

## WRESTING THE SCRIPTURES TRIBULATION II Peter 3:13-18

In these verses Peter refers to end time doctrine that have confused people for thousands of years. Paul wrote of the end times, the Rapture of the church, tribulation, the Kingdom and dispensations. Today there are many false teachers and preachers that falsely teach about these doctrines.

### UNDERSTAND THE BASICS

**II Timothy 2:15; 3:16-17** As with anything else that needs to be learned, there are no shortcuts to understanding bible truth. The reason for scriptures like **I Cor. 3:1-2; Hebrews 5:8-14** is due to the laziness or ignorance of believers today that want to be spoon fed and listen to whoever sounds good.

**II Timothy 2:15** Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit Paul tells us that in order to fully understand God's word the 'worker' that is studying must "rightly divide" what is in the bible truths. This vital verse is greatly missed by those that would ignore dispensational truth.

**Contextual Interpretation** – Studying the context is understanding the authors writing style. It is studying verses before and after the subject that is being studied. Sometimes it requires the study of the chapter, maybe the entire book. Contextual study is understanding the history and grammar of the time.

**I Corinthians 2:12-14** Paul confirms that the things of God (scripture), are taught by the Holy Ghost to believers by comparing 'spiritual things with spiritual things'. What are 'spiritual things'?

**I Corinthians 2:13; 9:11** These are the two verses that talk of 'spiritual things' and the context that Paul must be talking about is the word of God.

**First Mention Principle** – This basic principle of bible interpretation is that God indicates the truth of a subject on His mind and it will not change later. Following this principle is that of Progressive truth where God declares more clearly this truth as His Word moves toward completion, (**Dan. 12:8-9**)

### TRIBULATION

**Deuteronomy 4:26-31** Here we see where God warned His people the nation of Israel about their people in the "latter days" being in tribulation because of their disobedience and idolatry.

**Isaiah 2:1-11; 13:6-9; Joel 3:11-21; Zephaniah 1:7-18; Jeremiah 30:7; Matthew 24:21** Throughout scripture the tribulation has been referred to by other names such as The Day of the Lord, time of trouble, the great tribulation, the time of Jacobs trouble, always referring to Israel.

**Daniel 9:24-27** In order to understand the purpose and time line of the tribulation a complete study and understanding is needed of these important prophecies in Daniel. Notice that God has dispatched His most important angel (Gabriel) to give this prophecy to Daniel regarding "thy people" (Israel) and "thy holy city" (Jerusalem). The time line for the completion of the prophecy is seventy weeks.

**Daniel 9:24** Within this one verse of scripture God reveals His entire future for the nation of Israel until His coronation when he sits on the throne in Jerusalem after the tribulation in His Kingdom.

**Daniel 9:25-26** The seventy weeks are determined to be 70 weeks of years that equal 490 years. At the end of sixty nine (69) weeks of years the Messiah will be cut off (killed). It has been determined that after exactly 483 years (69 weeks of years) Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt of a donkey in fulfillment of the prophecy in **Zechariah 9:9** allowing the Jewish people to worship Him as King.

**Daniel 9:26** After the 69<sup>th</sup> week but not included in the 70<sup>th</sup> week these things happen 1. Messiah is killed. 2. Jerusalem and the Temple destroyed. 3. Continued war against the Jews.

**Daniel 9:27** Week # 70 comes on the scene. The 'he' refers to the ant-christ. He makes a seven year covenant with Israel. He breaks the covenant after 3 1/2 years. He sets up the abomination of desolation. His power lasts for 3 1/2 years until he is destroyed.