

*Revelation*  
*Part 3*  
*Leader Guide*  
(NASB and ESV)

WHAT IS THE  
SIGN OF HIS COMING  
AND OF THE END OF THE AGE?  
(CHAPTERS 4–22)

*Revelation Part 3 Leader Guide (NASB and ESV)*  
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## USING LEADER GUIDES

Leader Guides are intended for you, the leader, to guide your Precept Upon Precept® and In & Out® discussions. They are designed to help you reason through the content of the lessons and to ensure you have understood what your group should have learned from their study. The guides offer effective plans for leading discussions.

The Holy Spirit is your guide as you prepare. He is the one who knows what your group needs to apply to their lives. Pray for them as they study and for yourself as you prepare to lead the discussion.

These guides can be used for either the NASB or the ESV edition of the courses. ESV words follow the NASB after a slash / or are set off with parentheses.

### Leader Guides include the following:

- Lesson emphasis
- A logical order for the discussion
- Discussion questions
- Suggested visual aid(s)

### Practical tips for using the Leader Guide:

- **Don't simply "do" the lesson.**  
Stay with the lesson until you have a good understanding of it. This will give you a better grasp of how the Leader Guide takes you through the lesson.
- **You don't have to ask every question in the guide.**  
Often one question will be covered while discussing another question so there is no reason to ask it. Your goal is not to ask every question, but to ask enough questions to make sure your group understood the lesson and to help them apply the truths to their lives.

### Using the Leader Guide with In & Out


#### When your entire group uses In & Out

Compare an In & Out lesson with the Leader Guide. Use what relates to the In & Out lesson as a guide for the discussion. Don't teach what's not in In & Out lessons. Remember your goal in the discussion is for your group to discuss what they've learned, not for you to lecture on what you learned.

#### For groups studying both Precept Upon Precept and In & Out

Use the Leader Guides as designed for PUP, knowing that the In & Out assignments will be covered in the discussion. Make a note in the Leader Guide of what is not in the In & Out.

<b>PRINTED PAGE NO.</b>	<b>L E S S O N S</b>	<b>PDF PAGE NO.</b>
1	LESSON ONE: Revelation 5–11	5
7	LESSON TWO: Revelation 11–14	11
13	LESSON THREE: Revelation 15–22	17
19	LESSON FOUR: Matthew 23:29–24:51	23
25	LESSON FIVE: The Tribulation	29
31	LESSON SIX: Matthew 24:42–25:46	35
35	LESSON SEVEN: Luke 21	39
41	LESSON EIGHT: The Times of the Gentiles	45
47	LESSON NINE: God’s Promises to Israel	51
53	LESSON TEN: Israel’s Future	57
57	LESSON ELEVEN: Chronology	61

To locate a particular lesson in the pdf, click on  in the grey bar on the left side of the window. Bookmarks will appear for each of the lessons. Select the lesson you need.

**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 1**

Lesson emphasis

- Revelation 5–11

To begin this discussion, you might ask what your group remembers from Revelation Parts 1 and 2 about why John wrote the Revelation, what “revelation” means, and what the segments of the book are.

Revelation 1:1 contains the purpose and 1:19 gives the segments.

God gave Jesus the revelation (unveiling) of things which must soon take place.

Jesus sent His angel to tell John to write what he showed him.

The message is for the Church.

Revelation is a book of prophecy with blessing promised to those who read, hear, and heed / keep the things written in it.

The three segments of Revelation are:

The things John saw—the vision of Jesus in the midst of 7 lampstands  
Revelation 1

The things which are (ESV—those that are)—the 7 churches  
Revelation 2–3

The things / those which shall take place after these things / this  
—seals, trumpets, bowls, judgments  
Revelation 4–22

**REVELATION 5**

Ask your group what they learned from this chapter about the book / scroll and its seals. Tell them to look at “The Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls” timeline in the Appendix as a visual aid for this discussion.

The setting is God’s throne in heaven.

A book with seven seals needs to be opened so the writing can be read. No one is worthy to break the seals except the Lion of Judah, the Root of David, the Lamb.

When He takes the book, the 4 living creatures and 24 elders worship Him for what He has done.

He was slain.

He purchased / ransomed people for God with His blood.

He made them a kingdom and priests to God; they'll reign on earth.

Encourage your group to use words of praise from this chapter for personal worship.

## REVELATION 6

Ask what this chapter is about.

The Lamb broke / opened the first seal on the book / scroll, and John saw a white horse with a rider holding a bow. A crown was given to him and he went out to conquer.

2<sup>nd</sup> seal broken / opened—red horse  
rider takes peace from the earth  
wars

3<sup>rd</sup> seal broken / opened—black horse  
rider has scales to weigh wheat and barley  
famine

4<sup>th</sup> seal broken / opened—ashen horse  
rider is Death, Hades follows  
given authority to kill ¼ of people on earth

5<sup>th</sup> seal broken / opened—souls under altar cry for vengeance for their blood  
told to wait until the number destined to be killed is complete

Vengeance for their blood is directed toward those who dwell on the earth.  
They persecute saints, receive the mark of the beast, and ultimately are thrown into the lake of fire.

6<sup>th</sup> seal broken / opened—great earthquake  
sun becomes black  
moon becomes like blood  
stars fall to earth  
sky splits apart / vanishes  
every island and mountain is moved / removed out of place  
men hide in caves and rocks of mountains

Men ask to be hidden from God's face and from the Lamb's wrath. They say the great day of Their wrath has come.

## REVELATION 7

What happens in this chapter?

### Verses 1-8

The wind is stopped on earth. An angel tells four angels not to harm the earth until “we have sealed” God’s servants.

They seal God’s servants on their foreheads—12,000 from each of the twelve tribes of Israel, totaling 144,000.

### Verses 9-17

Then there is a great multitude from every nation standing before the throne in heaven. They come out of the great tribulation, washed in the Lamb’s blood.

Verse 16 indicates that they suffer on earth, but verse 17 tells of their condition in heaven afterwards.

Review the scenes of earth and heaven.

2–3, messages to the churches on earth

4–5 in heaven before God’s throne

6–7:8 things happening on earth (except 5<sup>th</sup> seal)

7:9–11 in heaven again

## REVELATION 8

Ask what happens in this chapter and relate events to the sequence of Revelation 6.

This continues the Lamb breaking / opening the seven seals on the book.

When He breaks / opens the 7<sup>th</sup> seal, there’s silence in heaven for a ½ hour.

The 7<sup>th</sup> seal reveals 7 angels with 7 trumpets. Before they sound, there’s another earthquake with thunder and lightning.

1<sup>st</sup> trumpet—hail and fire with blood thrown to earth  
1/3 earth burned up  
1/3 trees burned and all grass

2<sup>nd</sup> trumpet—great burning mountain thrown into the sea  
1/3 sea becomes blood  
1/3 sea creatures die  
1/3 ships destroyed

3<sup>rd</sup> trumpet—great burning star, Wormwood, falls from heaven on 1/3 rivers and waters  
1/3 waters become bitter  
many men die

4<sup>th</sup> trumpet—1/3 sun, moon, and stars struck  
1/3 day and night don't shine

Ask your group about verse 13, and what they remember about the “woes.”

The seals and trumpets are judgments directed toward those who dwell on the earth.  
Relate to the 5<sup>th</sup> seal.

1<sup>st</sup> woe=5<sup>th</sup> trumpet  
2<sup>nd</sup> woe=6<sup>th</sup> trumpet  
3<sup>rd</sup> woe=7<sup>th</sup> trumpet

## REVELATION 9

Ask what happens at the 5<sup>th</sup> trumpet in verses 1-12.

5<sup>th</sup> trumpet, 1<sup>st</sup> woe—locusts on the earth from the bottomless pit

The locusts are allowed to harm only the men who don't have the seal of God on their foreheads. 144,000 servants of God from Israel are sealed.

The locusts are allowed to torment men for five months. There's no death on earth during this time. The locusts' king is Abaddon and Apollyon.

Ask about verses 13-21.

6<sup>th</sup> trumpet, 2<sup>nd</sup> woe—1/3 of mankind is killed

Four angels are released.

Four angels kill men on earth. Their army is 200,000,000 horsemen. They kill with three plagues that come from the horses' mouths—fire, smoke, and brimstone / sulfur.

The 2/3 of mankind left on earth don't repent.

You can ask your group if they noticed that the seals and trumpets originate in heaven and occur on earth. Compare the effects of the seals with the effects of the trumpets.

There's no mistaking that God is in control of the seals and trumpets. He controls how much of the earth each one affects and how long it lasts. He protects His servants on earth at this time.



$\frac{1}{4}$  of mankind is killed at the 4<sup>th</sup> seal. Then  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the remaining  $\frac{3}{4}$  (another  $\frac{1}{4}$ ) are killed. So after the 6<sup>th</sup> trumpet, half ( $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$ ) of the men on earth at the 4<sup>th</sup> seal are dead and half are alive.

### REVELATION 10

Ask your group what happens in this chapter.

7 peals of thunder speak, but John sealed what they said and didn't record it.

Verse 7 says that in the days of the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet the mystery of God is finished. God preached a mystery to the prophets.

Then an angel told John to eat the little book / scroll which seemed to contain more prophecy about the nations.

### REVELATION 11

What are verses 1-14 about?

John was directed to measure the temple in the holy city, Jerusalem.  
There are worshipers in the temple.

He was told not to measure the temple court that's given to the nations.  
The nations will tread under foot / trample the court and the holy city for 42 months.

God will give authority for 1,260 days, 42 months, to His two witnesses who prophesy.  
They will torment those who dwell on the earth.

Compare what the two witnesses do with the seals and trumpets.

When their testimony is complete, the beast kills them, but after 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  days they're resurrected and taken to heaven.

At that time there's a great earthquake in which  $\frac{1}{10}$  of the city falls and 7,000 people are killed. The rest are terrified and give glory to the God of heaven.

The second woe, sixth trumpet, is past.

What are verses 15-19 about?

7<sup>th</sup> trumpet, 3<sup>rd</sup> woe—the kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of God and His Christ. He begins to reign.

The nations are enraged.

God's wrath comes.

The time for the dead to be judged and saints to be rewarded

Time to destroy those who destroy the earth

These verses appear to be an overview of some of the events revealed by the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet; for example, the dead are not judged until after Christ returns, Revelation 20:11-15.

