



LESSONS 105-117

CAN HEAVEN WAIT?

THE Answer

www.apostolicfaith.org

A Bible study resource for use at home and church.

The Answer is a Bible study course for fourth grade through junior-high level. Bible references are taken from the King James version of the Bible. A Teacher's Guide accompanies this series and is available online, on our app, and in print.

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CAN HEAVEN WAIT?

Vacation time! The first decision that has to be made is where to go. Which direction? High in the mountains, or to the sandy beaches . . . our choice affects our planning. Will it be a backpack or a beach bag, crampons or sandals, insect repellent or suntan lotion?

Do you know that each of us, whether planning a vacation or not, is facing a decision about where to go? However, this decision is a lot more important than a choice between the mountains or the beach. It's a decision about where we will spend eternity.

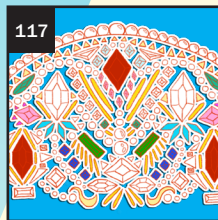
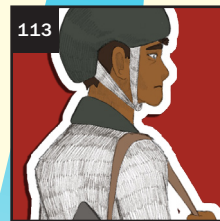
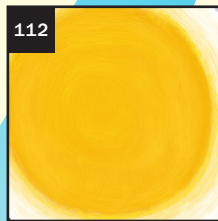
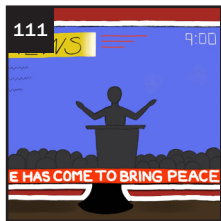
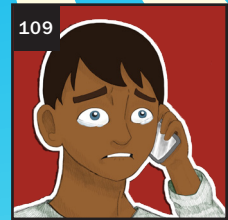
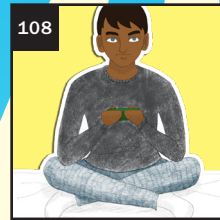
During our time here on earth we make that choice. Knowingly or unknowingly, we also make preparation. Then, once we step across into eternity, there is no coming back. There is no second chance. Eternity is forever.

*This quarter, we are going to meet Logan and Seth, two teenage brothers who made different choices regarding their final destiny. Were they happy with their choices? Find *The Answer* as you read this series of lessons.*

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THE Answer

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CHAPTER 1

CHRIST THE CORNERSTONE

LESSON 105 → Isaiah 28:16-18 — 1 Peter 2:6-7; Psalm 118:22 — Acts 4:8-12;
Isaiah 7:14 — Matthew 1:18; Isaiah 53:3 — John 1:11; Isaiah 53:12 — Matthew 27:38;
Isaiah 9:7 — Matthew 1:1; Zechariah 12:10 — John 19:34; Psalm 34:20 — John 19:33;
Psalm 16:10 — Matthew 28:9

**Prophecy
about the
Messiah
was
fulfilled in
Jesus.**

Logan Thompson looked out over the chapel. It was filling up. He supposed he should feel nervous, but he didn't. This was a special Bible contest to introduce the new fall Sunday school material. Even though it was Saturday afternoon, a lot of parents and most of the kids had come to see what was so special about this quarter.

The crowd grew quiet as the youth leader, Tyler Johnston, got to his feet. After welcoming the audience, Tyler announced, "This coming quarter we're going to be studying prophecy—things that the Bible says will happen but haven't taken place yet. We thought it would be good to find out why we believe these things really will happen. In this con-

test, Jesus Christ is the main subject. We have three teams: Selena Robertson, Troy Daley, and Logan Thompson are the captains. They may confer with their teams regarding responses, and anyone on the team may give the answer. The winning team goes out for pizza next Saturday for lunch!"

Turning to the team leaders sitting behind him, Tyler said, "Who knows how many Old Testament prophecies about Christ actually were fulfilled in Jesus and are recorded in the New Testament?" Selena's hand shot up, but she answered hesitantly.

"Maybe around fifty?"

Tyler smiled, but he shook his head no. "Anyone else have an idea?"



JESUS IS THE MESSIAH.

The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.
— Psalm 118:22

There was silence, then Logan raised his hand slowly. When Tyler nodded to him, he said, “I don’t know a definite number, but there are hundreds of verses that mention things which were supposed to happen to the Messiah, and they did happen to Jesus.”

“That’s true, Logan.

Occasionally, just a part of a verse said something about the coming Messiah. Can anyone tell me why it’s important to know that those prophecies about Jesus Christ really were fulfilled?”

Someone from Troy’s team spoke out, “Because we need to know that the Bible is true.”

“That’s right. Anyone want to add something to that?”

Again Logan raised his hand slowly. “Knowing that these things are true helps me to know I can trust what I read in the Bible. What God says will happen, really does happen.”

“Good point, Logan,” Tyler replied. “These verses are the foundation upon which we build our faith.”

Looking down at his list of questions, Tyler went on.

“What’s the very first verse in the Bible that gives a prophecy about the Messiah?”

Nearly everyone raised his hand on that one. It was Selena’s team’s turn, and someone answered, “Genesis 3:15: ‘And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and

between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”

“Good! Who knows the last verse in the Old Testament that was fulfilled in Jesus’ life?”

There was a flurry of pages turning as the team members looked for the verse. Then, almost together, Logan’s and Troy’s hands shot up. “Okay, it’s Logan’s turn.”

“Zechariah 13:6: ‘And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.’”

“Very good, Logan. Now, Troy’s team, what is the New Testament’s fulfillment of the verse in Genesis?”

The team members looked at each other in dismay. “We don’t know!” they said finally.

“Does anyone know?” asked Tyler.

Logan looked around. There were no hands, so he raised his again.

“Okay, Logan, what do you think?”

“Jesus bruised Satan’s head by dying for us and giving us power over sin, and Satan bruised Jesus’ heel by causing the people to kill Him.”

“Excellent!” Tyler responded. “Logan, that gave your team a point. Now we’re back to

Selena’s team. Can you give the fulfillment of the prophecy in Zechariah?”

After a few moments of quiet discussion, the answer was given. “The Zechariah verse was fulfilled when Jesus was crucified and the nails were put into His hands.”

The contest went on, with different prophecies from the Old Testament being matched to their fulfillment in the New Testament. Logan’s team was soon far ahead of the others, and at the conclusion of the contest, it was obvious they were the winners.

Tyler concluded, “We’ve covered a lot of the prophecies of things that happened to Jesus when He lived on earth the first time. In closing let’s consider the Scripture where Malachi talks about what will happen after Jesus comes back to earth. During the Millennium He’ll be King of the whole earth and everyone will obey Him.”

There was recognition and applause for the winning team, then Tyler continued, “The things we’ve talked about today are important because we realize that what the Bible says really is the truth. That’s why we can look forward with certainty to things that will happen in the future. We’ve learned that when God says something will take place, it really will happen!”

IT DID HAPPEN!

Old Testament prophecies indicated that God's people were to look for a Messiah. The New Testament tells of the fulfillment of those prophecies in Jesus. Look up the Old Testament prophecies given and draw a line from each one to the New Testament Scripture that tells how it was fulfilled.

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalms 118:22

Isaiah 53:12

Psalms 34:20

Isaiah 9:7

Zechariah 12:10

Isaiah 53:9

Isaiah 7:14

Psalms 16:10

Isaiah 53:3

NEW TESTAMENT

● Matthew 1:1

Jesus was in the direct bloodline of King David.

● Matthew 1:18

Jesus was born of a virgin named Mary.

● John 1:11

His own Jewish people rejected Him.

● Matthew 27:38

He was crucified with the transgressors.

● John 19:33

Not one of Jesus' bones were broken.

● John 19:34

One of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side.

● Matthew 27:59-60

He was buried in a rich man's tomb.

● Matthew 28:9

Jesus' soul was not left in Hell. He rose again!

● Acts 4:10-12

Jesus became the chief cornerstone.



CHAPTER 2

HISTORICAL ISRAEL

LESSON 106 → Genesis 22:15-18 — *Promise To Abraham*

Deuteronomy 28:64-66; Ezekiel 37:21-22 — *Dispersion And Restoration Of People*

Leviticus 26:27, 31-33; Ezekiel 36:8-11, 29-35 — *Desolation And Restoration Of Land*

Leviticus 26:42-46 — *National Identity*

**Israel is one
of God's
signposts
for the
end times.**

Seth Thompson shook his head. “You did it again, Logan! Why did I have to be stuck with a brother who knows all the answers?” He laughed as he walked down the church steps with his brother. Logan grinned and said, “Well, the reason I like to learn all of these things is because I’m interested in them, Seth, and . . .”

“Yeah, I know,” growled his brother. “You’re interested and I’m not. Well, I

did what the folks wanted and came to the contest, but now I’m heading over to Joel’s for the rest of the afternoon. So, you’re on your own.” With a brief wave of his hand he was gone.

Logan jogged the three blocks home and let himself in the front door. Wow, was he ever hungry! His mother had gone to see a friend, so Logan started making his own lunch. Behind him, the back door opened and his dad came in.



GOD ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES.

If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations.
— Nehemiah 1:8

“Hi, Logan . . . so you’re home from the contest! Sure sorry I had to work today, but tell me all about it. How’d your team score?”

“We won, Dad! And the prize is a pizza party next week.”

“Good work, Son! I know you and the other kids have really been studying hard for this. You all deserve that pizza. And speaking of food . . . is that a ham sandwich you’re making?”

“Yes. How ‘bout I make one for you too?”

