



What is that danger anyway?

1. The time we're living in is foretold in detail in the Bible, as well as what is still going to happen

A large share of the Bible is prophecy. Prophecy is what God tells us is going to happen in the future. What we see in the world today is perfectly on track with that. A great deal of prophecy in the Bible has already been fulfilled. Some prophecies are so accurate and have been so very literally fulfilled, that it is said they have been written down only after it happened. This however only once again proves that the God of the Bible is all-knowing. There are also prophecies in the Bible that have not yet been fulfilled. I would like to tell you more about that. In the coming years you will be able to see whether or not this was reliable.

2. What's coming? The 7 year 'Tribulation'.

The Bible describes the time we live in as 'the end time'. That is a period in which the love of many will grow cold, people will be self-centred, there will be many wars and rumours of wars, hunger, infectious diseases, earthquakes, extreme natural phenomena, persecution and lawlessness.

The last seven years of the end time are described in the Bible as a horrendous time on earth, like there has never been before. There will be one world ruler, one

strongly regulated worldwide payment system and people that refuse the system will not be able to buy or sell. There will be terrible catastrophes and some 90% of the earth's population will perish.

3. What should I do to escape those 7 years ?

All people that put their faith in the Lord Jesus and trust in Him (in the Bible called 'the body or bride of Christ') will be kept safe from this perilous time. Right before these 7 years, the Lord Jesus will snatch away His bride (of believers) into heaven, the so-called rapture. Hence, all over the world millions of Christians will suddenly disappear. This will cause great chaos and panic and possibly (false) speculation about alien kidnappings. Whatever the explanation is going to be, don't believe it, it's all lies to cover the truth.

There is a way to escape the Tribulation on earth. A way as well to not have to undergo God's eternal judgment on your sins and not to be separated from God for eternity. There is a way to be happy forever as God always wanted you to be. Read more about this under 'How to get saved'.

4. How do I know if items 1-3 are correct?

The most obvious way to find out

it was correct, is when you notice that suddenly many people have disappeared from the earth and if after that you see that what the Bible writes about these seven years is actually happening.

I do not expect many people to believe me in advance, but especially because the sudden disappearance of so many people will be so obvious, I think you will consider the Bible's account by then. The Bible says that even in these 7 years, many people will come to faith.

5. What if I only find out all this is true, after the rapture?

It means you will no longer be able to flee from this perilous time. But you can still turn to God, repent and put your trust in His son Jesus Christ. By doing so, you will be saved for eternity. It sounds harsh, but the Bible speaks about hell as a place where people will be forever if they don't believe in God and heaven as the place where those who have accepted Jesus as their Saviour will be happy for ever.

I urge you to repent and turn back to God, because after the rapture, the world will be completely different. It will be much harder than now to still find the truth. There is so much at stake. Today is the day to ask Him for forgiveness for your sins,

to believe in Jesus and to follow Him.

6. The biggest danger does not even lie in the future, but in today!

You have now been warned for a time that is going to be terrible. But a much greater danger looms.

Did you know that every 24 hours over 160.000 people die? The Bible teaches us that after we die, we will be judged. We'll be standing before a holy and just God and He will judge us according to His standards, not according to our standards. And hence he must declare us 'guilty as charged' Because God so loved mankind,

He sent His Son Jesus Christ to this world, to pay for our sins through His suffering. He bore your punishment too and offers you forgiveness and eternal life. But it only becomes yours if you accept it. You can read more about this under "How do I get saved".

How do I get saved?

Admit you're a sinner

Are you a good person? You'll likely answer this question with 'yes' and you might not understand what a saviour should save you from. However, you cannot offset your bad deeds against your good deeds.

A righteous judge for example cannot release a murderer, simply because that murderer happens to be a good, loving father. God has put His laws in our hearts, in our conscience. For example, so we should not lie, use God's name in vain, steal or commit adultery (even not in our thoughts). It is sin too if you feel you could do something good, but you don't. If you now look at yourself according to God's perfect standard, would you still call yourself a good person? Unfortunately, I wouldn't.

But isn't it said that God is love? Can't He just turn a blind eye? Yes, God is love, but He is also holy and just. 100% fair. God's commandments are not meant to condemn you, but to show you that you are guilty and that you need a Saviour that can bear the punishment for your sins.

