

Michael stands up! Who is Michael? We know it is our mighty Saviour, Jesus. This is the name always used when He wars against Satan. He stands up for His people. There is another place where we see Jesus stand up—it is when Stephen was stoned; (Acts 7) he saw Jesus standing by the Father's throne. He wasn't taking this sitting down! In AD 34, Probation ended for the Jews as a nation. (they can still be saved as individuals, of course.) When He stands up this time--probation will close for the world! Everyone will have decided and will either belong totally to God, keeping all His commandments, or be in total rebellion against Him.

I want to be among that number who shall have their names written in the book, who shall be delivered. I want the overcomer's reward. The masterly temptations of Satan will overpower many who now profess to believe the truth. Their unworthy course of action, their denial of Christ, will make it necessary for God to blot their names from the book of life. But O, may it not be so with us!



In the time of trouble just before the coming of Christ, the righteous will be preserved through the ministration of heavenly angels; but there will be no security for the transgressor of God's law. Angels cannot then protect those who are disregarding one of God's Commandments. Jesus will be with His dear children who trust in Him and Satan cannot overcome them!



Why is this coming Time of Trouble more terrible than any that has gone before? There have been many times of trouble and terrible happenings and persecution, what makes this so dreadful?



Always before the 'Common Grace'—the Mercy of God was still mixed with everything that came in history. Because Jesus was still ministering His blood in behalf of sinful mankind. We don't know how much we owe to this merciful Grace! Without it life would long ago have been extinguished from this planet by the insane destruction caused by Satan and his nasty demons. In Revelation 7:1 this mercy is pictured as four mighty angels holding back the winds of destruction.



“And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. 3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.” Daniel 12:2

Just before the actual coming of Jesus in the clouds of heaven, there will be a special resurrection; The people of God who die in the final persecution before the close of probation, and those who have believed the 3 angel's messages, will be raised to see Him come.



But also the ones who crucified Jesus, and ones who have been the worst persecutors of God's children through the ages will be raised to watch in horror as Jesus returns, not now as a humble man, but as King of Kings!

Remember Jesus warned the high priest about that?

“Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.” Matthew 26:64.

Imagine how terrible will be this sight to those wicked ones! But think how wonderful it will be for God's dear children as they see Him coming and know that soon they will be forever free from those who want to force them to disobey their dear heavenly Father!

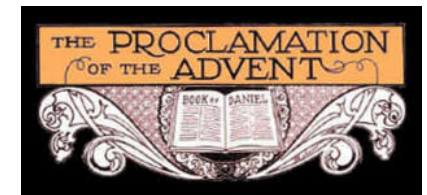
Those wicked people will die three times, the earthly death, then, when they see Him come they will die of fright, and finally in the lake of fire they will die forever.



“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” Daniel 12:4.

The angel told Daniel that his book was not going to be understood until the end of those great time prophecies in the book. Then 'knowledge would be increased'. This knowledge doesn't just mean worldly knowledge, it means understanding the book of Daniel. The Syrian Peshitta has this verse:

"But you, O Daniel, seal these words and be silent, and seal this book even to the time of the end; many shall want to know the end, and knowledge shall be increased." Daniel 12:4.



As the time prophecies neared their end, God's Holy Spirit drew people's attention to them, and helped them to understand what they meant. 'Running to and fro' does not just mean people traveling around a lot, it means to study the scriptures, 'running here and there' in the Bible and putting texts together to understand the great message of the Book.