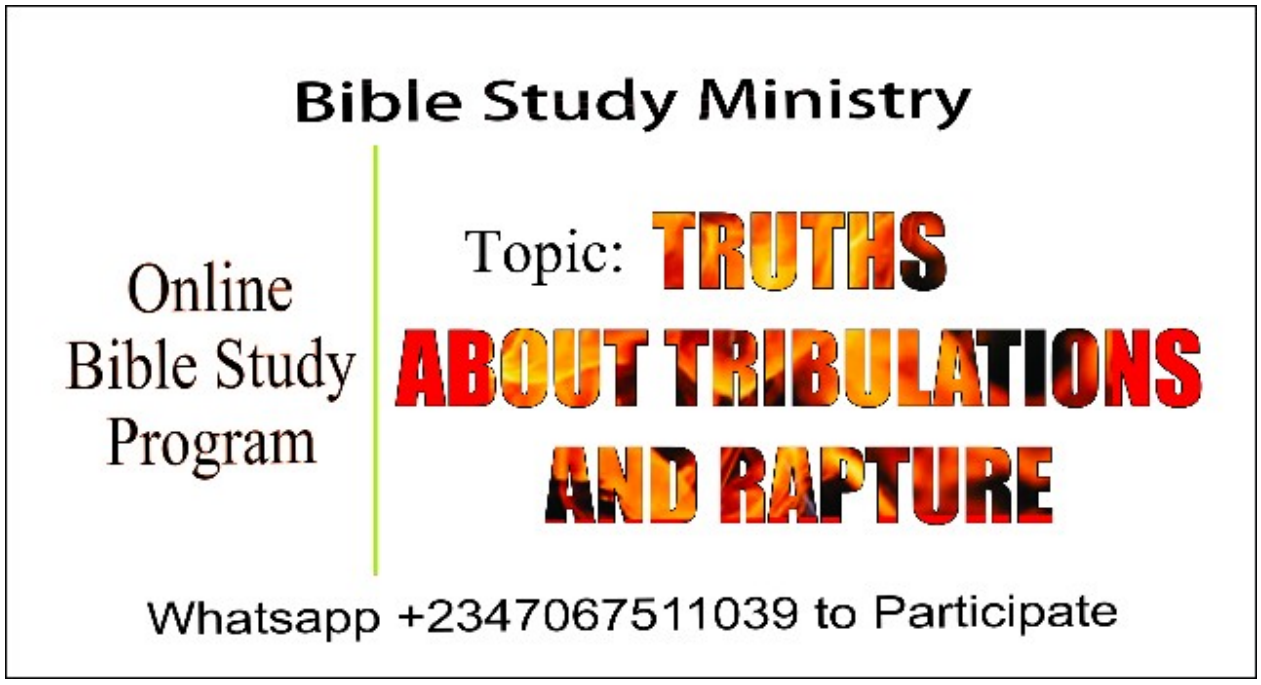


Topic: Truths about Tribulations and Rapture

Bible Books: Matthew, Daniel, Revelations, Thessalonians, Mark, Peters etc.

Teacher: Adewuyi S. Oluwatobi

As we begin tonights study, I would really appreciate it if we can ask questions about the areas we don't understand. So that we would really have a full picture of what we are experiencing now and what will happen later. With this I welcome you all to tonights study. In as much as none of us want to miss the rapture it is still good to know what will happen before and after rapture so that we would know how to live our lives. As I begin, I want you to know that many of us has really been taught erroneously some things about the rapture and I would like everyone to position their hearts in a bid to learn and see what the bible really says about the The Tribulation as regards to the Rapture.

It is important to note that I have not come here to compel anyone into believing what would be taught tonight, but I earnestly desire that all come to the knowledge of the truth by themselves without any reservations through the help of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord Jesus Christ said nobody knows the day nor the hour of His coming but not the period, signs of the period has been given to us to know, it is now left for us to make

good use of that information given to us. There would be serious comparation of the scriptures tonight, and I would like us not to assume that we have read the scriptures before then skip it, **please do not skip any verse posted here, with the assumption that you have read it before** as each verses would certainly be pointing at a fact.