“Sounds great,” said his dad with a grin. He sat down and picked up a magazine that was lying open on the table. “Logan, did any of the questions in the quiz concern prophecies regarding the Nation of Israel?”

“No,” Logan looked up from his sandwich making. “We were mostly concerned with prophecies regarding Christ. Why?”

“I was reading this news magazine this morning. It features an article on Israel. I couldn’t help thinking how many prophecies have been fulfilled in that little country over the centuries.”

Logan carried the sandwiches to the table, poured two glasses of milk, and sat down by his father. “Well, you’ve got me curious. What kind of prophecies? I’ve always heard that Israel is one of God’s signposts for the end times—and there’s plenty going on over there now! Tell me what you read that relates to things in the Bible.”

“You know it was prophesied that the Jewish people would be scattered from one end of the world to the other, because they rejected Christ. In Deuteronomy we read that they would find no peace anywhere, and would fear for their lives. The Jewish nation has seen that come to pass!”

“Yeah,” said Logan somberly. “I’ve studied about the Nazi persecution of the Jews during World War II. It really was awful.”

“Yes, it was, Logan. But Ezekiel also told of a time when the Children of Israel would be gathered

back into their own land. That happened. Many of the Jewish people returned to the land of Israel, and in 1948 Israel became a nation once more.”

“We studied about the Six-Day War of 1967, Dad. Was that significant to prophecy?”

“Well, that is when the Jewish people regained full control of the city of Jerusalem.

There are other prophecies too, about the land. For instance, in Leviticus we read that the land will become desolate. For years, Israel was an arid desert—completely non-productive.”

“It sure isn’t that now,” said Logan. “Israel produces things for export.”

“You’re right,” said his dad, “and that was foretold too! We can read where it was prophesied that the ‘wastes shall be builded’ and the land ‘tilled and sown,’ and that it would once again produce abundantly. This article certainly substantiated that prophecy. It says that Israel is now a leading exporter of citrus fruit, olives, and grapes, and grows three-fourths of her own food.”

“Are there some things foretold about Israel that haven’t come to pass yet?”

“There are many, Logan. A great number of them will occur after the Rapture has taken place, during the Tribulation here on earth. We feel that all of the prophecies that must be fulfilled before the coming of Christ have been fulfilled.”

Logan finished his sandwich, and then said, “You know, it makes me excited when I think that the Lord could come back at any time. I wish it would somehow get through to Seth.”

His dad nodded in agreement. “I feel the same way, Logan. I believe that Seth really wants to get saved, but he thinks he can choose the time—and that it will be way down the road somewhere. He doesn’t seem to realize he might wait just one day too long.”

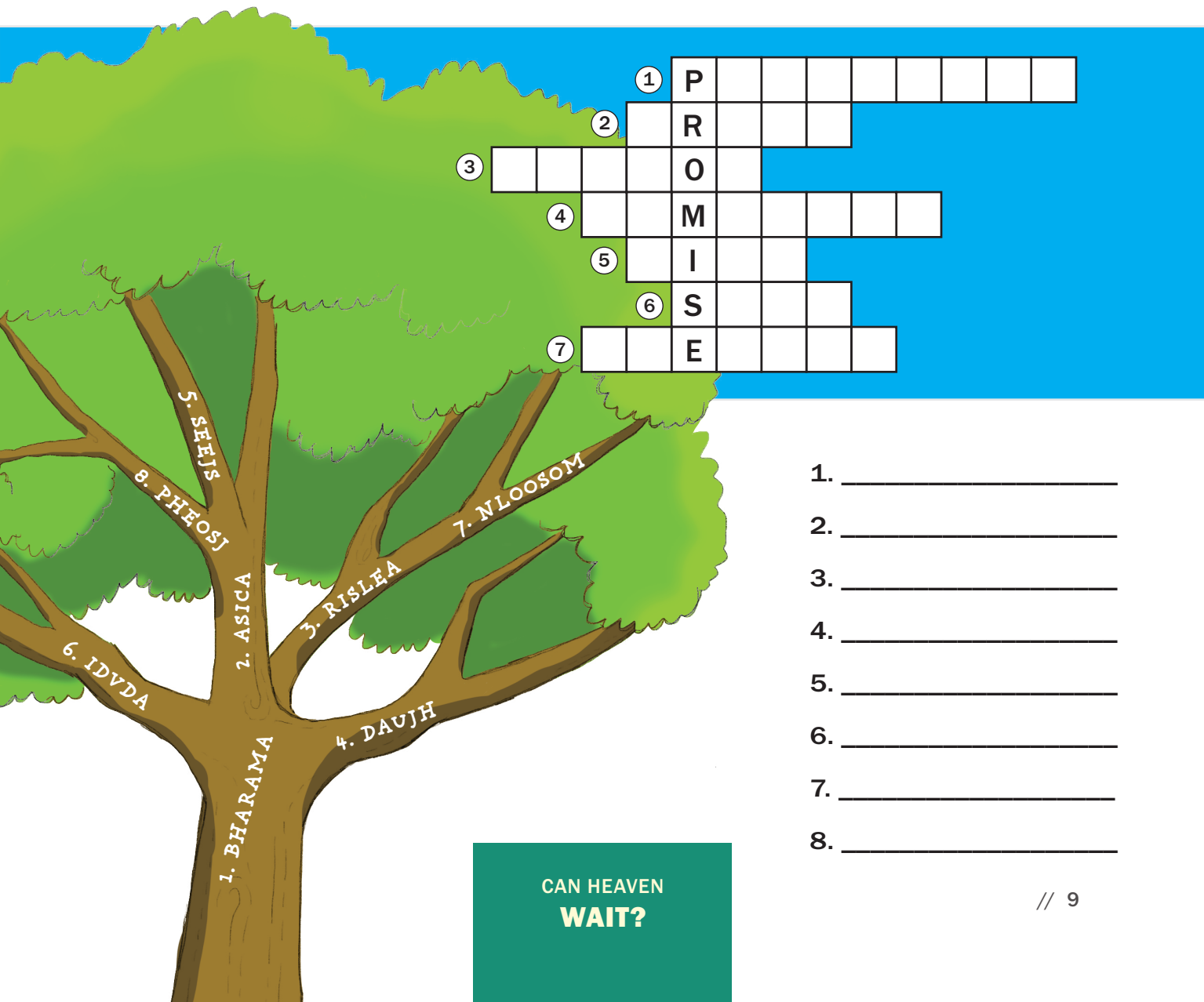
Lesson 106 Activity

The main word in this puzzle is PROMISE. What was this promise and who was it for? To finish the Acrostic, look up the verses in your Bible and fill in the words.

GOD MADE A PROMISE

To find out some of the people who were included in this promise, unscramble the names in the "family tree." Write the names on the lines to the right of the tree.

1. "Blessed be Abram of the most high God, _____ of heaven and earth." Genesis 14:19
2. "I will bless thee, and make thy name _____." Genesis 12:2
3. "I will make of thee a great _____." Genesis 12:2
4. "In thee shall all _____ of the earth be blessed." Genesis 12:3
5. "I _____ bless them that bless thee." Genesis 12:3
6. "Unto thy _____ will I give this land." Genesis 12:7
7. "And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be _____." Genesis 22:18



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

CAN HEAVEN
WAIT?



CHAPTER 3

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

LESSON 107 → Matthew 16:1-3; 24:3-28, 32-34; 2 Timothy 3:1-5

Distressing headlines point to the Lord's soon return.



I MUST HEED THE WARNINGS!

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
— 2 Timothy 3:1

A light tremor was the only warning the boys had. The next moment Logan and Seth staggered against the counter in the sporting goods store. The floor shook beneath their feet as though they were on a roller coaster.

Large pieces of glass flew in every direction as the plate-glass window beside them shattered. A low rumble was punctuated by screams of fright.

“Let’s get out of here!” Seth shoved Logan in the direction of the wildly swinging door. The boys plunged toward the entrance, joined in seconds by terrified people pushing their way onto the street.

They could hear the crash of sporting equipment falling from the display shelves behind them as they reached the sidewalk. Then, as suddenly as it began, the earthquake stopped.

For a brief moment an awful stillness seemed to hang in the air, almost as if the universe were holding its breath. Then confusion took over as those standing on the sidewalk struggled to grasp what had happened. What would happen next?

“You okay, Seth?” Logan grabbed his older brother’s arm. Seth’s face was white, but he tried hard to appear calm. “I’m fine, Logan, but it’s a lucky thing we weren’t standing any closer to that window! That glass really flew!”

Logan took a deep breath and looked around him, almost in a daze. Then he said, “We’d better get home and check out what happened there.”

The next morning, after damage around the house was cleaned up and things restored to order, Logan grabbed his iPad and checked the news. The headlines blazed: “Earthquake Brings Widespread Damage.”

“Wow, look at this, Dad!” said Seth after a moment. “It registered 7.1 on the Richter scale. That’s really something!”

“All I can say is I hope this was my first and last experience of this type!” his dad commented. “Yesterday’s events were about enough for an old man like me.”

“Aw, Dad,” said Seth with a disgusted look at his father. “I thought it was pretty exciting, myself.”

The family sat together at the table in silence, listening as Seth continued reading the headlines.

“‘U.S. Launches Airstrikes against ISIS in Libya,’” he read on the next page. “‘Iran Nuclear Deal Brings Fears of New Arms Race.’” He tapped on another news site, “‘Deadly Ebola Virus on the Move in Africa.’ ‘India Drought: 330 Million People Affected,’” he sighed. “‘Paris Terrorist Attack: 128 Dead.’”

