

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION.



1

How to Escape the 7 Last Plagues.



2

**The place was Egypt-the most highly civilized nation then in existence. The year was 1445 B.C.
For 215 years the children of Israel had lived there-the last century in bitter bondage.**

The friendly pharaohs who had known and admired Joseph had long since passed to their graves.



3

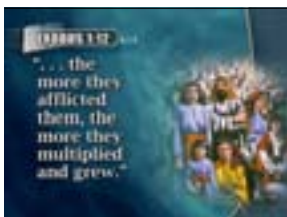
The new rulers viewed the rapidly multiplying Israelites as a threat to national security, fearing that in the event of war, the Israelites might join themselves with the enemies of Egypt.

So the children of Israel were placed in bondage, forced to become slaves under the grinding tyranny of the Egyptians. But, the Bible says,



4

(Text: Exodus 1:12) "...the more they afflicted them,



5

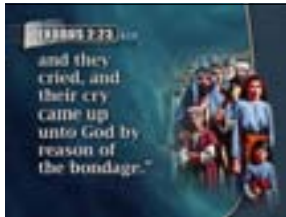
the more they multiplied and grew." Exodus 1:12.



6

(Text: Exodus 2:23-24) "... and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage,

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.

7



And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. Exodus 2:23, 24.KJV

8



It had been more than 400 years since God had made that covenant with Abraham concerning his posterity and their deliverance. Now, at last, the day had come. God was ready, and His deliverer was ready!

9



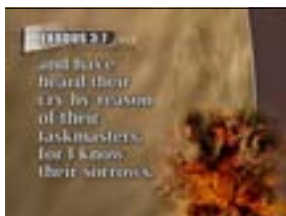
They met-God and Moses. Not in a palace, not in the shadow of some great pyramid, but out in the Midian desert beside a burning bush.

10



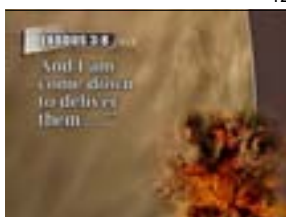
(Text: Exodus 3:7-8) "And the LORD said, 'I have surely seen the affliction of my people which [are] in Egypt,

11



and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

12



And I am come down to deliver them. . .'" Exodus 3:7, 8. KJV
Speaking to Moses, God said:

13



(Text: Exodus 3:10) "Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh,

14

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



15

that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.” Exodus 3:10 KJV.



16

It had been forty years since Moses had left the palace in Egypt.

Forty years since he had spoken the Egyptian language! In fact, for that entire period of time, he had tended sheep out in the lonely desert.

Gone was the self-confidence he had enjoyed as the proud young prince in the Egyptian court. The Bible says,



17

(Text: Acts 7:22) “And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds.” Acts 7:22.



18

But in the desert, Moses learned more than humility. By caring for the sheep, he learned patience and gentleness. Now God felt that Moses was ready to deliver Israel and exercise fatherly care over His people.

Humbly Moses obeyed God’s instruction and accepted what, at the moment, appeared to be an impossible task.



19

To help Moses in accomplishing this tremendous mission, God instructed Aaron, Moses’ older brother (who was a slave in Egypt), to go out and meet Moses.

Not only would Aaron lend moral support, but God appointed Aaron to be Moses’ spokesman, since Moses had not used the Egyptian language for so many years.

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



20

The two brothers entered the palace of Pharaoh claiming to be ambassadors sent by God.

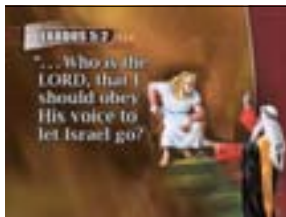
They spoke in His name and told of His mighty power.

The proud monarch's haughty gaze must have taken in the unusual scene in but a moment.

Before him stood two brothers, one a humble Midian shepherd, still clutching his shepherd's rod, the other a local Hebrew slave.

