

On A CRUCIAL Revelation Matter

CB4A – April, 2022

Revelation 3:1-6 ! (vs. 3 quoted immediately below ; NKJV ; Jesus Christ speaking)

“Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not **watch**, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.” [**bold** emphasis ours ; also see Mark 13:37]

Including what we find in 3:7-13 (especially vs. 10), we offer the following proposal:

The Word of God is clear ... Jesus Christ is clear: We are to *endure to the end*. The theme of perseverance is HUGE through the letters to the churches in Revelation 2 & 3, not to further develop the many other passages teaching *endurance*. To that end, verse 10 of chapter 3 reads,

“Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.” (NKJV)

Our appeal **Perseverance during the end of days** (this includes the time the Bible calls *the war against the Saints*) **is crucial**. During this time many *Christians-by-name* will fall away from the faith. Some will even take the mark of the beast. True Christians will not take the mark in light of the degree of consequence of this sin – eternal separation from God in the Lake of Fire. (please see Rev. 13 & 14* for details)

Some within end-time churches will not watch, a watching that includes holding fast and continued fostering of an attitude of repentance. This watching also includes watching for the initial appearing of the Son of Man in/on the clouds – see Mt. 24:30 & Rev. 6:14-17. Those who do not watch (this also includes watching through the lens of a **Bible-based** perspective) will be unprepared. As a result, the initial appearing of Christ Jesus will come upon them as a thief in the night. (recall the other passages on this *thief in the night* matter) Because they hold unbiblical views concerning the return of Jesus Christ, they will not know the approximate time of His initial appearing.

Because they are not ready and watchful as our Lord Jesus has outlined, they will find themselves ill-prepared. They will be like the 5 virgins who, while watching, did not do so in light of the full Counsel of the Word of God. They will find the Bridegroom denying them entrance into the banquet. (see Mt. 25 for details ; Mt. 22:1-14 is also insightful.) Beware!

In contrast to those who prepared wrongly, those who persevere will be kept from the hour of trial. (We believe the *hour of trial* is the time when the bowls of wrath are poured out upon the earth.)

Those 5 virgin-types who were not watching correctly will be different from those who kept our Lord’s command to persevere. They will be distracted by worldly matters and, due to decisions made during this time, will miss the Lord’s gathering. They will enter the time of the bowls of wrath. In contrast, those who were waiting for the Lord’s return in light of Bible Truth will be removed from the earth at the event of the *Final Trumpet Rapture Gathering*. These will miss the bowls of wrath having been taken at the blowing of the 7th trumpet in Revelation 11.

* There will be some within churches who persuade many to justify taking the mark through fallacious arguments. BEWARE of these false teachers, for the counsel they offer leads to eternal death. See our handouts on this matter of discerning these false, end-time appeals because eternity is a long time. (Especially ask for “Handout 100” when you write to us at: Endurance Ministries; P.O. Box 92098; Portland, OR 97292)