

2009

Campbell Chapel Free
Will Baptist Church

Bob Bradley

End Time

and Tribulation

CAMPBELL CHAPEL FWBC - SERMON

End Time and Tribulation

July 8, 2009

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Mark 13:19-37

- 19 *For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.*
- 20 *And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.*
- 21 *And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, he is there; believe him not:*
- 22 *For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.*
- 23 *But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things.*
- 24 *But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,*
- 25 *And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.*
- 26 *And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.*
- 27 *And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.*
- 28 *Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near:*
- 29 *So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors.*
- 30 *Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done.*
- 31 *Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.*
- 32 *But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.*
- 33 *Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.*
- 34 *For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.*
- 35 *Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:*
- 36 *Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.*
- 37 *And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.*

Keep in mind the things here Jesus is talking about is happening, He is speaking these words probably on Tuesday. He is going to die on Friday, so He is speaking these things just a couple of days before He is going to die. Again, Jesus is answering some questions that Jewish men have asked Him about building, and the time of His coming and the end of the age. He talks about Jerusalem and Judea. He talks about all those things going on there.

We know this chapter and this teaching has to do with Israel and what is going on. Even though when we look at the book Revelation and the book of Ezekiel and what Daniel said we know that takes in the whole world. We know that during the tribulation period that the whole world is going to be affected. It is good to keep in mind who Jesus is talking to and the events of why these things transpired.

Also, keep in mind that before these things start to be unfolded, before the first seal is opened in Revelation chapter 6, we have to go back to Revelation chapter 4 and see that we leave here. The church today, the church of Jesus Christ is not looking for signs today. If you are looking for some kind of sign that is going to point you to the rapture or point you to the time that we are going to leave here; then you are looking for something that is wrong. Again, we live by faith. We don't look for signs but we are listening for sounds. We are listening for the trumpet to sound. He's going to come. All the things here that has to do with the signs and all that is going to happen will happen after we leave here. Immediately, after the rapture—I think it is going to be in a matter of days and the reason I think that is this.

Do you remember the story of Noah? Everybody knows the story of Noah. God told Noah to build an Ark and to prepare an Ark because He was going to send a flood. Didn't He? We know that Noah worked many, many years—120 years—and he built the Ark. When it was time, God told Noah to get into the Ark. Do you remember that? God sent the animals in. Do you know what happened? Seven days the Ark set there with them in it and then God closed up the side of it.

I don't know how long it is going to be from the time of the rapture until the time that anti-christ is going to come on the scene and things are going to start unfolding. I think it is going to be very quickly. It is not going to take long. Do you know what? There is a restraining force, if you look at the book II Thessalonians 2 there is a restraining force today that is restraining evil. Do you know what that is? That is you and me. We are the salt of the earth and salt keeps down corruption. However, when the church of Jesus Christ leaves here then the restraining force that is holding down evil today is going to be gone. We are going to be gone and then he is going to be able to have free course, the enemy is, to go and do what he wants to do. It is not going to be long after we leave here that the anti-christ is going to come on the scene.

We talked about that he is going to be a very flamboyant fellow. He is going to be a guy that the whole world is going to see. He is going to have the answers to the world problems and the economic mess that they are in right now. He is going to have the answers to all the wars that are going on and to all the starvation everywhere and all the epidemics. This guy is seemingly going to have all the answers. We know—the Bible says that the whole when you what it says in Revelation about him; it says that the whole world is going to wonder off after him. Things are going to go fine for awhile. He signs the peace treaty with Israel. He is going to protect them from Russia, and the Palestinians and all the other enemies. He is going to guarantee that he will protect them, but for some reason in the middle of tribulation, 42 months into this thing; he breaks the treaty that he has signed with Israel.

We know that goes into the temple that is going to be rebuilt very shortly. He is going to go in there and set up an image. He is going to declare this whole world to worship him as god. The Bible says that. He

will declare himself to be god and demand everybody world-wide to worship him as almighty god. When you look at the scriptures that I read to you tonight; where it says "...then shall be great affliction..." that is what he is talking about. When we see the "ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION" spoken of by Daniel the prophet then let them which be in Judea flee to the mountains. There is going to be great affliction then. He is going to demand the whole world to worship him as god. There are going to be people that are going to rebel against that. Then he will start killing people by the thousands. Those are things that are going to take place.