The temple in heaven is opened, and the ark of God's covenant appears.  
Lightning, thunder, earthquake and a great hailstorm on earth

Ask your group if they believe these things will happen. Are they heeding / keeping the things God is showing them?

**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 2**

Lesson emphasis

- Revelation 11–14

**REVIEW**

To begin your discussion, ask your group about the events in Revelation 5–10.

- Revelation 5 Lamb is worthy to break / open seals
- Revelation 6 Lamb breaks / opens 6 seals
- Revelation 7 144,000 of Israel sealed, great multitude from nations
- Revelation 8 7<sup>th</sup> seal and 4 trumpets
- Revelation 9 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> trumpets
- Revelation 10 John ate little book / scroll

AS your group discusses, you can put the main points on a timeline such as the one at the end of this lesson's guide.

**REVELATION 11**

According to verses 1-2, what happens to the court of the temple and the holy city?

John was given a measuring rod and told to measure the temple, the altar and those who worship in the temple. But the court outside the temple was not to be measured. It is to be given to the nations. And they'll tread the holy city for 42 months, 3½ years, maybe referring to the time after the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet.

*NOTE: In the Bible, Israel is almost always not included in "the nations." Here, the context is clear that Israel is not part of the nations.*

Now ask about the two witnesses, timing, and review the events.

Tell your group to look at the chart "The Progression of Events in Revelation 11–14."

They prophesy for 1,260 days, 3½ years, during which time they shut up the sky so that there is no rain. They turn water to blood, strike the earth with plagues, and torment those who dwell on the earth.

At the end of their prophesying, the beast kills them. Their death and ascension occur at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> trumpet. So there are 3½ years of the two witnesses prophesying before the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet sounds.

Is the time the nations tread the holy city and court the same time the two witnesses prophesy?

They're the same length of time and might be the same period of time.

What is said at the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet?

The kingdom of the world becomes the kingdom of God and of His Christ, Messiah.

The time for the dead to be judged, God's wrath

Destroy those who destroy the earth

Reward the prophets and the saints

The 3<sup>rd</sup> woe

The temple in heaven opens and the ark of the covenant appears.

## REVELATION 12

How does chapter 12 continue from the end of Revelation 11?

Two signs in heaven:

- A woman about to give birth
- A dragon about to devour her child

Tell your group to look at “The Dragon, the Woman, and the Child” chart along with the other chart. Ask them about the sequence of events in this chapter and who they think the woman represents.

The woman gives birth to a male child destined to rule all nations with a rod of iron and who is caught up to God and His throne. This is clearly a description of Jesus Christ Messiah, who came from Israel. The woman probably represents Israel.

What happens to the woman in the rest of the chapter is not what happened to Mary, Jesus' mother.

The woman also does not represent the Church, since Jesus didn't come from the Church; the Church came from Him after He ascended to the Father.

The dragon is the serpent of old, the devil, Satan.

At some time, he takes 1/3 of the stars, angels, of heaven, throwing them to the earth.

He also tries to devour Jesus at birth. This might have been when Herod killed the baby boys after the Magi told him Christ had been born.

Michael and his angels battle the devil and his angels and throw them to the earth.

Relate verse 10 to Revelation 11:15-17.

When is this, in the order of the trumpets? Is there anything in chapter 12 specifically relating to the last trumpet?

The 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet sounded, and the temple in heaven opened, then two signs in heaven.

Maybe the 3<sup>rd</sup> woe is the devil's presence on earth.

Relate this to Revelation 11:14.

When the devil is thrown down to earth, he persecutes / pursues the woman Israel, but she flees into the wilderness and is nourished for 1,260 days, 3½ years, 42 months.

The devil's attempt to sweep her away in a flood does not work—the earth swallows the water.

The enraged devil makes war with the rest of her, Israel's, children / offspring. They're described as keeping the commands of God and holding to the testimony of Jesus—so they would be the Jews at that time who believe in Jesus as Messiah.

Relate this description to Revelation 14:12.

### **REVELATION 13**

*NOTE: Remind your group to continue the thought and not let chapter divisions disjoin the events in Revelation 11–13.*

What happens in this chapter?

The devil gives his power to a beast who makes war with the saints.

This might refer to the rest of the woman's children / offspring.

Ask for the description of the beast.

The beast has ten horns with ten diadems and seven heads with blasphemous names. Relate this to the description of the dragon in 12:3. He's like a leopard with feet like a bear and a mouth like a lion.

The dragon, the devil, empowers this beast and gives him his throne. But his authority is only for 42 months. This time phrase was last used in Revelation 11:2.

The beast has a fatal wound on one of his heads that is healed, amazing the earth.

The earth worships the devil and the beast, who they think is unconquerable.

Go back to the events of Revelation 11–12 and relate them to this chapter.

The beast has a fatal wound that is healed and kills the two witnesses who tormented those who dwell on earth for 3½ years. The whole earth is amazed and worships the beast and the devil.

The devil empowers the beast and gives him his throne.  
But he has authority only for 42 months—over every tribe, people, tongue, and nation.

He wars with the saints for those 42 months, the same period of 42 months that the woman Israel is nourished by God in the wilderness.

The whole earth follows him—those who dwell on the earth whose names aren't in the Lamb's book of life. This is the same amount of time the holy city Jerusalem and the temple court are tread under foot / trampled by the nations for 42 months.

*NOTE: If your group has questions about the timing of Jerusalem and the temple being tread underfoot, encourage them that this will become clearer as they study additional passages.*

Ask for the main character and events in Revelation 13:11-18.

A second beast comes on the scene. He resembles a lamb but speaks as a dragon. This second beast is a false prophet—appearing like a lamb but speaking the lies of the devil.

He performs signs, even making fire come out of heaven. He orders those who dwell on earth to make an image to the first beast, gives it breath, life, and then commands people to worship it. Whoever doesn't is killed.

His economic system includes marking people on their right hand or forehead so they can buy and sell.

Verse 18 is a call to those with understanding to calculate the number of the beast, 666, the number of a man.

## REVELATION 14

Who are verses 1-5 about and how does this relate to the previous chapters studied in this course?

The 144,000 first fruits of Israel purchased from the earth are now in heaven.

*NOTE: Some in your group might have studied the feasts of Israel and know that there is a Feast of First fruits. First fruits imply a coming harvest.*

From the context of these chapters, it's reasonable to suppose that the 144,000 were killed by the beast because they won't worship him and the devil. They appear to fit the category of those he makes war with, "the rest of her [the woman, Israel's] children / offspring."

Ask what verses 6-20 are about and the details of each section.

Six angels are mentioned

- One preaches the gospel to the nations
- One says Babylon is fallen
- One says whoever takes the mark of the beast receives God's wrath
- One says the hour to reap the earth has come
- Another has a sharp sickle
- Another calls for the sickle to gather grapes from earth

One like a son of man sitting on a cloud reaps the earth.

The wine press of God's wrath is tread outside the city.

Blood flows for about 200 miles, from the city to some unnamed place.

What do Revelation 11:1-3; 13:5, 7, and 15 have in common? Who controls the events of these chapters?

God controls all the events.

He reveals the future to his servants.

What statements are made with the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet?

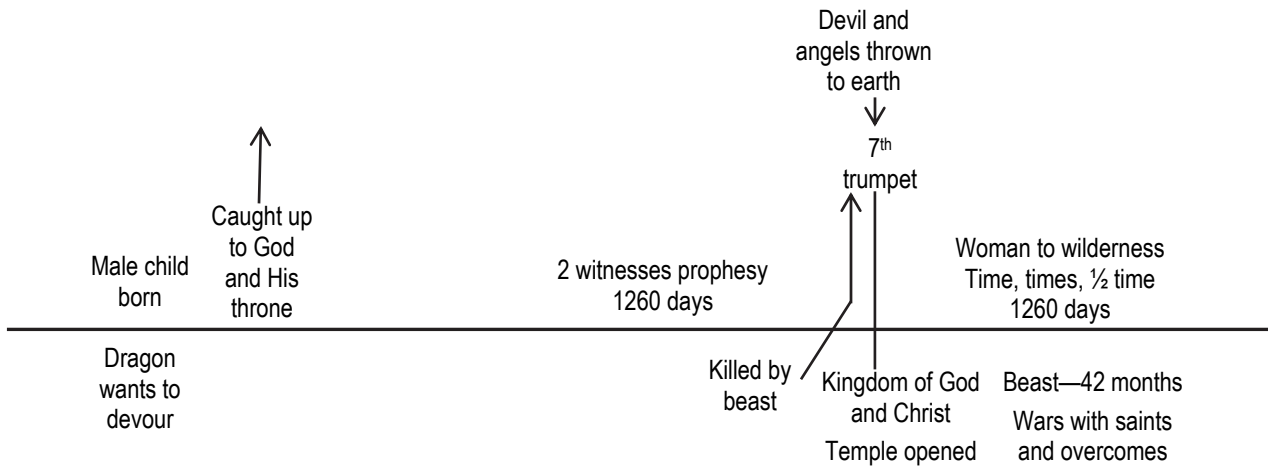
Revelation 10:7—The mystery of God is finished.

Revelation 11:15-17—The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of God and of His Christ, and He has begun to reign.

Revelation 12:10—Now salvation, power, the kingdom of God, and the authority of Christ have come.

Although the events accompanying this trumpet are horrifying, God rules over all.

Give your group time to discuss how any or all of this information applies to them.





**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 3**

Lesson emphasis

- Revelation 15–22

**REVIEW**

Ask your group to discuss briefly what they remember from their study of the seals and trumpets. Or tell them to look at the “Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls” timeline in the Appendix as a visual aid.

Seals

When the first four seals are broken / opened by the Lamb, four horses with riders go to earth.

- Conquering
- Take peace from earth
- Famine
- $\frac{1}{4}$  earth killed

When He breaks the 5<sup>th</sup> seal, the souls of those who have been martyred on the earth ask how long it will be until their blood is avenged. They’re told to wait a little while longer, since there are more martyrs to come.

When He breaks the 6<sup>th</sup> seal, the heavenly bodies (sun, moon, stars, sky) are affected. On earth, islands and mountains move from their places. Men hide from the wrath of God and the Lamb.

When He breaks / opens the 7<sup>th</sup> seal, there’s silence in heaven for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour, and then 7 trumpets are given to 7 angels.

Trumpets

The first four trumpets reveal judgments that affect  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the earth.