Both were proclaiming the great power of the God they served.

When Aaron stated that they came with a message from the Lord requesting that Pharaoh let His people go, Pharaoh snorted in disgust:



21

(Text: Exodus 5:2) "Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go?"



22

I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go." Exodus 5:2.KJV

With thousands of slaves at his disposal, Pharaoh certainly had no intention of losing that free labor. Aaron's request drew a stern reaction.

The king increased the workload of the Israelites.



23

But soon God would let the pompous Pharaoh know who the Lord was and something about His mighty power.

Pharaoh was warned by Moses and Aaron that God would send one plague after another upon Egypt until His people were released from bondage.

Then the Lord's message to Pharaoh was:

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



24

(Text: Exodus 7:17) "... In this thou shalt know that I [am] the LORD: . ." Exodus 7:17.KJV



25

It wasn't long before the plagues began to fall.

Ten, to be exact!

Before each plague fell, Moses and Aaron warned Pharaoh of the judgment to come, hoping he would choose to release the children of Israel,

thus saving himself and his people from disaster.

But Pharaoh persisted in his course of action.

And, in accordance with His promise, unique calamities visited the Egyptians.



26

(Video: 9 sec) First, the River Nile, worshiped by the Egyptians as one of their gods, turned to blood when Aaron smote the waters with the rod.

The fish died, and all the rest of the water in Egypt became blood for seven days.

But Pharaoh refused to let God's people go!



27

Next, a plague of frogs infected the land.

Millions of them-in the food, in the beds, everywhere!

Yet, the stubborn king refused to let Israel go.

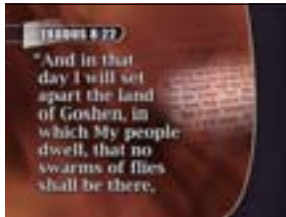


28

A plague of lice came next. But the arrogant ruler wouldn't agree to let the people go.

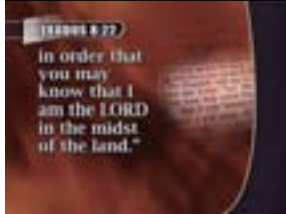
Notice that the first three plagues fell on both Hebrews and Egyptians; however, the last seven plagues fell only on the Egyptians.

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



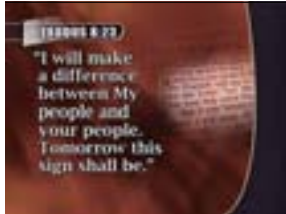
29

(Text: Exodus 8:22-23) "And in that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, in which My people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there,



30

in order that you may know that I am the Lord in the midst of the land.



31

I will make a difference between My people and your people. Tomorrow this sign shall be." Exodus 8: 22, 23.



32

Next came a plague of flies that filled the house of Pharaoh.



33

After the flies, a most terrible epidemic swept through the land, destroying all the animals that were in the fields.

By now, Pharaoh was intensely curious. Had the animals of the Hebrews been destroyed also-or had they been protected as Moses predicted?



34

(Text: Exodus 9:7) "And Pharaoh sent, and, behold, there was not one of the cattle of the Israelites dead..



35

And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people go." Exodus 9:7. KJV

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



36

The sixth plague brought boils upon man and beast, but still the obstinate monarch refused to release the children of Israel.



37

The next prophecy foretold a plague of hail.



38

(Video: 8 sec) However, God promised that all who protected themselves and their animals would not die. The news spread quickly throughout the land, and many Egyptians took cover, along with their animals.

The hail came, mingled with thunder and laced with lightning, and all who failed to prepare for it died!



39

(Video: 18 sec) The Egyptians saw clearly that the earth was under the control of the living God, and that their only safety was in obedience to Him.

For a few fleeting moments, Pharaoh actually toyed with the idea of obeying God and letting the people go, but as the plague abated, so did his good intentions.



40

(Video: 19 sec) Moses warned Pharaoh that if he refused to let the children of Israel go, the next scourge would be a swarm of locusts.

