

Operation Extinction and the Great Escape

Cosmic Controversy Series: Part 15

Study Guide

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I. OPERATION EXTINCTION

Ezekiel 28:16-17

¹⁶ Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. ¹⁷ Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth.

Isaiah 14:13-14

¹³ You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’

1 Corinthians 4:9

For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men.

Ephesians 3:8-10

⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰ that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places.

Revelation 12:3-5

³ And another portent appeared in heaven; behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems upon his heads. ⁴ His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven, and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bear a child, that he might devour her child when she

brought it forth;⁵ she brought forth a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne.

Revelation 12:13-14, 17

¹³ And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had borne the male child. ¹⁴ But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. ¹⁷ Then the dragon was angry with the woman, and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and bear testimony to Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea.

Revelation 12:10-12

¹⁰ And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. ¹² Rejoice then, O heaven and you that dwell therein! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”

1 Peter 5:8-9

⁸ Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experience of suffering is required of your brotherhood throughout the world.

Job 1:6-7

⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. ⁷ The LORD said to Satan, “Whence have you come?” Satan answered the LORD, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.”

A. Satan’s Fury

1. Uncontrolled anger has a way of becoming a fire that threatens the whole house. An unchecked attitude in Heaven became a fixed force that threatened to destroy life and love in the entire universe (Ezekiel 28:16-17).
2. When Lucifer sinned in Heaven, he chose an attitude that in time became a permanent fire that fixed his character deep within. He raised his fist at God and threatened to remove God off His heavenly throne and replace His eternal Law with individual freedom and personal choice without God (Isaiah 14:13-14).
3. The war that started in Heaven infected our planet, and consequently this world became a theater for the universe (1 Corinthians 4:9; Ephesians 3:8-10) to reveal the outcome of a Great Controversy between God and Satan. In Revelation 12:3-5, the Bible reveals that Lucifer persuaded a third of

the heavenly angels to defect and fall away. He then focused his efforts on destroying Jesus Christ when He was born in Bethlehem's manger.

4. When Satan was defeated at the Cross of Christ, he became enraged with the woman – the Church of Christ – and sought to destroy her (Revelation 12:13). The persecution of the Middle Ages failed to extinguish the true Church, and ever since Satan has sought to destroy the Church from within (Revelation 12:14). As the end of time fast approaches, Satan's destructive fury will rage again to crush the people of God – those who keep the Commandments and have the Testimony of Jesus Christ (Revelation 12:11, 17).
5. An attitude that became the driving force behind Satan's activity on Earth after the Cross was *anger*. The Bible says he is *angry!* (1 Peter 5:8) Satan is a fallen spiritual being who is *angry* because he knows that Jesus Christ has defeated him and that he lost the cosmic war at the Cross. At the Cross, Jesus defeated him and cast him down (Revelation 12:10-12).
6. When Jesus ascended to Heaven after the Resurrection, the Devil was permanently thrown down to the Earth. During the Old Testament era, Satan had direct access to Heaven as the representative of Planet Earth, (Job 1:6-7; Revelation 12:10) but after the Cross he lost the right to represent this world in the heavenly counsels (Revelation 12:10). Like a wounded, wild animal, Satan is angry and he is out to destroy as many people as he can because he knows that his time is running out (1 Peter 5:8-9).

Daniel 7:25

He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, two times, and half a time.

Revelation 12:14

But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time.

Daniel 12:7

The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream, raised his right hand and his left hand toward heaven; and I heard him swear by him who lives forever that it would be for a time, two times, and half a time; and that when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to an end all these things would be accomplished.

Revelation 12:3, 6, 15-16

³ And another portent appeared in heaven; behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems upon his heads.⁶ Then the dragon was angry with the woman, and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and bear testimony to Jesus. And he stood on the

sand of the sea. ¹⁵ The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with the flood. ¹⁶ But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river which the dragon had poured from his mouth.

Revelation 13:1, 11-12

¹ And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems upon its horns and a blasphemous name upon its heads. ¹¹ Then I saw another beast which rose out of the earth; it had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. ¹² It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed.