- $\frac{1}{3}$  of the earth and trees and all the green grass is burned up
- $\frac{1}{3}$  of the sea becomes blood
- $\frac{1}{3}$  of the waters become bitter
- $\frac{1}{3}$  of the sun, moon, and stars don’t shine—earth is  $\frac{1}{3}$  darkened

Ask how the last three trumpets are described.

Three woes on the earth

5<sup>th</sup> trumpet=1<sup>st</sup> woe—locusts tormenting men for 5 months, but no death

6<sup>th</sup> trumpet=2<sup>nd</sup> woe—1/3 of men killed

As the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet is about to sound—  
the mystery of God is finished  
the two witnesses are killed by the beast

7<sup>th</sup> trumpet=3<sup>rd</sup> woe—

- The kingdom of the world becomes the kingdom of the Lord and His Christ; He begins to reign
- Now salvation, power, and kingdom of God and authority of Christ have come
- Woman (Israel) flees to wilderness for 1,260 days
- The beast begins to reign 42 months and wars with the saints, the devil persecutes / pursues the woman's offspring

Ask what the end of Revelation 14 is about.

The hour for the earth to be reaped comes—the time for the wine press of God's wrath.

## REVELATION 15

Ask your group how Revelation 15:1 connects with 12:1, 3.

When the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet sounds and the temple in heaven opens, there are signs in heaven. The woman and the dragon in 12 and the plagues in 15.

Just as the 7 trumpets come out of the 7<sup>th</sup> seal, the 7 bowls of God's wrath come out of the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet.

In verse 5, the temple in heaven is open when the 7 angels with the bowls come out, then the temple fills with smoke from God's glory and power. He rules over all future events.

Tell them to use the chart at the end of the lesson as a visual aid.

## REVELATION 16

Ask your group for descriptions of the 7 bowls or plagues in chronological order.

1<sup>st</sup> bowl—produces sores on people who took the mark of the beast and worshiped him

2<sup>nd</sup> bowl—the sea becomes blood and all creatures in it die  
Compare this with the judgment under the 2<sup>nd</sup> trumpet.

3<sup>rd</sup> bowl—rivers and springs of water become blood  
Those who killed the prophets and saints deserve blood to drink.  
Compare with the 3<sup>rd</sup> trumpet.

4<sup>th</sup> bowl—sun scorches men with fire, fierce heat  
People scorched know God does these things, blaspheme God, and won't repent.  
Compare with the 4<sup>th</sup> trumpet.

5<sup>th</sup> bowl—the beast's kingdom is darkened.  
People still have the sores from the first bowl.  
These plagues appear to happen in rapid succession—not much time in between.  
Compare the 5<sup>th</sup> trumpet with this bowl.  
There are similarities with the trumpets and the bowls, but they aren't the same.  
The people still blaspheme God and don't repent.

6<sup>th</sup> bowl—the Euphrates river dries up; it becomes blood at the 3<sup>rd</sup> bowl.

There's no rain for the 3½ years of the two witnesses. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> trumpets 1/3 of the sea becomes blood and 1/3 of the waters are made bitter; then at the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> bowls all the sea and waters become blood—the earth is in dry and bad shape.

Demonic spirits of the devil, beast, and false prophet perform signs and gather the kings of the earth to Har-Magedon / Armageddon to go against God in war.

7<sup>th</sup> bowl—compare verse 17 with 15:1.  
An earthquake unlike any other occurs.  
The great city splits into three parts; the cities of the nations fall.  
All islands flee away and mountains are not found.  
Hailstones, about 100 pounds each, fall to the earth.  
Men still blaspheme God.

Babylon the great is remembered—given the cup of God's wrath to drink.

## **REVELATION 17 AND 18**

These chapters are about the fall of Babylon and God's wrath on her.  
She's pictured as a great harlot / prostitute sitting on the beast.

According to chapter 18, Babylon is the economic capital of the earth—the great city of the beast's kingdom. But at some point, the beast and ten kings associated with him destroy Babylon.

The great system and city fall under God's wrath. The fall is quick and complete—"in one day / a single day," 18:8, and "in one hour / a single hour," 18:10, 17, 19, her plagues come.

How does Revelation 17:6 relate to the 5<sup>th</sup> seal and other mentions of those who end up in heaven?

Babylon the great is drunk with the blood of saints and Jesus' witnesses.  
She deserves God's wrath.

Ask your group to explain the interpretation in Revelation 17:7-18.

The beast has a fatal wound that is healed.  
Those who dwell on the earth are amazed and wonder.

The beast's seven heads are seven kings  
—five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come.

“One is” probably means one was alive when John wrote Revelation.  
The beast is of the seven and also an eighth king.

The ten horns are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom.  
They give their authority to the beast and war with the Lamb.

The harlot / prostitute Babylon sits on peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.  
The ten kings and the beast destroy her.

If you have time, you can ask when this happens and discuss Revelation 14:8 and 16:19.

## **REVELATION 19–20**

What happens in these chapters?

Jesus returns to earth and rules for 1,000 years.  
The devil is bound and cast into an abyss / pit for this 1,000 years.  
Then he's released and leads a final attack on “the camp of the saints.”  
Fire devours the attackers and the devil is thrown into the lake of fire.

Relate Revelation 19:2 to the 5<sup>th</sup> seal.

God avenges the blood of His servants.

Relate Revelation 19:15 to 14:14-20.

Jesus strikes the nations, rules them with a rod of iron, and treads the wine press of God's wrath. He strikes them with the sword of His mouth.

He is the King of kings and Lord of lords.

The birds in mid-heaven (ESV—directly overhead) eat the flesh of the kings of the earth at the great supper of God.

The beast and false prophet are thrown into the lake of fire.

What happens after the 1,000 years?

The devil is released to deceive the nations and gather them again for a battle against God. There is no battle—fire comes from heaven and devours them.

The devil is thrown into the lake of fire.

Heaven and earth flee away.

The dead are judged from books and thrown into the lake of fire.

### **REVELATION 21–22**

Ask group to briefly summarize these chapters—reserve details for later lessons. End your discussion with the hope presented in these two chapters.

There will be a new heaven, earth, and Jerusalem.

God the Almighty and the Lamb will be there to live among people.

The river of life and tree of life will be there.

John closed with words of blessing and warning at the end of the last chapter.



**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 4**

Lesson emphasis

- Matthew 23–24

**REVIEW**

To begin this discussion, you might ask your group if they have noticed a pivotal point for events happening on earth in Revelation 6–22.

The 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet

You can begin a simple timeline as a visual aid and add to it as your group discusses. See the last page of this lesson's guide for an example.

What events or statements are connected with the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet?

The two witnesses precede the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet for 3 ½ years, and the beast follows it for 3 ½ years as do the bowls of God's wrath.

At the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet, the kingdom of this world becomes the kingdom of God and Christ begins to reign. The mystery of God is finished / fulfilled.

The devil is cast to the earth and is enraged at the woman Israel, but she's nourished by God for 1,260 days.

The nations are enraged; God's wrath comes, as does the time to judge the dead, reward the saints, and destroy those who destroy the earth.

After the 42 months of the beast's authority, Jesus comes, throws him into the lake of fire, and begins His reign for 1,000 years on earth. The devil is thrown into the lake of fire and the great white throne judgment of the dead takes place. Then there's a new heaven, earth, and Jerusalem forever.

**MATTHEW 23**

Ask your group what they learned from Matthew 23:29-39.

Jesus was in Israel and spoke to the people of Israel, specifically to the scribes and Pharisees. He said they were just like their fathers who killed the prophets God sent to them. And he told them He would send more prophets, and they would kill them too.

The self-righteous don't want to hear truth from God's Word. They were facing the sentence of hell. Verse 35 compares with the 5<sup>th</sup> seal and God avenging the blood of His servants on those who killed them.

Jerusalem was the city that killed those sent to it with God's Word.

That generation was to suffer the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple by the Romans in A.D. 70, only about 40 years after Jesus said this.

## **MATTHEW 24**

### Verses 1-2

What else did Jesus say about the temple? And to whom?

Jesus told His disciples that there would not be one stone of the temple left upon another—destruction.

*NOTE: According to Mark 13:3, four of Jesus' disciples asked Him the questions recorded in Matthew 24:3—Peter, James, John (Revelation's author), and Andrew.*

### Verse 3

What were the questions the disciples asked?

When will these things happen / be?

They asked about the destruction of the temple in A.D. 70.

What will be the sign of Your coming and of the end of the age?

He answered the first part of this question last, according to the chronology of events leading up to His coming.

### Verses 4-14

What are these verses about? What is Jesus' main point, what does He repeat?

Don't be misled / led astray. . . that is not yet the end.

Many false Christs, Messiahs, will arise and mislead many.

*NOTE: Israel has had several self-proclaiming Messiahs who have gained followers.*

Wars, as nations rise against nations  
Famines and earthquakes throughout the earth

These things are the beginning of birth pangs, Jesus said.



Verses 9-14 cover events that seem to be closer to the end.

Jewish believers will be, persecuted, killed, and hated by all nations because of Jesus' name. Many will fall away and turn on each other. False prophets will mislead them.

“Lawlessness” in verse 12 contrasts with God’s perfect law. Lawlessness means no love during these times. Lawless ones contrasted with those whose faith endures to the end.

The gospel of the kingdom continues until the end.

### Verses 15-31

What are these verses about, and how do they relate to Revelation?

The reader of Matthew’s Gospel is referred to in verse 15. It was written for people to know what is coming.

The end will come when “you,” probably referring to Jews in Judea, see the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place, the temple in Jerusalem.

Daniel prophesied this, and it will be studied in the next lesson.

Those in Judea must flee to the mountains then. Relate this to the woman fleeing into the wilderness in Revelation 12 because the dragon was trying to destroy her—the woman being Israel and the dragon giving his authority to the beast of Revelation 13–19.

It would only bother a Jew, not a Gentile, to flee on a Sabbath.

When the abomination of desolation stands in the holy place, a tribulation greater than what happens during the beginning of birth pangs begins. Nothing like it has ever happened or ever will happen.

In those days false Christs and false prophets will arise to mislead Jews at that time. There will be great signs and wonders—relate to the false prophet of Revelation 13–19.

No one will have to go to an inner room or wilderness to see the real Christ. His coming will be like lightning flashing from the east to the west.

Just as vultures signal the presence of a corpse, there will be unmistakable signs that signal Jesus’ coming.

His coming immediately follows the great tribulation—His return ends it.

