

Is Such A Persecution Possible?

Revelation 6:9-11; Revelation 7:1-8

1. The Souls that WILL BE GOD'S WITNESSES

Revelation 7:5-8

It is true that the tribal records were lost when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70 A.D. But that does not mean that God lost the tribal records. Remember, the 144,000 Jews are not selected by Jewish authorities in Jerusalem or elsewhere. They have been selected BY GOD.

2. The Souls that COME OUT OF PAST PERSECUTION

Revelation 6:9-11; Matthew 24:9-13; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-5

History:

- 7th-9th century the Muslim conquest in Europe
- 11th-13th century the Crusades throughout Europe
- 12th - 14th century the Roman Catholic Inquisition
- 15th - 19th century the Ottoman Empire persecution

"Because there were so many different Anabaptists groups with slightly different variations in belief - variations that grew out of the insistence on the believer's right to interpret the Bible as a literal and final authority - it is difficult to give an organized statement of Anabaptists beliefs.

However, there are some doctrines that all Anabaptists held in common. They insisted on the authority of the Bible as a final and infallible rule of faith and practice. Many of them gave it a literal interpretation. They believed that the pure church was to be a free association of the regenerated rather than a state church with some unsaved in it. Their opposition to infant baptism gave them the name Anabaptists. Most of them insisted on the complete separation of church and state and would have nothing to do with state churches." Christianity through the Centuries by Earle Cairns

3. The Souls that EXPERIENCE FUTURE PERSECUTION

Revelation 7: 9-17

"the true biblical believers will ultimately be driven underground by none other than latter-day denominational churches." Dr. Vernon McGee

"Let me go out on a limb a little bit and prophesy. I see the time coming when all the holy men whose eyes have been opened by the Holy Spirit will desert worldly Evangelicalism, one by one. The institutional Christianity will be left desolate and there will not be a man of God, a man in whom the Holy Spirit dwells, left among them." A.W. Tozer

"Who were the Waldensians? The Lollards? The Albigeneses? The Stundists? The Anabaptists? These were names given by their enemies to those who claimed only the name of Christ, and who were prepared to suffer for His cause rather than submit to those man-made traditions that they believed contradicted the Word of God.

History demonstrates that this was a predicament imposed on the true, biblically committed throughout all of the past fifteen hundred years. E.H. Broadbent

Matthew 24:10-13

And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

And because of lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

But he who endures to the end shall be saved.