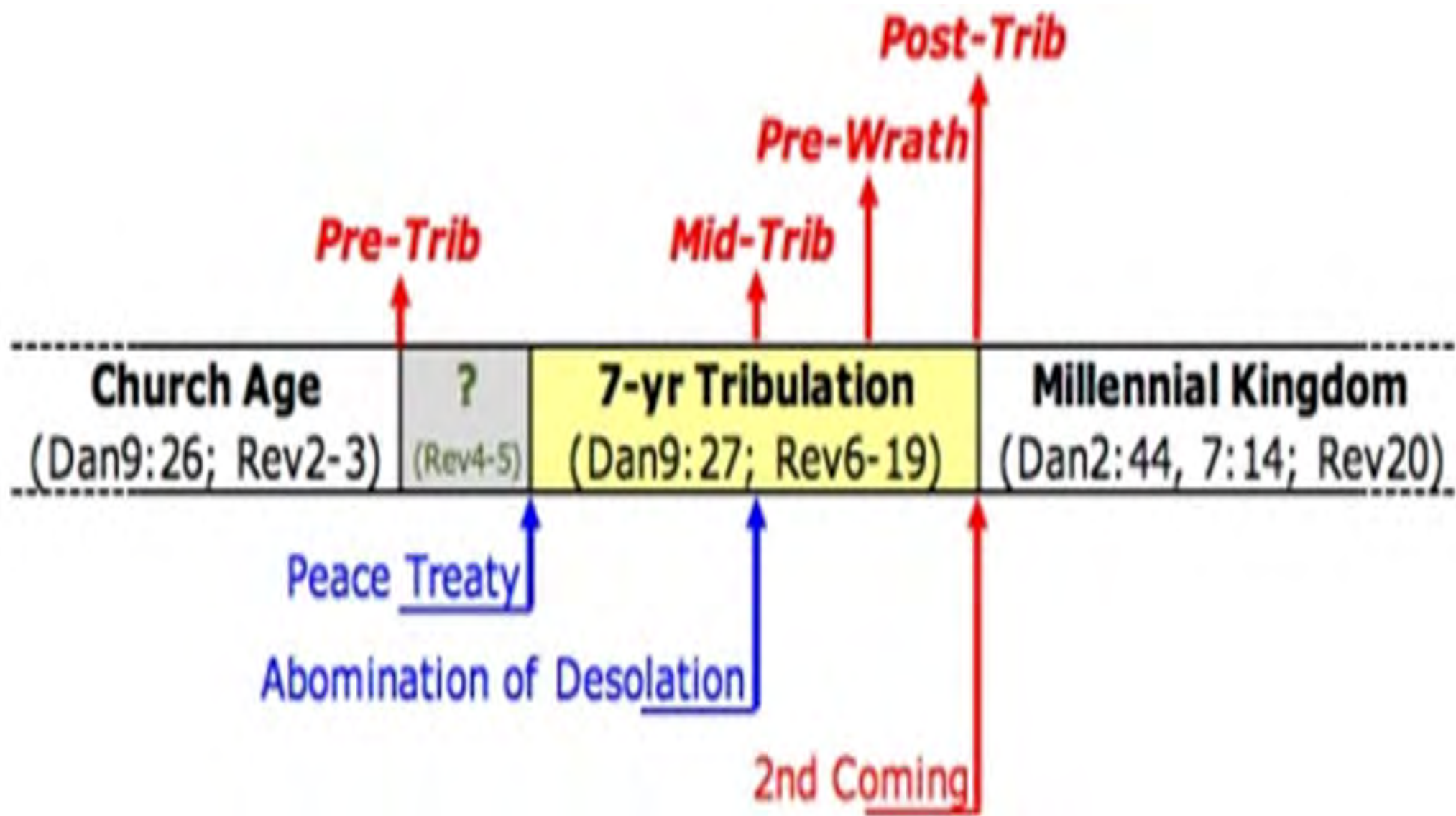


Ready or Not – Jesus Is Coming!!

Matthew 24: 45-51

September 17, 2023



A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture. The hands are positioned in the center-left of the frame, with fingers interlaced. The background is a dark, slightly blurred grey. Overlaid on the image is the text "READY OR NOT HERE I COME" in a bold, sans-serif font. The words "READY OR" and "HERE I COME" are in white, while "NOT" is in red. The text is arranged in two lines: "READY OR NOT" on the top line and "HERE I COME" on the bottom line.

