

The Attackers: Those Who Hate the Righteous, Ps 34:21b; Hatred Is Ubiquitous in Every Dispensation: Gentiles, 1 John 3:12–13; Israel, Ps 34:21; Incarnation, John 15:18–19; Church, Rom 1:28–31; Tribulation, Matt 24:9–10; Evil Is the Lowest Descent into the Hatred Complex

5. Hatred of advanced believers seems to be the norm no matter what period of history is considered:

- (1) In the dispensation of the **Gentiles**, it was Cain's hatred of Abel that motivated him to murder his brother:

1 John 3:12 - ... Cain, who was motivated by the evil one [Lucifer], slew [**sfēzw (spházō)**: murdered: slit his throat with a sacrificial knife]. And for what reason did he murder him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous.

v. 13 - Do not be surprised, fellow believer, if the world keeps on hating [**misšw (miséo)**] you.

- (2) We are observing in Psalm 34:21 that, during the dispensation of **Israel**, how the wicked "hate the righteous."
- (3) It is clear enough that during the **Incarnation** both Jesus and those who followed him, especially the apostles, were hated by those in reversionism. Our Lord makes this clear during His comments at the Last Supper in:

John 15:18 - "If the world hates [**misšw (miséo)**] you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you.

John 15:19 - "If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates [**misšw (miséo)**] you.

- (4) During the **Church Age** the hatred of the world is intensified as the Dark Side is motivated by the encroaching immanency of the Rapture and the subsequent Tribulation:

Romans 1:28 - Just as they¹ did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,

v. 29 - being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips,

v. 30 - slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

v. 31 - without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful.

(5) In Matthew 24, the disciples inquired of the Lord about the timing of future events:

Matthew 24:3 - As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, (1) when will these things happen [the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem; see v. 2 & Luke 21:20–24], and (2) what will be the sign of Your coming [the Second Advent], and (3) of the end of the age [the dispensation of Israel, i.e., the Tribulation]?"

These questions are out of chronological order so the Lord answers them in their correct sequence: (1) the church age, vv. 4–8, (2) the Tribulation, vv. 9–26, and (3) the Second Advent, vv. 27–51.

Regarding the events in the **Tribulation**, the Lord opens with these remarks:

¹ Referring to those cited in Romans 1:18, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness."

Matthew 24:9 - “Then [post Rapture] they [anti-Semitic Gentiles] will deliver you [metonymy for the Jewish people who are saved during the Tribulation] into affliction and they will kill you. Jews will be hated [**misšw (miséō)**] by all the nations because of My name.²

v. 10 - Also at that time many Jewish reversionists will be caused to fall away. They will both betray and hate [**misšw (miséō)**] each other [**Jews against Jews**].

6. Hatred is a vicious sin that has caused havoc from the beginning and will continue to do so until the Second Advent.
7. Those who hate the righteous are dealt with accordingly by the justice of God. In Psalm 34:21 the word used to convey this idea is “condemned,” the Qal imperfect of the verb **<v^a* ('asham)**: “guilty before the justice of God implying accompanying punishment.”
8. Verse 34 constitutes a promise to advancing believers when reversionism and its attendant cultural upheaval foment hatred for them.
9. Facilitated wheel-tracks of wickedness in the cosmic system of hatred will result in their destruction: “Evil will systematically execute the wicked!”
10. Evil is the lowest level of the hatred complex to which a person can descend. It constitutes Lucifer’s system to organize the human race into a global collective over which he intends to rule.

² Prophetically fulfilled in Revelation 12. In verse 1, the “woman” is the nation Israel, the “sun” is Jacob, the “moon” and its four phases represent the four wives of Jacob: Leah, Rachel, Bilhah, and Zilpah, and the “twelve stars” are the patriarchs. In verse 2, the woman (Israel) in labor is a double entendre: (1) she represents the virgin pregnancy of Mary and the child is Jesus at the virgin birth, and (2) she is prophetic of unbelieving Israel which, in the Tribulation, is unable to deliver the child due to rejection of Jesus as Messiah. Some remain in unbelief while many respond. Following the Second Advent, those surviving the Tribulation will undergo the baptism of fire that separates Jewish unbelievers from believers. The former are sent to the Torments compartment of Hades while the latter become citizens and residents of millennial Israel. See the Lord’s illustrations of this judgment in Matthew 24:40–41 and Luke 17:34–37. The “ones taken” are Jewish unbelievers while the “ones left” are Jewish believers.