“Not much in the way of good news, is there?” said Logan, as he spread another piece of toast with strawberry jam. “Sounds like all that is going on is war, trouble, and disaster. And today, even our own city is making national news.” He gulped down a couple of bites, and then looked up again. “Was it like this when you were a kid, Dad?”

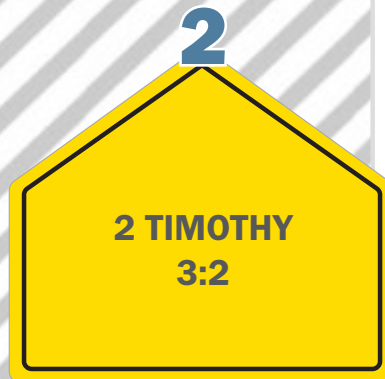
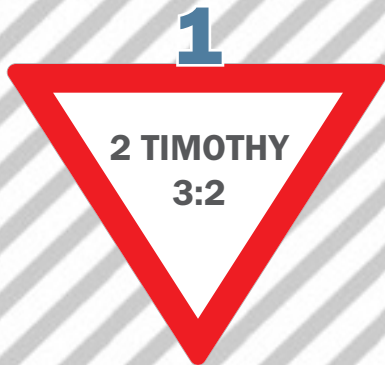
His dad looked thoughtful. “I really don’t believe it was,” he answered slowly. “We had our own share of troubles, but it does seem as though things are getting worse.” He paused for a moment. “Of course, the Bible tells us that this is the way it is going to be just before the Lord comes back.”

Seth gave a groan. “Oh, Dad, you’re always preaching.” He shoved his chair away from the table and left the room.

Logan caught the troubled look exchanged between his parents. “Don’t worry, Seth’s still upset—maybe this earthquake has gotten through to him about his needing to get saved. I’ll try to talk to him later when he cools off a little.”

WATCH THOSE SIGNS!

The Bible tells us the things that are happening now are signs of the last days. Look up the verses on the road signs to find the missing words below.



1 __O__

2 __H__U__

3 __R__
__E__E__

4 __S

5 E_____

6 __S__
__P__

7 __N__

CAN HEAVEN
WAIT?



CHAPTER 4

BE READY

LESSON 108 → Matthew 24:36-44; Hebrews 9:28

*Seth knew he needed salvation.
Would he pray or put it off for another day?*



I WANT TO BE READY.

Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. — Matthew 24:44

Seth slammed the bedroom door, wadded his pillow and threw himself across the bed. He grabbed his Xbox controller from the night stand. Starting up a new racing game, he tried to get his mind off the conversation that had just taken place.

“This is the way it is going to be just before the Lord comes back . . . just before the Lord comes back . . . just before the Lord comes back . . .” His dad’s words seemed to echo again and again in his mind, as he raced his car around the track unseeingly.

I know I should get saved, he thought. Someday I will. But I don’t like people to hassle me about it! I’ve got plans. I want to do things my own way. Getting ready for Heaven will just have to wait. In a couple of years, when I’m out of high school . . . well, that will be time enough.

He raced another lap. Being saved is okay for Logan—he seems to be happy enough, all right. But what would the guys say if all of a sudden I became a Christian? Wow! Would they ever give me a bad time.

His troubled thoughts were interrupted as the bedroom door opened, and Logan came in. Seth pretended to be absorbed in his Xbox game.

Walking over to the side of Seth’s bed, Logan gave him a light punch on the shoulder. “Hey, Seth, don’t be upset. Dad, and the rest of us, just want to be sure that you make Heaven too. He didn’t mean to make you mad.”

Seth stared at the screen and acted as if he hadn’t heard Logan. Logan stood in silence for a moment, then moved over and sat down on the edge of his own bed. He sighed. “Okay, so you’re mad. But the fact remains, the Lord could come tomorrow, and you’re not ready!”

Seth threw the controller down, swung his legs over the side of the bed, and stared grimly at his brother. “Not you too! I’ve just about had it with you guys. All I hear about is how I need to ‘be ready!’”

“Okay, let me say it this way,” Logan responded. “Think back about the earthquake yesterday. We had no idea it was going to happen, of course, but if we had, what would we have done differently?”

His brother shrugged. “I dunno. We wouldn’t have gone to Sports Central, that’s for sure. I probably would have been looking around for some sort of safe shelter or something.”

Logan agreed. “Right. If we’d known it was coming, we’d have been foolish not to get ready for it.” He paused for a moment. “Don’t you see, Seth? It’s that same way with the Lord’s coming. The Bible tells us that we don’t know the day or the hour when the Lord will come back.

“But it does tell us what we can expect just before He comes—things like we were reading about on the iPad this morning. We didn’t have any warning at all that the earthquake was coming. But we do have warnings that show us Jesus could come any day.”

“Oh, c’mon,” Seth scoffed. “I’ve been hearing that ever since I can remember—that Jesus could come any day. They’ve been preaching it for hundreds of years. I’m sure there’s plenty of time left.”

Logan sighed and gave his brother a troubled look. “It’s exactly that attitude that has all of us worried, Seth. How would you feel if you were left behind? You know as well as I do, the Scripture about two shall be together, ‘one shall be taken, and the other left.’ You’ve gone to Sunday school and church all your life, and you know the importance of being saved and ready for the Lord’s coming. You’re so sure that it’s not going to happen now. Well, remember the Bible says that, ‘in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.’”

For a moment there was silence. Then, with a shrug, Seth agreed. “You’re right, Logan. I know I should be saved. But not now. Some other time . . .”

A NOTE ABOUT BEING READY

Music and song are a great way to praise the Lord and you'll be praising the Lord if you are ready. Ready for what? To find out, use the music code and complete the verses on the music sheet.



I _o to pr_p_r_ _ pl___ _or
you. _n_ i_ l _o _n_ pr_p_r_
_ pl___ _or you, I will _om_
___in, _n_ r___iv_ you unto
mys_l_; th_t wh_r_ l _m,
th_r_ y_ m_y __ _lso.

- John 14:2-3



C D E F G A B



CHAPTER 5

THE RAPTURE

LESSON 109 → 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 5:1-10

Seth woke up to an empty house. What had happened in the night?



I WILL MEET JESUS IN THE AIR!

If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. — John 14:3

A few weeks later, the sun was shining on the tree outside his window when Seth woke up. He sat up slowly, rubbing his eyes. A glance at the clock told him that it was past time for Sunday school. Good, he thought to himself. I can't believe Mom or Dad didn't wake me up. I really let them know last night that I didn't want Logan preaching at me anymore. He frowned as he thought of how Logan had been talking to him again about needing to be ready for the Lord's coming. Seth had yelled, "For Pete's sake, leave me alone, will you? Dad, get Logan off my back. I've heard enough!" He had stormed out of the room, calling back over his shoulder, "And don't try to get me to go to Sunday school tomorrow either!"

Now, in the quiet of the morning, he thought, Maybe I did lose my cool. Logan only did what he thought was for my good. After all, I do want to be a Christian someday. I'm just not ready yet.

Seth crawled out of his bed in the room he shared with Logan. I'll sure be glad when I can leave home and have a room of my own, he thought, reaching for his jeans. Glancing over, he noticed Logan's unmade bed. Funny, he thought to himself, Logan always makes his bed.

Deliberately not making his own bed, Seth walked down the hall toward the kitchen. As he passed the bathroom he noticed his mother's robe in a heap on the floor. Her hairbrush and mirror were beside it.

Wow, thought Seth. They must have really left in a hurry. Funny, I didn't hear anything.

Seth continued through the house. As he entered the living room, he paused, puzzled. There at Dad's desk, was his open Bible. His shirt and suit pants were draped oddly on the chair, partly hidden by the robe Dad always wore until he was through with breakfast. His slippers were on the floor, looking as though his feet had been suddenly lifted out of them.

With a growing uneasiness, Seth stared at the spot, trying not to comprehend what he was finally realizing. Then a paralyzing terror gripped him. Could it be possible? Dad had said the Lord could come at any time. But people had been talking about it for hundreds of years. It couldn't really have happened now—or could it? A wave of nausea swept over him.

Seth shook as he pulled his phone out of his pocket and dialed the church number. Surely there'd be someone there! Anxiously he waited as the phone rang but it went to voicemail. He called again—voicemail! He dropped his phone. With a wail he couldn't control, Seth ran to turn on the television, only to hear, "... the mysterious, instantaneous disappearance of thousands of people this morning . . ." Seth heard no more.

It was really so. At some moment, probably while Mom was fixing her hair before starting breakfast, and Dad had sat down as usual to review his Sunday school lesson, it had happened. Logan was probably still asleep—no need to call him yet—and had they intended to call Seth? He would never know, because at that certain moment a heavenly trumpet had sounded. Only those who were listening for it had heard and answered the call. He, Seth, had been too stubborn, and had refused once too often. His family had gone to be with Jesus. Dressed in robes of righteousness they would right now be taking part in the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Now he knew why Logan had kept saying, "Seth, you've got to be ready at any time." Now it was too late.

Lesson 109 Activity

I'M GOING UP!

The Rapture! I want to be sure I'm ready. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 and fill in the missing words in the verses on the cloud. Put the circled letters on the proper numbered lines at the bottom of the page. **What is your answer to the question?**

For the Lord himself shall _____ from _____
 with a _____ ... we _____ are _____
 and _____ shall be _____
 _____ together with them in the _____, to meet the Lord
 in the air: and so _____ we _____ be with the Lord.

