FAQ 54

Keeping Sound Interpretive Options OPEN In Light Of God's Word

Q.#54 Does the "Day of the Lord" actually start with the sixth seal?

In response, in light of explicit biblical data, we believe the *Day of the Lord* is defined as such.

Note: The heavenly Elders of Revelation say, at the blowing of the Final Trumpet, "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was and who is to come, because You have taken Your great power and reigned. The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear Your name, small and great, and should destroy those who destroy the earth." (Revelation 11:17, 18; NKJV) See details at this link about the concern tied to the verb, "has come."

In light of the above, we believe the period of the bowls of the wrath of God (which the Church does not experience) begins after the Final Trumpet (Rapture Gathering). In this setting, the faithful people of God in Christ Jesus do not experience God's wrath as poured out during the Bowls of Wrath. The Church will not incur the *hour of trial* (Revelation 3:10) due to its being taken up prior to the pouring out of the Bowls of Wrath. Again, we are aware of the various ways "the hour of trial" is interpreted. In accurate application of the possible meanings of this phrase, we conclude more tentatively and once again go on to offer *The Final Trumpet Rapture Gathering* as a biblically supported end-time view which affirms the many application appeals throughout eschatological data found in the Bible. This includes endurance, preparedness/readiness (in light of the signs), obedience, holiness (and separation from the world), etc. This will eventually include God's remaining people in Christ (who survive the time of persecution against God's people – see our chronological proposal here saying "NO" when the mark of the beast is implemented on a global scale.

As interpretive issues go, yes, there are a variety of viable ways to understand certain dynamics relating to this topic of just when the wrath of God begins. The position proposed by Endurance Ministries is one of those viable ways (that these chronological details can unfold in light of the explicit Word of God).

Let's be dogmatic (seen in a positive sense) when we have grounds to be dogmatic. Let's be more tentative when there exists multiple competing hypotheses which are viable in light of the full Counsel of the Word of God. Does this make Scripture relative? No. It does profess honestly when multiple ways of looking at a passage do indeed exist.

See our book and our <u>other materials</u> which affirm this end-time proposal. Sincerely, as we've stated time and time again, there is not ONE biblical denial of the *Final Trumpet Rapture Gathering* when it is considered in light of the full Counsel of the holy Word of God. We praise God He offers His special Creation, made in His precious image, means by which to safely navigate the troubles waters ahead.