As we look at what he is going to do; shortly after he declares himself god. This, no doubt, will be seen world-wide when he declares himself to be god. There are going to be some people who are going to know that he is not god. There are going to be some people that has went to church all their lives that have missed the rapture; they are going to know that this guy is not god. Not only that, but in Revelation 7, when you look at the 144,000 that have been sealed with 12,000 from each of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel; when anti-christ claims himself to be god—do you know what they are going to do? When you read the message here that they have; their message is going to be to go everywhere and preach the message, the gospel of the kingdom, not the gospel of the grace of God that this guy that is in Jerusalem is not god. He is an imposter. He is the anti-christ. He is the false messiah. Don't believe him. When you also read; there are going to be multitudes of people who are going to believe the message of the 144,000 and we know that they are going to be saved during the tribulation period.

I know that goes against a lot of things that we have been taught. That's the Bible. That's the truth. I want to tell you this now. You get this. If you are listening to me tonight; wherever you are listening to me from and the Holy Spirit of God has quickened you, He has called you, He has revealed himself unto you; He's giving you an opportunity to be saved. If you have rejected that when the anti-christ comes on the scene do you know what you are going to do? If you are still yet alive then, you will believe that this guy is god. Do you know what else you are going to do? You are going to take his number either in your hand or your forehead and the Bible says that you are going to believe a lie and be damned. That is what the Bible says.

You cannot reject the grace of Almighty God today. You cannot mock Almighty God today and just think that somewhere else on down the road that you are going to get saved. That doesn't work that way.

During the tribulation period, the Bible says that there is going to be a multitude of people from every nation, every kindred, every tongue, and every people that are going to repent. They are going to be strictly saved by faith; people that have never heard the gospel before. These are people who have never been exposed to the gospel before. These are people who may come to the age of accountability during the tribulation period. There are many things that we need to look at but the thing I want you to get is this: when he declares himself to be god then things are going to quickly go downhill. I hope that you understand how drastic and how terrible, of course we are not going to be here. If we are saved you are not going to be here. If you are not saved you are going to be here. When you look at the things that starts to take place; He uses the words "great affliction." He says here that I read to you

here there has never been a time in all of planet earth that the trouble and the affliction and the problems that are going to be during that time has ever been and will never be again.

This world has been through some tragic times in the past. Hasn't it? With the floods, wars and epidemics that we have had and with all the storms worldwide there have been a lot of tragedy. During WWII, when we used our nuclear weapons, it was a sad time. During this last 42 months of tribulation, there has never been a time on planet earth nor will there ever be a time again with such great afflictions and great problems.

The thing we need to understand is that this world belongs to Almighty God. It belongs unto Him. We might talk about some of these things on Sunday morning. Men today, the world today as a whole, even religious people today; have said we don't need God anymore. We don't want Him in our lives. We don't want Him in our churches. We don't want Him in our homes. We don't want Him in our schools. We don't want Him anywhere. We can talk about a Supreme Being. We will call Him the "old man upstairs." Don't do that. He's God, my friend. He is going to let this world know that He is God. He is going to let this world, this unbelieving world—the world that hates Him—He is going to let them know that He is absolutely and totally in control of what is going on. This world is going to suffer like we have never seen before.

When you read Revelation 6, when the seals are opened; we read about war, we read about death, we read about famine like we have never seen before, we read about earthquakes, we read about the stars of heaven falling from the sky as fig tree casts her untimely figs when she is shaken of a mighty wind. Do you know what John is seeing? There is no doubt in my mind that John is seeing nuclear war.

If you read about some of the satellites and even the missiles that even Russia has today. They can take one large ICBM missile or SS18s or SS20s (I forget the number of them now) but they can take one missile and hang ten different missiles on this one missile and they can get somewhere out in the atmosphere then these ten missiles that they have on this one can start branching off. They can hit ten different sites with just one missile. You just think about that for a moment. If you were standing outside looking at the sky and you see an ICBM coming in; do you know what you would think? The radiant glow that is following it, you would think that a star is falling from heaven. You would think that but do you know what John is seeing? There is no doubt in my mind that John is seeing a nuclear exchange here take place.