B. The Anti-Christ

1. In Daniel 7:25, the Antichrist little horn gained control of God's people during "the time, times, and dividing of times."
2. In Revelation 12:14, God protected the church from Satan during this same awful time period.
3. According to Daniel 12:7, the church was weakened to the point of exhaustion during the time, times, and half times [3 ½ years, 42 months, 1260 days = 1260 prophetic years].
4. A time, times, and half times means three and a half years. Jesus healed the sick, preached the Gospel, and established the Christian Church within a ministry of three and a half literal years.
5. Satan and the Antichrist tried to tear down the Christian Church during "the time, times, and half a time," which is three and a half prophetic years. This time prophecy describes the persecutions of the Middle Ages as a counterfeit period to Jesus ministry.
6. In Revelation 12:6, the "time, times, and half a time" is called 1260 days. In symbolic Bible prophecy a day equals a year: 1260 days is 1260 years. (For other biblical examples of the year-day principle, see Numbers 13:34, Ezekiel 4:5, 6, and Daniel 9:24-27.)
7. The dragon and the Antichrist persecuted the church for over a thousand years during the Middle Ages. He pursued the Church and he tried to destroy it, but he failed. In Revelation 12:15, the Earth came to the help of the woman. Near the end of the Middle Ages, the Earth aided the woman (Revelation 12:16).
8. In Revelation 13:1, John sees a beast rising out of the sea, and the Beast is the Antichrist that persecutes during the Middle Ages. Near the end of the Middle Ages, when this beast is coming down, another beast of a different character is coming out of the earth.
9. Representing the peoples of Europe, the Antichrist beast came out of the sea, but after the 1260 years another beast arose from the Earth in a new world (Revelation 13:11-12).

10. In Revelation 13, the dragon gives to the beast from the sea both authority and his throne. That is exactly what God did for Jesus after the Resurrection. So the dragon is acting like God the Father. The beast from the sea has ten horns and seven heads like the dragon in Revelation 12:3. *Mimicking Jesus, the Son of Gos, who is the Image of God the Father, the Beast in counterfeit fashion is in the image of the dragon, which means he is the Antichrist of the Middle Ages.*

Revelation 13:11-12

¹¹ Then I saw another beast which rose out of the earth; it had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. ¹² It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed.

Revelation 12:17

Then the dragon was angry with the woman, and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and bear testimony to Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea.

Revelation 17:12-15

¹² And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. ¹³ "These are of one mind and give over their power and authority to the beast; ¹⁴ they will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful." ¹⁵ And he said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the harlot is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues."

Revelation 3:10

Because you have kept my word of patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial which is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell upon the earth.

Revelation 13:8, 16-17

⁸ And all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slain. ¹⁶ Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, ¹⁷ so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name.

Daniel 11:42-44

⁴² He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape. ⁴³ He shall become ruler of the treasures of gold and of silver, and all the precious things of Egypt; and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall follow in his train. ⁴⁴ But tidings from the east and the north shall alarm him, and he shall go forth with great fury to exterminate and utterly destroy many.

C. The New World Order

1. Operation extinction will begin in America where the lamb-like beast arose (Revelation 13:11-12) following the persecution of the Middle Ages and will eventually become global policy in a “*New World Order*” (Revelation 12:17; 17:12-15).
2. In Revelation 12:17, the dragon goes off to America to foment the *Mark of the Beast* issue for the whole world. He makes war on the remnant.
3. Revelation 17:13-14, describes the expansion of the Devil’s war against a commandment-keeping remnant into Europe and the whole world.
4. The *Mark of the Beast* begins in America and goes global like an angry wildfire. The Book of Revelation calls it “the test that is coming upon the whole world to try those who dwell there in” (Revelation 3:10; 13:8).
5. The end of the world comes because a small group of Christians will not bow down to the image of the Beast and receive the *Mark of the Beast*. The time will come when they cannot buy or sell, own insurance or use gold and silver, without permission from the state (Revelation 13:17).
6. A day will come when only one course of action is left to take against those that will not bow down. There will be a worldwide movement for the destruction of God’s faithful people on Earth. A new world kingdom will move quickly to exterminate those who keep God’s Law and love Jesus Christ. And “*Operation Extinction*” will have begun! (Daniel 11:42-44)

Revelation 13:11

Then I saw another beast which rose out of the earth; it had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon.

