

**Here is a Call for the Endurance of the Saints
Who Keep the Commandments of God
and their faith in Jesus**

- Are you focused on God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit?
- How are you marked (there are only two options)?
- Who or what do you follow and worship?

vv. 1-5 John sees the Lamb (Jesus) standing on Mount Zion. This is a stark contrast from the beast rising out of the sea. **Jesus has already risen.** With Him are the 144, 000, with the seal of the living God on their forehead, from chapter seven (7), who were spared from torment in chapter nine (9), the redeemed of mankind. There are many interpretations regarding their identity, both symbolic and literal interpretations. But, what does scripture tell us?

They are not defiled by women, so are they abstinent men? Maybe, but this probably means that they are not spiritual adulterers.

Ezekiel 23:37 *For they have committed adultery, and blood is on their hands. With their idols they have committed adultery, and they have even offered up to them for food the children whom they had borne to me.*

They are followers of Jesus.

John 10:27-28 *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.*

And, they are blameless.

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 *and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.*

vv. 6-13

(v.9) Matthew 24:9-13 *“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. ¹⁰ And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹ And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. ¹² And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³ But the one who endures to the end will be saved.*

vv. 8-11 Hell is real. People will go. Anyone who worships the beast and its image, anyone who receives the mark, anyone who hasn't repented and turned to Jesus for salvation.

Romans 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Hell is a real place, a real destination, and eternal death includes torment and suffering without rest. This is bad news. We are all sinners; we all deserve hell. But there is good news. The eternal gospel, the free gift of grace.

Verse 13 tells us that those who die in the Lord will rest, they are blessed. **Everyone will die. Either you die because you refuse to worship the beast, or you die an eternal death in hell.**

(v.12) Revelation 13:10 *If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes; if anyone is to be slain with the sword, with the sword must he be slain. **Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.***

How do we endure till the end? How do we endure through tribulation?

Keep the commandments of God and your faith in Jesus! If we are to endure, if we are to be sealed by the living God, **we must pray, we must read the word, we must make disciples, we must gather together, and we must do it all for the glory of God.**

2 Peter 3:17-18 *You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. ¹⁸ But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.*

vv. 14-20 “The hour to reap has come.” The saints have endured and everyone else has bowed to the beast and the dragon.

In vv. 14-16 Jesus takes His people, those sealed by God, we go to receive rest.

In vv. 17-20 God’s wrath is compared to a winepress. Isaiah 63 is a prophetic conversation between the prophet Isaiah and God. When God describes defeating His enemies in Isaiah, He uses the imagery of a winepress.

Isaiah 63:3-6 *“I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their lifeblood spattered on my garments, and stained all my apparel. ⁴ For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and my year of redemption^[b] had come. ⁵ I looked, but there was no one to help; I was appalled, but there was no one to uphold; so my own arm brought me salvation, and my wrath upheld me. ⁶ I trampled down the peoples in my anger; I made them drunk in my wrath, and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth.”*

Justice has come. The enemies of God have been defeated. Those who have peace with God are saved.

- **Are you focused on God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit?**
- **How are you marked (there are only two options)?**
- **Who or what do you follow and worship?**
- **Are you proclaiming the eternal gospel?**