

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, Messiah Bible Church | Final Things Lesson 7
April 8, 2026 | “The Tribulation”

The Tribulation is a Future Time...

- 1) Of seven years—Daniel’s _____
(Dan 9:24–27)
- 2) Of divine judgment on the _____
(Joel 3:1–2; Zeph 3:8; Zech 14:1–3; Rev 6:1–17; 11:18; 19:15)
- 3) Of divine discipline for _____ to bring her to _____
(Jer 30:7; Dan 12:1; Zeph 1:16–18; Ezek 36:18–32; Mal 4:5–6; Zech 12:10–14; 13:8–9; Rom 11:25–27)
- 4) Of unprecedented human _____ in the _____
(Matt 24:15–28; 1 Thess 5:1–11; 2 Thess 1:5–2:12; Rev 4–19)

Seven Characteristics of the Seven-Year Tribulation (Rev 4–19):

- 1) God’s _____ will be poured out in _____
- 2) The antichrist will _____ and _____
- 3) There will be global _____ and _____
- 4) There will be global _____ through the false _____
- 5) The midpoint will be the _____ of _____
- 6) Many people will be _____ and _____
- 7) It culminates in the _____ of _____

Questions for Further Application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Make a list of the positive things that will transpire in the future of our world. Make a list of the negative things as well. Do the positives outweigh the negatives? Is God glorified in both the positives and the negatives?

Who is the antichrist, and why is he mentioned so many times in the Bible (see Dan 7:8; 7:20–25; 8:23–25; 9:27; 11:36–45; Matt 24:15; John 5:43; 2 Thess 2:3–10; 1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3; 2 John 7; Rev 11:7; 13:1–8, 11–18; 17:8–14; 19:20; 20:10)? What’s the relationship between the antichrist and Satan? What is their ultimate destiny?

Why does God pour out his wrath upon our world? What purpose does the seven-year tribulation serve? Why does God not simply forgive everyone and cease being wrathful toward the world?

GET PERSONAL

In the pretribulational premillennial view of end times, the church is removed before the tribulation begins. Why would God do this? Does this mean that Christians and the church are never required to suffer persecution? Should we expect persecution and opposition to intensify for the church as we near the tribulation? Why or why not?

Does the outpouring of God’s wrath ever lead to repentance? Why doesn’t it *always* lead to repentance? Do we have examples of God’s wrath not leading to repentance? How does God’s kindness lead to repentance?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Assuming the pretribulational view is correct, what would you want to communicate to people who don’t experience the rapture? Write a letter to friends, family, and others. What would you want to communicate to those who live through the tribulation?

ADVANCED QUESTIONS

Read Revelation 4–19. This should take about 45 minutes. Then review the “Seven Characteristics” above. Where do you see these items displayed in the text? Should anything be added to this list?

Most premillennialists believe that the book of Revelation is generally sequential. But much of the book is cloaked in symbolism and mystery. Why did God not spell out the end times with more clarity? Why are there cryptic passages about the end times in Daniel 9:24–27, Matthew 24–25, and elsewhere?