The word rapture is not in the bible as we all know, but its description fits in with the word, that is why we have adopted that word today. There is no major Bible Text for today. So let's begin with the generally familiar bible verse that talks about the rapture.

1 Thessalonians 4:16

For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven with a shout of command, with the voice of the [2]archangel and with the [blast of the] trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

As we all know that this verse talks about the rapture, the Lord would descend with a **shout of command**, and **blasts of trumpets**. ***NO SILENT RAPTURE,*** It is a very loud event that everybody even the unbelievers would see and 2 Peter 3:10 also confirms this "But **the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night;** in the which the heavens shall pass away **with a great noise**, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up"

But this verse did not say anything about the period the rapture would occur this would lead us to getting more information.

Now, let us study what **Jesus Christ Himself taught** in Mathew and how he arranged the happenings of the end time.

Matthew 24:3. "While Jesus was seated on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, and said, **Tell us, when will this [destruction of the temple] take place, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end (completion, consummation) of the age?"**

These are three in one questions

1. When will this destruction of the Temple take place

2. What will be the sign of Your coming

3. And of the end of the world

Here the disciples were eager to know when the destruction of the temple will take place and when he is going to come to rapture the saints, they also enquired of when the end of the world would come and Jesus began to explain things to them accordingly.

4. Jesus answered, " **Be careful that no one misleads you [deceiving you and leading you into error].** a warning such as this was documented in Jeremiah 29:8. **For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Do not let your [false] prophets who are among you**

and your diviners deceive you; pay no attention and attach no significance to the dreams which they dream or to yours,...

It is surprising that the first thing He said is that we should be careful that nobody leads us into error, about this matter. He himself knows that errors concerning this subject would surface and would lead a lot astray.

Signs of Christ's coming was the first answered out of the three questions.

5.**For many will come in My name [misusing it, and appropriating the strength of the name which belongs to Me], saying, 'I am the Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed),' and they will mislead many.** and Jeremiah 29:9. **for they prophesy falsely to you in My Name. I have not sent them,' says the LORD.**

This matter is already happening, the likes of Jesus of Agege, Jesus of Oyigbo etc. They have misled many, some others are claiming to have been sent by God, whereas they are liars who like true servants of God. Please let us take note that the Christians are still in the world during this mentioned time.

6. **You will continually hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end [of the age].** Please, let's continue to take note of the word "**YOU"** the Lord said all these things must take place that is, there must be constant rumours of war, he said we should not be afraid that it must surely happen **BUT** it is not yet the end. With the use of that word **BUT**, it would be erroneous to say that the end will come at that point. We have been hearing all these things and we know that Jesus has not yet come.

7. **For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places.** and Revelation 6:5. When He (the Lamb) broke open the third seal, I heard the third living creature call out, "Come." I looked, and behold, **a black horse [of famine]**; and the rider had in his hand a pair of scales (a balance). 6. And I heard something like a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "**A quart of wheat for a denarius (a day's wages), and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not [6]damage the oil and the wine.**"

The book of Revelations a prophetic book which has many symbolic terms and expressions, famine being symbolized as a black horse. These things will also happen while we are still on earth, please take note of these things carefully, Christians will still be on earth during these things. What can they be called, are these not tribulations. *But don't let us conclude yet*

8. **But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs [of the intolerable anguish and the time of unprecedented trouble]. Mark 13:8. For nation will rise up against nation,**

and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These things are the beginning of the [3]birth pangs [the intolerable anguish and suffering].

Please take note of this verse very well, all those things we have been seeing in the previous verses which we already have been seeing in this our time, are just the beginning, I believe that we all know what beginning is, it is just the starting of the problems the world would face.

9. "**Then they will hand you over to [endure] tribulation, and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.**

Now they will hand **YOU** over to do what? To endure tribulation which means that tribulations have started, we can say that it's also already happening in the world but not everywhere yet. Please take note of that word **ALL NATIONS** for now not all Nations are killing Christians we still have our rights to religion as Christians and are not openly killed even if they are been killed it is still secretly.

