Thomas Paine and God Trying Men’s Souls – *These are the times that try men’s souls*

*Common Sense* was published in January 1776. In December 1776, Thomas Paine followed *Common Sense* with a series of pamphlets called *The Crisis*. The first of these pamphlets began with perhaps Thomas Paine’s most famous written words, *These are the times that try men’s souls*.

These are the times that try men’s souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph.

George Washington himself found it so uplifting that he ordered it to be read to all his troops on Christmas Eve, 1776, prior to his crossing of the Delaware to take Trenton.

Key Understanding: *These are the times that try men’s souls*. Thomas Paine’s famous words, *These are the times that try men’s souls*, were ordained for the purpose of revealing the counterfeit battle for souls, characterized by Tyranny vs. Democracy, and as a part of that, were ordained for the purpose of fulfilling the prophetic passages surrounding Daniel 12:10 and Revelation 3:10.

What we are presently covering is Daniel 12:10:

Daniel 12:10 (KJV) *MANY SHALL BE PURIFIED, and MADE WHITE, and TRIED; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.*
What we will be covering again is the ‘Church of Philadelphia’ passage, but focusing on Revelation 3:10:

Revelation 3:7, 10 (KJV) And to the angel of the CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; 10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, TO TRY THEM that dwell upon the earth.

Before we examine the relevancy of These are the times that TRY men’s souls to the passage of Revelation 3:7-14 and the letter to the Church in Philadelphia, let’s first examine the relevancy of These are the times that TRY men’s souls to Daniel 12:10.

Washington himself found The American Crisis so uplifting that he ordered it to be read to all his troops on Christmas Eve, 1776, prior to his crossing of the Delaware to take Trenton.