

They That Dwell On The Earth

In the study of the Word of God, I have been amazed at the value of word/phrase searches. For instance, while in the study of the Revelation of Jesus Christ, I have learned these searches have a great deal of “teaching value”. Consider the topic of this short paper, *They That Dwell On The Earth*. Seems John used the phrase often in his vision of the Tribulation Period in the book of Revelation. In fact, he used it so often, I decided to see just how the phrase was being used in the rest of the Word of God. I used phrases such as “inhabitants of the earth”, and “earth dwellers” in Bible searches to get my answers.

The results were very interesting—I learned precisely what was referred to when Jesus, Paul and John used the phrase—concerning God’s judgment on evil. Note that in the Old Testament, the phrase was hardly ever used *except* to deal with Israel and God’s Judgment on her, especially in the prophetic books. However, when written in the New Testament, we find phrases dealing with the *inhabitants of the earth* are, in almost every case, God’s judgment on evil mankind—specifically during the Tribulation Period!

Here’s what I found:

1. When I shall receive the congregation I will judge uprightly. The **earth and all the inhabitants** thereof are dissolved: I bare up the pillars of it. Selah. (Ps. 75:2, 3)
2. **All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth**, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when he bloweth a trumpet hear ye, (Isaiah 18:3)
3. Behold the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste and turneth it upside down, **and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof**. (Isaiah 24:1)
4. The **earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof**; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured **the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate**: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men are left. (Isaiah 24:5-6)
5. For behold, the Lord cometh out of His place to **punish the inhabitants of the earth** for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain. (Isaiah 26:21)
6. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke and the **earth** shall wax old like a garment, **and they that dwell therein** shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be forever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished. (Isaiah 51:6)
7. For lo, I begin to bring evil on the city that is called by my name, and should ye be utterly unpunished? Ye shall not be unpunished: for I will call for a sword upon **all the inhabitants of the earth**, sayeth the Lord of Hosts. Therefore prophecy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, the Lord shall roar from on high, and utter His voice from His holy habitation. He shall mightily roar upon his habitation; He shall give a shout, as they that tread [the grapes], against **all inhabitants of the earth**. (Jeremiah 25:29-30)
Comment – *when God punishes the inhabitants of the earth during the tribulation, those who are saved out of the Tribulation Period, and remain faithful to Him, will hide themselves and wait before the Lord in prayer until He has accomplished His purposes and the final redemption arrives, both those born anew during the tribulation period and Israel.*
8. **And all inhabitants of the earth** [are] reputed as nothing; and He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and [among] the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay His hand, or say unto Him, What doest thou? (Daniel 4:35)
9. The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the **world, and all that dwell therein**. (Nahum 1:5)
10. For as a snare shall it come on **all them that dwell on the face of the earth**. (Luke 21:35)
11. And hath made of one blood all **nations of men for to dwell on the face of the earth**, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation. (Acts 17:26)

12. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I will also keep thee from the hour of temptation, **which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.** (Rev. 3:10)
13. And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood **on them that dwell on the earth?** (Rev. 6:10)
14. And **they that dwell upon the earth** shall rejoice over them, and make merry and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwell on the earth. (Rev. 11:10)
15. Therefore rejoice, [ye] **heavens, and ye that dwell on them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and for the sea!** For the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. (Rev. 12:12)
16. And **all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him**, whose names are not written in the book of life of the lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (Rev. 13:8)
17. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the **earth and them that dwell therein** to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. (Rev. 13:12)
18. And deceiveth **them that dwell on the earth** by [the means of] those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to **them that dwell on the earth**, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by the sword, and did live. (Rev. 13:14)
19. And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto **them that dwell on the earth**, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people. (Rev. 14:6)
20. The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: **and they that dwell on the earth** shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. (Rev. 17:8)
21. With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and **the inhabitants of the earth** have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. (Rev. 17:2)

Therefore, we know, without doubt, when John mentions in Revelation, *the inhabitants of the earth, dwellers of the earth*, or any related statement, he is *always* speaking of those who have no deed to eternal life—have no interest whatsoever in following the Savior Jesus Christ.

Rather, they preferred to follow after their father, the beast (satan):

20) And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: 21) Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts. (Revelation 9:20, 21)

9) And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. 10) And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain. 11) And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds (Revelation 16:9—11)

And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds. (Revelation 16:11)

11) He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 12) And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. (Revelation 22:11,12)

Blessings from Tom and Linda Stephens

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