



**Rejoice Learning Center**  
USA, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh,  
Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Benin

## **Lesson 11: End Times Part 1 – Birth Pains, the Antichrist, the False Prophet, the Mark of the Beast, the end-time Church**

**Today we review:**

- 1 What is the climate before and during the 7-year Tribulation?
- 2 7-year Tribulation: The Antichrist.
- 3 7 year Tribulation: The False Prophet, The Image and Mark of the Beast.
- 4 What is the end of the Antichrist and the False Prophet?
- 5 What happens to those who take the Mark of the Beast?
- 6 What are we commanded to do during this difficult time?
- 7 What did Jesus tell the end-time church?
- 8 The Saints will eventually be victorious.

**Goal:** To get to know the antichrist, the false prophet, and the beast system.  
To be ready for a difficult, dangerous time and to keep our eyes on the prize.

### **1 What is the climate before and during the 7-year Tribulation?**

**Paul told Timothy: Perilous times, People will be evil**

**2 Timothy 3:1-13** But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. <sup>2</sup>People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup>without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, <sup>4</sup>treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— <sup>5</sup>**having a form of godliness but denying its power.** Have nothing to do with such people.

<sup>6</sup>They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over gullible women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, <sup>7</sup>always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth. <sup>8</sup>Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these teachers oppose the truth. They are men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. <sup>9</sup>But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

<sup>10</sup>You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, <sup>11</sup>persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. <sup>12</sup>**In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,** <sup>13</sup>**while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.**

#### **In Matthew 24, Jesus taught his disciples about the end-time events in chronological order:**

<sup>3</sup>As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen (ML: referring to the temple being destroyed), and **what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?**”

<sup>4</sup>Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you. <sup>5</sup>For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many. <sup>6</sup>You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. <sup>7</sup>Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. <sup>8</sup>All these are the beginning of birth pains.

<sup>9</sup>**“Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me.** <sup>10</sup>At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, <sup>11</sup>and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. <sup>12</sup>Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, <sup>13</sup>but **the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.** <sup>14</sup>And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

<sup>15</sup>**“So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination that causes desolation,’** spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand— <sup>16</sup>then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. <sup>17</sup>Let no one on the housetop go down to take anything out of the house. <sup>18</sup>Let no one in the field go back to get their cloak. <sup>19</sup>How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! <sup>20</sup>Pray that your

flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. <sup>21</sup> For then there will be **great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now**—and never to be equaled again.

<sup>22</sup> “If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. <sup>23</sup> At that time if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Messiah!’ or, ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. <sup>24</sup> For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. <sup>25</sup> See, I have told you ahead of time.

<sup>26</sup> “So if anyone tells you, ‘There he is, out in the wilderness,’ do not go out; or, ‘Here he is, in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it. <sup>27</sup> For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup> Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather.

<sup>29</sup> **“Immediately after the distress of those days**

“the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light;  
the stars will fall from the sky,  
and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’

<sup>30</sup> **“Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven.** And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup> And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

### Summary from Matthew 24:

#### **Beginning of birth pains (v. 1-8):**

- False Messiahs and false Prophets
- Wars and Rumors of Wars
- Nation against nation, kingdom against kingdom
- Famines, pestilences & earthquakes

#### **Time of tribulation (v. 9-14)**

- Disciples will be persecuted and put to death
- Lawlessness and immorality
- Love of many will grow cold
- Christians will depart from the faith and follow doctrines of demons (Super Grace, Prosperity Gospel, Philosophies, Motivational speeches, Yoga, Paganism, Idolaters, Worldliness, the law...)

### **Great tribulation (v.15-28)**

- the abomination that causes desolation
- great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now
- no one would survive if time were not cut short
- great deception

### **The 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Jesus Christ (v.29-31)**

- Sun and moon darkened, stars falling
- Angels gather the children of God
- Jesus comes

## **2 Seven-year Tribulation: The Antichrist**

### **a) The Antichrist**

#### **The Antichrist is called:**

The man of lawlessness (2 Thess 2:3)

The son of perdition (2 Thess 2:3)

The Beast from the sea (Rev 13:1)

Vile Person (Daniel 11:21)

Willful King (Daniel 11:36)

The Little Horn (Daniel 7:8)

Wicked (2 Th 2:8, KJV)

#### **The Antichrist is empowered by:**

- the dragon, the devil (Rev 13:1)
- supported by the false prophet (Rev 19:20).
- he will arise out of a coalition of 10 Kings (Rev 17:12-14)

**Rev 17:12-14** Ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom but for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast. <sup>13</sup> They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast. <sup>14</sup> They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.

