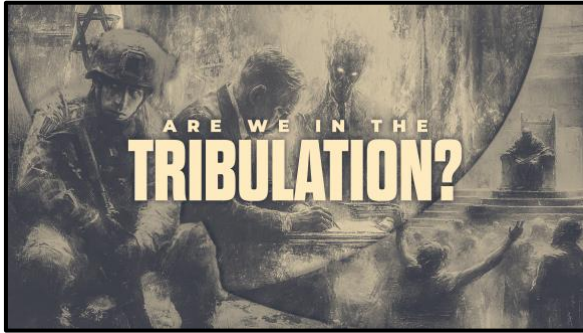




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Are We in the Tribulation Already?

https://youtu.be/Ah_1UFNMejU?si=qZZJL4UDTLpVkb8r



When we look at the headlines about Israel, Russia and Iran, it's easy to feel troubled and think we've entered the Tribulation. I'm here to give some good news for you today. You can take a deep breath and relax. But let me tell you why so many

are confused right now. It seems to many that our world has already reached its peak, and now it's on its way down, picking up speed with every passing day. We see countries collapsing one after another. We see governments unable to function, economies failing, civil unrest erupting worldwide. This world is on its way down. But guess what? We're still here. Nations that once had peace agreements with Israel, now are condemning Israel. The alignment we see today with Iran, Russia and Turkey against Israel, matches exactly what Ezekiel 38 describes thousands of years ago. I can read you the news headlines from Israel today, and you would ask me, "Amir, are you quoting Ezekiel or reading CNN?" You know, sometimes I think Ezekiel must have had a satellite dish and a subscription to *The Jerusalem Post*. That's how accurately he described what we're seeing right now. If Ezekiel were alive today, we could hire him as our military intelligence chief and save a lot of money on spy satellites.

So it's no wonder people are asking, "Is this it? Has the Tribulation begun?" Let me tell you with complete biblical certainty: No, the Tribulation has not begun. As long as we are here, there is a reason, and we're here also for a season. We need to occupy until we're out of here. So don't get caught up with all the bad things happening, and fall into severe depression as if this is it. We have a much greater hope. This is not our home anymore. We have our heavenly citizenship.

We are now ambassadors right here on behalf of Christ. I truly believe we live in the very end times, but I also believe we need to be very careful in how we divide the Word. We need to rightly divide the Word of truth. What's happening around us often leads to sensationalism, fear, anxiety, and wrong interpretation of the Scriptures. And unfortunately, it causes some people to walk away from faith.

So let's get clarity. What exactly is the Tribulation? It's not just a general time of trouble. The Bible describes a specific seven-year period that involves particular events, people, and circumstances. The prophecy regarding that seven-year period was given by the Archangel Gabriel to Daniel regarding Israel. It wasn't given to the church or to the Gentile nations. It was specifically about the Jewish people and Jerusalem. **Daniel 9:24** tells us, ²⁴ **“Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness,...”** You see, there are great things that will come at the end of this Tribulation. This is not just to hurt the world or destroy it. God always has something much greater in mind for us. And in **Daniel 9:27**, we learn about the final week, seven years. ²⁷ **“Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.”** This is talking about the Antichrist making a seven-year peace agreement with Israel and then breaking it halfway through. This is *the* Tribulation, a specific time period with specific events involving specific people.

For the Tribulation to begin, certain conditions must be met. First, the people of Israel must be back in their land. That one? Check. After 2,000 years of exile, we returned in 1948. God fulfilled this prophecy right before us. Second, Jerusalem must be back in Jewish hands. That one? Also check. This happened in 1967 during the Six-Day War. But third, and this is the big one, a

temple must be standing in Jerusalem where sacrifices are being offered. Do we have that? No. We still have the Western Wall, but no temple. Think about it. According to Daniel and what Paul tells us in 2 Thessalonians, the Antichrist will walk into the temple and defile it. How can he defile something that doesn't exist? If there is no temple, this prophecy simply cannot be fulfilled. The Bible says in **2 Thessalonians 2:3–4**, **“³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”**

Believe it or not, the Jewish people will build a temple. It's going to be in Jerusalem, and a world leader will come, enter that building, and declare himself as God. He is the Antichrist. He is not the Christ. Has anyone sat in the temple declaring himself to be God? No. Has the Antichrist been revealed? No.