6 10 16 15 Y 13 4 9 3 K 17 11 2 18 19 7 12 5 14 8 1 ?



CHAPTER 6

THE MARRIAGE SUPPER

LESSON 110 → Revelation 19:7-9; Matthew 22:1-14; Luke 12:35-38

*Logan fell asleep and heard the sound of a trumpet.
Was this a dream?*

After Seth's blow-up Saturday night, Logan lay in bed for quite some time in the darkened silence of their room. Numerous questions tumbled in his thoughts. What if it were tonight? Why can't Seth see the urgency and the importance of being ready?

What would it be like to feel gravity let go as you went up to be with the Lord? He didn't know just how long he pondered these things, but eventually he realized that Seth's breathing had become slow and deep. In just a short while, Logan, too, drifted off to sleep.



I HAVE MY WEDDING GARMENT.

Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.
— Revelation 19:9

As this seemingly normal Saturday night slipped into eternity, Logan began to dream. In his dream he saw his grandmother, who had spent her last years on earth in a wheelchair, walking in a bright green field sprinkled with flowers in a dazzling array of colors. She was laughing and talking with someone he didn't recognize. She looked so happy.

The atmosphere seemed to be filled with beautiful music. As he listened he became aware that the music had taken on a different quality. It was as if all the notes of the heavenly harmonies began fading and distilling into one long, crystal-clear tone that was increasing in intensity. As he focused his attention on this trumpet-like sound, he was jolted into an awareness . . . THIS IS IT! This is the sound of the trump of God!

The next thing Logan knew, he was caught up among a throng of others, all clothed in dazzling white robes. There were more people than Logan had ever seen before. Suddenly, these thousands of radiantly happy people began singing, what was to Logan, a new song—a beautiful anthem of praise to God. Even though he had never heard this song before, Logan found himself singing along as though he had always known it.

Before him glistened a massive, yet delicate structure. The illumination of this vast panorama was most unusual. He couldn't see the source of the light, but what made it so special was that there were no shadows anywhere.

Yes, it was truly a fantastic sight, and Logan thrilled to the realization that he was not dreaming at all. He was actually present at the most important occasion mankind had yet been privileged to witness—the marriage of the Bride of Christ to the Lamb, who was God the Father's own Son.

The voice of a great multitude was heard to say, "Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready."

As the throng began to move, they came into a great hall. Row upon row of snowy white tables gleamed with settings of gold, silver, and crystal. Logan found himself being ushered to the tables stretched toward the magnificent Throne which commanded the far end of the expansive chamber. This was the area reserved for the Bride of Christ—the place of honor!

As the incoming throngs took their places along the rows of tables it was soon evident that there were exactly enough places set for the number who entered. As each one stood at his place, a reverent hush fell over those assembled. Once again that powerful voice rang out, "Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb."

What glorious things took place. Most wonderful of all was seeing the Bridegroom, Jesus Christ. The once despised Son of a carpenter, Who had died to make this possible, was now the powerful and majestic, yet gracious Host. The Lord himself served them as they ate the Marriage Supper. Logan wondered as he drank of the transparent wine if this was like the wine Jesus made out of water for the guests of the wedding feast at Cana.

The banquet continued on and on, and all was supreme happiness. Logan joined as they sang praise to the Bridegroom and thrilled to the rewards which were given to the saints for faithful service. Was that his name he just heard being called? Me? Even me? he wondered. Making his way down the long aisle he felt so humble and undeserving. He heard the great Voice enumerating things, some of which he had even forgotten, ". . . and for so lovingly and faithfully caring for your grandmother, helping in Sunday school, working at the church, running errands, . . ." The list went on. He hadn't minded, even when he had missed that camping trip, or hanging out with friends, to help in the Lord's work. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these . . . ye have done it unto me." With a flood of gratitude Logan knelt and worshiped his Redeemer.

WE'RE ALL INVITED



The following is a parable about the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Somehow, as we tried to retell the story, the order of the happenings got mixed up. Please help us put this parable back in the right order as Jesus told it in Matthew 22:2-14. Use the spaces to the left of each sentence to number them in the right order.

- ___ Then the king sent his servants into the highways to gather as many people as they could find, bad or good, and invite them to be guests at the wedding.
- 1 "The kingdom of Heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son."
- ___ When the guests arrived at the wedding, the king found one who was not wearing a wedding garment.
- ___ The invited guests of the king not only refused the invitation the second time but also killed the king's servants.
- ___ "For many are called, but few are chosen."
- ___ The king sent his servants to his invited guests to bid them to come to the wedding.
- ___ The bidden guests refused to come.
- ___ The king had the man (who was not wearing a wedding garment) bound, taken away, and cast into outer darkness, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- ___ The king was very angry and sent his armies to destroy those murderers and to burn their city.
- ___ The king sent out his servants the second time to persuade the invited guests to come for the wedding that was made ready.



A new world leader emerged, and seemed to have all the answers.

Never had Seth felt so terribly alone. His parents and brother were gone. Gone! Raptured! And he was left behind! The icy terror that gripped his heart felt like a knife twisting and cutting inside him.

Going back to the television, he found that the first reports were coming in. Then all regular broadcasting was discontinued as report after report was analyzed and discussed. What did it all mean? Seth knew, and so did many others. A few of them had a chance to give their views on the air.

Sunday dragged by. Seth just lay on the couch, numb with hopelessness and despair, watching the television. Once

he tried to text some of his friends but his service was down and the messages wouldn't go through. He didn't even bother calling his grandparents or his aunts and uncles—he knew they'd be gone too.

On Monday when Seth turned on the television he heard some staggering news. A new world leader had emerged overnight. Amazingly, heads of governments around the world readily accepted his rise to power, almost as if they knew it was coming. A few hours later, Seth listened to the new leader's inaugural address. He was a powerful, persuasive speaker. Obviously a brilliant man, he seemed to comprehend the world's problems perfectly and to have



MY NAME IS IN THE BOOK.

All that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. — Revelation 13:8

a solid grasp on how to solve them. Seth was impressed and moved by his words.

However, chills soon began to course up and down Seth's spine as the new leader continued his speech. Not only was a new world government and economic order being established, but the man also said that mankind was about to take a giant leap forward in evolution. He said a new age was dawning where the human race would step forward into a higher consciousness that would bring about true peace and understanding between all people.

With horror Seth realized that he was listening to the Antichrist. But what was even more horrible was that he found himself caught up in a strange spell that seemed to grow more powerful with each sentence the new leader spoke. This man wasn't just convincing, he sounded almost like he was more than human. Especially when he explained to the world that he was responsible for the disappearance of those who were true followers of Jesus Christ. Seth could hardly believe his ears as he heard the Antichrist say that he had sent those people into another dimension. He said that since they were a hindrance to the step up on the evolutionary ladder, they needed to evolve for a time in this other dimension. Then they would be brought back. The Rapture was being powerfully explained away!

What followed made Seth sick to his stomach. The Antichrist spoke of a coming initiation into the glorious New Age. As he heard it described in glowing and compelling terms, Seth knew what he was leading up to—the mark of the beast! However, the speech finished without anything being said about that. Seth turned the television off and began to cry uncontrollably as terror of the future swept over him.

In the next few days, Seth numbly watched the news media falling over themselves with praise for the new leader. All over the world, people were ecstatic about the prospects for the future. Leaders from the world's many religions sang

the praises of this amazing man. Even well-known, professing Christians spoke in glowing terms of the Antichrist! Seth couldn't believe it. Didn't they realize who he was? How could people who should know what the Bible says be so blind? But as time went on, he began to wonder if maybe it were his parents who had been mistaken. After all, the world was quickly moving toward a unity like he had never seen before or even imagined possible.

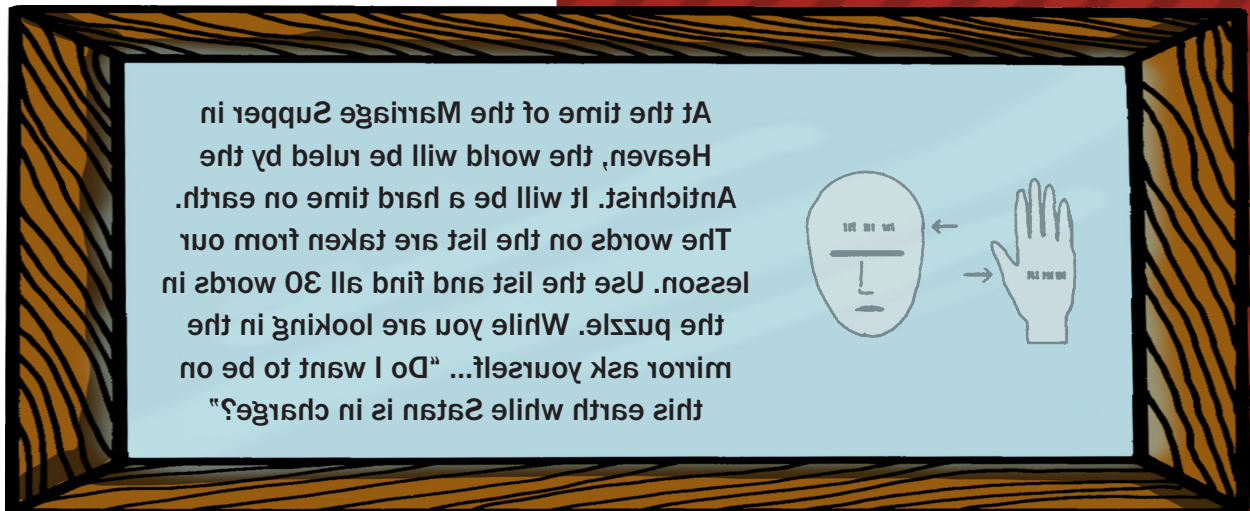
Then the announcement came. Everyone, the whole world over, was to report to the nearest New Age center for instruction about the new world religion. At the end of a week of teaching, a personal initiation would take place. Each person would be expected to give his full allegiance to the new leader. If they chose not to, they would not be allowed to buy or sell or receive wages.

