

## Doctrine of the System vs. the Word of God

1. There is a widespread theology system of religious belief being taught that appears to go contrary to the simple teaching of the *Bible*. Consider the following examples.

- Example. Jesus prayed that His people NOT be taken out of the world even in times of tribulation and evil activity and yet many are convinced that one day millions of Christians will be taken out of the world.

*John 17:13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. <sup>14</sup> I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>15</sup> I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.*

- Example. The *Bible* teaches that when Jesus returns there will be a lot of noise associated with His return. There will be a divine shout and the voice of the arch angel and the trumpet of God. Yet millions believe in a secret silent coming of Christ.

*1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:*

- Example. Jesus said that when people start talking about a secret return of His, such people were NOT to be believed. Today, many people read and worse, do believe the talk and the writings of those who teach a secret coming of Christ.

*Matthew 24:23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not.*

- Example. Jesus told people NOT to look to signs as proof of His near coming and yet many sermons are preached on the signs of the times.

*Matthew 24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.*

- Example. The *Bible* teaches that Christians must suffer if the kingdom is to be inherited and yet many people embrace the concept that a privileged generation of believers will be removed from a special period of great tribulation. The apostle John certainly did not teach such a concept for in the book of the *Revelation* the servant of the Lord considers himself a companion in suffering,

*2 Timothy 2:12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:*

*Acts 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.*

*Revelation 1:9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

- Example. The *Bible* teaches the church is found throughout the book of the *Revelation* for the totality of the message is addressed to the church.

*Revelation 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;*