

CHAPTER SIX – THE SEALS ARE OPENED

TROUBLE ON THE EARTH – PART TWO

So far, in our recent study of Revelation 4-5, we have seen that the church has been raptured off the face of the earth and is in heaven. Upon entering the text of chapter 6 we see that the world is launched into Daniel's 70th week, a time of _____, often called the tribulation period. Last week we learned that this awful time will begin with the antichrist shrouded in a dark cloud of _____.

As we ponder this whole sequence of events, interesting questions arise: Could God not have handled this in another way? Why do the earth and the nation of Israel have to endure the reign of the antichrist for a season? Why is there a _____ period? Today our message will seek to answer these basic questions from the only reliable source that can be completely trusted - the Word of God.

WHY IS THERE A TRIBULATION?

1. Because God is _____ and can _____ whatever He wants to _____
 - Job 38-42; also see every chapter from Genesis to Revelation
 - Observe all things _____ on earth, under the earth, the seas, in the sky, and in the heavens above

2. Because God will _____ the nation of Israel for their _____ of Christ
 - It is the fulfillment of Bible prophesy – Deut. 4:29-31; Daniel 9:24-27
 - It will cause Israel to receive _____ – Zechariah 12:10
 - It is the event that will cleanse the nation allowing the kingdom to be established in Jerusalem – Zechariah 13:1
 - It is the catalyst that will be used to ultimately _____ Israel – Romans 11:26-27

3. Because God will judge the _____ of the earth
 - For not obeying His word – 2 Thess. 1:8; 1 Peter 4:17
 - For rejecting Christ – Romans 2:8-9; 2 Thess. 1:8-9
 - For persecuting _____ – Is. 54:17; Hag. 2:22; Zechariah 12:2, 9

4. Because God is going to _____ the rule of _____
 - The earth's dominion was usurped from Adam – Genesis 1:28 *contrasted with* Luke 4:5-6; 2 Co. 4:4; Eph. 2:2
 - Christ will seize control of the planet by _____ – 2 Thess. 1:7-10; Rev. 5; 11:15; 19:20