As Seth headed down to the crowded center, he felt like one of a flock of sheep. Something was gnawing inside of him, telling him that maybe he shouldn't go. Yet, it seemed as if he had no choice. If he didn't go, he wouldn't be able to eat. Besides, all that stuff about the Antichrist was probably just a fairy tale. This new leader was an incredibly wonderful man and it was obvious the world was going to be a better place because of him. So, Seth went through the fascinating training.

When the time for his initiation came, Seth was ready to do anything for the new leader. He said the vows that were required and then signed a covenant. After that, he was ushered into another room where the mark would be applied. He was asked whether he preferred to have it in his forehead or his hand. Seth extended his hand to the woman with the marking machine. Just before the mark was applied, Seth abruptly pulled his hand back. The woman looked at Seth without saying a word. Shaking his head and smiling, Seth extended his hand again. The mark was applied. Seth was now fully one with the Antichrist.

DO I WANT TO BE HERE?

You need a mirror to
read the instructions.



GOD	DRAGON
SON	HEAVEN
BOOK	NUMBER
COME	ETERNAL
DOOM	RAPTURE
FIRE	WORSHIP
HELL	FOREHEAD
LAMB	OVERCOME
LIFE	BRIMSTONE
MARK	SIX SIX SIX
SEAL	TORMENTED
BEAST	ANTICHRIST
SMOKE	RIGHT HAND
WRITE	EVERLASTING
ANGELS	TRIBULATION

S	S	L	A	N	R	E	T	E	E	A	B	G
L	A	A	A	W	O	R	S	H	I	P	R	N
E	E	M	O	O	D	L	I	F	E	G	I	I
G	T	B	E	K	M	A	R	K	D	O	M	T
N	E	R	F	O	R	E	H	E	A	D	S	S
A	R	N	I	O	U	E	C	O	M	E	T	A
L	L	E	H	B	I	F	I	R	O	M	O	L
O	N	V	E	B	U	Q	T	I	O	O	N	R
V	A	A	S	V	V	L	N	G	F	C	E	E
E	S	E	A	L	A	R	A	H	F	R	T	V
T	A	H	H	H	W	R	I	T	E	E	F	E
R	E	B	M	U	N	I	O	H	I	V	O	G
A	E	R	I	F	G	D	R	A	G	O	N	O
P	L	X	I	S	X	I	S	N	S	O	N	N
T	A	G	M	G	I	V	E	D	S	T	X	Q
U	C	O	G	X	I	S	X	I	S	X	I	S
R	K	A	F	O	R	M	S	G	I	V	E	N
E	C	T	O	R	M	E	N	T	E	D	T	O



CHAPTER 8

THE TRIBULATION PLAGUES

LESSON 112 → Revelation 15:1; 16:1-21

Seth had always hated hearing about the terrible plagues foretold in the Book of Revelation, and now he was experiencing them!

Seth slammed his suitcase shut—his packing completed. Tomorrow he would be on his way to join thousands of other young people from all over the western world for training in the army.

He looked around his room. For a moment a lump rose in his throat as he stared over at his brother's bed . . . it seemed like a lifetime ago that Logan had shared this room with him. He

hadn't changed much around the house, even though it had been over three years since Mom and Dad and Logan had gone. Somehow it seemed that if he just kept things as much the same as possible, someday they might come back.

But the harsh reality of the occurrences of the past few months crowded in on him again as he looked down at his suitcase. He dreaded leaving home—but the world was in trouble,



I AM GLAD I WILL BE WITH JESUS.

Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved.
— Matthew 24:22

and the world leader said everyone had to do his part. Famine was reaching right into the United States. Earthquakes, disease, and war had taken an awful toll—over one-fourth of the world's population was already dead. Where would it all end?

For a time, Seth had believed that the world might actually become a peaceful place through the efforts of their new leader. He thought back over the past three years. He had graduated from high school and taken a good job. Things hadn't gone so well for the ones in his class who hadn't taken a mark. They weren't allowed to graduate and couldn't apply for jobs. The news media had really been against them. Even those who had slipped them food and clothing were eventually charged with standing against the new leader. Any effort to resist his attempts to unite the world were promptly dealt with.

Then the political scene had changed. The leader had made a worldwide tour, and had been welcomed with open arms, until he went to Israel. He had seemingly solved their problems, stood behind their resolve for a free and independent Israel, and encouraged the Jews from around the world to come and populate this booming and impressive country. Then he overstepped his bounds and was rejected!—he entered their holy temple. Though it was the new temple which they had erected with his support, he was angrily forced out by the Jews when he told them to look to him as the savior of the world and forget worshiping their Jehovah.

As days went by, Seth had found it harder and harder to overlook the problems which began occurring in other parts of the world. Many people began to experience ugly, painful sores on their bodies. When Seth had gone to see a doctor about a sore on his own arm, the doctor made a comment that really scared Seth. That comment was, "I understand that only those who received the mark are getting these sores on their bodies. Makes you wonder, doesn't it?"

A while later, Seth had heard that oceans had turned to blood, and every living soul in those waters died! Then, it was rivers and springs of water that turned to blood. It was horrible! The weather had been the next thing to change—it went from one extreme to another. The sun became so hot that people were scorched with a great heat. Then, darkness had seemed to cover everywhere. What was happening?

About that time, the news media reported that the Euphrates River had dried up! This had provided an easier access for the armies of the eastern nations to invade Israel.

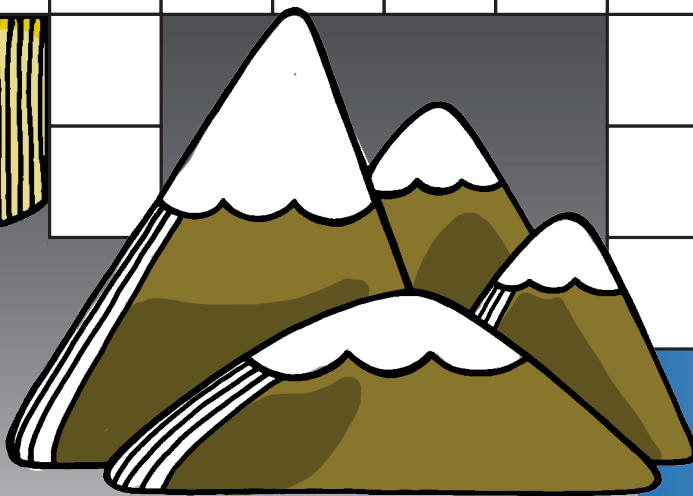
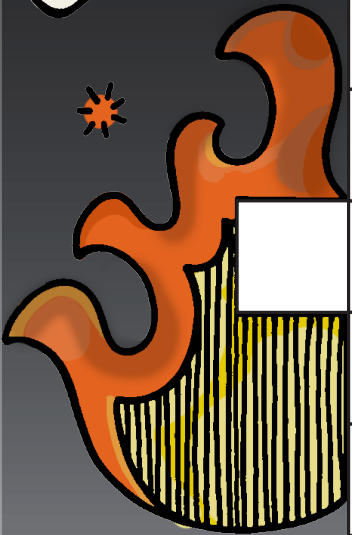
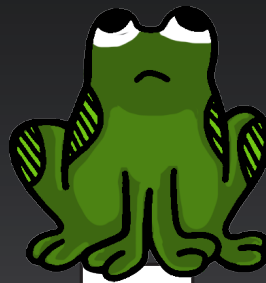
Suddenly, leaders from around the world were told to gather their armies together at a place called Armageddon. They were to prepare for a great battle.

Abruptly, Seth sat down on the side of his bed and covered his face with his hands. He knew, with an awful feeling of dread, exactly what was happening. The world was experiencing the tribulation plagues—those terrible events mentioned in the Book of Revelation. He had always hated to hear his parents read about or discuss them during family devotions. He had listened often enough to know that there were great earthquakes yet to come. They would make the one he and Logan had experienced so long ago seem like nothing at all. Also, he remembered his father's reading about the awful hailstorms there would be, with hailstones that would weigh about a hundred pounds each.

Seth was due to report for active duty tomorrow. Three days ago the intelligence office had verified the information that 200 million soldiers from the East had begun a march to the Middle East. Massive armies were being gathered to support the leader's "peace-keeping mission" to remove the troublesome forces. Seth was to be a part of that army, and he was totally overcome with a feeling of dread and terror of what the future held.

THE TRIBULATION

The Tribulation will be a time of fear. Great plagues will be sent upon the earth. We certainly don't want to be here then! Below are several objects that are mentioned in the text. Each has something to do with the plagues. Read your text, then fill in each word where it fits.