The kings could be Tech moguls or a coalition of 10 nations, e.g, BRICS.

**BRICS** is an intergovernmental organization comprising ten countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates.

**Revelation 17:15 -17 tells us that the Kings hate the prostitute, Babylon the great (USA)**

<sup>15</sup> Then the angel said to me, "The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages. <sup>16</sup> **The beast and the ten horns you saw will hate the prostitute. They will bring her to ruin and leave her naked; they will eat her flesh and burn her with fire.** <sup>17</sup> **For God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose by agreeing to hand over to the beast their royal authority, until God's words are fulfilled.** <sup>18</sup> **The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth."**

## **How is the Antichrist described?**

**Daniel 11 gives a good description: Verses 21-35 describe Antiochus Epiphanes** (who was a Hellenistic King promoting Greek culture), whose actions were against the Jews. He prefigured the antichrist. In **Daniel 11:36-45**, we find unfulfilled prophecies describing the Antichrist.

- He is a contemptible (disgusting, abominable, vile) person (Daniel 11:21).
- He advances through intrigue (Daniel 11:21) and flattery (Daniel 11:32).
- He will act deceitfully (Daniel 11:23).
- With only a few people, he will rise to power. But later, he will have a large army (Daniel 11:25).
- He will have great wealth (Daniel 11:28).
- His heart is bent on evil, and he is a liar (Daniel 11:26).
- His heart is set against the holy covenant (Daniel 11:28).
- He is successful: "When the richest provinces feel secure, he will invade them and will achieve what neither his fathers nor his forefathers did" (Daniel 11:24).
- He exalts himself above God (Daniel 11:36)
- The Antichrist shows no regard for anyone else than himself (Daniel 11:37).
- Maybe he doesn't care for women: (Daniel 11:37 KJV: Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor *the desire of women*, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all).

## **The Antichrist will arise as a man of peace.**

**1 Thessalonians 5:2-3** For you yourselves are fully aware that **the day of the Lord** will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "**There is peace and security,**" then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

**Daniel 11:21** (KJV) And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in **peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.**

**According to Revelation 6:1**, he will conquer **camouflaged as a man of peace**. He comes on a white horse and has a bow with no arrows. It's a symbol of him coming in peace.

### **The Antichrist will make and break a 7-year covenant with many.**

**Daniel 9:26-27** The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed.<sup>27</sup> He (ML: the Antichrist) will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven. In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple, he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.

### **The Antichrist proclaims himself to be God.**

**2 Thessalonians 2:3-4** Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day (ML: the day of the Lord) will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

**Daniel 11:36** (KJV) And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and **magnify himself above every god**, and shall speak marvelous things **against the God of gods**, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.

→The Antichrist sets himself up in the temple of God in **Jerusalem** but also tries to set himself up in every **human temple**. We are the temple of God, and the beast system wants to implant **AI** into our bodies.

### **The Antichrist will conquer the Saints and will be worshipped by all.**

**Rev 13:7-10**<sup>7</sup> It (The beast = the antichrist) was given power to wage war against God's holy people and to conquer them. **And it was given authority over every tribe, people, language, and nation.**<sup>8</sup> All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the Lamb's book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.

<sup>9</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear. <sup>10</sup> "If anyone is to go into captivity, into captivity they will go. If anyone is to be killed with the sword, with the sword, they will be killed." This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of God's people.

**Daniel 7: 25** He will speak against the Most High and oppress his holy people and try to change the set times and the laws. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time.

<sup>23</sup> "He gave me (Daniel) this explanation: 'The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth. It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it. <sup>24</sup> The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings. <sup>25</sup> He will speak

against the Most High and oppress his holy people and try to change the set times and the laws. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time.<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>26</sup> “But the court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. <sup>27</sup> Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be handed over to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.”<sup>28</sup> “This is the end of the matter. I, Daniel, was deeply troubled by my thoughts, and my face turned pale, but I kept the matter to myself.”

### The Antichrist's rule is described in Daniel 8:23-26

<sup>23</sup> “In the latter part of their reign, when rebels have become completely wicked, a fierce-looking king, **a master of intrigue**, will arise. <sup>24</sup> He will become **very strong, but not by his own power**. He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. **He will destroy those who are mighty, the holy people.** <sup>25</sup> He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. **When they feel secure, he will destroy many and take his stand against the Prince of princes. Yet he will be destroyed, but not by human power.** <sup>26</sup> “The vision of the evenings and mornings that has been given you is true, but seal up the vision, for it concerns the distant future.”