10. **At that time many will be offended and repelled [by their association with Me] and will fall away [from the One whom they should trust] and will betray one another [handing over believers to their persecutors] and will hate one another.**

So a time would come when some believers would fall away(backslide due to the persecution) and the former believers would begin to handover their friend believers over to the persecutors. This is to take place before the rapture and it must be all over the world.

11. **Many false prophets will appear and mislead many.** This verse was confirmed in 1 Timothy 4:1. **But the [Holy] Spirit explicitly and unmistakably declares that in later times some will turn away from the faith, paying attention instead to deceitful and seductive spirits and doctrines of demons,...**

12. Because lawlessness is increased, the love of most people will grow cold.

These is on rampage now already, now take note of that word **LAWLESSNESS** sin shall abound people will no longer see sin as anything. In fact it would be normal things like what is already happening gradually, just that killing of Christians is yet to be seen as a normal thing.

13. **But the one who endures and bears up [under suffering] to the end will be saved.**

He that do what? **endures** not only endures, but to **THE END** now the end here means when rapture will happen, so we must endure until rapture, so if we are to endure to the rapture then we must have been passing through something that we need to endure with. Don't forget that the Lord said its tribulation in verse 9. **Then they will hand you over to [endure] tribulation...**

14. **This good news of the kingdom [the gospel] will be preached throughout the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end [of the age] will come.**

The gospel must reach out to everyone on earth, if we are raptured who would be on earth to preach, and please also take note of that sentence (**and then the end [of the age] will come.)** If there will be those who would be left to pay with their blood after rapture why will the **END OF ALL AGE COME AT RAPTURE?** well, that is still not enough to know the period when the rapture would take place.

15. "**So when you see the [2]abomination of desolation [the appalling sacrilege that astonishes and makes desolate], spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the Holy Place (let the [3]reader understand)**,

He said **NOW** when you see the **abomination of desolation** spoken of by Daniel. (let the reader understand) whenever we see words such as this it means they are prophetic words, having hidden meanings. So **what is the abomination of desolation??**

Now lets see what Daniel Prophesied about the abomination of desolation

Daniel 9:27, "**He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."**

But who is the he that is being referred to here? The major "Antichrist", currently we have many Antichrists, but the beast mentioned in the book of revelations is the one pointed at here, he is one of the major characters in the end-time drama.

Now lets go down to history to know what happened in the past and how it relates to this age.

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But who is the he being referred to here? The Antichrist, currently we have many Antichrists, but the beast mentioned in the book of revelations is the one pointed at here, he is one of the major characters in the end-time drama.

Now lets go down to history to know what happened in the past and how it relates to this age using different accounts on the abomination of desolation.

According to Roman historian Cassius Dio, after the Temple was destroyed in 70 AD the worship overseen by the High Priest ceased. The Temple Mount was covered over with rubble and a pagan temple dedicated to Jupiter was built when Hadrian became Caesar (117 - 138 AD). Hadrian installed on the mount two statues: one of Jupiter and another of himself; this was seen by the Jews as idolatry. In addition, Hadrian expelled the Jews from Jerusalem altogether, only allowing them into the city on the fast of Tisha B'av (the ninth day of the lunar month of Av), a day of mourning for the destruction of the First and the Second Jewish Temples. This appears to have caused a second Jewish revolt with the intent of recapturing Jerusalem and restoring the Temple. In response, Rome sent six full legions with auxiliaries and elements from up to six additional legions, which finally managed to crush the revolt. The temple appears to have been rebuilt during the early Umayyad period as the al-Aqsa Mosque , which stands on the site today.