Revelation 12:16

But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time.

D. The Lamb-like Beast

1. The lamb-like beast has two phases of power. First it starts out like a lamb, but it ends up speaking like a dragon (Revelation 13:11).
2. The lamb-like beast represents a lamb-like nation that arose in a new world far from the sea of peoples of the old world that gave haven to the Christian Church in flight.

3. The earth came to the help of the woman and absorbed the waters that came from the dragon's mouth. The earth is the place where a lamb-like nation arose that became the hope of the whole world. *The Unites States of America is the lamb-like beast of the Apocalypse* (Revelation 12:16; Revelation 13:11).
4. The lamb-like beast has two horns and no crowns (Revelation 13:11). [A horn represents power and a crown represents a monarchical system.] The United States of America has no king, only a House of Representatives and a Senate. The lamb-like beast has two horns of power that passes laws of the land. The United States of America became the haven for faith and the persecuted Christians of the Middle Ages (Revelation 12:16).

Revelation 13:15-17

¹⁵ And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast so that the image of the beast should even speak, and to cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain. ¹⁶ Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, ¹⁷ so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name.

Exodus 20:3-7

³ "You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴ "You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; ⁵ you shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷ "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain."

2 Samuel 6:2

And David arose and went with all the people who were with him from Ba'ale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts who sits enthroned on the cherubim.

Exodus 20:8-11

⁸ "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the sojourner who is within your gates; ¹¹ for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it."

Exodus 31:13-18

¹³ “Say to the people of Israel, ‘You shall keep my sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the LORD, sanctify you. ¹⁴ You shall keep the sabbath, because it is holy for you; everyone who profanes it shall be put to death; whoever does any work on it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. ¹⁵ Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the LORD; whoever does any work on the sabbath day shall be put to death. ¹⁶ Therefore the people of Israel shall keep the sabbath, observing the sabbath throughout their generations, as a perpetual covenant. ¹⁷ It is a sign for ever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.’” ¹⁸ And he gave to Moses, when he had made an end of speaking with him upon Mount Sinai, the two tables of the testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

Revelation 13:8

And all who dwell on earth will worship it, every one whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slain.

Exodus 31:13

“Say to the people of Israel, ‘You shall keep my sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the LORD, sanctify you.’”

Revelation 14:12

Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

E. The Mark of the Beast

1. The *Mark of the Beast* issue in Revelation 13:15-17 is a **direct attack on the first four Commandments** of God’s Holy Ten Commandment Law that defines our vertical relationship with Him.
2. **The First Commandment** states, “You shall have no other gods before me” (Exodus 20:3). That means to worship God only! In Revelation 13:8, the whole world worships the Beast and so it chooses to break the First Commandment.
3. **The Second Commandment** commands God’s people to not make an image of worship (Exodus 20:4-6). In Revelation 13:15, the lamb-like Beast forces people everywhere to worship an image of the Beast. And if they do not worship the image, they are put to death.
4. The *Mark of the Beast* enforces “Operation Extinction” on those who will not bow down and worship by setting aside God’s Law. Most Christians will go right along with the *Mark of the Beast* enforcement because they

believe that God's Law has been done away with at the Cross. They will have no trouble giving into the deception behind "Operation Extinction."