Appalled by the thought of more plagues, Pharaoh's counselors pleaded with him to let the slaves go, but the king still refused. And the locusts came as predicted.

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



41

Then came three days of darkness so intense it could be felt, but the rebellious Pharaoh continued to defy the God of heaven.



42

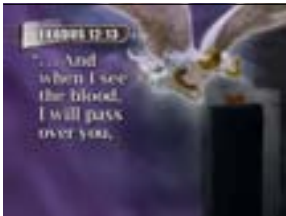
Moses stated that one more plague would be poured upon the Egyptians-a final one not to be lightly disregarded. A destroying angel was to pass through the land at midnight and would slaughter all the firstborn in Egypt-both of man and beast.



43

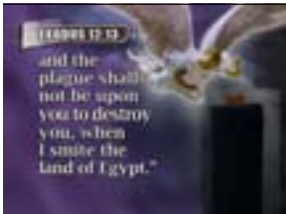
(Video: 15 sec) Again, the Hebrews were to be spared. But this time it was not enough to be a Hebrew or to live in Goshen.

In order to avoid the death sentence, each family was instructed to slay a lamb and sprinkle some of its blood on the doorpost of their house as a token of their faith and loyalty to God. And God promised:



44

(Text: Exodus 12:13) "... And when I see the blood, I will pass over you;



45

and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you when I smite the land of Egypt." Exodus 12:13. KJV



46

What an interesting scene was portrayed that night! Thousands of Hebrew families and many of the Egyptians stood by their doors watching as the father, holding a basin of blood in one hand and a sprig of hyssop in the other, sprinkled the doorposts.

And one can well imagine that the most concerned onlookers that night were the firstborn children.

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



47

(Text: Exodus 12:29) “And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt,



48

from the firstborn of Pharaoh. . . unto the firstborn of the captive that [was] in the dungeon;



49

and all the firstborn of cattle.” Exodus 12:29.KJV



50

However, not one home where the blood had been sprinkled on the doorposts in obedience to God’s instructions had been touched by the plague.



51

Throughout the vast kingdom of Egypt the cries of mourners could be heard.

And with trembling legs and frayed nerves, Pharaoh remembered how he had ridiculed the Hebrew’s God and had flip-pantly snorted:



52

(Text: Exodus 5:2) “. . .Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? . . .” Exodus 5:2. KJV

Now he knew. Humbly, he and his counselors sent for the two Hebrew brothers and urged them to take the children of Israel and leave the land of Egypt in haste, for they were afraid they all might die!



53

(Video: 11 sec) At the stroke of midnight, God’s people-those who had chosen Him as their deliverer-were set free. And just as God had commanded, they had prepared for that hour.

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION

With shoes on their feet and coats on their backs, they were ready for the great exodus. They were on their way to the Promised Land!



54

“Well,” you say, “that’s an interesting story, but how is it important for those of us living in the twentieth century?” It may appear to be unimportant, but it isn’t. In fact, it couldn’t be more important.



55

You see, in the New Testament, we find the most remarkable prophecies giving the details of the final events that will occur on earth. These prophecies make it crystal clear that, once again, plagues will fall-but on a much more devastating scale.



56

Yes, according to Bible prophecy, history will be repeated. Not ten plagues, but seven, will culminate in the deliverance of God’s people. Not from Egypt, but from a planet in rebellion.



57

But, just as the children of Israel endured a time of affliction before their glorious deliverance from Egypt and witnessed the plagues falling on the Egyptians,



58

so will God’s people witness the outpouring of the seven last plagues on the wicked prior to Christ’s coming.

