

**The Olivet Discourse—Part 4b**  
**"Six Characteristics of the Tribulation"**  
**Matthew 24:9-14; Revelation 6:9-11; 7:9-17**

**I. Persecution (v. 9)**

**II. Apostasy (v. 10)**

The Day of the Lord (cf. Luke 4:18-19; Isa. 61:1-2; 59:17-18; Rev 6-19)

**III. H\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 11)**

- a. These are the **false prophets** who will lead people astray and to the false Christs (cf. Acts 20:30; Rom. 16:17, 18; 2 Cor. 11:13-14; Gal. 1:7-9; Col. 2:18-23; 1 John 2:18; Rev. 13)
- b. **"BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."** (Rev. 17:1-6)
  - i. **acts of immorality** = idolatry (cf. Jer 3:6-9; Ezek. 16:30ff.; 20:30; Hosea 4:15; 5:3; 6:10; 9:1)
  - ii. **on many waters** = her reach, power & influence
  - iii. **drunk** = depths of the world's deception
  - iv. **scarlet beast** = the Antichrist (cf. Dan. 7:25; 11:36; 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:1, 4; 14:9; 16:10)
  - v. **the blood of the saints** and **the witnesses of Jesus** = the Tribulation Saints

**IV. L\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12)**

- a. **lawlessness = anomia (ἀνομία)** = "wickedness, lawless deeds" or "to live as though there were no laws" (Matt. 7:23; 13:41; 23:28; 24:12; Rom. 4:7; 6:19; 2 Cor. 6:14; 2 Thess. 2:3, 7; Titus 2:14; Heb. 1:9; 10:17; 1 John 3:4)
- b. If someone or a culture continues to sin without guilt, shame, or conviction...God will eventually hand them over (cf. Rom. 1:28-32ff)
- c. And then their **love will grow cold**
- d. Love for one another must start with and flow from God (cf. Matt. 22:36-40; Mark 12:28-34; 2 Tim. 3:1-5)

**V. P\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13)**

- a. Salvation is not about how we start, but how we finish! (cf. Matt. 13:3-9; 18-23; Luke 15:11-32; 23:39-43)
- b. Perseverance is not about our will power to save ourselves; it's about God's will and power to preserve those He has saved (John 10:27-28ff; Phil. 1:6; 1 Peter 1:5; Rom. 8:38-39; cf. Jer. 32:40; Dan. 11:32, 34-35; Matt. 10:22; John 10:27-29; Rom. 5:8-10; 1 Cor. 1:8-9; Phil. 1:6; Eph. 1:13-14; 2 Timothy 2:10-13; Heb. 7:25; 10:23; 12:2-3; James 1:12; 5:11; 1 Peter 1:5; Jude 24; 1 John 2:19; Rev. 2:2, 10-11, 17, 26; 3:5, 11-12, 21)

**VI. A Global G\_\_\_\_\_ Proclamation (v. 14)**

- a. Three Interpretations of this passage:
  - i. Those who believe that there is NO literal 7-year Tribulation or Millennial Kingdom, either believe this was fulfilled in 70 AD or its being fulfilled by the continuing evangelistic work of the church.
  - ii. Others think this is referring to the work of the 144,000 sealed Jewish evangelists and the 2 witnesses during the Tribulation (cf. Rev. 7:4; 11:3; 14:1; 17:6)
  - iii. A Supernatural Angelic Event (cf. Rev. 14:6-7)