There's another crucial reason why I know the Tribulation hasn't begun. And that is the most important one. We're still here. The church is still on Earth. People often mix troubles and tribulations with *the* Tribulation. They think any big trouble can legitimately be the beginning of the Tribulation. That's simply not true. Trouble is difficulties or problems. Does anyone go through life without problems, without difficulties? Jesus Himself said in **John 16:33**, **“³³ ... ‘In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.’”** Not everything is *the* Tribulation that Daniel and Revelation describe. There are wars and rumors of wars all around the world. But we must remember what Jesus said in **Matthew 24:6**, **“⁶ ‘And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.’”** Did you catch that? See that you are not troubled. And why does he say these things *must* happen? Because God is above time. God saw everything

already. So when He's telling us things must happen, you know why? Because He already knows it happened. We aren't there yet for them to happen. He saw it happening. So He's not suggesting that it could be, maybe, should be. He's saying it *must* happen. It's not open for negotiation. If things must happen, they will happen whether you like it or not. And by the way, nobody's asking you. And in case you're offended, nobody's asking me either. In all my years of walking with the Lord, He never reached out to me and asked, "Amir, what do you think about My end-time plan?" He doesn't need our approval for His divine schedule.

But something stops the rise of the Antichrist and his complete satanic rule upon this world. It's the Restrainter. We read in **2 Thessalonians 2:7-8**, **"⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. ⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed,..."** Who is that restrainer? The Holy Spirit. The only body on planet Earth that is sealed with the Holy Spirit is the church. He must be taken out of the way and *then* the lawless one will be revealed. He cannot be revealed until we are out of here. And we're not just walking out. We're being taken out of here. Think of it this way. The favorite football team is playing in a championship game. You have two options. You can either watch the game sitting comfortably in the stands, or you can be on the field getting tackled by 300-pound linemen. Which would you prefer? And that's the difference between being raptured or going through the Tribulation. I know which team jersey I'm wearing. It's the one that says, "Out Of Here." Remember, the Bible clearly teaches believers won't experience the Tribulation. **1 Thessalonians 5:9** says, **"⁹ For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,"** And **Revelation 3:10** promises to keep us *from* the hour of trial, not through it.

I want you to understand the severity of the Tribulation. What we're experiencing today doesn't even come close. According to Revelation, there will be death over one-fourth of the world's population, over 2 billion people. A third of the earth's vegetation will be destroyed. The seas will turn to blood. Demonic locusts will torment people for five months. This isn't just "difficult times." This is divine judgment on a scale never before seen. Unless you understand what the Tribulation is, you'll never know when it has begun. People cheapen it. They make the Tribulation a lockdown or a vaccine. Are you kidding me? Do you know what the Tribulation is all about? It is a set of events considered to be God's judgment on the satanic hosts of heaven and the wicked people here on Earth. Also, preparing Israel to accept Yeshua as Messiah upon His return.

That's not what we see right now. We must consider the difference between the day of Christ, speaking about the return of Christ to Earth, and the Day of the Lord, speaking about the judgment of God upon this world. The Tribulation is the Day of the Lord. It has many names, the Great Tribulation, the Wrath of God, the hour of trial, and Jacob's trouble. You must remember that and not confuse these things. As believers, we must be Bereans. **Acts 17:11** tells us, **"¹¹ These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."** You see, we must search the Scriptures, not watch YouTube. Search the Scriptures, not social media. Search the Scriptures.

So what should our attitude be? I want you to know that the hope of the believer is not our governments. Our hope is that very soon we're going to see our King. Our hope is to see Jesus Christ, not the Antichrist. Remember that. And our hope is that He who promised is faithful. Remember the words of Jesus in **Luke 21:28**. **"²⁸ 'Now when these things begin to happen, look**

up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” Even as Israel faces enemies on all sides, even as the world seems to be falling apart, we don’t lose heart. We look up because our King is coming soon.

* Scripture is taken from the New King James Version unless noted otherwise.

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