Give your group time to discuss how these events remind them of things in Revelation.

What is described in verses 29-30?

Sun darkened  
Moon does not give light  
Stars fall  
Powers of heavens shaken  
Sign of Son of Man in the sky  
All tribes of earth mourn and see the Son of Man coming on clouds

His coming will be on clouds with power and great glory.

Revelation 19:11-16 are about the Faithful and True One coming on a white horse with the armies of heaven. He has power and great glory.

King of kings and Lord of lords  
Judges and wages war  
Eyes a flame of fire  
Many diadems on His head

He sends His angels to gather His elect.

At this point you could add to the timeline the abomination of desolation at the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet and the great tribulation during the last 3 ½ years which ends with Jesus' coming.

#### Verses 32-51

Ask what's in these verses and how they relate to Jesus' coming.

Jesus tells parables to illustrate watching for the signs of His coming.

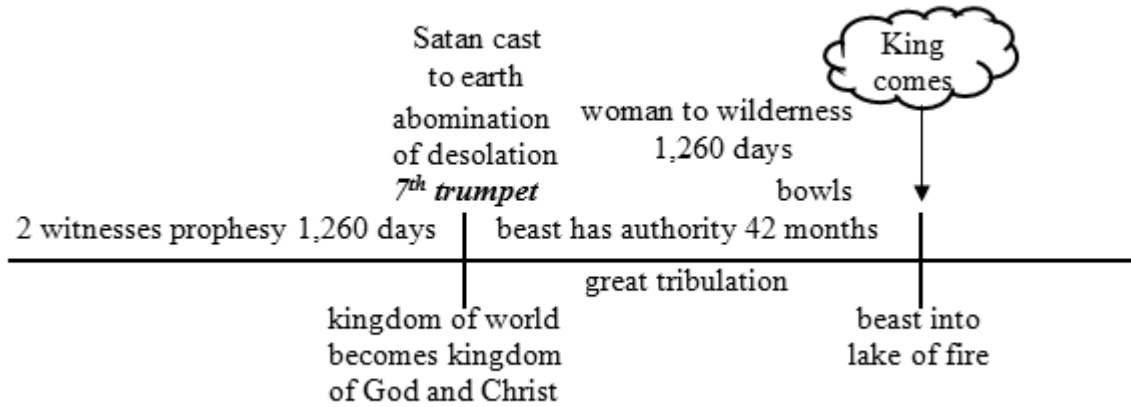
The fig tree puts out leaves when summer is near. The generation that sees the abomination of desolation and the great tribulation can know that His coming is soon.

Just as people were living in the days of Noah without believing the flood was coming, so it will be with His coming. No one knows the day and hour, though there will be clear signs.

Verses 40-41 describe what happens to the unsuspecting. One is taken, as in the flood, to destruction, and the other is left, as Noah was. His point is to be alert / awake and ready for Jesus' coming.

The sensible slave (ESV—wise servant) watches for His master at all times. The wicked slave is distracted by worldly pursuits and does not watch. The master comes when he's not expecting it.

Give your group time to reflect on whether they are ready and watching daily for His return. Why or why not?





**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 5**

Lesson emphasis

- The tribulation
- Daniel 7, 9, 11–12; Matthew 24; 2 Thessalonians 2; and Revelation

**REVIEW**

You might begin this discussion with the timeline you began for the previous discussion. Ask your group about the main points on it. Then add to it as you discuss this lesson. See the timeline at the end of this lesson's guide.

When you get to the abomination of desolation, then ask what they learned from Daniel.

**DANIEL 7:17-28**

Ask about the emphasis in these verses and how this compares with Revelation.

Daniel had a vision of four beasts and asked to understand the fourth one.  
This beast is a kingdom but different from the other three. It will devour the whole earth.

Daniel also asked for the meaning of the horn that came up among the ten horns of this fourth kingdom. The horns represent kings.

The fourth kingdom has ten kings. Then another one arises and does away with three of the ten. He's different from the others and becomes greater than the seven who are left.

That king speaks out against the Most High and wages war with the saints, wearing them down, until the Ancient of Days brings judgment. They're given into his hand for time, times, and half a time.

Put on your time line the 3 ½ times the king of the 4<sup>th</sup> kingdom wars with the saints.  
Compare this with the beast's persecution for 42 months, 3 ½ years in Revelation 13:5-7.

Ask what happens after the time, times, and half a time of Daniel 7.

The king is judged, annihilated / consumed, and destroyed forever.  
Compare this with what happens to the beast in Revelation 19:19-20.

Then the saints receive the kingdom forever.  
Compare this to Revelation 20—the thousand-year reign of Christ on the earth.

**DANIEL 9:24-27**

What are these verses about?

Seventy weeks were decreed for Daniel's people Israel and his holy city Jerusalem.  
Finish the transgression  
Make an end of sin  
Make atonement for iniquity  
Bring in everlasting righteousness  
Seal up / both vision and prophecy  
Anoint the / a most holy place

From the decree / word to restore and rebuild Jerusalem (Nehemiah 2), seven and then sixty-two of the seventy weeks will pass, and then the Messiah the Prince (ESV—an anointed one, a prince) comes. So when Jesus came, sixty-nine of the seventy weeks had gone by. One week remains.

Messiah / the anointed one was cut off, then later Jerusalem and its sanctuary were destroyed in A.D. 70 by the Romans—"the people of the prince who is to come."

Verse 27 says that this prince makes a covenant for one week, the 70<sup>th</sup>, with Daniel's people and city. But in the middle of the week, 3 ½, half of 7, he stops sacrifice and grain offerings—indicating the presence of a temple.

On the wing of abominations comes one who makes desolate.

Compare terminology in this verse to the "abomination of desolation" Jesus mentioned in Matthew 24. Relate it to the last seven years of events in Revelation.

This prince is the king of Daniel 7 and the beast of Revelation.

**DANIEL 11:36-12:13**

Does the king in this text sound like the king of Daniel 7, the prince of Daniel 9, and the beast of Revelation?

There are similarities in all of these passages as they describe a world ruler at the end. The time is the end, the appointed time, when this king exercises his authority and power. He exalts himself above every god and speaks against the God of gods. He has a limited amount of time to do this—"until the indignation is finished / accomplished."

At the end he will be in the Beautiful Land of Israel. Edom, Moab, and Ammon escape him—area of modern Jordan. The king of the South is the king of Egypt, and the North is Syria.

He comes to an end and no one helps him.

**Daniel 12**

“At that time”—the time of this king—Michael arises. Relate to Revelation 12. Michael is the “great prince” (which sometimes refers to angels) who stands guard over Daniel’s people.

There’s a time of great distress on Daniel’s people at that time, “such as never occurred / has been since there was a nation.” Relate this to Jesus’ description of the great tribulation in Matthew 24.

Jews whose names are in the book of life are rescued / delivered.

One of the others on a riverbank asked the man in linen about “the end.” The answer is that it will last for 3 ½ times, until the power of the holy people is shattered. Relate this to the king of Daniel 7 and the beast of Revelation 13, who wage war with the saints and overpower them.

Many at that time are purified and refined—they’re rescued, but others remain wicked and don’t understand.

From the time of the abomination of desolation (ESV—the abomination that makes desolate) there are 1,290 days—30 days longer than the 1,260 in Revelation. Those who reach 1,335 days, another 45, are blessed.

Since Jesus’ coming ends the last 3 ½ years, the extra 30 days and 45 days are within the 1,000 years of Revelation 20.

**MATTHEW 24**

Ask for only the main points that relate to this lesson.

Jesus said that when the people in Judea, Jews, see the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place, in the temple, then they must flee. At that time there will be great tribulation, unlike anything since the beginning of the world.

Mark 13:19 and 24-25 say the same thing.

Revelation 7 also speaks of the great tribulation. John saw a great multitude from every nation standing before the throne worshiping God and the Lamb. These “come out of the great tribulation.” They have washed their robes—made them white with the Lamb’s blood.

After the tribulation Jesus comes.

This parallels what Daniel says and what John says in Revelation about the time of tribulation—distress for the Jews. It’s the last 3 ½ years before Jesus’ second coming.

## 2 THESSALONIANS 2

Ask what your group learned from this text.

The Thessalonian church had received a false message that the day of the Lord had already come. This was causing some to be shaken and disturbed / alarmed.

Paul instructed the Thessalonians not to be deceived; then he told them about things that take place before the day of the Lord.

The order is:

- Apostasy / rebellion
- Restrainer taken out of the way
- Man of lawlessness, son of destruction, revealed

He will be revealed when he takes his seat in the temple displaying / proclaiming himself as God, exalting himself above every so-called god or object of worship.

This sounds like the abomination of desolation. He sounds like the king who speaks monstrous things against the Most High, the prince who breaks the covenant and stops the sacrifices in the middle of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week, and the beast of Revelation.

His coming is associated with Satan's power, activity, signs, false wonders, and deception. When Michael defeats the dragon in heaven and he's thrown to the earth at the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet, he has only a short while left to pursue the woman he hates, Israel.

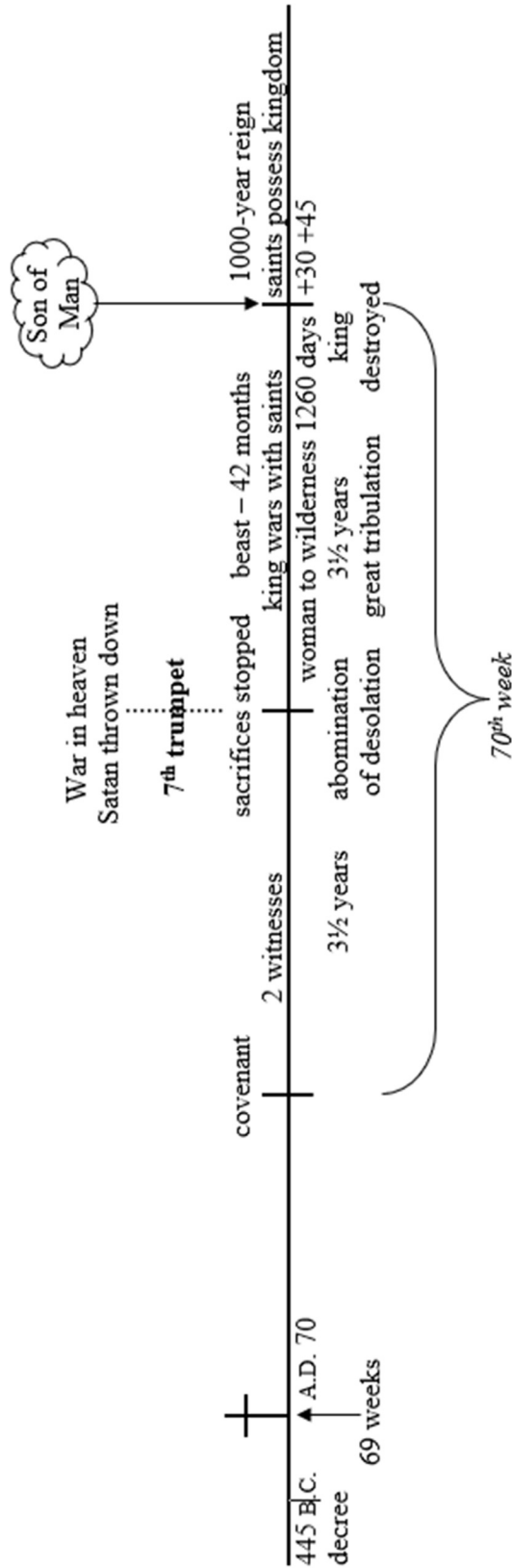
The dragon then gives his power and authority to the beast to rule the world. This king is different from others who have ruled.

