



Can I Still Be Saved?

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After the Rapture of the Church occurs where all Christians are removed from the Earth and taken to Heaven, many people on the fringes of Christianity will immediately know what has happened. And, the first question they will ask is, "Can I still be saved?" In this message, we examine salvation during the Tribulation.

YES!

We should immediately answer that, yes, salvation through faith in Christ will still be available during the Tribulation.

Revelation 7:13-17

¹³And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?

¹⁴And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

In this passage in Revelation, the apostle John sees a group of people in Heaven in white robes that an angel tells him are those who were saved and then died or were martyred during the Tribulation. These saints are also mentioned previously in Revelation 6.

Revelation 6:9-11

⁹And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

¹⁰And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

¹¹And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

The Tribulation saints already in Heaven are asking when the Lord will avenge their deaths. They are told to wait just a while until the all saints in the Tribulation have been martyred. Other study reveals that it is possible that all Christians will be killed by the middle of the Tribulation when the Mark of the Beast is introduced. And, thereafter salvation will not longer be possible. The judgments of the Great Tribulation (the last half of the seven years) appear to be specifically designed as judgments for sin and for the treatment of those Christians that came to salvation during the first half of the Tribulation.

The Nature of Salvation During the Tribulation

One particular passage of scripture that when interpreted in a certain way has led to some subsequent conclusions that salvation will be different for those in the Tribulation than it is for people today.

II Thessalonians 2:6-7 (Amplified)

⁶You will probably also remember how I used to talk about a “restraining power” which would operate until the time should come for the emergence of this man.

⁷Evil is already insidiously at work but its activities are restricted until what I have called the “restraining power” (of God) is removed.

Some observers have assumed that the Holy Spirit that is present in the hearts of believers during this age of grace is the restrainer. If this is true, when the restrainer is removed, then the Holy Spirit will be removed from the Earth. This line of thinking naturally leads to the question of whether salvation during the Tribulation will be the same as salvation in the current age of grace. Will Tribulation believers have the Holy Spirit in their heart? Or will their salvation be something more like it was for believers or “saints” in the Old Testament.

Thankfully, another scripture clearly answers this question. Whether or not the Holy Spirit is the restrainer that is removed, we can be certain that He will still dwell in the hearts of believers during the Tribulation.

Acts 2:38-39

³⁸Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

³⁹For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

The apostle Peter makes it clear that even those who become Christians in the far distant future, all who do so will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit as promised. Given this, it should be obvious that baptism in the Holy Spirit will also be available to those who ask.

Act Now

A message like this that happens to fall in the hands of some unbelievers may tempt them to “wait and see” about salvation. If salvation will still be available after the Rapture, why not wait and see if the Rapture really happens? Won't I then *know* that Jesus is really the Savior and that Christianity is true?

II Corinthians 6:2

For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

God is imploring you to be saved today. Even if the Rapture will occur tomorrow, what if you die today? And if the Rapture does occur and you are saved during the Tribulation, do you really want to live through the Tribulation? Read carefully the book of Revelation. This will be a time of tremendous pain, grief, and sorrow. There will be wars like the world has never seen. Disease and famine will be rampant. Eventually, it is likely that all Christians will be martyred for their faith. This will not be a pleasant time. The assurance of the existence of God and the verity of the Bible gained by witnessing the Rapture will in no way compensate for the trauma you will suffer during the Tribulation.

Now is the accepted time - today is the day of salvation. Don't wait another minute.

Conclusion

Yes, the same salvation that is available today in the age of grace will be available to any who call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and accept His sacrifice as payment for their sin. The Holy Spirit will dwell in the hearts of all believers now and during the Tribulation. Baptism in the Holy Spirit will also be given to those who yield to Him.

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