

WE LIVE IN THE TIME OF TRIBULATION - Rm 8:35

INTRODUCTION

1. Rm 8:35 *tribulation & distress* - detailed as *persecution, etc.* A time of testing: pressure that proves the true nature of faith or unbelief.
2. v35 threatens to experience Jesus' love, from wh/ nothg can separate us. We must learn to *walk in love* [Eph 5:2] & *keep ourselves in the love of God* [Jd 1:20-21]

1st: The Incarnate Jesus Tells Us That We Live in the Time of Tribulation

1. See Dan 12. Mt 24:21 1) false teachers & apostasy; 2) war & upheavals in natural order; 3) persecution & societal decay; 4) global expansion of gospel
2. Jn 16:33 While *in the world*, we live *in Christ* [Jn 15] - Jesus' peace: Jn 14:27.

2nd: The Apostle John Tells Us That We Live in the Time of Tribulation

1. Rv 1:9 The present time = *the tribulation, kingdom & perseverance*. Saints already reign in Christ - Beale, p.201-202

3rd: The Apostle Paul Tells Us That We Live in the Time of Tribulation

1. A 14:21-22 *encourage* - how?
2. 2T 3:10-13 endure tribulations

4th: The Enthroned Jesus Tells Us That We Live in the Time of Tribulation

1. 5 of the 7 churches are in trouble - Rv 2:9-10 *time of testing*.
2. Metaphor of birth pangs - Rv 3:10 *hour (time) of testing* - Lk 21:34-36
3. At the LT, we takes eyes off circumstances & gaze afresh on Christ. He has overcome the world.