The reason I say that is as you go on over through here; you can read about ¼ of the population being gone at one time. Check me out and read after me. Make sure I'm telling you the truth. You can turn over a few pages and do you know what you can see? You can see another 1/3 of those who are left are gone. You can read about all the green grass being burned up. You can read about all the trees being burned up. You can read about all the fresh water and all the oceans being polluted and many men die because they drink the water. Do you know what that is? That is radiation. They mentioned the great star that was like a mountain burning that fell in the ocean and the Bible calls it wormwood. Do you know what wormwood means? It means something that is very poisonous or hazardous. Do you know what it is going to do? It is going to kill people. People are going to die. As I read the scriptures here

there is no doubt that 66% of the people maybe even 75% of the people that are going to go into tribulation is going to die during the tribulation period. I'm not making that up. That's in the Bible. It's here. That's not something you read out of some book somewhere. It's in the Bible. It's here.

The people are going to understand that God; He is God. This world belongs to Him. Do you know what? Even during all these things; with the nuclear things that we are going to have, famine, pestilence, earthquakes. When you read in the book of Revelation, you can read about an earthquake that this earth has never saw an earthquake like that which is going to take place in the very near future. It's an earthquake that is going to shake this whole place, an earthquake that is going to shake the mountains and the islands and they are going to be removed. Not only that, but also we can read about hail stones, a hail storm.

We see little sized hail today, the size of a nickel, or the size of a quarter and sometimes out west they will be the size of baseballs. I can read in the scriptures that there is coming a hail storm very soon that the hail balls are going to be the size of a talent. Do you know how much a talent is? It is 7200 pounds, depending on which scale you look at. But you think about a hail stone weighing 70 pounds and falling from the sky at a 120 miles/hour. There is nothing that is going to survive.

Men are going to suffer. Do you know why? It is because they have rejected the God of heaven. When you read the scriptures; the sun is going to scorch men. The reason being is probably because of the things that are happening with our nuclear exchange. The ozone layer is going to be taken away and that is going to open up where men are going to be scorched with great heat. You would think that men who are suffering and going through these things; you would think that they would repent. However, when you read the scriptures, do you know what they do? They just continue to curse God. They just continue to blame everything on God.

Do you know what friend? Listen. I pray tonight that you are not here when these things start unfolding. I pray that you are not here. You might say that is not going to affect us. Friend, listen. It is going to affect Lawrence County, Ohio. It is going to affect this area. It is going to affect everywhere. Just within a couple of hundred miles of here; I read some stuff many years ago about some of the things that they had declassified from the cold war—I don't remember now. But this area a couple hundred mile area where we are at here because of some of the nuclear plants, power plants, chemical plants that we have in these areas; we were high on Russia's list to be destroyed. You might say "That's crazy. Why would anybody want to blow up Ironton?" They probably wouldn't care much about Ironton, but there are some things in this area within a couple hundred miles of here that would be important.

On these SS18s or SS20s, as I said a minute ago they can put ten war heads on one missile. Get this. One missile off one of these SS18s, just one of them, can destroy the state of Ohio. That is how strong they are. We have stuff today that is so many times greater than what we dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They are so many times greater in destructive force.

Therefore, don't think that we are going to escape. Don't think that this area is going to escape. Don't think you are going to escape if you are going to be here. Because people are going to be judged and this world is going to understand that God is God. I don't want you to be here.

Jesus here is telling some of these disciples these things. As I was thinking and studying today; it is not about scaring people. It is not about scaring the disciples. He was going to die here in two days. If it was that important for Him to talk about these things a couple of days before He was going to die; do you know what He is trying to do? The last verse I read to you tonight:

37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

Be prepared. Get ready to leave here. Make sure of how that you are living. Make sure that you are right with Almighty God. Make sure that your relationship with God is what it should be. As we read this; it does not concern me anymore because I am not going to be here. What I am saying is that it does concern me for other people, it does concern me for some of my family and other folks that we see come to church all the time; it does concern me for them. However, as for me personally; I don't worry about it because I am not going to be here. I do worry about it for people. I do worry about it because people are going to suffer tremendously. The sad part about it is it's going to be a lot of people who have went to church all of their life. I've said this many times.

In most churches around America, when the rapture happens the next service time there they will be having service. Do you know why? It is because that so many places men have departed from Almighty God. They no longer worship Him. They have all kinds of activities going on. They are very busy. They are doing all kinds of things. But the Spirit of God is foreign to them. They don't ever listen to His voice. They are not acquainted with Him any longer. My friend, listen; this world is going to know that He is God.

Keep this in mind.