P

L

A

G

U

E

S





CHAPTER 9

THE REVELATION OF CHRIST AND ARMAGEDDON

LESSON 113 → Matthew 24:29-31; Revelation 19:11-21

From the battlefield, Seth looked up and saw something in the sky.



I'M IN THE LORD'S ARMY.

Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him. — Revelation 1:7

Seth's battalion landed at the Port of Haifa. Never had he seen such a mind-boggling array of troops and equipment.

The great plain of Jezreel stretched ahead—east from the Mediterranean to the Jordan. A fragment of knowledge from a geography class came into Seth's mind. The name of this place, Armageddon, was taken from a Hebrew word meaning "Mount Megiddo." This place had been used as a battlefield down through the centuries.

And now Seth, with millions of others, stood on this very plain. The great 200-million-soldier army from the East was moving in while the Antichrist's army tried to stand firm. The battle line extended south throughout Israel with the front line at Armageddon. Terrible fighting was going on in Jerusalem.

Seth had heard that a frightful battle was ensuing south of the Dead Sea as well, and so many had been killed that blood was standing several feet deep in some areas.

Seth wished he were dead. He heard that the war had expanded beyond the Middle East now. Nuclear weapons were being used around the world. Whole cities were being wiped out. The eastern force had already killed a third of the earth's population. Entire islands and mountains were being blown off the map.

Paralyzing fear gripped Seth and his buddies. Totally demoralized, Seth turned to one of them, "What are we going to do? Will it be days, or just hours, before all life on this planet will be gone?"

Up above the clouds, Jesus Christ was preparing to return to earth with the armies of Heaven—dressed in white robes, riding on white horses. Seth did not realize it, but at that very moment, Logan, his mother and father, and a host of others were preparing for the return.

The sky rolled back. A blazing light flooded the whole earth. Astounded, Seth fell to his knees,

dropping his rifle . . . the Son of God was descending! Behind Him, a cloud of believers followed. The whole sky was filled with ranks of white horses ridden by the saints of God. The awesome sight was too much for Seth. Throwing his arms over his eyes, he fell to the ground, trembling with fear.

Then, some fifty-five miles from where Seth crouched in abject terror, Jesus' feet touched down on the Mount of Olives—the very place He had left earth from nearly two thousand years ago! The mountain split in two with a deafening sound, the earth trembled as it never had before. In seconds, a giant crevice opened up running east toward the Jordan River and west to the Mediterranean Sea (Zechariah 14:4).

One-third of the Jewish people looked up and saw "the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." They recognized Jesus as their Messiah and in that moment they were believers. They ran into that great crack, remembering the prophets who foretold it as a place of refuge from the terrible destruction that God would pour out upon the godless armies of the world.

The terror that Seth felt could not be described as he and those around him were thrown to the ground by the mighty trembling and heaving of the earth. He thought he would surely die at that very moment, but he didn't. No, the Antichrist was already rallying the forces to rise, to fight on, against Jesus Christ himself. However, the forces of the Antichrist were doomed.

Soon, the dreadful battle was over, and the remnant of the armies of the Antichrist "were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth." Jesus Christ had saved mankind from extinction. In vanquishing the forces of the Antichrist, His Kingdom was established on this earth for a thousand years of peace.

A Battle! That means war! The Battle of Armageddon will be a mighty war between good and evil.

The word-find below contains several words taken from this lesson's text. As you find the words, try to remember how Seth felt when this battle took place. How would you feel?

**GOOD
AGAINST EVIL**



L	I	B	K	H	A	Y	S	E	H	N	P	M	T
A	Y	O	T	G	R	F	T	E	B	V	O	S	D
K	K	R	N	R	M	Q	A	H	G	I	A	E	W
E	D	I	N	T	I	V	A	L	G	E	R	H	S
O	K	U	W	S	E	B	H	N	B	I	I	T	E
F	L	L	O	N	S	S	U	E	G	T	M	S	L
F	W	I	R	L	E	T	H	L	E	E	N	L	C
I	O	N	C	L	C	T	M	H	A	O	L	V	A
R	F	E	F	M	F	O	O	J	I	T	G	S	R
E	Q	N	O	O	U	R	Y	T	U	F	I	E	I
W	U	O	K	R	S	Y	A	F	V	D	J	O	M
R	N	R	N	E	K	N	L	O	R	D	G	Z	N
S	A	F	A	L	S	E	P	R	O	P	H	E	T
M	V	W	N	U	S	N	K	D	T	S	A	E	B
Q	K	P	W	G	F	K	Y	Q	D	R	O	W	S
T	R	U	M	P	E	T	I	R	G	L	O	R	Y
U	V	O	E	N	O	T	S	M	I	R	B	F	L

SUN
WAR
FOWL
KING
LORD
MOON
BEAST
CLOUD
CROWN
FLESH
GLORY
JUDGE
LINEN
MOURN
SWORD
TRIBE
ANGELS
ARMIES
HEAVEN
NATIONS
TRUMPET
ALMIGHTY
MIRACLES
BRIMSTONE
TRIBULATION
LAKE OF FIRE
WHITE HORSE
FALSE PROPHET
MARK OF THE BEAST



CHAPTER 10

THE MILLENIAL REIGN

LESSON 114 → Revelation 20:1-10; Isaiah 35:1-10

As Jesus set up His Kingdom, Logan and his family were given a big responsibility.



I WILL REIGN WITH JESUS.

The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. — Isaiah 35:1

The bloody battle was finally over. As Logan sat on his white horse, he saw an angel coming from the sky, holding a key and a huge chain. Logan watched as the angel bound Satan with the chain. At last the horrible, struggling enemy was powerless. The angel cast him into a bottomless pit!

“AHHHHHHHHhhhhhhhhh . . .” Satan’s roar died away as he was falling . . . and falling . . . and falling . . .

That old devil will be tumbling and falling for a thousand years, Logan thought, as he watched the angel carefully seal up the pit.

So began the thousand years of peace. The curse was removed and everything that was good remained and flourished. The Lord himself reigned.

“We’re going to see the King. Come with us to Jerusalem.” It was Logan’s father’s voice.

“Yes,” Logan said as he joyfully joined his parents. “Oh, think of all the wonderful things we will hear from King Jesus.”

“There is such tranquility everywhere. Have you ever seen the countryside so beautiful?” Logan’s mother commented. “Look at the hills—how green. Not a single thistle. And see the trees. How shiny the leaves are, and the fruit looks so luscious. Here. Try some. Listen. Even the trees seem to be singing praises to God.”

Just then they met a friend who had been crippled. “Mr. Brown, how wonderful to see you walking!” Logan called out.

“No more wheelchair for me!” Mr. Brown said joyfully. “It’s such a blessing to walk through the land and see the marvelous changes here. Why, I saw little lambs playing with lions in the field. The lions are so gentle. And children play with leopards along with the goats. To see them all get along so well is simply wonderful. What miracles Jesus has performed. I praise Him. I will go to Jerusalem soon to worship Him.”

“See you again. We’re off to Jerusalem now,” Logan’s father replied. With that, their glorified bodies were at their destination with ease.

What a blessing it was to see the King on His Throne. Logan’s heart filled with joy and gladness.

As they left, Logan’s father commented, “It’s quite a privilege the King has given us to rule our community. With Satan gone we have true peace and prosperity.”

“No more sickness or sorrow,” Logan’s mother chimed in. “Everything is so wonderful.”

The years of contentment rolled on as Logan enjoyed day-to-day perfection. A thousand years were nearly completed and nothing seemed to age. Never did Logan have an accident of any sort. Hurt and harm were never present.

Then suddenly a strangeness filled the land. Satan had been released! Logan recognized the feeling as it had been a thousand years before.

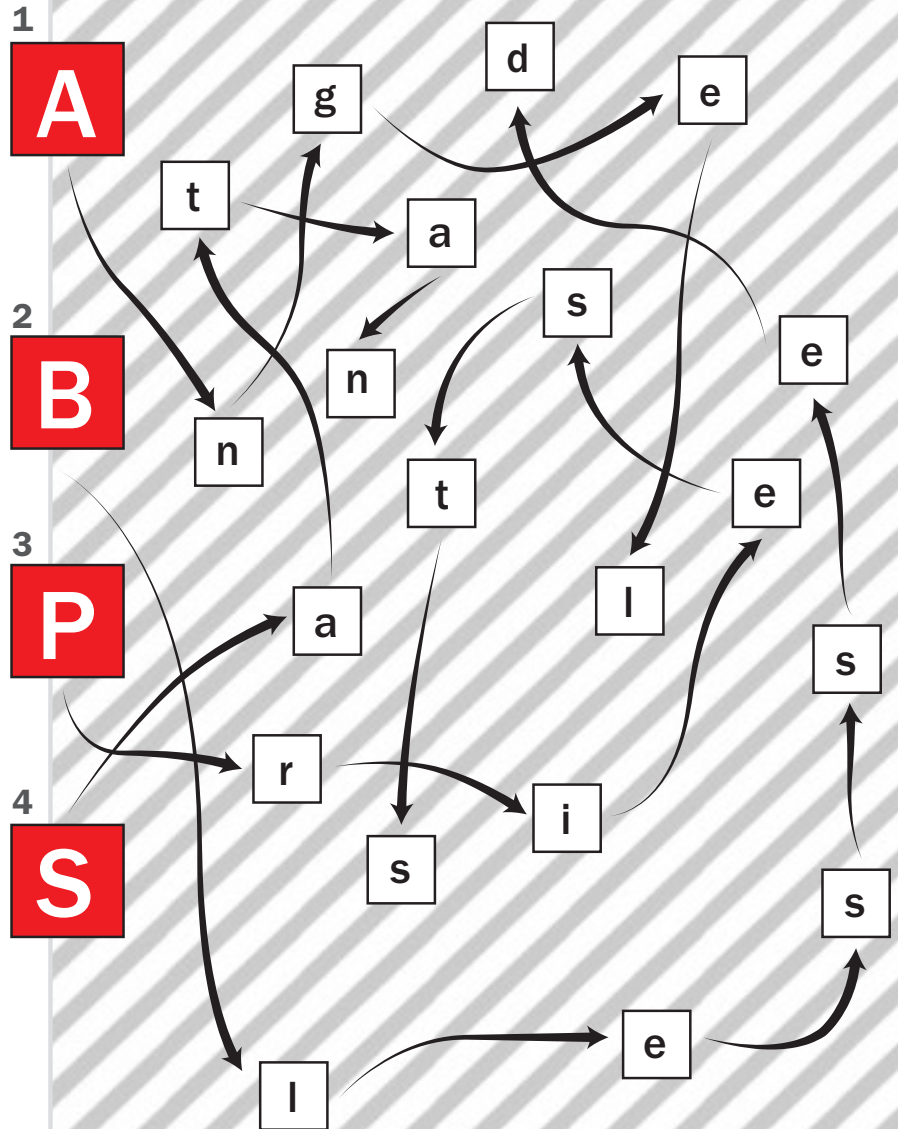
Armies formed in the hills and countryside, and grew in number. Satan was out to deceive everyone he could. But Logan was soon in the midst of the saints in Jerusalem.