Ask for forgiveness for your sins and accept Jesus as your Saviour.

If a judge turns a blind eye to injustice, then he is corrupt and should be punished himself. God is perfectly holy and honest and hence cannot leave any sin unpunished. Unless we are blameless (which nobody is), He has to condemn us too.

That Bible says that the wage, the consequence of sin is death. But God's love for us is so immense that He sent His own Son to this world to carry that punishment for us - in our stead - through His suffering and death on the cross.

God only asks us to believe in His Son and accept Him as our Saviour, to escape our due punishment. John 3:16 states: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whosoever believes in Him, shall not perish but have everlasting life."

If you give your life to Jesus, the Holy Spirit, also called the 'comforter', will live in you from that moment on. He convinces us of sin and shows the way to Jesus. He leads you and gives you strength to carry on in difficult circumstances.

Turn away from your sins, get to know God through the Bible and trust in Him.

You can get to know God by reading the Bible and speak with Him through prayer, He wants a relationship with you. The Bible also says that faith without good works is dead faith. Those good works come about through thankfulness and love, they just happen almost automatically if you start experiencing His love.

If you accept the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, you'll become a 'child of God'. Life will not necessarily become easier, but He will be with you with His strength, peace and love. A peace and love that are not of this world and that I cannot explain to you either. You can only experience it yourself by committing your life to Jesus. Then He will lead you in this life. He will always be with you and never leave you.

Six arguments for the reliability of the Bible

About the history of the Bible

There are many old manuscripts of the Bible. About Plato there are only seven copies. The youngest one was dated 1200 years after his death. Still, it is not questioned if it is Plato's. Of the New Testament there are 5.700 manuscripts, of which the oldest one was dated 40 years after Jesus' death. Research has shown that through the years the text has hardly (<1%) seen any changes, and the changes that are there, are not relevant (spelling, word order). If the New Testament is not to be trusted, not a single historical text is.

Archaeologists have discovered the Dead Sea scrolls, containing scrolls of which some have been dated to 200 years before Christ (BC). The book of Isaiah was found almost complete and is identical to what we knew, indicating that the texts have not been corrupted by copying. Like other books, the Isaiah scroll has been thoroughly investigated by the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen in the Netherlands, among many other international institutions.

Fulfilment of prophecies

The list of prophecies in the Bible that have already been fulfilled is enormous. I will now focus on the prophecies whose fulfilment you can verify for yourself.

In Ezekiel 36 and 37, the restoration of the nation of Israel is foretold. For 1800 years the name of Israel had vanished from the face of the earth. Never in history has an exiled people been restored to their land after so many years, as has happened to Israel in 1948. A prophecy that has not yet been fulfilled, is that of Joel 3:2, stating that the land will be divided. The news often reports about a two-state solution. If this two-state solution is pursued, also

this prophecy will be fulfilled. Prophets of God have foretold the demise of many nations like Ammon, Edom, Moab, Philistia as well as cities like Babylon (this city might be rebuilt in the end time however), Nineveh, Tyrus and Sidon. None of these cities exists today.

The Bible foretells that there will come a time that you will not be able to buy or sell unless you have a mark on your right hand or forehead. This has been foretold some 2000 years ago, a time in which no one could imagine how such a thing could be realised. Nowadays we already see people paying with their hand and it is easily imagined that your bank account is frozen if you don't accept certain conditions, so you won't be able to buy or sell any longer.

Very clear evidence for Jesus' existence is our calendar being based on his birth. If He were not who He claims to be, He would be a liar. Would our calendar have been based on Him still? We all know the Christian holidays Christmas, Good Friday, Passover, Ascension Day, Pentecost. All days that represent important occasions in the life of Jesus. All these moments are foretold in detail in the Old Testament.

Discovery of scientific principles that had been disclosed in the Bible long before

Did you know that around 1840 Semmelweis was reviled because he prescribed new hygienic protocols such as washing hand before a baby was delivered? Afterwards it would turn out this would save many lives and nowadays this practice goes without saying. Thousands of years before, the Bible prescribed certain chastity laws to the

people of Israel, resulting in a life expectancy almost double that of the people around them.