### The Antichrist is also described in Revelation 13:

Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a **beast** (the Antichrist) rising up out of the **sea** (1. multitudes, where the prostitute sits Rev 17:15, 2. chaos/judgement), having seven **heads** (=seven mountains =full of idols, full of pride) and ten horns (great power), and on his horns ten crowns (10 Kings), and on his heads a blasphemous name.

<sup>2</sup> Now the beast which I saw was like a **leopard** (A leopard is a cunning, sneaky hunter. He hunts mainly at night – he operates in the dark – like Nimrod in the Old Testament who prefigures the Antichrist), his feet were like **the feet of a bear** (A Bear walks flat footed like a human. So he appears **to walk upright**), and his mouth like the **mouth of a lion** (Lion jaws are unique: they can hinge open very wide and they have a very powerful bite –up to 1,000 PSI).

The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. <sup>3</sup> And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. <sup>4</sup> So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?”

<sup>5</sup> And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. (ML: 3.5 years). <sup>6</sup> Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. <sup>7</sup> It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. <sup>8</sup> All who dwell

on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

<sup>10</sup> “If anyone is to go into captivity, into captivity they will go. If anyone is to be killed with the sword, with the sword, they will be killed.” This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of God’s people.

### 3 Seven-year Tribulation: The False Prophet, the Image of the Beast, the Mark of the Beast, the name of the Beast, the number of his name.

#### The false prophet is called: The Beast of the Earth Revelation 13:11-18

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a **lamb and spoke like a dragon**. <sup>12</sup> And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it **to worship the first beast**, whose deadly wound was healed.

<sup>13</sup> **He performs great signs**, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

<sup>14</sup> And **he deceives** those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to **make an image to the beast** who was wounded by the sword and lived.

#### The Image of the Beast

<sup>15</sup> He was granted *power* to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

#### The Mark and the Name of the Beast

<sup>16</sup> He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, <sup>17</sup> and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

<sup>18</sup> Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number *is* 666.

**Please note:** Gematria is the practice of assigning a numerical value to a name. In Greek Gematria, the word "NEURALINK" is represented by the letters NEYPAAINK, which have a numerical value of 666. Neuralink is Elon Musk’s company producing AI implants. --> This deals with Artificial Intelligence.



## How long are the Antichrist and the False Prophet in power?

**3.5 years, which is equal to:**

- 1,260 days (Revelation 12:6)
- forty-two months (Revelation 11:2 and 13:5)
- a time and times and half a time (Revelation 12:14)

→ This is the last three and a half years of the 7-year Tribulation. Jesus' Second Coming takes place at the end of these three and a half years.

## 4 What is the end of the Antichrist and the False Prophet?

**Revelation 19:20** And the **beast was captured, and with it the false prophet** who in its presence **had done the signs** by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. **These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.**

**2 Thessalonians 2:8** And then the **lawless one** will be revealed, whom the **Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth** and **destroy by the splendor of his coming.** (Commentary: Isaiah prophesied that Jesus will destroy the wicked in Isaiah 11:1-4.)

**Revelation 20:10** And the **devil**, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, **where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown.** They will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

**Daniel 7:26-27** But the court will sit, and **his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever.** Then the sovereignty, power, and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be handed over to the holy people of the Most High.

## 5 What happens to those who have the mark of the beast?

**Revelation 14:9-11** A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives its mark on their forehead or on their hand, <sup>10</sup> they, too, will **drink the wine of God's fury**, which has been poured full strength into the **cup of his wrath.** They will be **tormented with burning sulfur** in the

presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. <sup>11</sup> And the smoke of their torment will rise for ever and ever. There will be **no rest day or night for those who worship the beast** and its image, or for anyone who receives the mark of its name.”

**Revelation 16:2** The first angel went and poured out his bowl on the land, and ugly, festering sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and worshiped its image.

## 6 What are we commanded to do during this difficult time?

### Watch out

**Luke 21:8** Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and, ‘The time is near.’ Do not follow them (false Christs).

### Flee

**Luke 21:20–21** But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it.

### Be careful

**Luke 21:34** Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day (the day of his coming) will close on you suddenly like a trap.

### Watch and Pray

**Luke 21:36** Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the son of man.

### Stand firm and cling to the Word

**2 Thessalonians 2:15** (Paul speaking) Therefore, brothers, stand firm and cling to the traditions we taught you, whether by speech or by letter.

### Wait for Jesus

#### 1 Thessalonians 1:10

And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

### **Wait and endure till the end**

**Daniel 12:11-12** And from the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days. Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days.

