

4/20/78  
000291

In the world ye shall have tribulation John 16:33

John 16:33 In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world. How much tribulation have you ever had? Maybe somebody won't talk to you anymore because you've become a Christian. Perhaps you've been discriminated against in some way. What does that amount to compared with what so many Christians have suffered through the ages! Think of the early Christians - beheaded, hung up on trees and set afire in Nero's garden, thrown to wild animals in the coliseum. To most of us it is unthinkable that such a thing should ever occur so far as we are concerned. Think of martyrs through Christian ages since that time. You don't need to go back to ancient history. Think of what happened in Russia in 1988 when the communists took over, and the number of Christian ministers who've been imprisoned, tortured, who have been forced to work out in the cold and freezing weather until they finally drop dead from exposure and misery. Think of the thousands of Christians in China. I remember during the war we were told "the Chinese are so grateful to the Americans for the help they are giving them in the war; when the war is over Christianity will just spread through China and the few million Christians in China now will be multiplied 100 times!" Instead of that the Russians took the Japanese arms and they seized and declared war against Japan only really after the war was actually over in order to seize their arms and gave them and gave them a small group of Chinese communists who conquered the whole nation and who boasted 10 years ago that there was not a single church left open in that whole land of China except perhaps in a for foreign embassy where these foreign people only. \*\*\*

In the ~~world~~ world ye shall have tribulation. Many