The Bible taught that there are valleys in the sea, long before man was able to dive that deep and make scans of the sea bed (Psalm 18:15 .. the valleys of the sea became visible"). Also described is the entire water cycle, which was only scientifically proven much much later (Ecclesiastes 1:6, 7). The book 'Modern Science in the Bible' is full of science that was ahead of its time, showing the intelligence and wisdom of the Creator.

The Bible doesn't sugar coat

The Bible describes the not so positive behaviour of the disciples, but also the humiliations of Jesus. I couldn't think of any motive to portray them so negatively, apart from it just being the truth. If people want to 'sell' something, it's in their nature to omit things and emphasize the positive. Examples are:

- The disciples run off when Jesus is captured
- Jesus' family basically think he's crazy (Mark 3:21)
- At a certain point in time a large crowd turns back and no longer follows him (John 6:66)
- The crucifixion: what a humiliation for the leader of a religious movement
- The disciples die for the gospel

Resistance

Did you know that currently 359 million Christians are heavily persecuted, because they believe in the God of the Bible? If you know the Bible, then you'll know that God's great adversary is the devil, who goes to great length to eradicate Christianity and put God in an unfavourable light. This was already foretold by Jesus

Himself, saying: “The servant is not greater than his lord, if they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you” (John 15:20).

Lives change

Even if you don't care about extrabiblical proof, the inner

and live changing proof can be witnessed – people change when they accept Jesus as their Saviour! It proves that God does as He promises in His Word and that those who believe in Him truly become a new creation through faith. To see examples how lives sometimes radically

change through Jesus, a simple search for “changed by Jesus” on Youtube will suffice. “So then, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; what is old has passed away—look, what is new has come!”, 2 Corinthians 5:17.

The timeline of the 7 year ‘Tribulation’

The current time

The end time is divided in different phases. First there will be a surge in wars, earthquakes, hunger, infectious diseases, there will be signs in the skies and people will be increasingly boastful. The Bible also states that Damascus will be destroyed in a day. We recently see battling in Damascus and with nuclear weapons destruction in a day is not unthinkable. The Bible identifies several countries that will play a role in the end time, such as Russia, China and Iran.

The rapture of those who believe in Christ (the body of Christ)

Because the larger part of humanity turns away from God, and the measure of sin will reach its fullness, there will be 7 years of judgment by God, the Tribulation. Before this period starts, God will take the people that believe in Him up into heaven, because He said that his wrath will not come over ‘the body of Christ’, those who accepted Jesus as their Saviour before the rapture.

First there will be the resurrection of those who died (believing) in Christ; these people will be taken up to heaven together with the living Christians that are on the earth at that time. This means millions of people will disappear.

Probably the media will try to explain this as an alien

kidnapping. We currently see a stark increase in reporting about UFO's and extra-terrestrial life, strengthening the cover for this disappearance.

The 7 year Tribulation

In the first 3,5 years, a world ruler will rise, out of a period of ten kings/ kingdoms. Three of these will fall and the seven other kings/ kingdoms will cede their power to this world ruler, called the antichrist in the Bible. He will make an alliance with Israel and move his government to Jerusalem. A new temple shall be built as well. This world ruler, the antichrist, will show his true colours after 3,5 years and have himself revered as god. A large image will be made, possibly on the temple square in Jerusalem, as an object of worship for all people on the earth and the image will even be given the ability to speak.

During the Tribulation there will come a time you will be required to accept the mark of the beast on your right hand or forehead. The Bible names the number of the name of this beast six hundredsixty six (666). If you accept this mark, you are joining satan's kingdom, thus incurring Gods wrath and eternal salvation will have become no longer possible. Without this mark you will not be able to buy or sell, so it will be very difficult to still function in society.

Overview of God's judgments in the 7-year Tribulation

Because the measure of sin will be full at this point, God will execute His judgments on the world. The disasters will increase in intensity during these 7 years, culminating in the last 3.5 years, which the Bible calls the Great Tribulation.

During the Tribulation humanity will grow more unloving and violent. Food will become scarce. A fourth part of humanity will perish by means of wars, hunger, pestilences and wildlife. There will be an enormous earthquake that will hit the whole earth. It will move mountain ranges and islands and large cosmic debris will hit the earth. It will cause tsunamis and trigger volcanic activity. Fire will rain on the earth, causing wildfires all around. Winds will be released that will split mountains and shatter rocks to pieces. After these judgements only about 60% of the earth's population will still be alive.