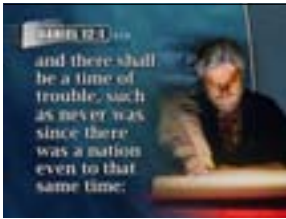
The prophet Daniel describes this period of trouble:



59

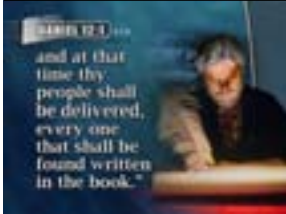
(Text: Daniel 12:1) “And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people:

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



60

and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation [even] to that same time:.



61

and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation [even] to that same time:” Daniel 12:1. KJV



62

The “everlasting gospel” will have been preached to all the world.

The call of the second angel to “come out of Babylon” or the false systems of worship will have been given.

And to every man the third angel proclaims:



63

(Text: Revelation 14:9-10) “If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,



64

the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God.” Revelation 14:9, 10.



65

This is the most awesome warning in the Bible ever addressed to mortals.

But not until the issues are plainly set before the inhabitants of earth and they are brought to choose between the commandments of God or the commandments of men, will anyone receive the mark of the beast, or “drink of the wine of the wrath of God.”



66

But when that has been accomplished, probation’s door closes forever for all mankind.

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



67

And the solemn announcement is made: “He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still:



68

and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.” Revelation 22:11. KJV



69

Christ’s work as our High Priest in heaven has ended. Every case has been decided for eternal life or eternal death.

The door of God’s mercy is shut!

Now it is that earth’s inhabitants experience the “time of trouble” spoken of by the prophet Daniel.



70

And listen, Friend, God isn’t going to snatch away His people until the plagues are over.

They will be right here on earth until the end!

They will be protected during the plagues, just as were the children of Israel,

but they will not be free from difficulties and suffering.

It will be a time of trouble for everyone.



71

And, Friend, the most vivid description of this period of earth’s history cannot reach the magnitude of its reality, as the wicked drink the cup of God’s wrath unmixed with mercy.

John was given a preview of this terrible time of trouble that would take place just before the coming of Jesus and the deliverance of his people.

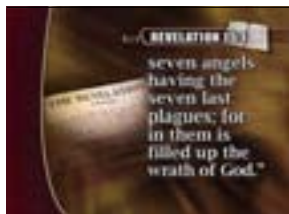
23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



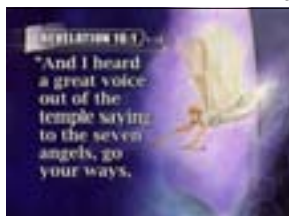
72

(Text: Revelation 15:1) “And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous,



73

seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.” Revelation 15:1. And again John wrote:



74

(Text: Revelation 16:1) “And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, go your ways,



75

and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.” Revelation 16:1.



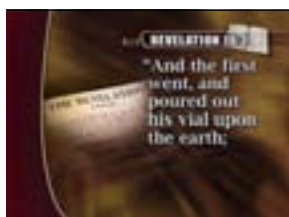
76

(Video: 06 sec) “But,” you ask, “what are these terrible plagues that are to be poured out by the seven angels upon the wicked?”

That’s a good question.

As we read about the plagues, you will notice a striking similarity to the ones that fell upon Egypt.

Let’s read what John has to say about the first angel:



77

(Text: Revelation 16:2) “And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth;



78

and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast,

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



and upon them which worshipped his image.” Revelation 16:2.

79



Perhaps these sores are similar to the boils and blains suffered by the Egyptians during their seventh plague. Or, maybe they could be somewhat the same as the boils Job endured.

80



Can you imagine the impact such a plague would have? Schools would close.

81



Factories would shut down. Stores would not be able to open.

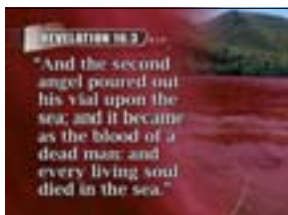
82



Hospitals would be overflowing with people seeking emergency treatment, but most of the doctors and nurses would be suffering from the same affliction.

83

And then, while people are still suffering from their sores, another calamity strikes!



(Text: Revelation 16:3) “And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man; and every living soul died in the sea.” Revelation 16:3.