While the second account says

In 167 B.C. a Greek ruler by the name of Antiochus Epiphanies set up an altar to Zeus over the altar of burnt offerings in the Jewish temple in Jerusalem. He also sacrificed a pig on the altar in the Temple in Jerusalem. ***This event is known as the abomination of desolation.*** *it was an abomination to sacrifice a pig on the altar in the Temple at Jerusalem then.*

In Matthew 24:15, Jesus was speaking some 200 years after the abomination of desolation described above had already occurred. So, Jesus must have been prophesying that some time in the future another abomination of desolation would occur in a Jewish temple in Jerusalem. Most Bible prophecy interpreters believe that Jesus was referring to the Antichrist who will do something very similar to what Antiochus Epiphanies did. This is confirmed by the fact that some of what Daniel prophesied in Daniel 9:27 did not occur in 167 B.C. with Antiochus Epiphanies.

*Antiochus did not confirm a covenant with Israel for seven years. It is the Antichrist who, in the end times, will establish a covenant with Israel *for seven years* and then break it* ***by doing something similar to the abomination of desolation in the Jewish temple in Jerusalem.***

Whatever the future abomination of desolation is, it will leave no doubt in anyone's mind that the one perpetrating it is the ***person known as the Antichrist.***

Revelation 13:14 describes him making some kind of image which ***all*** *are forced to worship.* ***Turning the temple of the living God into a place of worship for the Antichrist is truly an "abomination."***

Those who are alive(who are not yet dead) and remain during the tribulation should be watchful and recognize that this event is the beginning of 3 1/2 years of the ***worst of the tribulation*** *(which is also known as great tribulation) period and that* ***the return of the***

Lord Jesus is imminent.

Which means that by that period when the abomination of desolation would happen, which will reveal the identity of the Antichrist that will also lead to the great tribulation, the rapture would not have taken place

16. **then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains [for refuge].**

17. "**Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things that are in his house [because there will not be enough time]**.

This instruction/advice is before rapture, saying that there will not be enough time to go and attend to other matters due to the severity of the persecution that would happen immediately after the Antichrist is revealed, and the Lord is yet to tell us that rapture would have happened.

18**. "Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his coat.**

19. **And woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!**

20. **Pray that your flight [from persecution and suffering] will not be in winter, or on a Sabbath [when Jewish laws prohibit travel].**

Please take note of those who are referred to in these verses, the Lord said **YOU** should pray that **YOUR** fleeing away from the hand of the Antichrist should not be on a day when there will not be transportation. Don't forget that we said the Antichrist Christ would be revealed when the abomination of desolation takes place.

21. For [4]at that time there will be a **great tribulation (pressure, distress, oppression),** such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will [again].

This now talks about the great tribulation that during those times that people will be running away from the Antichrist, the great tribulation would begin with it. And we can see that He is saying that You, You, You, which means during the time the Antichrist would be in operation the rapture would not have taken place, because if it would have taken place, He would be using they that are left behind and not a direct word such as **YOU.**

And with the statement that such has **never occurred since the beginning of the world** shows that the tribulation that people have been experiencing before then can not be up to it even till the current moment(when it would happen) nor ever will, which means there won't be any other tribulation that would be more serious(greater) than it, which means definitely it is the last half of the tribulation period and Christian are still on earth.

22. **And if those days [of tribulation] had not been cut short, no human life would be saved; but for the sake of the elect (God's chosen ones) those days will be shortened.**

Here is another fact that points that the Christians would be on earth during the great tribulation. Because of the tribulation would be very much no man will be saved, but because of **THE ELECT** the days are shortened. (Which could mean that the 7years was divided into 2, 3½ + 3½) that is mild tribulation and great tribulation, and not all the 7years is fully great tribulation) who knows?, only God knows. But as we can see, the **Elects** are still present and rapture is yet to take place.

23. **Then if anyone says to you [during the great tribulation], 'Look! Here is the Christ,' or 'There He is,' do not believe it.**

You see this????