READY OR NOT
HERE I COME

are YOU ready?

Verse 45 - 47

The Faithful Servant

What does faithful look like?

Faithful = *certain, worthy to be believed, true, just, trustworthy, observant, steadfast*

What does wise look like?

Prudent, sensible, practical wisdom

Wisdom = Chokmah

Wisdom (02451)(**chokmah** [word study] from the verb **chakam** - to be wise) is the ability to judge correctly and to follow the best course of action, based on knowledge and understanding. **Wisdom** is the ability to see something from God's viewpoint. **Wisdom** is "God's character in the many practical affairs of life."

True wisdom always leads to reverence for the Lord

Godly wisdom allows one to answer the perplexing questions of life:

How did we get here? Why are we here?

Why is there so much evil in the world?

What do we do while we are here? What is the way out of here? Where are we going?

The Christian world view answers these questions better than any other

What is a world view?



The lens in which you view your world

Servant = “*doulos*” = a bondservant; a willing slave of the master he loves

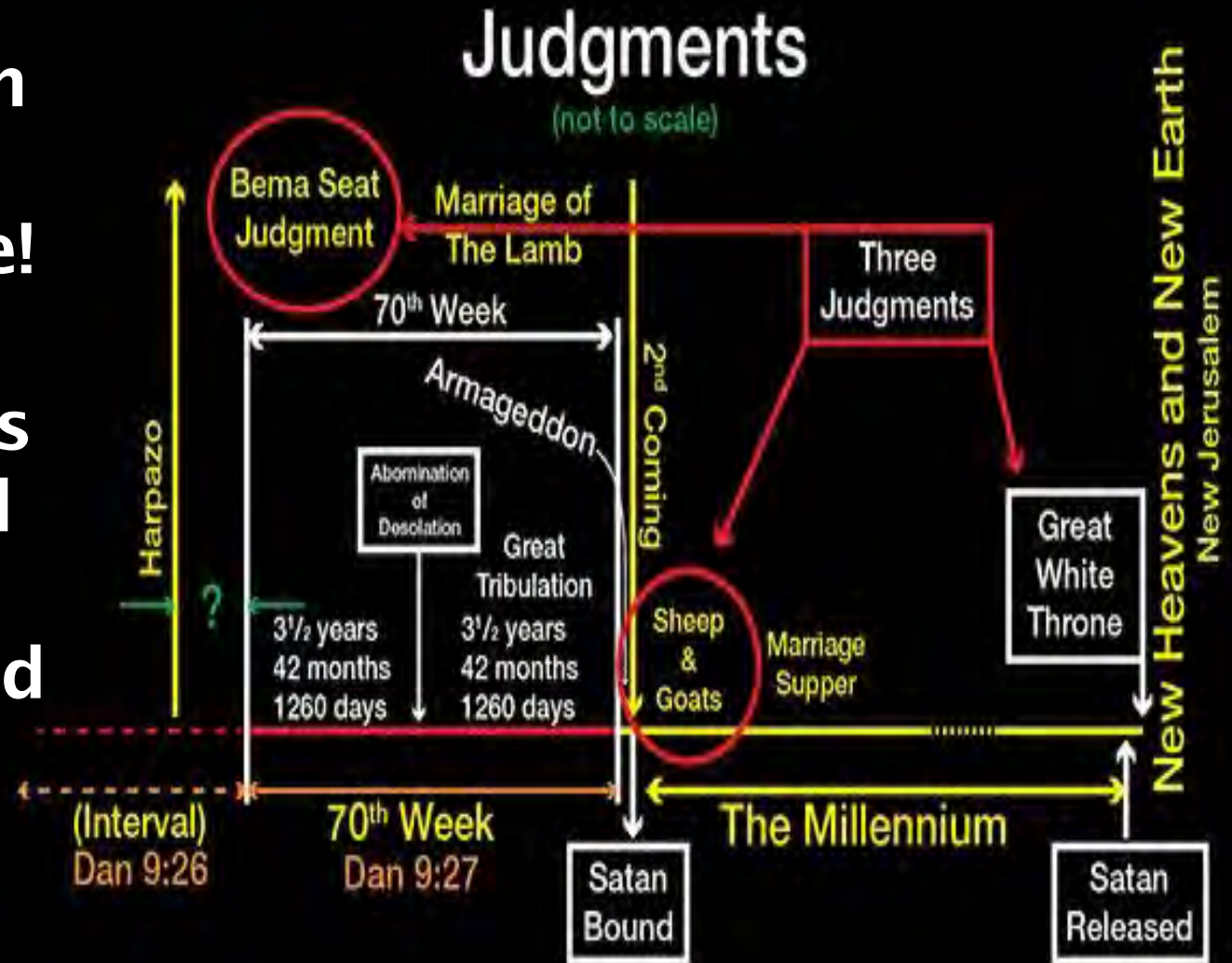
A bondservant is to carry out the will of his master while he is away