What follows is a new series of judgements. There will be bloody rain of fire, the impact of a large meteorite that will cause all world seas to turn (red like) into blood, a very large tsunami that will cause a third of all ships to go down, a third of all water wells will be poisoned, and the sun, moon and stars will be darkened.

A chilling chapter of Revelation is about demonic locusts

that will torment people on the earth to such extent that they will seek death, but won't find it. These demons will not hurt the ones that have come to belief in God, because God protects them from this.

Again there will be a new series of judgements. 1. The ones with the mark of the beast will grow malevolent tumours. 2. The sea will turn into blood and all life in the sea will die. 3. Rivers and water wells will also turn into blood. 4. There will be extreme heat. 5. There will be complete darkness in the kingdom of the antichrist. 6. The river Euphrates will dry up. 7. There will be an earthquake like never before and the city of Babylon (possibly Rome, being a large part of the empire of the antichrist) shall fall apart into three pieces, other cities collapse and some mountains will no longer be found. Also, there will be hailstones of some 26kg each falling from heaven. After these judgements, ordered civilization as we know it will be no more. Energy supply, public transportation, banks, etc. will no longer function normally.

At the end of the 7-year period, the antichrist will prepare a large army for battle against Israel. There will be a large earthquake and Jesus will physically return and His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives in (East) Jerusalem. He will kill the antichrist with the breath of His mouth and the 1000-year kingdom of peace will begin.

The 1000-year kingdom of peace

After the aforementioned 7 years of misery, there will be 1000 years of peace all over the world, in which Jesus Christ will reign from Jerusalem. There will be paradise-like circumstances: carnivores will be herbivores again and a lamb will be able to peacefully live together side by side with a lion. At the end of this era the believers that have died during the Great Tribulation will be revived, to rule together with Jesus and the Body of Christ (the other believers). At the beginning of these 1000 years the Lord Jesus will judge the nations and he will take care of all the enemies of Israel.

At the end of the kingdom of peace, the devil will be released

once more (for a short time) and again try to seduce many to join battle against Jerusalem. This battle he will lose, for the Lord will finish off all the seductions of the devil and throw him into the pit of fire for ever.

Eternity

All people that have ever lived will someday have to appear before the throne of God. We will all be judged by what we have done in this life, whether good, or evil. There will be two eternal destinations: heaven for those who have accepted Christ and hell for those who have rejected Christ and have acted against their conscience.

I can imagine all this is a pretty hard pill to swallow, but I would urge you to investigate it. God is a living God, ask Him to show you the truth. Ask Him to lead you when you read the Bible. He allows Himself to be found. He loved you before you were even born and longs to have a relationship with you. God is heartbroken if you don't accept His salvation and are lost forever. He wants to spend eternity with you, so that you will be happy for ever.

Advice for the Tribulation

Ask God for His guidance

God always hears you, whether you're speaking to Him aloud or soundless to yourself. Put your trust in Him. He wants to help you in this time and give you strength. All you have to do is ask Him.

Go read the Bible

God speaks through the Bible, it isn't just a book, but a 'living book'. Through His Word, God wants to guide and teach you through His Holy Spirit. In the last book of the Bible, Revelation, a lot is written about the Tribulation.

Tell others about Gods rescue plan

God doesn't want anybody to perish but that all should be saved. He wants to use you to reach others about His plan of salvation through the Lord Jesus.

Do NOT accept the mark of the beast

If you choose to accept the mark of the beast, you are choosing for satan. Jesus says: do not fear those who may kill the body, but not your soul. Only fear God who can destroy both your body and your soul in hell (Matthew. 10:28). The latter is not God's will, but Jesus is indicating that much more is at stake than merely our current life. More about this subject you can find in the piece about the Tribulation.

Be steadfast and stay focussed on the eternal

A returning subject in the Bible is perseverance. A Christian's life is often not easy; many Christians have lost their lives over their faith. But by persisting in our faith in God and obeying Him, we can overcome. As a child of God, there is no needless suffering,

the suffering of this world will also result in more glory in the coming world. Romans 8:17,18 states: "Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory. I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."

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