Relate the unbelievers of 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12 to "those who dwell on the earth" in Revelation. They're deceived by the false prophet. The deluding influence (ESV—strong delusion) in Thessalonians probably refers to the false prophet of Revelation.

The man of lawlessness will come to an end when Jesus comes and slays / kills him with the breath of His mouth. Relate to Daniel 7 and Revelation 19.

Encourage your group that they can understand prophecy. They can have security knowing who's in control of the future. This study will build their faith.







**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 6**

Lesson emphasis

- Matthew 24 and 25

**REVIEW**

Review the main points of Revelation using the discussion visual aid time line from Lesson 5.

Ask about the context of Matthew 24.

Jesus spoke to His disciples.

One of them commented about the magnificence of the temple, and Jesus said it would be torn down. So the disciples asked some questions:

When will the temple be torn down?

What will be the sign of Your coming and the end of the age?

Ask your group to review the order of events as Jesus answered the last two questions in Matthew 24. Let them share what they remember from Revelation, Daniel, and 2 Thessalonians.

Birth pangs before signs of the end.

Wars, famines, and earthquakes in various places

Disciples suffer tribulation and hatred from all nations

Many false prophets to mislead many.

2 Thessalonians 2 says the apostasy / rebellion occurs before the man of lawlessness is revealed.

The Gospel will be preached in all the nations.

One preaching of “the eternal gospel” is done by an angel flying in midheaven (ESV—directly overhead), Revelation 14.

The abomination of desolation standing in the holy place begins the great tribulation.

Daniel 9 describes a coming prince who makes a covenant for a week, breaks it in the middle, and stops sacrifices and grain offerings.

2 Thessalonians says the man of lawlessness takes his seat in the temple to display himself as God.

In Daniel 7:20 and 25, there was a horn speaking out against the Most High, wearing down the saints of the Highest One, and intending to make alterations in times and in law—God’s law.

Revelation 13 says the beast speaks blasphemies against God.

Jesus told those in Judea to flee.

Revelation 12 says the woman, Israel, will flee to the wilderness for 1,260 days.

The great tribulation is unlike anything that has ever happened.

Daniel 12 calls it a time of distress that has not occurred since there was a nation Israel.

Immediately after the great tribulation, Jesus the Son of Man comes on the clouds and gathers His elect.

Revelation 19 calls Him Faithful and True, King of kings and Lord of lords. He will be on a white horse and followed by the armies in heaven, clothed in white linen—the saints, believers.

## **MATTHEW 25**

Ask about the continuation of thought from Matthew 24 into chapter 25.

Chapter 24 ends with several illustrations. Since people don’t know the day or hour when Jesus will come, they need to be alert and ready at all times.

Chapter 25 adds more illustrations.

Verses 1-13

Ten virgins

Five are ready when the bridegroom comes; five are not.

Verses 14-30

Three slaves are entrusted with talents.

Two have gained more by the time the master returns from his long journey.

One has done nothing. He has been worthless and is assigned to a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Verses 31-46

When is this? How does it relate to Matthew 24:30?

When Jesus comes, He sits on His glorious throne.  
Relate to Revelation 20—the thousand-year reign.

The nations will be gathered before Him and He will separate them based on their works, how they treated His “brothers.” Verses 34, 41, and 46 tell of their end—the righteous inherit the kingdom and enter eternal life while the accursed / cursed depart into eternal fire and punishment.

Some call this “the judgment of the nations.”  
It happens at Jesus’ Second Coming—the beginning of the millennium or 1,000 years.  
Maybe this judgment takes place during the extra 30 and 45 days of Daniel 12.

What is the comparison in these verses?

Jesus compared the separation of nations to separating sheep from goats. At that time, flocks often had both, eating together and led by one shepherd, even as today.

When His “brethren / brothers” were needy, the sheep or the righteous cared for them.  
The goats did not.

To relate this to events on the time line, you can ask what Jesus talked about in Matthew 25.

This is the time of His return, the beginning of His earthly kingdom of 1,000 years.

It refers to people of the nations living when He returns to set up His millennial kingdom.

When He returns, He destroys the armies gathered against Him.  
He throws the beast and false prophet into the lake of fire.  
Then He judges all who are left of the nations.

Some are righteous—those who did not receive the mark of the beast.  
Some are accursed / cursed—those who received the mark.

How they treated Jesus’ “brothers” shows whether they’re righteous or not. Since the nations are being judged and the Jews are never named among the nations, “His brothers” is a reference to Jews at that time.

The questions at the beginning of this lesson: what happens to those living on earth at this time?  
Will any survive the great tribulation?

There will be survivors from among the nations.

The righteous from the nations will enter the 1,000-year earthly kingdom and eternal life,  
but the unrighteous will depart into eternal fire, the lake of fire.

**MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43**

What are these passages about?

This chapter has several parables about the kingdom of heaven.

This is the parable of the wheat and the tares / weeds.  
It is about the kingdom of heaven and who enters it.

Verses 24-30 contain the parable, verses 36-43 the explanation.

Jesus the Son of Man sows good seed in the field, the world.  
The seed is the sons of the kingdom.

This was directed toward people of Israel.

So, it seems these are the people of Israel who are part of the kingdom.

The devil sowed his own sons in among them.

At the end of the age, Jesus will send His angels to gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks (ESV—causes of sin) and lawless ones to be thrown into the fire, the lake of fire.

The righteous ones will shine forth in God's kingdom. Verse 43 quotes Daniel 12:3.  
These will be the righteous ones of Israel.

So, there will also be those of Israel who are separated at the end of the age.  
And there will be those of the nations judged at the time when Jesus returns.

You might ask your group if they are sure they are righteous.

**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 7**

Lesson emphasis

- Luke 21

**REVIEW**

To begin this discussion, ask your group what they remember about what happens at the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet, the pivotal point in Revelation 6–20. Tell them to look at “A Comparison of the Events of Matthew 24–25; Revelation 6–20; Luke 21” as a visual aid for this discussion.

Then, using the timeline at the end of this lesson’s guide, ask for a review of Daniel, Matthew, and 2 Thessalonians describing the same time.

The 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet

The abomination of desolation

The man of lawlessness taking his seat in the temple declaring himself God

What happens in the 3 ½ years before, and then after?

The two witnesses prophesy during the previous 3 ½ years.

The beast, man of lawlessness, kills them and sets himself up as God.

He made a covenant with “the many” Jews at the beginning of the 3 ½ years.

There is a temple by the time of the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet.

The man of lawlessness breaks the covenant, seating himself in the temple.

For 3 ½ years after the abomination of desolation, the man of lawlessness—the king at that time—rules the world while God pours out bowls of wrath on his kingdom.

Israel flees to the wilderness during these last years, while the king makes war with the “rest of her children / offspring.” This is called the great tribulation for Israel.

Jesus’ coming ends this seven-year period—Daniel’s 70<sup>th</sup> week.

When He returns, He sets up His earthly 1,000 years kingdom by first separating the nations into the righteous who enter the kingdom, and the wicked, who are thrown into the lake of fire with the man of lawlessness and the false prophet.

## **LUKE 19:28-44**

What happened in verses 28-40?

Christians often call this event Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem or Palm Sunday. It was the week before His death. The people of Jerusalem called Him the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

### Verses 41-44

What are these verses about?

Jesus wept over Jerusalem as He approached it, knowing the judgments that were coming because Israel did not recognize the time of her visitation. The Messiah had come, but they rejected Him.

In A.D. 70 the Romans destroyed Jerusalem. Israel was not a nation again until 1948.

How does this relate to Daniel 9:24-26a?

Daniel 9 specifically predicted when the Messiah / anointed one would come.

It also prophesied the destruction of the city and sanctuary by the people of the prince who is to come, the Romans. That was the end of the 69<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel's 70 weeks decreed for his people and holy city. One week is left.

## **LUKE 21**

Ask what your group learned from this chapter and how it relates to what they've been studying in Revelation. As they discuss, add to the second timeline for Luke.

### Verses 1-11

Jesus' disciples were admiring the magnificent beauty of the temple, but He responded by telling them it would be torn down—this occurred in A.D. 70.

They ask when "these things" will happen and what the sign will be.

Verses 8-11 sound like Matthew 24:2-7.

### Verses 12-19

Ask about the time and audience of these verses.

Jesus said some events will occur "before" the things of verses 8-11 and directed His comments specifically to His disciples.

He told them they would be persecuted and delivered to synagogues and prisons. Persecution would give them opportunity to testify.



They would be betrayed by friends and family and even killed because of Jesus' name.

But, He promised, they will "gain" life, eternal life.

Jesus' disciples will experience the same persecution and rejection He did.

Give your group time to discuss any relevant application.

#### Verses 20-24

Is this the destruction of A.D. 70 or the end times?

Compare with Matthew 24:15-24 and Luke 19:41-44.

The question in verses 5-7 was when the temple would be torn down.

In verse 20 Jesus began to answer the question by telling them Jerusalem would be surrounded by armies.

Unlike Matthew 24:15-21, there's no mention of the abomination of desolation or the great tribulation, which is the cause to flee.

