

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## FACING THE ANTI-CHRIST

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JOHN S. TORELL

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### PART 3: WHAT IS GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE ANTICHRIST?

#### FREE WILL

God had full knowledge before the creation of how everything would play out so why did He create Lucifer when God knew that he would rebel and contaminate the entire creation with sin? God has not addressed this question in the Bible, but by looking at the creation and how it was done, we can see that angels and humans were created with a free will.

We have the skill to design and build machines, and with our computer knowledge, they have different levels of ability from a simple electronic sensor to a complicated robotic arm on an assembly line. The more advanced machines can retrieve and process information and then develop a response. But even the most sophisticated machinery can never be our companion because the machine cannot display emotions nor does it have a free will and will always be just a machine.

Animals and birds will respond to love or hate and generate an emotional response but they are not able to reason with a human being and their capacity is limited.

It is obvious that God wanted creatures with a free will who could respond to His love and make a decision to love in return that is not based upon force or programming but because they choose to do so.

#### LUCIFER

God created Lucifer as an extraordinarily anointed cherub who had access to the very throne room of God. Lucifer initially enjoyed leading the other angels in worship of God, but then he used his free will to ponder why he couldn't be worshiped like God by the other angels. **Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:11-18**

God allowed Lucifer to rebel, be filled with sin and tempt all the angels in the creation to join him in rebellion with the result that one third joined his side. **Revelation 12:3-4**

God's beautiful creation was marred by a horrible war that raged throughout the universe and ended in defeat for Lucifer. **Revelation 12:7-9**

There was a trial in which Lucifer and the other rebellious angels were sentenced to the Lake of Fire. **Matthew 25:41**



8341 Fair Oaks Blvd, Suite B, Carmichael, CA 95608

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 166 Sheridan, CA 95681

Phone: (916) 944-3724 • Toll Free: (888) 708-3232 • Fax: (530) 633-2918 • [www.eaec.org](http://www.eaec.org)

## **RAISING DOUBT**

The remaining two third of the angels who had made the decision to love God and stay loyal were bewildered when Lucifer accused God of being unjust by sending His created beings into an everlasting torment in the Lake of Fire. The doubt raised in their in minds was, "Is God righteous?"

## **GOD'S RESPONSE**

God answered that question by creating man in His image. Man would have a free will just like the angels to choose Lucifer over God and the angels could see that it was man's own choice by exercising his free will. Thus Adam and Eve were created and placed in a perfect environment where all their needs were met but God gave Lucifer the tree of knowledge of good and evil to tempt them.

**Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-7**

God already knew that Adam and Eve would fail and follow Lucifer; therefore, the decision had been made by God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit before the foundation of this world that there would be a rescue plan for the human race. **1 Peter 1:18-20; Revelation 13:8**

***God is proving his righteousness through the salvation of man!***  
**Romans 3:20-26**

## **A NEW CREATION**

The angels were created with a free will but there was no redemption for their rebellion. Their fate was sealed and they were sentenced to the Lake of Fire once they decided to abandon God and sin with Lucifer. There is no repentance for them.

The angels who did not sin were "locked in" and no longer have the capacity to sin. They are ready for the new creation.

Every human being who has accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour will drop their sinful bodies and receive new bodies and become incapable of sinning at the second coming of Christ. **1 Corinthians 15:42-54**

**God wanted a creation that would be ruled by beings with a free will who did not have a desire to rebel against Him. To accomplish this God had to first do a temporary creation to weed out those who would unfaithful, destroy the first creation, and then create the final eternal creation. 2 Peter 3:3-13; Revelation 20:10-15; 21:1-8**

The Great Tribulation is the time period when God will give Lucifer permission to take control of the world. This will be done to prove once and for all to the holy angels that there is no good in Lucifer and that he is worthy to be tormented forever in the Lake of Fire. However, Lucifer cannot bring in his world ruler until God permits it. **2 Thessalonians 2:6-8**

## **TERRIBLE EVIL**

Why does God permit such terrible evil to exist? The answer to that is found when God presented truth to people and they rejected it. Rejecting truth is like calling God for a liar and He won't tolerate it. The Great Tribulation period is a judgment on the human race and it is God himself that will send strong delusion on the nations so that they will believe Lucifer and his Antichrist in order to be damned and judged by God. **verses 9-12**

## **HOW LONG IS THE GREAT TRIBULATION PERIOD?**

There isn't any place in the Bible where we are told the Great Tribulation will be a seven year period, but the Bible does tell us that it is going to last for one hour.

### **Revelation 17:7-13**

It is obvious that this one hour is not in human time. The apostle Peter was given insight by the Holy Spirit and gave us the key that one day with the Lord is like a thousand years.

*"But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."* **2 Peter 3:8**

Using this information we can mathematically calculate the following conversion table:

- ❖ One hour for God is 41.67 years for man.
- ❖ One minute for God is 8 months and 8 days for man.
- ❖ One second for God is 3 days and 22 hours for man.

If the hour mentioned in the Book of Revelation is based upon the conversion table given to the apostle Peter, then the Great Tribulation will span a time period of 41.67 years in man's time.

The Soviet Union lasted 75 years, Nazi Germany lasted 12 years and the Eastern European countries suffered under communism for 44 years. Communist China is now 62 years old and the communists in Cuba have held power for 51 years.

Jesus said that the time period of the Great Tribulation has been shortened for the sake of the Christians. We should prepare ourselves for some turbulent times. **Matthew 24:21-22**

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Have you made plans on how to finish your life or are you just drifting?***

**DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?**