us that his wicked followers will be imprisoned while the other people on earth will also be ‘gathered’ and ‘sorted’ out so that the faithful to Jesus Christ will be gathered to Him (to be given eternal life so they can help Him rule during the Millennium) while the ‘workers of iniquity’ (those who worshiped Satan) are forced to submit to the ‘rod of iron’ Jesus will rule with when He returns (Isa 24:17-23, Matt 13:47-50, Matt 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, Matt 13:40-42, Rev 20:1-5). So, indeed, God will send ‘help’ out of His Sanctuary by Jesus Christ returning at His Second Advent to ‘strengthen’ those who have been faithful to Him. And He does this by gathering them up while He pours out God’s ‘cup of wrath’ on the day of vengeance (Ps 37:34). Always remember that *it is the ‘day of vengeance’* when Jesus Christ returns *that comforts those who ‘mourn’* (Isa 61:2). And those who mourn are those who have been faithful to Him despite the terrible persecutions that Satan, his fallen angels and the entire world will be inflicting upon them (Rev 12:7-17).

Therefore, while these first couple of verses in Psalms 20 do speak of ‘the day of trouble’ Israel would go through in times future to the time of the writing, it also prophesies to ‘the day of trouble’ future even to us, and we *are* promised deliverance from it...

28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

*32 And it shall come to pass, **that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance,** as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.*

Joel 2:28-32

We’ll pick this up in part 2...

AMEN.