

WHO IS TO "...KEEPETH HIS GARMENTS, LEST HE WALK NAKED, AND THEY SEE HIS SHAME..."

By: David A. Sargent

Revelation 16:13-16

13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

15 **Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.**

16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

1. Come As A Thief

- a. 1 Thessalonians 5:2-5, "For yourselves know perfectly that **the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night**. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness."
- b. 2 Peter 3:8-10, "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord **as a thousand years**, and a thousand years **as one day**. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. **But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night**; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up."
- c. Revelation 3:3, "Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. **If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.**"
- d. Matthew 24:43, "But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch **the thief** would come, **he would have watched**, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up."

- e. Luke 12:39, “And this know, that if the goodman of the house **had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched**, and not have suffered his house to be broken through.”

2. Blessed Is He That Watcheth

- a. Psalms 90:4, “For **a thousand years** in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and **as a watch in the night.**”
- b. Isaiah 21:9-13, “And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.** O my threshing, and the corn of my floor: that which I have heard of **the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have I declared unto you.** The burden of Dumah. He calleth to me out of Seir, **Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?** The watchman said, **The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will enquire, enquire ye: return, come.** The burden upon **Arabia.** In the forest in **Arabia** shall ye lodge, O ye travelling companies of Dedanim.”
- c. Matthew 24:42, “**Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.**”
- d. Matthew 25:13, “Watch therefore, **for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.**”
- e. Mark 13:33-37, “Take ye heed, **watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.** For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, **who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.** And what I say unto you I say unto all, **Watch.**”
- f. Luke 12:36-38, “And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, **when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching:** verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.”
- g. Luke 12:41, “Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this **parable** unto us, or even to all?”
- h. Luke 12:45-48, “But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; The lord of that servant will come **in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.** And **that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.** But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.”
- i. Revelation 3:3, “Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. **If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.**”

3. Keepeth His Garments, Lest He Walk Naked, And They See His Shame

- a. Genesis 3:7, “And the eyes of them both were opened, and **they knew that they were naked**; and **they sewed fig leaves together**, and **made themselves aprons.**”
- b. Genesis 3:21, “Unto Adam also and to his wife did **the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.**”
- c. Exodus 28:2-8, “And thou shalt make **holy garments for Aaron** thy brother **for glory and for beauty**. And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make **Aaron's garments to consecrate him**, that he may minister unto me **in the priest's office**. And these are **the garments** which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a brodered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make **holy garments for Aaron** thy brother, and **his sons**, that he may minister unto me **in the priest's office**. And they shall take **gold**, and **blue**, and **purple**, and **scarlet**, and **fine linen**. And they shall make the ephod of gold, of blue, and of purple, of scarlet, and **fine twined linen**, with **cunning work**. It shall have the two shoulderpieces thereof joined at the two edges thereof; and so it shall be joined together. And the curious girdle of the ephod, which is upon it, shall be of the same, according to the work thereof; even of **gold**, of **blue**, and **purple**, and **scarlet**, and **fine twined linen.**”
- d. Isaiah 59:6, “**Their webs shall not become garments**, neither shall **they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity**, and **the act of violence is in their hands.** “
- e. Isaiah 59:17, “ For **he put on righteousness as a breastplate**, and **an helmet of salvation upon his head**; and **he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing**, and **was clad with zeal as a cloke.**”
- f. Isaiah 61:10, “I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for **he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation**, **he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness**, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and **as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.**”
- g. Isaiah 64:6, “But **we are all as an unclean thing**, and **all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags**; and **we all do fade as a leaf**; and **our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.**”
- h. Zechariah 3:3-5, “Now Joshua **was clothed with filthy garments**, and **stood before the angel**. And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, **Take away the filthy garments from him**. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and **I will clothe thee with change of raiment**. And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and **clothed him with garments**. And the angel of the LORD stood by.”
- i. Revelation 3:4-5, “Thou hast a few names even in Sardis **which have not defiled their garments**; and **they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy**. He that overcometh, **the same shall be clothed in white raiment**; and **I will not blot out his name out of the book of life**, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.”

4. The Righteousness Of The Saints And The Righteousness Of God

- a. Ezekiel 14:14, “Though **these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job**, were in it, **they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness**, saith the Lord GOD. “

