

for we have sinned against thee. Do not abhor us, for thy name's sake; do not disgrace the throne of thy glory: remember, break not thy covenant with us.

Jeremiah, a type or figure of the church during the final tribulation period, was pleading with God, recognizing that because of the sin of the church, God had visited Israel (the corporate body of believers), with these judgments. In this context Jeremiah represents the body of believers who do not bear children. The unbelievers (those under God's wrath), will bear children, and those children will suffer the wrath of God. Jeremiah 16:3, 4:

For thus saith the LORD concerning the sons and concerning the daughters that are born in this place, and concerning their mothers that bare them, and concerning their fathers that begat them in this land; They shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; neither shall they be buried; but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth: and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcases shall be meat for the fowls of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

These warnings parallel the prophecy of Matthew 24:19: "And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!"

In this verse, Jesus discusses the final tribulation period. The similarity to Jeremiah 16:3 indicates that Jeremiah 16 provides insights into the character of the final tribulation period. One of these insights may be that true believers will not bear children during the final tribulation period.

In any case, through continued diligent study of the Bible, before and during the final tribulation period, God may reveal additional truth.

In this chapter, it was learned that the final tribulation period will not be a time of massive bloodletting. The Gospel will appear to flourish all over the world, but it will not be the true Gospel. It will be gospels of Satan. Satan, working through false prophets who look like ministers of righteousness, will rule in virtually all of the congregations. These congregations will not be used of God to bring the true Gospel to the world. They will bring a gospel that will damn the listeners to hell.

The final tribulation period will not begin until the last of the elect are saved. It will be a time when the world has no hope; no one can become saved. Those who were saved before



the final tribulation began will patiently wait for Christ's return. That the rest of the world is in bondage and no one else will become saved—this will be trauma that has never been known.