Comparing it with Luke 19:43-44, it seems to refer to the same event—the Romans surrounding Jerusalem in A.D. 70 and destroying the city.

Jesus said in Luke 19:44 that Israel would be destroyed because it didn't recognize the time of her visitation—His coming as Messiah.

In Luke 21, He mentions to a few of His disciples that the temple will be torn down and they ask when. Luke 21:20-24 is referring to A.D. 70, not the end times. In Luke 21:20-22 Jesus called this Jerusalem's desolation and days of vengeance.

He said there would be wrath to / against this people, the Jews. They would be killed by the sword and led captive to the nations. That is not what Matthew 24 says. That is not what will happen at the end. But it did happen in A.D. 70.

*NOTE: This was fulfilled in A.D. 70. The majority were killed or died and the rest were taken captive or fled throughout the Roman Empire. Israel didn't become a nation again until 1948. During that time, there was distress on the land and wrath against the people . . . and they still suffer threats from surrounding nations.*

Jesus said the Gentiles would tread/ trampled under foot Jerusalem until "the times of the Gentiles" are fulfilled. The "times of the Gentiles" refers to the period when the Gentiles are trampling Jerusalem.

*NOTE: If some want to talk about the times of the Gentiles more, tell them they'll study it in the next lesson. Save your discussion of this until then.*

Since Jesus' second coming is the next event mentioned in the text, it seems that the times of the Gentiles trampling Jerusalem lasts until then.

Verses 25-28

Ask about the main event of these verses and how this compares with Matthew 24.

Signs in sun, moon, and stars  
Dismay / distress among the nations  
Perplexity because of sea's roaring and waves  
Fear and expectation / foreboding  
Powers of heavens shaken

Then the Son of Man comes

This compares with Matthew 24:29-30 and Revelation 16, the bowls of wrath poured on the earth during the last 3 ½ years when the man of lawlessness reigns.

Verses 28-36

What are the repeated words and commands in these verses? What is the subject?

“Near,” qualifying redemption and the kingdom of God, is repeated several times.

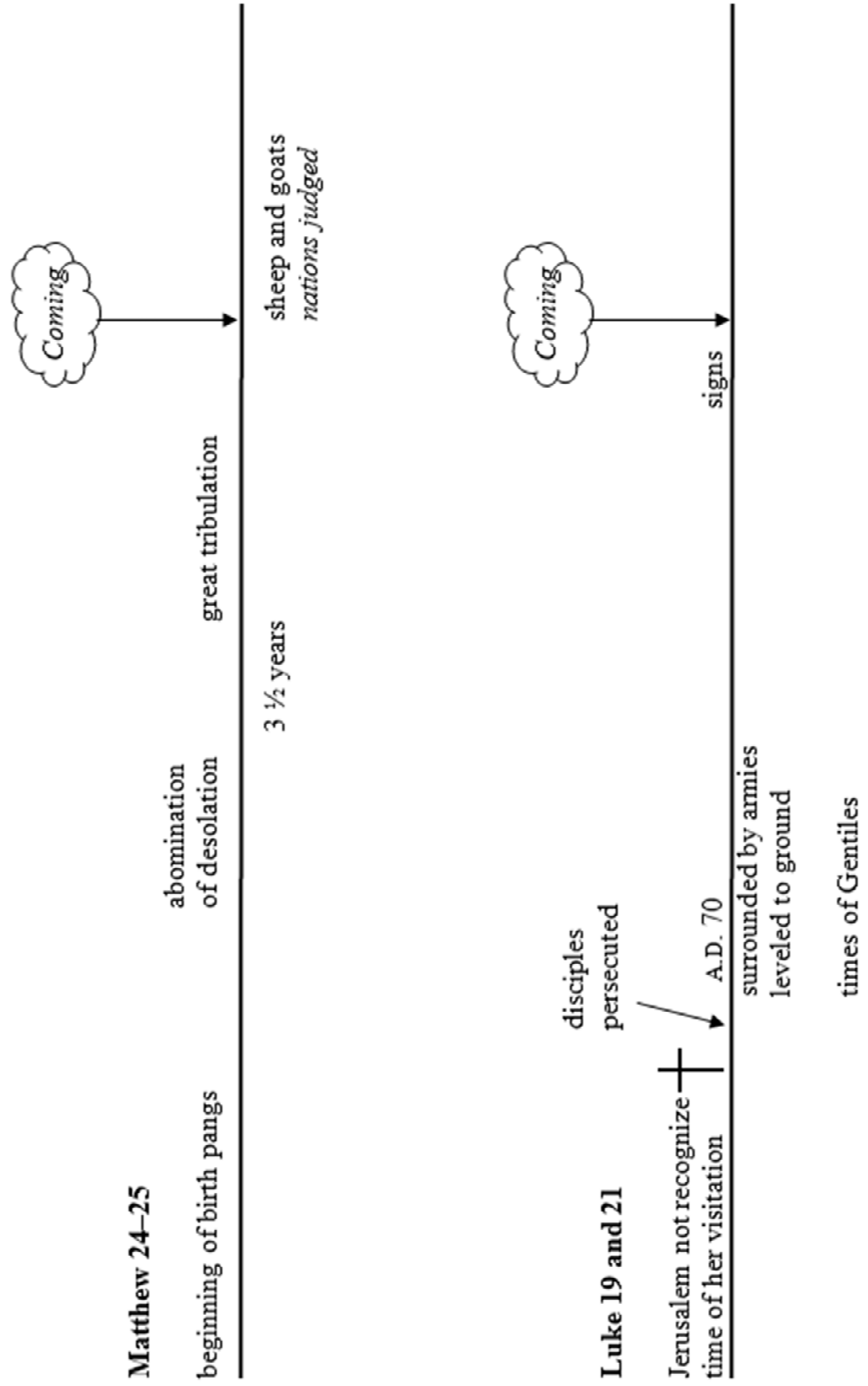
The same kinds of imperatives as in Matthew 24 are given here—be on guard / watch, keep alert / stay awake. Jesus warned His disciples and all who read His statements about things to come. He warned them not only of Jerusalem's destruction in A.D. 70, but also about the end times.

Verse 33 says heaven and earth will pass away. Compare with Revelation.

Verses 34-35 say “that day” will come like a trap on “all those who dwell on the face of all the / the whole earth.” Relate this to Revelation 6–20.

Give time for your group to share any application from this lesson or from studying prophecy.

They'll be able to use all of it to minister to others. People are interested in the future.





**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 8**

Lesson emphasis:

- “the times of the Gentiles” from Luke 21
- “the fullness of the Gentiles” from Romans 11
- the Gospel—to the Jew first and then to the Gentiles

**REVIEW**

To begin this discussion, ask your group what they remember about the order of events from Revelation 6–20, Matthew 24–25, and Luke 21. Give a brief time for them to share.

If they can’t remember much, then tell them to look at “A Comparison of the Events of Matthew 24-25; Revelation 6-20; Luke 21.”

**THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES**

Ask what they learned about the times of the Gentiles from Luke 21.

Tell them to look at “The Gentile Domination of Israel” as a visual aid for this discussion.

Jerusalem surrounded by armies  
Its desolation is near  
People are to flee from the city  
Days of vengeance to fulfill what is written  
Great distress on the land / earth  
Wrath on this people, the Jews  
    Fall by the sword  
    Captive to the nations

Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles.

    Until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled

Verses 25-28 are about the time just before Jesus’ second coming.

Signs in sun, moon, and stars  
Dismay / distress among nations on earth  
Perplexity at the sea and waves  
Men fainting from fear and expectation / foreboding  
The powers of the heavens shaken

Ask your group what they think, based on their study, about the time of “the times of the Gentiles.”

In A.D. 70 the Romans surrounded Jerusalem, destroyed the city and temple, killed most of the inhabitants, took many captive, and many fled to the nations.

From that time Jews have lived in many nations, suffered much from others, and only became a nation again in 1948.

Based on Luke 21 some think the “times of the Gentiles” began in A.D. 70.

Others think these times began with the Babylonian destruction and captivity in 586 B.C.

Based on Luke 21, this time seems to last until Jesus’ second coming.

Compare the parable of Matthew 22:1-14 with Luke 21.

It’s about the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus told the chief priests and elders of Israel parables about themselves.

Since they were the religious leaders, they should have been prepared for the kingdom.

In Matthew 21:43 He told them the kingdom would be taken away from them and given to sinners who repented and bore fruit—righteousness from the heart.

The king who gave “a wedding feast for his son” is the Father.

The Jews, Israel, was invited.

They were unwilling to come.

The king’s slaves were God’s prophets.

The king was so enraged / angry with them He sent armies to destroy these “murderers” and set their city on fire. This represents the Romans in A.D. 70.

After this others were invited to the wedding—Gentiles

The wedding hall was then filled.

But to be part of the wedding, one had to be dressed in wedding clothes.

Ask your group what they remember from their previous study of Revelation about being dressed in certain clothes.

Revelation 3:4-5, 18; 4:4; 6:11; 7:9, 13-14; 19:8, 14

The last reference is to armies in heaven coming with Jesus.

The bride of the Lamb clothed herself in fine linen, which is the righteous acts of the saints.

You can ask your group how they interpret “many are called, but few are chosen” according to this context.

Many were invited to the wedding feast—they were the called.  
But they didn’t all come; a few came—they were the chosen.

## **ROMANS 11**

What is this chapter about?

God has not rejected His people Israel

### Verses 1-10

What are these verses about?

Old Testament example of the present remnant:

Elijah told God he was the only one left who believed and obeyed Him.  
The Lord said He had kept for Himself 7,000.

The remnant Paul wrote about was after Israel as a whole did not recognize the time of their visitation, rejected their Messiah. But it was before the wrath of A.D. 70.

The religious people of Israel were trying to enter the kingdom of God by their works of the Law. But Paul reminded the believers in Rome that Israel didn’t obtain the kingdom other than by grace, the grace of God’s choice.

*NOTE: Don’t let your group be sidelined with a discussion of God’s choice, election, foreknowledge, etc. You’ll lose time if this happens. Tell them there’s a great study of these subjects in the Romans Part 3 Precept Upon Precept course.*

The rest of Israel was hardened; they rejected the Lord.  
Relate this to John 1:11-12.

### Verses 11-15

What question did Paul ask and answer next?

Israel didn’t stumble to fall permanently. God has not rejected His people Israel.

Their temporal rejection is salvation for the Gentiles.