We are on a mission to carry out the Master’s business until we are taken out of here

“Moreover, It is required in stewards that one be found faithful.” 1 Corinthians 4: 2

Stay on mission
and
finish your race!

Strong finishers
will stay yoked
to Jesus
and be rewarded
by Jesus!!



Verse 48 - 51

The Wicked Servant

The evil servant's philosophy is the world's philosophy:

While the cat's away, the mice will play

"My master has delayed his coming."

Delayed coming becomes doubt he is coming!

The evil servant was an earth dweller, he misrepresented his master

“And begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards.”

Principle: You become like those you hang with
1 Corinthians 15: 33

“Do not be deceived, bad company corrupts good character.”

There will be a day of reckoning:

“The master of that servant will come on a day he is not looking for him and at an hour he is not aware of.”

The evil servant appeared genuine, called a *“doulos”*, but was simply a hypocrite

So many claim the name and say I know Jesus, but does Jesus know you?

- **Change is an indication of genuineness!**
- **No one was ever saved to remain the same**
- **Are you actively engaged in changing?**

It's not about
PERFECTION.

IT'S ABOUT

direction.

The evil servant's destiny:

“ appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth”

The evidence for God is overwhelming!

The knowledge of Him must be suppressed for someone to ignore or discard God as a fairy tale

Romans 1

¹⁸ For the **wrath of God is revealed** from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness **suppress the truth**. ¹⁹ For what can be known about God **is plain** to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been **clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world**, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became **futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened**. ²² **Claiming to be wise**, they became fools, ²³ and **exchanged the glory** of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

**The evil servant suppressed the truth about
God and will end up separated from God**

So many today are indifferent to God

Indifference is a form of hate!

Rebecca Pippert

“Anger isn't the opposite of
love. Hate is. And the final form
of hate is indifference.”

CLOSING THOUGHTS:



**READY OR NOT
I'M COMING BACK.**

-JESUS

GodVine.com

**All true believers are servants of the
*Most High God!***

**A servant, a steward, is one who manages
another's property and affairs**

KEY POINT:

IT'S NOT MINE!!

I am not thinking like a servant/steward when:

- When I try to control everything or everyone around me
- When I brag how great I am and how pitiful others are
- When I worry

Worry is an indication I am in control - I AM NOT!!

Jesus warned us; *in fact, commanded us, not to worry!*

Therefore I tell you,

do not worry about your life,

what you will eat or drink;

or about your body, what you will wear.

Is not life more than food, & the body more than clothes?

Look at the birds of the air;

they do not sow or reap or store away in barns,

& yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Are you not much more valuable than they?

*Can any one of you by worrying
add a single hour to your life?*

-Matthew 6:25-27

BibleVerseImages.com

**As our world changes,
as we change,
as everything is turned
upside down**

DO NOT WORRY!!

“Be Not Anxious”

- Worry is a sin. It is a form of blasphemy.
- Worry is assuming a responsibility that God did not intend for you to have.
- Worry is a trickle of fear that soon cuts a crevice so deep it drains all other thoughts away...

You are not acting like a steward when you worry!

WORRY, *huh!!*

What is it good for?

Absolutely nothing!



**Ready or Not,
Here I Come!**

**This is reality, live here like Jesus
is coming for YOU today!!**

A serene sunset scene over a large body of water, likely a lake or bay. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a vibrant orange and red near the horizon. The water reflects the colors of the sky, and the distant mountains are silhouetted against the bright horizon. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Now it is required of stewards
that they be found faithful.

1 Corinthians 4:2 BSB

The faithful will hear these words:

FAITHFUL STEWARDS

‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’

Matthew 25: 21, 23

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE!!



MAY THE LORD
FIND US FAITHFUL