5. There are Christians who believe that a small group of Christians who believe in the Ten Commandments are fanatical and should be reeled in by the government someday. When they enforce their ideas of Christianity by force of law in this country, the Book of Revelation teaches that it will not be God's Law and God's ideas that they will be enforcing.
6. **The Third Commandment** states, "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain" (Exodus 20:7). The Hebrew word translated "vain" literally means you shall not use His name as if it has empty meaning. So in the *Mark of the Beast* issue, they empty God's name of meaning by using the name of the Beast instead of the Name of God.
7. ***In the Bible, the name of God and the Law of God are the same truth revealed.*** The Ark of the Covenant that carried the Ten Commandments was called by the name of the LORD (2 Samuel 6:2). ***The name of the Beast and the law of the beast are the same anti-truth.*** One day the laws of this land will attack the very law of God, and the name of God will be set aside, meaning God's Law will be set aside.
8. **The Fourth Commandment** states, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.... Six days shall you labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath day of the LORD your God" (Exodus 20:8-11).
9. Moses declared that the Fourth Commandment is *the sign* that God has given so that we remember His Holy Name (Exodus 31:13-18). Instead of *the sign* of God, which is the fourth commandment, the beast and the lamb-like beast enforce the *Mark of the Beast*. The *Mark of the Beast* will be a direct attack upon the Fourth Commandment of God's Law.
10. "Operation Extinction" will be a decisive move by Satan to eradicate God's Law and to exterminate those who keep it (Revelation 13:15-16). Christian theology that sets aside the Ten Commandment Law of God will be no problem for the Devil in the *Mark of the Beast* test.
11. The third angel's message of Revelation 14 warns the world not to receive the *Mark of the Beast*. Those who do not receive the Mark are described in Revelation 14:12: "Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the Commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

II. THE GREAT ESCAPE

John 16:2-3

²They will put you out of the synagogues; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³And they will do this because they have not known the Father, nor me.

Daniel 11:44

But tidings from the east and the north shall alarm him, and he shall go forth with great fury to exterminate and utterly destroy many.

A. Fury of the Beast

1. The *Mark of the Beast* struggle will one day make it impossible to live on planet earth and remain loyal to God's Law and to Jesus Christ (John 16:2-3).
2. The Book of Daniel says that the world kingdom system will "go forth with great fury to exterminate and utterly destroy many" (Daniel 11:44):
 - *Where do you go when the world refuses God's Law and rejects those who want to keep it?*
 - *Where do you go when most Christians agree with the world, and like the world, do not want people alive who interfere with a new world order?*
 - *Where do you go when you will neither bow down to the Devil nor surrender truth for the lie that God's Law can be set aside?*
 - *Where do you go when there is no place left to go but God?*
3. The only answer to "Operation Extinction" is the "Great Escape."

Daniel 12:1

"At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time; but at that time your people shall be delivered, every one whose name shall be found written in the book."

Revelation 13:8

And all who dwell on earth will worship it, every one whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slain.

Revelation 14:12

Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

Revelation 19:11-15

¹¹ Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems; and he has a name inscribed which no one knows but himself. ¹³ He is clad in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, followed him on white horses. ¹⁵ From his mouth issues a sharp

sword with which to smite the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron; he will tread the wine press of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

Revelation 17:13-14

¹³ *“...These are of one mind and give over their power and authority to the beast; ¹⁴ they will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”*

Revelation 19:19-21

¹⁹ *And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who sits upon the horse and against his army. ²⁰ And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had worked 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 sulphur. ²¹ And the rest were slain by the sword of him who sits upon the horse, the sword that issues from his mouth; and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.*

Revelation 1:7-8

⁷ *Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, everyone who pierced him; and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.*
⁸ *“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.*

Revelation 18:4

Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues.”

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Colossians 1:15

He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation.

Malachi 3:6

“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.”

B. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ

1. Everyone who belongs to Jesus will be saved. Those who do not bow down to the world kingdom system will show that they belong to Jesus Christ (Daniel 12:1; Revelation 13:8).
2. Obedience to God’s Law will be the final evidence of the faithful Church whose faith is rooted Christ Jesus (Revelation 14:12).
3. Jesus is coming back to take us home. The last day on planet Earth will be the first day of forever (Revelation 19:11-15).

4. When the world moves decisively to snuff out faith and obedience to God's Law, Jesus will come to take us home where His Law is cherished (Revelation 17:14).
5. Jesus will again break into history and the wild party with its world kingdom system, the beast and its image will come to an end (Revelation 19:19-21). The armies arrayed against God's people will stand in horror as they see Jesus coming in the Clouds of Glory (Revelation 1:7-8).
6. At Jesus' coming, the nominal Christians of the world who love the world system and who despise God's Law will wail because they have sold eternity for a fatal deception (Revelation 1:7; Revelation 18:4). [See also: Revelation 18:9-19.]
7. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). He is the True Image of the Living God (Colossians 1:15). God does not change. What He was, He is, and He will be forevermore! (Revelation 1:8; Malachi 3:6)