As Logan joined the King’s army, the final battle was beginning. Satan’s army encompassed the city of Jerusalem. Then suddenly, “fire came down from God out of heaven,” devouring the army. “And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone . . . and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

A THOUSAND YEARS OF PEACE

The Millennial Reign is the 1000 years when Jesus will be on earth again. It will be a time of total peace. The text tells of some things that will happen during that time. The maze on the right will help you find the missing words in the four sentences below telling about those years. Use a different colored crayon and follow the arrows for each word, beginning with the numbered letter. When you have completed a word, write it on the blank line in the sentence with the same number.

1. An _____
from Heaven had the key
to the bottomless pit.
2. The people in the
first resurrection
are _____.
3. The people in the first
resurrection shall be
_____.
4. _____ shall
be bound for a thousand
years.





CHAPTER 11

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT

LESSON 115 → 1 Timothy 5:24-25; Revelation 20:11-15

The books were opened, and it was determined where Seth would spend eternity.

All around Seth were faces of those he had seen moments earlier in those horrible flames—HELL—where torment was all they had known. Oh, such relief to be freed from the flames! Then, his mouth opened wide as he saw Someone seated on a huge, white Throne. The horrible realization struck him, It is God himself on that Throne. “I’m doomed!” Seth wailed. “How foolish I was—I have no chance left! I’ll be back in the flames for ETERNITY!”

Ashes that had been scattered across the ocean all swooped together to form bodies of sinners small and great. All the dead came to life in the presence of God who sat on the Great White Throne. Seth’s sobs blended with the howl from the mobs of murderers, liars, adulterers,

sorcerers—everyone who had committed a big or little sin. They were all awaiting the final wrath of God.

Names echoed across the vast throng of sinners. Each was called to present himself at the Judgment Seat to be judged by God Almighty. The words and deeds done by each one also echoed through space, filling the ears of the whole universe.

“SETH MICHAEL THOMPSON,” the Voice of the Great Judge thundered.

Seth looked at God on the Throne and thought how pure He was. He felt so filthy and full of sin. How could he stand in God’s presence? As he fell prostrate before God, Seth thought, I’m lost! Any good I ever did is worth nothing. Why didn’t I pray?



JESUS PAID FOR MY SINS.

It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.
— Hebrews 9:27

He thought of the time at youth camp when his friends had asked him to pray. Why, oh, why had he shrugged them off as if it didn't matter? He thought of services at the church camp meetings when he had been so convicted his knees shook. Why had he been so stubborn? The horror of his situation closed in on Seth like a cage. There was no escape whatsoever!

"Your name is not written in My Book of Life," the Voice boomed out. "On the contrary, I see recorded here in My Book of Deeds that you cheated in school. You told lies to your parents. You stole money from your mother's purse. You discouraged your friends from going to pray at church . . ." The list went on and on as the Judge publicized each of Seth's sins for everyone to hear, concluding, "You refused to repent and believe."

Seth felt as if he were entangled in a giant spider web—a feeling that he was trapped and could never be saved. "Such doom!" he sobbed.

Then Seth heard the dreadful proclamation, "Seth Michael Thompson has chosen everlasting punishment rather than Heaven. For him, all hope is gone." From somewhere in his past, a verse of Scripture blazed into Seth's tormented thoughts.

"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire . . . And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

Suddenly, Seth felt himself falling. He could feel the unbearable heat of the flames intensify as he fell. A wail exploded from his soul, "Lost! Lost! Lost for eternity!" He knew he would never again feel peace or relief from this torment.

Seth looked up toward Heaven. How beautiful it was! Everyone was so happy. There he could see Dad and Mom and Logan. As they walked along, Seth saw them pick some fruit from the Tree of Life. They seemed to float over the streets of gold.

What an unspeakable contrast to where he was! The flames—so hot his body felt blistered all over. If he could have just a few drops of water on his lips. But there was no water here. Relief was unobtainable. And Seth knew it would be that way forever. Why, why, why had he not prayed when he was on earth?

Like a motion picture, Seth's life came up before him. He remembered the night Logan had been saved. Dad had asked Seth if he wanted to pray too. But Seth had said, "Some other time."

Seth thought again of the youth camp when some of his buddies had been saved. His counselor had asked him to pray, and Seth had really considered it. He could see the scene in his mind perfectly. As he stood by the bench he had almost gone to pray, but then he'd been afraid the kids at school would laugh. Oh, I wish I had one more chance!

The "motion picture" continued in Seth's mind. He saw himself with Logan in the sporting goods store the day of the earthquake. He remembered how the glass flew and how scared he'd been. Logan had told him earthquakes were one of the signs of the Lord's coming. Seth saw the scene he'd had with his dad later that night, when Dad had mentioned the same thing. Seth remembered how he'd stormed out of the room, shouting, "Oh, Dad, you're always preaching!"

When Logan came into their bedroom that night, he'd talked more to Seth. Seth remembered thinking, I'm going to get saved someday, but I'm just not ready yet.

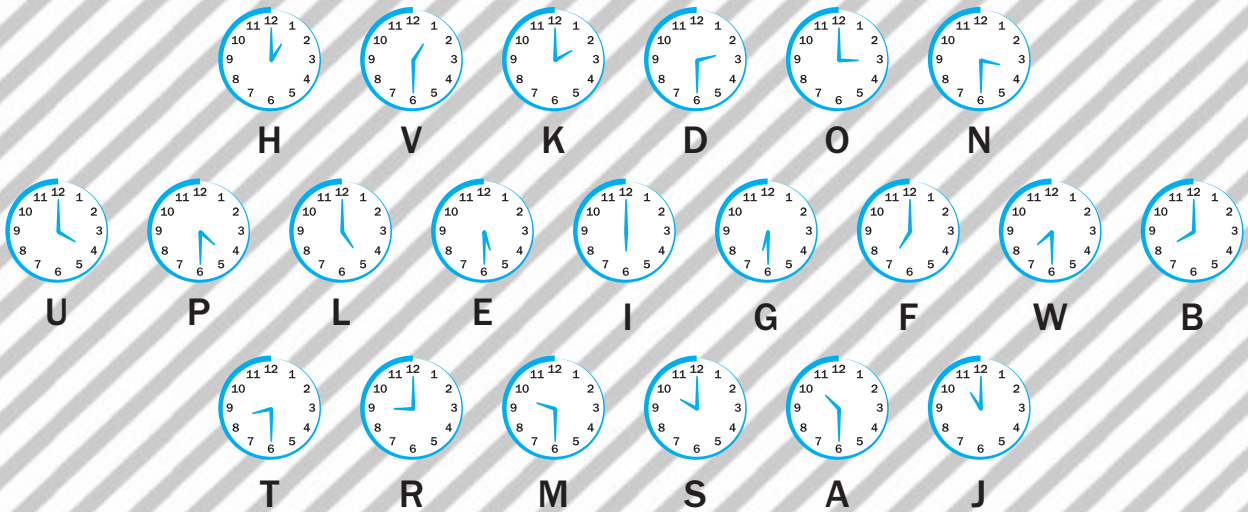
I'm just not ready yet . . . not ready yet . . . The words were a singsong in his head. And the panorama started up again—showing every chance he had ever had to pray. In a blinding flash, he realized this is what eternity would be like—hot, hot darkness, incredible torment, and that motion picture repeating his life over and over.

It was going to last forever . . . and ever . . . and ever . . .

Lesson 115 Activity

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

God's time for the world is running out. Is your name in the Book of Life?
Use the clock code to complete the puzzle below. Find out why your
name should be in God's Book of Life.



And as it is 10:30 4:30 4:30 3:00 6:00 3:30 8:30 5:30 2:30 unto 9:30 5:30 3:30 once to

2:30 6:00 5:30, but after this the 11:00 4:00 2:30 6:30 9:30 5:30 3:30 8:30.