How do the cross-references about the gospel fit with this?

### Romans 1:16 and Matthew 10:5-6; 15:21-28

The Gospel came to the Jews, the house of Israel, first.

When the Jewish nation rejected the gospel, it went to the Gentiles.

### Acts 11

Peter explained to Jewish believers about Gentiles being saved in the city of Caesarea in Acts 10. The Lord had told him to take the gospel there. It's the first account of a group of Gentiles believing the gospel and becoming part of the church.

The Gentiles received the same gift of the Holy Spirit that the first New Testament believers, the Jews, did in Acts 2. The Lord granted Gentiles the same repentance that leads to life. The Jewish church glorified God for this.

### John 10:16

Jesus said He has other sheep, Gentiles, who are not of this fold, Jews. They'll hear His voice and become one flock with the Jews under one shepherd.

*NOTE: Should someone ask, some Gentiles believed in the promise of the Messiah even before Jesus' time and were justified by faith (like Rahab and Ruth). But the church didn't begin until after Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension when He poured out the Spirit on all who believe.*

### Ephesians 2

There is no distinction between Jew and Gentile in the Church, the one body of Christ. They are one, and both have access to the Father through the one Spirit. Gentiles, formerly far away from salvation, were brought near by Christ's blood. They are saved the same way Jews are—by faith.

### Galatians 3

God told Abraham about salvation for Gentiles. It was always part of His plan.

### Acts 9

Paul was to take Jesus' name to the Gentiles.

Lead your discussion back to Romans 11:11-15. What is the hope for Israel's salvation?

One purpose of Gentile salvation is to make Israel jealous, leading to its salvation.

Israel's fulfillment and acceptance is called "life from the dead."

### Verses 16-24

Ask about the illustration used here and its meaning.

A lump of dough—if the first piece is holy, the whole is.

The root and branches of an olive tree—if the root is holy, so are the branches.

Even if some branches are broken off because of unbelief, Israel's temporary rejection of Messiah Jesus, they can be grafted back into the tree if they don't persist in unbelief.

The wild olive branch / shoot grafted into the tree represents Gentiles.



If the wild can be grafted in, certainly the natural can and will be.

Accordingly, Paul told Gentile believers in Rome not to be arrogant or conceited toward the Jews. They're the root of the Church.

Everyone was warned—whoever continues in unbelief is cut off.

Verses 25-32

What are these verses about?

It's a mystery—a partial hardening has happened to Israel.  
It lasts until the fullness of the Gentiles comes in—the fullness of Gentile salvation.

And all Israel will be saved

The Deliverer will come from Zion

He will remove / banish ungodliness from Jacob, Israel

This is God's covenant with them when He takes away their sins.

Ask your group how Zechariah 13:7-9 helps explain Israel's salvation.

Before the Lord's second coming, 2/3 of Israel will be cut off and perish during the great tribulation; 1/3 will be left to be refined and tested.

Israel's salvation will happen at the second coming, so the fullness of the Gentiles is before the second coming.

Ask your group to reason together when this might be, based on all they've studied so far.

The last week, the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel's vision in Daniel 9:24-27 is for Daniel's people the Jews and their holy city, Jerusalem. There is a future time, 7 years, specifically designed by God for Israel.

Jesus said that there is a great tribulation centered on Jerusalem just before His return.

It might be that the "fullness of the Gentiles" will happen before the focus on Israel.

Contrast this with the "times of the Gentiles."

They're not the same thing, just similar terminology.

This is a good lesson in letting context determine correct interpretation.

Lead your discussion back to Romans 11.

Ask what else your group learned from this, especially about God.

The Jews now seem to be enemies of the gospel, but they're still God's chosen nation.

He will still show mercy to them, as a whole, as He did to the Gentiles. Because all Jews and Gentiles have been disobedient to Him, all need His mercy.

God's wisdom, knowledge, and judgments are too deep for man to understand.

He is the source of all and the only one to receive glory.

To end this discussion you can ask how 1 Corinthians 15 defines the gospel we're to share with others. Make this discussion relevant to your group—so that they help bring others, Jews and Gentiles, into the body of Christ.

Christ died for our sins according to / in accordance with the Scriptures.

His burial was proof of His death.

He was raised on the third day according to / in accordance with the Scriptures.

His appearances prove His resurrection.

People need to hear about Jesus their Savior, and they need to recognize their need to be saved from sin.

They need to hear about the Savior who died for their sins as the Bible said He would, and that He rose from the dead—this is the hope of eternal life.

Remind your group that they're armed with mighty truths from God's Word from this study. They not only have the clear points of the gospel, but also a basic understanding of future events.

These things are not just for their own understanding—they're to share with others.

**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 9**

Lesson emphasis

- God's promises to Israel
- Ezekiel 36–37

**REVIEW**

Ask your group what they remember from Revelation 6–20 as the main events.

7 seals

7 trumpets

At the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet a beast is revealed and rules the world for 3 ½ years.

7 bowls of God's wrath

Jesus comes to earth

1,000 years reign on earth

Heaven and earth pass away

Dead are judged and thrown into the lake of fire

Then ask what they remember from Matthew 24–25 and Luke 21.

Jesus said there would be a great tribulation immediately before His coming.

The abomination of desolation will indicate the beginning of the tribulation.

It will focus on Jerusalem and Israel.

How does Romans 11 compare?

There is a partial hardening of Israel now, but all Israel will be saved.

The Deliverer will come from Zion and remove / banish their ungodliness.

**GOD'S PROMISES TO ISRAEL**

As a visual aid for this discussion, you might make a simple and short list of the main promises. See the last page of this lesson's guide for an example.

What did God promise in Genesis? How does this relate to Israel?

Genesis 13:14-18

God promised to give Abram and his descendants / offspring the land where he lived forever.

Genesis 17:1-21

God changed Abram's name to Abraham.

The Lord confirmed His covenant with Abraham:

- Make him a father of many nations
- Covenant with his descendants / offspring forever
- Be God to them
- Give them the land of Canaan for an everlasting possession
- Circumcision was the sign of the covenant
- Give Abraham a son, Isaac, through Sarah
- Covenant established through Isaac, not Ishmael

Genesis 48:1-4

The covenant promises were confirmed to Jacob, whose name God changed to Israel, and his descendants / offspring.

How do the promises in Exodus and Deuteronomy compare with Genesis?

Exodus 32:9-14

God's covenant promises kept Him from destroying the people of Israel when He was angry with them. He remembered His covenant (what He swore to) with Abraham, Isaac, and Israel.

The promises restated by Moses were:

- Multiply descendants
- The land forever

Deuteronomy 28:58-68

God also promised Israel what would happen to them if they disobeyed Him.

- Disease
- Few in number
- Torn from / plucked off the land
- Scattered from one end of the earth to the other
- No rest, trembling hearts and despair among the nations
- Insecurity, no assurance of life
- Offer selves as slaves, no buyer

Deuteronomy 30:1-10

When Israel returns to the Lord with their whole heart, then the Lord will restore them from captivity and return them to their land. They will love Him with all their heart.

The curses will be on their enemies.

This passage relates to the time when Israel will be saved.

Ask about the promises in Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 7:1-34

Jeremiah prophesied shortly before and during the Babylonian captivity.

Verse 15 summarizes the message to the people—they were being cast out of God's sight for their disobedience.

The Lord poured out His wrath on Jerusalem; He destroyed it.

They didn't listen to the Lord's Word; they worshiped idols instead of Him.

Their promised land became a ruin / waste.

What the Lord promised in Deuteronomy took place because Israel didn't obey the Lord.

Jeremiah 25:1-14

Jeremiah spoke the Lord's Word for 23 years and the people did not listen.

So, He sent Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon to destroy Jerusalem and Judah.

The people served the king of Babylon 70 years.

Then the Lord punished Babylon—the Medes and Persians conquered them.

Now ask what they learned from Ezekiel.

*NOTE: Ezekiel prophesied from Babylon during the captivity.*

Ezekiel 43:6-9

The place of the Lord's throne is in His temple, verse 1-5.

At a point in time, He will dwell forever among Israel.

Israel will never again defile the Lord's holy name by worshiping idols.

You can ask your group when they think these promises were or will be fulfilled. After the return from Babylon? The future? Both?

Ezekiel 36

Ask about the first part of the chapter—what does the prophecy address and why?

Verses 1-15 are spoken to the mountains, hills, ravines, valleys, and forsaken cities of Israel.

They were desolate—possessed by foreign (Gentile) nations.

Verses 6-7 mention insults from nations around Israel.

Verse 8 begins the promise—the land will bear fruit for the people to return.  
God will multiply man and beast on the land.

According to verses 12-15, has this prophecy been fulfilled?

“Never again / no longer bereave them of children”

After the return from Babylon, Israel was bereaved of children again in A.D. 70.

And the land didn't belong to them again until 1948.

After returning from Babylon, Israel lived in their land but they were ruled by the Medes and Persians, then the Greeks, and then the Romans.

Even now Israel suffers insults from countries near and far.

Ask what the main point of verses 16-21 is.

God judges Israel for idolatry; He scatters the people to the nations.

While they're scattered, the Lord's name is profaned.

What are verses 22-38 about?

God will vindicate the holiness of His great name so nations will know He is the Lord.

He'll take Israel from the nations and bring them into their land. He'll cleanse Israel, giving them a new heart and His Spirit within.

They'll live in the promised land, and He'll be their God.

They won't be disgraced by the nations again.

The land will be like the garden of Eden.

The cities will be filled with flocks of men.

Israel will know that He is the Lord.

Ask about fulfillment of these promises, relating to some of Israel's history in the lesson.

Because of the Zionist movement in the late 1800s and early 1900s, Jews began returning to the land of Israel. They became a nation again in 1948.

Much of the land had become barren until they started restoring it.

The Jordan Valley is now irrigated and much fruit is growing.

But, they're not yet a clean people who recognize the Lord their God.

### Ezekiel 37

Ask what the first part of this chapter is about.

These dry bones represent the nation of Israel.

The Lord will bring them to life again.

- Bones come together
- Sinews are placed

- Flesh grows, skin covers
- The slain are breathed on
- They come to life—a great army

This prophecy of hope is given to Judah at the time of its captivity, when all seemed lost.

Verses 11-14

This sounds like promises in Ezekiel 36.

Return to the land

God's Spirit within

They'll know the Lord has spoken

Verses 15-23

Israel and Judah will be one nation again.

