

# Looking for the Lord's Return

Lesson for Sunday, May 28, 2023

REVIEW: *(Have some fun with this! Make it a game...bring candy for the winners!)*

Genesis 1:31 – God created it all

Genesis 1:27 – We are all created in God's image

Genesis 3:6 – The Fall changed it all

Genesis 3:15 – God's promise of redemption

Genesis 12:2-3 – The Seed of Abraham

Genesis 49:10 – Judah's Royal Seed

Exodus 12:23 – The Passover Lamb

2 Samuel 7:13 – The Line of David

Isaiah 53:5 – The Suffering Servant

Deuteronomy 7:9 – God is true to His Word

Matthew 1:16 – The time is fulfilled

John 19:30 – It is finished!

Matthew 28:5-6 – The Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 – The Complete Gospel

Acts 1:8 – The Church Age

*TODAY: Revelation 22:12 – The Lord's Return*

## INTRODUCTION:

- ⇒ Today we wrap up our series on "The Whole Story of the Bible in 16 Verses."
- ⇒ The majority of our series were historical events from the past.
- ⇒ Last week we saw the early growth of the Christian faith and began to bridge the timeline to present day. Remember that the marching orders from Jesus to the early church still apply to us today!
- ⇒ Today, we will be looking to the future! What does the Bible say is going to happen? Hang on to your hats...

TEACHER'S NOTE: You can download the timeline with all the blanks filled in at <http://fbtsundayschool.org>. In your packets this Sunday will be copies of the timeline to distribute to your class members for them to fill in the blanks as you teach through the material.

TIMELINE: Teach the following material QUICKLY! You will NOT have time to look up every reference. Remember that this is an overview lesson. If the students want more information, they will need to study this on their own.

## ELEVEN EVENTS:

1. The Church Age
  - a. Text: began in Acts and extends until the next event.
  - b. The current time that began at the Cross and will end when Christ returns for His church. Also: "the times of the Gentiles."
2. The Rapture
  - a. Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, 5:1-11
  - b. Key: The next event on God's calendar.
  - c. Place: Christians are "caught up" to meet Jesus in the air.
3. The Judgment Seat of Christ
  - a. Text: 2 Corinthians 5:10, 1 Corinthians 3:12-15
  - b. Place: In Heaven
  - c. Who: Those who were raptured
  - d. This is the reward judgment for Christians only and takes place immediately after the Rapture.
4. The Marriage of the Lamb
  - a. Text: Revelation 19:1-14
  - b. Place: In Heaven
  - c. Who: Those that were raptured
  - d. The Church enjoys the presence of Christ for seven years in heaven.
5. The Tribulation
  - a. Texts: All over; Zeph. 1:15-16

- b. Place: On earth
  - c. The Tribulation begins immediately after the Rapture. It is a 7-year period of God's judgment on the people on the earth.
  - d. The Antichrist is revealed.
6. The Battle of Armageddon
    - a. Text: Revelation 16:12-16, 19:11-20
    - b. Place: On earth, it is a valley in Israel. It will be the location for the last great battle of the Tribulation era. Jesus will return with His saints and destroy Satan and his armies.
  7. The Second Coming of Christ
    - a. Text: 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Jude 14; Zech. 14:3-4, 9
    - b. Place: From heaven to earth (also called the Revelation).
    - c. Christ destroys the Antichrist and his armies and sets up His Millennial Kingdom on the earth.
  8. The Millennial Kingdom
    - a. Text: Revelation 20:2-7
    - b. Place: Christ's 1000-year reign upon the earth in perfect peace.
    - c. Satan is bound, the curse of sin is removed, and the saints rule and reign with Christ.
  9. Satan's Final Revolt
    - a. Text: Revelation 20:7-10
    - b. Place: Satan will be loosed and will deceive the people of the earth one more time.
    - c. He is ultimately defeated and sent forever to the lake of fire.
  10. The Great White Throne Judgment
    - a. Text: Revelation 20:11-15
    - b. Place: The final judgment of Satan and the lost takes place at a location that is not specified in Scripture. This is the ultimate judgment of all the unsaved from all time.
  11. Eternity
    - a. Text: Revelation 22:1-5
    - b. Christians will be with God in Heaven forever.

#### THREE RESPONSES:

1. The SCOFFERS (2 Peter 3:3-12)
  - a. They refuse to accept the authority of Scripture.
  - b. They disbelieve the fact that they will be held accountable.
  - c. Are you a scoffer?
2. The SAINTS (Titus 2:13)
  - a. We are called to live holy lives (Romans 13:12).
  - b. We are called to exhibit God's power (Phil. 1:6).
3. The SINNING Saints
  - a. This group lives in fear of Christ's return.
  - b. This group live unstable lives.

#### ONE LESSON:

- God controls human history (Daniel 4:17, 25, 32).
- The world may look out of control but it's not. God is sovereign and supreme.