### **Look up**

**Luke 21:28** Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.

## **7 What did Jesus tell the end-time church?**

In Revelation chapters 2 and 3, we learn that only two out of seven end-time churches (all of them situated in modern Turkey, where Satan's throne is) are pleasing to the Lord.

### **John recorded in the book of Revelation the following about the two good churches, Smyrna and Philadelphia:**

**Revelation 2:8-10** To the angel of the church in **Smyrna** write: (ML: Smyrna is called Izmir today and is the largest city in Turkey.)

These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. <sup>9</sup> I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I know about the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. <sup>10</sup> **Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.**

**Revelation 3:7-10** To the angel of the church in **Philadelphia** write: (ML: Philadelphia is also a city in modern-day Turkey.)

These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. <sup>8</sup> I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. **I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.** <sup>9</sup> I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. <sup>10</sup> **Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.** (ML: The "hour of trial" is the day of his wrath according to Revelation 6:17, mentioned in the 6<sup>th</sup> seal.)

<sup>11</sup> I am coming soon. **Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown.** <sup>12</sup> **The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it.** I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, **the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven** from my God; and I will also write on them my new name. <sup>13</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

**The five other churches are called to repent, mainly for the following reasons:**

- Forsaken their first love (Ephesus)
- Lukewarm (Laodicea)
- Dead (Sardis)
- Hold on to the teachings of the **Nicolaitans** (Pergamum)
- Hold on to the teaching of **Balaam**. (Pergamum)
- Tolerate **Jezebel** (Thyatira)

**Let us look at the false teachings: Worldliness, Idolatry, Sexual Immorality**

**The “doctrine” of the Nicolaitans**

**Rev 2:15-16**

<sup>15</sup> Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. <sup>16</sup> Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

Jesus hated their doctrine (Rev.2:6), which taught that one doesn't need to strictly separate from the world. It led to a weak, powerless, **worldly** version of Christianity.  
**Very much what we see today!**

**Acts 6:5** tells us that this Nicolas was “a convert of Antioch.” He was one of the first deacons in the Jerusalem church. He was not born a Jew but had converted from paganism to Judaism. Then he experienced a second conversion, this time turning from Judaism to Christianity. He came from paganism and had deep pagan roots which is demonic. He continued in a lifestyle of **idolatry and immorality**.

**Teaching of Balaam**

Read Numbers 22-24, 25:1-3, 31:16, Jude 11

**Revelation 2:14** But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might **eat food sacrificed to idols** and **practice sexual immorality**.

Balaam was a wicked prophet who advised the Midianite women how to lead the

Israelites astray. He couldn't curse Israel, so he enticed the Israelites to sin. In the NT, Peter compares false teachers to Balaam, "who loved the wages of wickedness" (2 Peter 2:15). Jude associates Balaam with the selling of one's soul for financial gain (Jude 1:11).

### **Tolerate Jezebel**

Read 1 King 16, 1 King 18, 1 King 21, 2 Kings 9, Revelation 2:20

**Rev. 2:20-21** Nevertheless, I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit **sexual immorality** and **eat things sacrificed to idols**. <sup>21</sup> And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.

Queen Jezebel was the wife of Ahab, king of Israel. Jezebel promoted the worship of false gods in Israel, harassed and killed God's prophets, and arranged for an innocent man Naboth to be falsely charged and executed.

### **What is the church of Jesus Christ called to be?**

As we translate the names of the seven end-time churches from Greek to English, we see how Jesus envisions his church to be:

#### **The church of Jesus Christ is called to be:**

**Desirable** (Ephesus)

**A pleasing aroma: like Myrrh** (Smyrna)

**Married** (Pergamum)

**A sacrificial offering** (Thyatira)

**Escaping the world and God's wrath** (Sardis)

**Brotherly love** (Philadelphia)

**Ruling and judging:** as kings and priests (Laodicea)

## 8 The Saints will eventually be victorious – even if we lose our lives.

**Revelation 15:2** I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues—last, because with them God’s wrath is completed. <sup>2</sup> And I saw what looked like a sea of glass glowing with fire and, standing beside the sea, **those who had been victorious over the beast and its image and over the number of its name. They held harps given them by God <sup>3</sup> and sang the song of God’s servant Moses and of the Lamb:...**

**Revelation 17:14** They (10 Kings and the Beast) will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, **chosen and faithful followers.**

**Revelation 20:4** And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and **they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.**

**Conclusion:** As we are grounded in the Word of God, we will be able to resist the mark of the beast and be faithful unto death and will be richly rewarded in eternity!