84



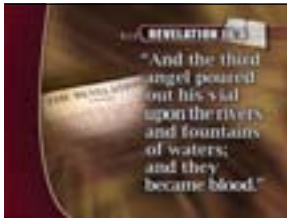
What a sight, and what a stench, as the creatures of the sea wash ashore.

People will be stumbling over one another in their speedy exodus from the beaches.

But the third plague is closely associated with the second.

85

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



86

(Text: Revelation 16:4) “And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood.” Revelation 16:4.



87

Just think! A person turns on the faucet to get a drink, and instead of water, blood gushes out!
What havoc would ensue! Could anything be worse?

But, ghastly and frightening as the seven last plagues may be, God’s justice is fully vindicated. For the angel declares:



88

(Text: Revelation 16:5-6) “Thou art righteous, O Lord . . . because thou hast judged thus.”



89

For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets,



90

and thou hast given them blood to drink.” Revelation 16:5, 6. KJV

At this time, when the wicked are perishing of thirst and have nothing to drink but blood, the promise is made to him who walks righteously:



91

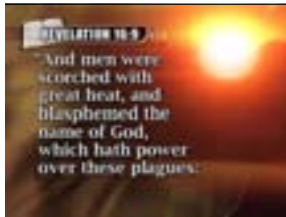
(Text: Isaiah 33:16) “. . . Bread shall be given him; his water will be sure.” Isaiah 33:16.



92

(Text: Revelation 16:8-9) And then the Bible says the fourth angel poured out his vial: “And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire.”

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



93

"And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues:



94

and they repented not to give him glory." Revelation 16:8, 9. Then, the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the headquarters of the beast:



95

(Text: Revelation 16:10-11) "And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness;



96

and they gnawed their tongues for pain,



97

And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores,



98

and repented not of their deeds." Revelation 16:10, 11.

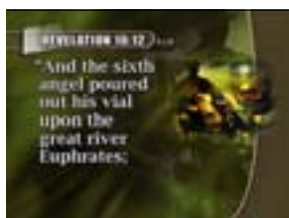


99

By this text we discover that these plagues are not all universal, nor are they all immediately fatal, because here we find that those under the fifth plague are still suffering from the sores of the first plague.

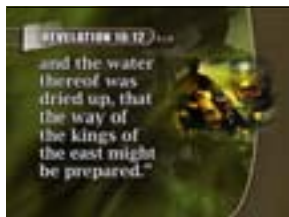
Apparently the plagues fall successively instead of simultaneously, as their effects persist from one to another. Upon the sixth plague comes the great final battle, Armageddon:

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



100

(Text: Revelation 16:12-14) "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates;



101

and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.



102

And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon,



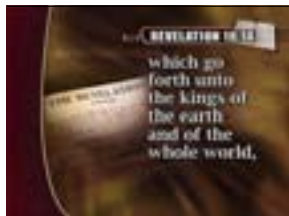
103

and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.



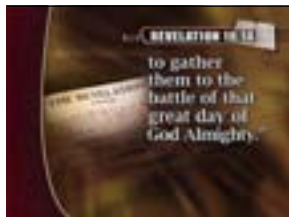
104

For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles,



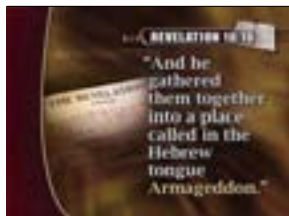
105

which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world,



106

to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Revelation 16:12-14.
And Revelation 16:16 says:



107

(Text: Revelation 16:16) "And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." The whole world is to be involved in this final conflict.
John wrote:

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



108

(Text: Revelation 19:11, 14-15) “Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse.



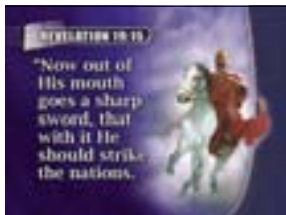
109

And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. . . .”