This is just too direct, the great tribulation was specifically mentioned. "If any one says to **YOU DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION** look here, look!, here is the Christ **DO NOT** believe it." It is 100% against what most of us were being taught in our churches. This statement was made by Christ to let us know that because the suffering would be too much to bear, many believers would be seriously waiting for His appearance (deliverance) which is rapture so the Antichrist would want to deceive them so that they would think Christ the deliverer has come so that he would be able to capture them. Now look at this 2 Thessalonians 2:3. "Let no one in any way deceive or entrap you, **for that day will not come unless the [3]apostasy comes first [that is, the great rebellion, the abandonment of the faith by professed Christians], and the man of lawlessness is revealed,** the son of destruction [the Antichrist, the one who is destined to be destroyed]," 4. who opposes and exalts himself [so proudly and so insolently] above [4]every so-called god or object of worship, so that he [actually enters and] takes his seat in the temple of God, publicly proclaiming that he himself is God. This also confirms that the Antichrist must be revealed before rapture can take place, so who will the Antichrist meet on earth when he is being revealed? All those who are alive on earth, both Christian and unbelievers.

Most of our preachers have misinterpreted this verse and use it as a backup to their heretic claims Revelation 3:10. Because you have kept the word of My endurance [My command to persevere], **I will keep you [safe] from the hour of trial,** that hour which is about to come on the whole [inhabited] world, to test those who live on the earth.

They claim that "**I will keep you [safe] from the hour of trial**" means that the believers would be removed before the hour of trial (tribulation) forgetting that God is able to keep His people safe even in the midst of the trials (tribulations) just the way He kept the children of Israel safe in Egypt when the plagues and death came upon the Egyptians. Only those who persevere will be be kept safe during the hour of trial which will happen during the great tribulation.

24. **For false Christs and false prophets will appear and they will provide great signs and wonders, so as to deceive, if possible, even the elect (God's chosen ones).**

Please take note of the operation of these false Christs and false prophets, it is different

from the ones that has been happening(the ones we have been seeing), these ones will not just show signs and wonders but **GREAT** signs and wonders just to deceive **God's ELECTS (CHOSEN ONES)**

25. **Listen carefully, I have told you in advance.**

Wow!, listen, I have told **YOU** in advance, *if after reading this and you still doubt it, then you have already chosen to walk in darkness.* please can you see this, **YOU** not those who would be left behind after rapture, are you getting it now?

26. **So if they say to you, 'Look! He is in the wilderness,' do not go out there, or, 'Look! He is in the inner rooms [of a house],' do not believe it.**

So if they say to who? **YOU** He(Jesus Christ) is in the wilderness, do not go out there. (If rapture has occurred, will there be a need to be expecting anyone even to the point of being deceived?) No, it is because the Antichrist knows that they are expecting someone, that is why he would be doing all he can to make sure he captures the elects(saints)

27. **For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming [in glory] of the Son of Man [everyone will see Him clearly].**

This describes how the coming of the Messiah would look like, he would appear just like the lightening is seen all around at once and everybody both sinners would see him (this was where 1Thessalonian 4:16 took the report from) **there is no secret rapture**, as we have always been taught, see it here again, **EVERY ONE WILL SEE HIM CLEARLY** see it here again Revelation 1:7. Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and **every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him**; and all the tribes (nations) of the earth will mourn over Him [realizing their sin and guilt, and anticipating the coming wrath]. [11] **So it is to be.** Amen. take note of this word **SO IT IS TO BE, AMEN** this means that as it is written that is how it would be, nothing can change it, not even the Antichrist can change it, everything must happen exactly how it is written.

28. **Wherever the corpse is, there the [5]vultures will flock together.**

which means all the saints would be gathered to him, it clearly means rapture

HERE THE SECOND AND THIRD QUESTION ASKED BY JESUS DISCIPLE IS ANSWERED

29. "**Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not provide its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.**

Do you see that now?,

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TRIBULATION OF THOSE DAYS sun, moon and stars will be

disturbed from their normal functions.

30. **And at that time the sign of the Son of Man [coming in His glory] will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth [and especially Israel] will mourn [regretting their rebellion and rejection of the Messiah], and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory [in brilliance and splendor].**

AND AT THAT TIME after **the tribulations** the sign of the Lord will appear in the sky, with great glory and power.