- b. Ezekiel 14:20, “Though **Noah, Daniel, and Job**, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; **they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness.**”
- c. Genesis 7:1, “And the LORD said unto **Noah**, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; **for thee have I seen righteous before me** in this generation.”
- d. Genesis 15:6, “And **he believed in the LORD**; and **he counted it to him for righteousness.**”
- e. Deuteronomy 6:25, “And **it shall be our righteousness**, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us.”
- f. Deuteronomy 9:4-6, “Speak not thou in thine heart, after that the LORD thy God hath cast them out from before thee, saying, **For my righteousness the LORD hath brought me in to possess this land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD doth drive them out from before thee. Not for thy righteousness**, or for the uprightness of thine heart, dost thou go to possess their land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee, and **that he may perform the word which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.** Understand therefore, that the LORD thy God **giveth thee not** this good land to possess it **for thy righteousness**; for thou art a stiffnecked people.”
- g. Job 27:6, “**My righteousness** I hold fast, and will not let it go: my heart shall not reproach me so long as I live.”
- h. Job 29:14, “**I put on righteousness**, and **it clothed me**: my judgment was **as a robe** and a diadem.”
- i. Job 32:1, “So these three men ceased to answer Job, because **he was righteous in his own eyes.**”
- j. Psalms 22:31, “They shall come, and shall declare **his righteousness** unto a people that **shall be born**, that **he hath done this.**”
- k. Psalms 69:28, “**Let them be blotted out of the book of the living**, and **not be written with the righteous.**”
- l. Psalms 116:5, “Gracious is the LORD, and **righteous**; yea, our God is merciful.”
- m. Psalms 119:142, “**Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness**, and thy law is the truth.”
- n. Psalms 119:160, “Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.”
- o. Isaiah 51:1, “Hearken to me, **ye that follow after righteousness**, ye that seek the LORD: **look unto the rock whence ye are hewn**, and **to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.**”
- p. Isaiah 51:8, “For **the moth shall eat them up like a garment**, and the **worm shall eat them like wool**: but **my righteousness shall be for ever**, and **my salvation from generation to generation.**”
- q. Jeremiah 23:6, “In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and **this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**”
- r. Romans 1:16-23, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for **it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth**; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For **therein is the righteousness of God revealed** from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For **the wrath of God** is revealed from heaven **against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men**, who **hold the truth in unrighteousness**;

Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. **For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:** Because that, **when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.** Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.”

- s. Romans 3:10, “As it is written, **There is none righteous, no, not one:** “
- t. Romans 3:21-26, “But now **the righteousness of God without the law is manifested,** being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even **the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe:** for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; **Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”**
- u. Romans 4:3-7, “For what saith the scripture? **Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.** Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But **to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.** Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, **unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,** Saying, **Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.”**
- v. Romans 4:13, “For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but **through the righteousness of faith.**“
- w. Romans 4:22, “And **therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.**”
- x. Romans 5:18, “Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by **the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.**”
- y. Romans 10:3-4, “For **they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.**”
- z. Galatians 2:21, “I do not frustrate the grace of God: **for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.**”
- aa. Galatians 3:6, “Even as Abraham believed God, and **it was accounted to him for righteousness.**”
- bb. Philippians 3:8-9, “Yea doubtless, and **I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:** for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, **And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:**”

- cc. Hebrews 7:2, “To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation **King of righteousness**, and after that also **King of Salem**, which is, **King of peace**;”
- dd. Revelation 19:8, “And to her was granted that **she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.**”

Conclusion:

Revelation 16:13-16, “And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. **Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.** And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.” Is all connected to the Tribulation (Matthew 24:21; Revelation 2:22; Revelation 7:14) time period and NOT to the Church age proper. There will be a remnant of the local churches during this seven year period of time which is who John is addressing doctrinally in the seven churches (Revelation 1:7; Revelation 1:11; Revelation 1:14-15; Revelation 2:1-3:22) . The day of the Lord is the thousand year reign (Revelation 20:4) starting with the second coming and ending with the dissolving of the elements in a fervent heat (2 Peter 3:10-12). It is this day that is to be watched for during the Tribulation (Revelation 16:15). Both Jews and Gentiles will take the mark and be damned (Revelation 14:9-11), both will not take the mark and starve or be killed (Revelation 12:17; Revelation 14:12), and both will endure to the end (Matthew 10:22) of this seven years (Daniel 9:27; Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6; Genesis 29:18; Genesis 41:26; Genesis 41:27; Deuteronomy 15:1; Deuteronomy 31:10; Judges 6:1; Judges 12:9; 2 Kings 8:1; [The number of 7s in Revelation]) and see their salvation if they are watching (The Jews: Matthew 24:42-51 and The Gentiles: Luke 12:36-47) for him to come and then come into the kingdom as servants. The ones that died in the tribulation are guests (Matthew 22:1-14) of the Bride (Revelation 14:12) at the marriage. The Old Testament Saints are guests of the Bridegroom (Matthew 27:51-53). It is important to understand that the fine linen is the righteousness of saints (Isaiah 61:10): NOT the righteousness of THE saints. A very important distinction making this exact non-definitive statement precludes personal righteousness (Romans 3:24-26; Romans 10:3-4; Philippians 3:9; Colossians 2:6; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Romans 14:23) having any part of what makes up this fine linen: it is God’s Righteousness: which is Jesus Christ. It is the Tribulation Saint that could stand with no garments and must have his garments washed in the blood of the lamb. (Revelation 7:14) as well as Old Testament Saints under the law from Moses to Christ that could also be sparsely clad because they had to be cleansed by a sacrifice that was not perfect (Hebrews 9). These two groups have to keep the commandments of God (Deuteronomy 4:2 and Revelation 12:17; Revelation 14:12): and the ones from the Old Testament must have faith in God (Genesis 15:4-6) while the New Testament Tribulation Saints have the faith of Jesus Christ (Revelation 12:17; Revelation 14:12).