110

“And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.”



111

“Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations



112

...He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.” Revelation 19:11, 14, 15.



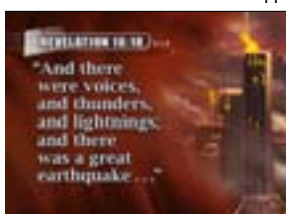
113

(Text: Revelation 16:17-18, 20-21) “And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven,



114

from the throne, saying, ‘It is done.’



115

And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake. . . .

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



116

And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.



117

And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent:



118

and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.” Revelation 16:17-18, 20-21.



119

Most scholars place the weight of a talent at 57 pounds. No one can imagine the devastation such a hailstorm would accomplish.



120

But the Bible says that the Lord Himself will interrupt the conflict as He rides forth with the armies of heaven to deliver His people from a planet in rebellion



121

“But,” you ask, “how can I make certain of God’s protection when the plagues begin to fall?” There is only one way.



122

You see, the people who were delivered from the final plague in Egypt had demonstrated their faith and loyalty to God as their Deliverer by sprinkling the blood of a lamb on their doorposts.

When the destroying angel passed over their house, they were safe in the midst of destruction. They had followed God’s instructions and had made the necessary preparations.

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



123

And again, God's people will be spared when the plagues fall if they have accepted the Lamb of God as their sacrifice and allowed His blood to cleanse them from sin.



124

**By our lives, we are choosing today which side we will be on- God's side, or the side of a rebel angel.
And Friend, when the destroying angels begin their work, it will be too late to change sides!**

**Probation's door will have already closed forever.
Won't you place yourself on God's side, under the protection of the blood of Jesus now? The saddest words men will ever utter are found in Jeremiah 8:20:**



125

(Text: Jeremiah 8:20) "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved!"



126

**The story is told of an Australian lumberman who built a little cabin at the edge of the forest.
It wasn't much, but it was home to him.
One day, as he returned home from work,**



127

**he was stunned and heartbroken to find his little cabin just a heap of smoldering ruins.
All that was left were a few pieces of charred lumber and some metal, blackened by the flames.**

He walked out to the place where his old chicken coop had stood.



128

**All that he found were a mound of ashes and some burned wire.
Aimlessly he shuffled through the debris.
Then, glancing down at his feet, his eye caught a curious sight-a mound of charred feathers.**

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION

Idly, he kicked it over. And what do you suppose happened?



129

Four little fuzzy, baby chicks scrambled out, miraculously protected by the wings of a loving mother.

In the most beautiful and meaningful language of Scripture, God describes what He longs to do for every one of His children on earth when the plagues fall:



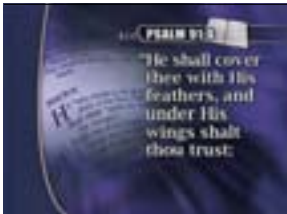
130

(Text: Psalm 91:1, 4) "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High



131

shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. . . ."



132

"He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust:



133

his truth shall be thy shield and buckler." Psalm 91:1, 4. Yes, God has given wonderful assurance to those who choose to follow Him:



134

(Text: Psalm 91:5-11) "Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;



135

Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

23 - SURVIVING THE COMING TRIBULATION



136

A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.



137

Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.



138

Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;



139

There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.



140

For he shall give his angels charge over thee..." Psalms 91:5-11.



141

(Video: 15 sec) Could anything be more reassuring? Don't you want to be sheltered under the wings of the Almighty when the plagues begin to fall? When there's no place to hide? Your heavenly Father wants to protect you and save you in the hour of trouble and destruction.



142

As you turn your life over to Him, He will be able to protect you as a mother hen who gathers her little chickens under her wings.

The decision is yours. I am certain that God would like to make your decision for you so that you can be with Him throughout eternity, but He cannot do this. You are the only one that can make that decision. Don't wait. Do it now.