The nuclear exchanges, the plagues, the famine, the pestilence, the earthquakes are all going to be a worldwide thing. This is something that is going to affect the whole world.

Just when it looks like here that man is going to destroy planet earth; something happens. Do you know what that is? Jesus Christ appears. If you read Revelation 19; do you know what is going to happen? At the end of tribulation when it looks like that mankind is going to destroy planet earth; Jesus Christ is going to appear in the clouds of heaven. He is going to come and do you know who else is going to come with Him? We are going to be coming with Him.

He's coming back. The Bible says if you read Revelation 1:7; He says every eye shall see Him even those that pierced Him. When you read on over in the scriptures do you know what you will find out? When Jesus Christ appears—and the world is going to be able to see Him. Anti-christ is going to be able to see Him as He comes and we come with Him. The Bible says that he is going to make war with the Lord, but the Bible says that the Lord is going to consume him with the spirit of His mouth. He is going to come back and take the reins. He is going to take control of planet earth. He is going set up His kingdom. He

is going to go into Jerusalem and what is left of that place it's going to be blown up. It's going to be bombed, but the Bible says that He is going to bring 1/3 of the Jewish people through the fire. We know that.

Jesus Christ is going to come. There is going to be some way that He is going to cleanse the earth here of all the radiation and nuclear fallout here. I read to you earlier about the sun was not going to shine. If you read what Matthew says, the moon is going to look like blood and sackcloth and so forth. All the radiation and all the dust and all the things that are going to be in the air; Jesus is going to use something to cleanup things. Whether it is rain; I don't know what it will be, but something will cleanse things so that mankind can continue to exist here on planet earth. When a certain amount of radiation is released in certain areas then it is thousands and thousands of years before man could ever inhabit some of these places because of radiation. However, He is going to cleanse things. He is going to take anti-christ, the beast, and the false prophet and cast them into the lake of fire. He is going to do that. He is going to set up a kingdom of righteousness. Men are going to take their swords and beat them in the plow shears and their spears in the pruning hooks and they are not going to have any more war in My Holy Mountain saith God. That's in here too. That's in the book. The Bible says that it is going to be a time of peace on earth and good will towards men.

It is going to be a time when people get along. That's different than it is today. That will have to be a new era. Won't it? That will have to be a different time. It will be a time that the animals that is out here—we look at snakes, we look at dogs and we look at all kinds of things—but during that time there is not going to be no enemy there. Snakes are not going to try to bite us. Bears are not going to try to eat us. We are all going to be in harmony. There is going to be peace on earth and good will toward men.

Do you know what we are going to be doing? We are going to be here. There are some things that I may not understand about everything, but Jesus Christ; we know that He is going to be sitting upon the throne of David and we know that He is going to rule with a rod of Iron. The Bible says that everyman is going to know the Lord from the least to the greatest. It's there.

Do you know what we are going to do? As He rules this world, we are going to assist Him in ruling this world. That is going to be an exciting time for you and me.

You might think today, that you are nobody. We may not be very important as this world looks at us. However, one day we are going to be kings. That is what the book says. One day we are going to be priests, some of us are going to be kings and some are going to be priests. We are going to be here and rein on planet earth for 1000 years.

Do you know what people think? They think the rapture is going to take place and we are all going to go to heaven and we are going to sit under palm trees and drink lemonade. That is not what is actually going to happen. God has a plan. I am glad that I'm just a part of the plan. Aren't you? I may not understand it all. I may understand very little of it. I'm glad of one thing. I'm glad that I know enough to know that I needed to be saved and He saved me. I know that I am saved today.

The whole picture here, I may not understand but I do know enough to know that Jesus Christ is not only going to appear in the clouds one day and take the church of Jesus Christ home. But at the end of tribulation, seven years later, He is going to come back and declare himself to be God. He is going to come back and take over.

The leaders of this world may think they are strong. They may think that they are powerful. They may think that they have all kinds of things worked out. However, they are going to understand who God really is one day.

Wherever you are listening to me from tonight; I would plead with you to make things right with God tonight. I would plead with you to repent of your sins tonight. I don't know when He is coming. I don't know when He is going to appear in the clouds. I don't have any idea.

If God has stirred your heart, if God has given you opportunities to make things right with Him; then it is going to be too late for you when the missiles start falling. Won't you come tonight and make things right with God?

Come—