Israel was taken captive by Assyria by 722 B.C., Judah by Babylon beginning in 605 B.C.

From their return from Babylon, there were no longer two nations in the land and they had no Israelite king ruling them. But the Lord's prophecy through Ezekiel says He will not only bring them back to their land but also make them one nation.

Verses 24-28

When the Lord brings them to their land as one nation, they'll live in it forever.

David will be their prince forever—they'll have another king.

God will make a covenant of peace with them and His sanctuary will be in their midst. He'll be their God and they'll be His people.

All the nations will know that He, the Lord, sanctifies Israel.

This compares with the time of Jesus' second coming and His millennial reign on earth.

Help your group to reason through this.

None of God's promises to Israel have failed.

If Israel's partial rejection means salvation for the Gentiles, what will their acceptance mean?

Promises to Israel

Multiply descendants / offspring

Land forever

Be their God

Covenant with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob=Israel

If disobey, God's wrath

Return with whole heart, His Spirit within

Live on land securely



**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 10**

Lesson emphasis

- Israel's future

**REVIEW**

Ask what your group remembers from the previous lesson on God's promises for Israel. Tell them to look at their list on the order of events on Day One as a visual aid for part of this review.

God promised to multiply the people of Israel.  
They have the land of Canaan promised to them by Him forever.

They didn't obey the Lord, so He sent His wrath on them in the form of the Babylonians.  
During the exile, He sent more promises through His prophets.  
They will return to Him with their whole heart at some time in the future.

The land of Israel will be prepared to sustain God's people when they return.  
God will gather Israel from the nations and bring them into their land.

The Deliverer will come from Zion—Jesus' second coming.  
All Israel at that time will be saved.  
God will take away their sins, in accord with the covenant.

He'll cleanse them, give them a new heart, and put His Spirit within them.  
God's Spirit within will cause them to walk in His ways.  
They'll live in the land, be God's people, and He'll be their God.

The covenant will be an everlasting one of peace.  
God's sanctuary will be in their midst forever.

**PROMISE OF THE NEW COVENANT**

At this point, ask your group what they learned from Jeremiah 31:23-40.

This passage compares closely with the promises in Ezekiel to Israel.

Israel will return to their land and God will restore their fortunes, watching over them to build and plant.

When God makes the New Covenant with Israel

- He'll write His law on their hearts
- He'll be their God—this is one of the same promises He made to Abraham
- They'll be His people
- They'll all know Him
- He'll forgive their iniquity—this indicates salvation
- The city will be rebuilt and not destroyed forever anymore

Ask your group when they think this will take place.

At the end of the last 3 ½ years  
At the Second Coming, when all Israel is saved  
At the beginning of Jesus' 1,000-year reign on earth

How sure are these promises to Israel?

Jeremiah 31:35-37

You can also ask your group how they know these promises are not referring to Israel's return to their land after the Babylonian captivity.

They were dispersed again and Jerusalem was destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70.  
Paul says, "All Israel will be saved," which hasn't happened yet.  
It won't happen until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

How does Hebrews 10 compare with the promise of the New Covenant?

Hebrews 10 quotes Jeremiah 31.  
The promises of the New Covenant are partially fulfilled—for Jews and Gentiles.

Jesus inaugurated a new and living way to enter the holy place through His flesh, represented by the veil in the temple.

By fulfilling Old Covenant law and prophecy, Jesus initiated the New Covenant.  
He brought forgiveness by His blood.

But the new covenant will not be completely fulfilled until all Israel is saved.

## **THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL**

Tell your group to look at the chart at the end of the lesson.  
How do these feasts relate to the prophecy and events studied in this course?

Passover  
Memorial of the exodus from Egypt  
Death passed over homes with the lamb's blood

Jesus our Passover has been sacrificed—the Lamb of Revelation.  
He died on Passover. His blood is the blood of the New Covenant.

#### Unleavened Bread

Celebrated on the day after Passover for 7 days  
Reminder of the cleansing from sin after coming out of sinful Egypt

The Church is to clean out the leaven of sin.  
Cleansing is part of the New Covenant.

#### First fruits

This feast was not celebrated until the manna stopped, Israel was in their land, and they reaped their first crops.

Jesus, the first fruit of the resurrection to come, was raised on the day after the Sabbath.

#### Pentecost, the Feast of Weeks or Harvest

Celebrated in the third month of the year  
Seven weeks plus one day or fifty days after first fruits

First fruits celebrated a coming harvest; Pentecost celebrated a harvest. As Jesus was the first fruits of the resurrection, there is coming a harvest of life from the dead.

#### Feast of Trumpets

The next three feasts are in the seventh month.

In the Bible trumpets were sounded to gather Israel for announcements, at feasts, offerings and first of months.

The announcement in the seventh month was the coming Day of Atonement and Feast of Booths.

#### Day of Atonement

The feast at which atonement was made for Israel's sins for the year.

Hebrews 10 describes the high priest entering the holy place once a year with a sacrifice to make atonement for Israel's sins.

Jesus, the perfect sacrifice and high priest, entered the holy place in heaven once for all time. This feast is fulfilled by His work on the cross, but Israel as a whole has not yet received Him as their atoning sacrifice.

Will He return on a Day of Atonement? No one knows, but it's an interesting possibility.

The Day of Atonement signifies the time when all Israel will be saved and the New Covenant promises fulfilled completely. It's the beginning of the millennium.

### Feast of Booths or Tabernacles

This feast reminded Israel of when they were in the wilderness, living in temporary dwellings, and the Lord was in their midst, living in His tabernacle.

This seems to point to the time of the new heaven, earth, and Jerusalem.  
It might also include the 1,000 years.

God's promises to Israel are sure.

## **THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Ask your group what they learned from the New Testament passages. When did Act 2 take place?

### Acts 2:1-21

The day of Pentecost

The believers in Acts 2–7 were Jews, thousands of them.  
The Church began with Israel receiving the promised Holy Spirit.  
But the promises of the New Covenant were not all completely fulfilled at that time.

God will pour forth the promised Holy Spirit on all His servants permanently.

- All mankind—not just Israel
- Men and women, young and old—not just certain men

### Acts 10

Some Gentiles also became part of the church.

About 8 years after Acts 2

### Ephesians 2

This explained that Jew and Gentile are now in one body.  
They both have access by one Spirit to the Father.  
Whoever believes in the Lord Jesus Christ becomes a partaker of the promises.

More Gentiles have come into the church than Jews, but the time is coming when all Israel will be saved. Now there's only a remnant—most of Israel rejects their Messiah, Jesus.

But this does not nullify God's promises to Israel—He will gather them, take them through the fire, and save those who are left at the end of it.

Give time for your group to discuss any relevant application.

**REVELATION PART 3**  
**LEADER GUIDE**  
**Lesson 11**

Lesson emphasis

- Chronology

*NOTE: There are a couple of ways to lead this discussion. One way is to begin with the first timeline on Revelation 12. Then discuss the events of the other timelines one by one, ending with Ezekiel 36–37. You can also lead a discussion in chronological order of events, following the order of the combined timeline. This is the order for this leader guide.*

Tell your group to look at their timeline from the lesson as they discuss this lesson. A sample time line is on the last page.

You can begin by asking what the first event is and where it's found in Revelation.

Jesus' birth from the woman is in Revelation 12.  
The devil tries to destroy Him, but He's caught up to God instead.

At this time, 69 of the 70 weeks decreed for Daniel's people Israel are past.

Only 1 week is left to finish transgression, make / put an end of / to sin, make atonement / atone for iniquity, bring in everlasting righteousness, seal up / both vision and prophecy / prophet, and anoint the / a most holy place; Daniel 9:24-27.

To continue the time line after the cross, you can ask about events in Acts 2 and 10 from the last lesson.

Jesus appeared to the disciples for 40 days after His resurrection and then ascended to heaven with eleven of them watching (Acts 1).

On the feast of Pentecost He sent the Holy Spirit to indwell all believers permanently. The promises of the New Covenant were partially fulfilled.

The Church began with thousands of Jews in Jerusalem.

About 8 years later, Gentiles believed the gospel and became part of the church for the first time and they also received the promises of the New Covenant.

At this point you can ask what event comes next in Luke 21.

Jesus foretold the destruction of the temple in A.D. 70.  
The Romans, led by Titus, destroyed Jerusalem and its temple.

Daniel 9:24-27 says, “the people of the prince who is to come will / shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.” That destruction in A.D. 70 followed the rebuilding of Jerusalem and the temple when Israel returned from the Babylonian captivity.

Luke also mentioned “the times of the Gentiles” when Jerusalem is trampled by Gentiles.

Ask what the next event on the time line is.

Daniel 9:24-27 says the prince who is to come will make a firm / strong covenant at the beginning of the last of the 70 weeks decreed for Daniel’s people Israel and his holy city Jerusalem.

This covenant gives Israel the right to sacrifice and make offerings which the prince puts a stop to in the middle of the week. This implies that either a temple exists or is built at the beginning of those 7 years.

Revelation 11 also mentions a temple and teaches about two witnesses who prophecy during this time, until they’re killed by the prince just before the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet sounds.

Now you can ask what happens at the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet and during the last 3 ½ years.

Satan is cast down to earth from heaven. He’s enraged.

He empowers the beast, the king, or prince of Revelation and Daniel.

Ten kings give their power to this king.

This prince or king, the beast, breaks his covenant with Israel.

He takes his seat in the temple, declaring himself to be God.

This is the abomination of desolation.

Jesus said the great tribulation begins at this time and lasts until His coming.

No distress like this has ever happened to Israel.

The devil himself tries to destroy them.

The king makes war with “the saints” for 3 ½ years and overpowers them.

The 7 bowls of God’s wrath begin to be poured on this kingdom.

Unbelievers receive the mark of the beast to buy and sell.

Ask what happens to end this time.

Jesus comes to set up His earthly kingdom.

Judgment comes to the beast king and his false prophet.

The devil is cast into the bottomless pit/ abyss for 1,000 years.

The times of the Gentiles ends.

The nations are gathered to judgment.

The saints possess the kingdom of God.

Jesus reigns for 1,000 years on earth.

The New Covenant is completely fulfilled—all Israel is saved.

Ask what happens after the millennium.

Satan is cast into the lake of fire.

The dead are judged.

There will be a new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

Compliment your group for their perseverance in studying this course.  
Encourage them to study Revelation Part 4, the last Precept course for this book.