"**All the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see...**" And the unbelievers, would begin to regret instantly at the sight of the Lord Jesus Christ, I think its time to share this truth with your loved ones, pastors, teachers, prophets, evangelists, and every believers, let do away with heresies and embrace the true gospel. Revelation 6:14. **The sky was split [separated from the land] and rolled up like a scroll, and every mountain and island were dislodged and moved out of their places.** Everything on earth would not be the same, this is when the destruction of the temple will be destroyed, 2 Peter 3:10 confirms it. **But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will vanish with a [mighty and thunderous] roar, and the [material] elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and the works that are on it will be [2]burned up.** So if the whole earth will be burnt up at rapture the temple is included which would make a stone not remain upon another.

This is the sequence by which the tribulations and rapture would take place, now you can clearly see that Christians will not be taken away amidst the tribulations but that it is after the whole tribulations that rapture would occur.

LIKELY REASONS WHY THE DOCTRINE OF PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE IS COMMONLY ACCEPTED

1. But in the 1800s, some began to claim that the rapture would occur before the period of persecution. This position, now known as the “pre-tribulational” view, also was embraced by John Nelson Darby, an early leader of a Fundamentalist movement that became known as Dispensationalism. Darby’s pre-tribulational view of the rapture was then picked up by a man named C. I. Scofield, who taught the view in the footnotes of his Scofield Reference Bible. Many Protestants who read the Scofield Reference Bible uncritically adopted the pre-tribulational view, even though no Christian had heard of it in the previous 1800 years of Church history.

2. The pre-tribulation rapture is appealing to the soul, as there is nobody that want to suffer, so telling people that rapture would happen before great tribulation would make them feel happy and cool, because they would not want to suffer nor pass through those tortures, so the doctrine of pre-tribulation looks so much comforting.

3. Many believes that can a loving God allow his people to pass through such torments,

severe persecutions and tribulation, that it is against the nature of God. But they have forgotten that it is that same God who was watching when the early apostles were martyred, and tortured mercilessly, that is still on the throne today.

DANGERS OF PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE DOCTRINE.

1. It makes believers ready for rapture **BUT** when there is no sign of rapture at the expected time(before tribulation), they would easily get wearied, thinking rapture would no longer occur since the suffering would be too much, and they would be seeing God as a wicked God who do not fulfil His promises.

2. Many would not have prepared their minds before hand so they would find it difficult to endure the persecutions from the Antichrist.

3. Many would be caught unawares when the Antichrist comes into full operation they can be easily deceived. Thinking he is the expected saviour in midst of serious persecution.

4. Many would receive the mark of the beast unknowingly, thinking that it is not the mark since the rapture has not occurred.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO BE AWARE OF HOW AND THE PERIOD WHICH THE RAPTURE WOULD OCCUR

1. It would make Christians prepare their minds and hearts towards facing the coming sufferings, knowing what they would face before hand and because they already know they would not want to go back but endure just as it is written in Matthew 10:22. **And you will be hated by everyone because of [your association with] My name, but it is the one who has patiently persevered and endured to the end who will be saved.**

2. It would guide them to know the exact period (not day and time) of Christ's coming and help them not to fall into the deceits of the Antichrist.

3. It would help us to know what to expect and how to react to every situation before and during the tribulations period.

WHY MUST CHRISTIANS PASS THROUGH THE TRIBULATION PERIOD?

IT IS TO TEST BELIEVERS ENDURANCE & PERSEVERANCE:

Romans 5:3 "And not only this, but [with joy] let us exult in our sufferings and rejoice in our hardships, knowing that hardship (distress, pressure, trouble) produces patient

endurance; 4. and endurance, proven character (spiritual maturity); and proven character, hope and confident assurance [of eternal salvation]."

James 1:12 "Blessed [happy, spiritually prosperous, favored by God] is the man who is steadfast under trial and perseveres when tempted; for when he has passed the test and been approved, he will receive the [victor's] crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him."

Don't you think this truth is worth to be shared for people to know too? please share it, you might be saving a soul from the ditch of false teachings, heresies flying everywhere.

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