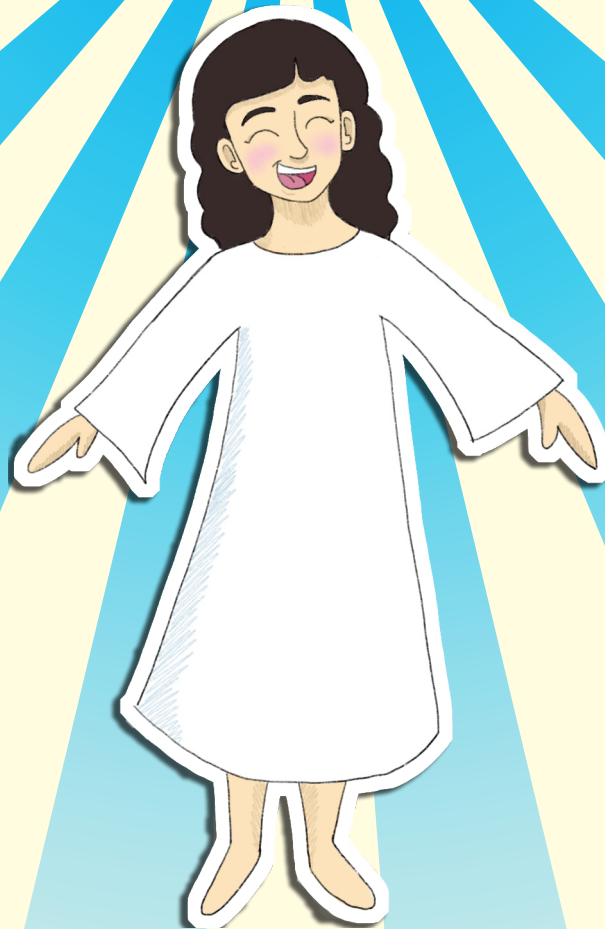
— 1:00 5:30 8:00 9:00 5:30 7:30 10:00 **9:27**

And 7:30 1:00 3:00 10:00 3:00 5:30 1:30 5:30 9:00 was 3:30 3:00 8:30 found

7:30 9:00 6:00 8:30 8:30 5:30 3:30 in the 8:00 3:00 3:00 2:00 of 5:00 6:00 7:00 5:30

was cast 6:00 3:30 8:30 3:00 the 5:00 10:30 2:00 5:30 of 7:00 6:00 9:00 5:30.

— 9:00 5:30 1:30 5:30 5:00 10:30 8:30 6:00 3:00 3:30 **20:15**



CHAPTER 12

WORTHY IS THE LAMB

LESSON 116 → Revelation 5:1-14; John 1:29

Only One was worthy to open the scroll with the seven seals.



JESUS GAVE HIS LIFE FOR ME.

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power. — Revelation 4:11

For a moment, there was an awesome silence. The final Judgment was over—those whose names were not written in the Book of Life had been cast into the lake of fire.

The vast throng, gathered in adoration around the Great White Throne, burst into a chorus of such unity, such harmony as was never heard on earth. Logan's heart welled up with unspeakable joy as he heard the words which seemed to be the theme of Heaven—"Worthy is the Lamb!"

As the chorus of voices rose, swelled, and filled the vast reaches of Heaven itself, Logan thought, Was it moments ago or an eternity past when I first heard those glorious words ringing out?

It had happened just following the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. The awe and wonderment of having Jesus himself serve him was still wrapping him in a glow. When Logan had joined the others in gathering around the Throne there in the middle of Heaven, a hush had fallen over them, almost a somber silence, as if any movement or sound would be an intrusion on a moment of sacred importance. Then, echoing through the portals of Glory, had rung the words of the angel, "Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?"

Suddenly a flood of glory had filled the place, and the whole area about the Throne was ablaze with golden light. Moving in its radiance were beings with harps in their hands, and vials. While Logan had watched, they fell on their faces before the Throne. And as He, before whom all Heaven bowed in adoration, stood with uplifted face, those beautiful words had rung out:

"Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood . . ."

As those voices had died away, the voices of an angel choir had burst forth into triumphant praise. "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to

receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing." Angelic forms, dressed in garments of flowing white, had circled the glorious Being on the Throne.

Just as he had at that earlier occasion, Logan once again felt himself sinking to his knees, his head bowed in worship. Instantly, the words he heard became imprinted on his heart in a way he had never felt them before, their eternal truth became a part of him. This was Jesus, the very God of earth and Heaven. The radiance and glory that surrounded Him was far beyond the splendor of the sun at noon, and yet this was the One who had come to earth in the form of a man. Not as a king, but just as an innocent baby, known on earth as the son of a carpenter. This was the One who had been nailed to a Cross—Oh! the anguish of it!—for Logan's sin. This was the One who had given His own life, so that today Logan could be in Heaven.

What could he say? How could he ever begin to express the gratitude, the adoration that was in his heart? All at once, he knew with perfect clarity that all of those joined with him around the Throne at that moment were experiencing this same burning need to pour out their hearts before the One who stood in divine radiance before them.

My Lord and my God! his heart cried out. What love has done for me! An eternity of thanksgiving and praise could never repay it. Then he heard his own voice joining with the vast multitude around him, "Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever." From a full heart, those words gushed forth like water upon the parched ground, and Logan knew their meaning in a way he had never known them before.

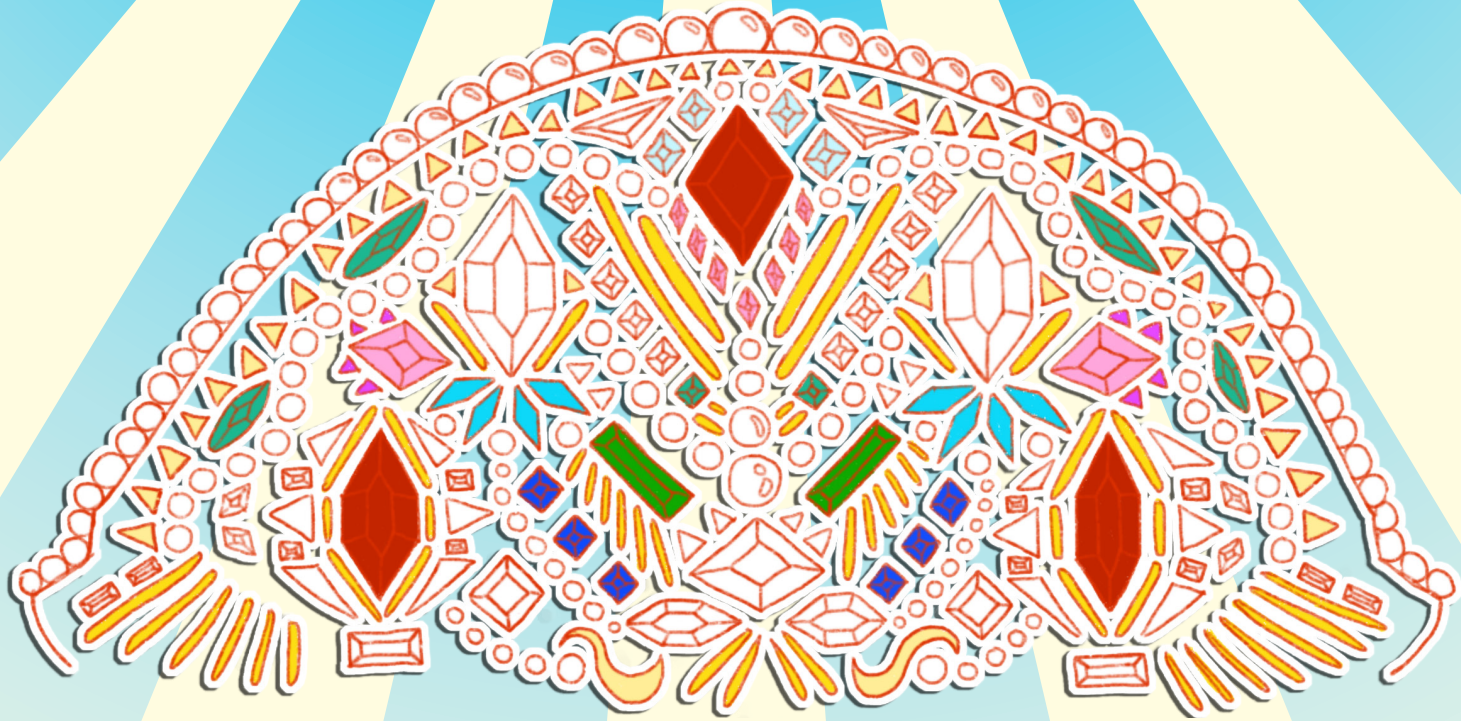
"Worthy is the Lamb!"

WORTHY IS...

Complete the Acrostic below by using the names for Jesus mentioned in the listed verses.

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Job 19:25
Isaiah 55:4
Matthew 2:2
Matthew 9:15
Matthew 12:38
John 3:2
Acts 3:15
Acts 13:23
2 Corinthians 1:14
Revelation 1:8



CHAPTER 13

THE NEW HEAVEN & THE NEW EARTH

LESSON 117 → Revelation 21:1-27; 22:1-5

The sight of the New Jerusalem as it descended from Heaven was more than Logan could ever have imagined.



I'M GOING TO LIVE THERE!

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. — 2 Peter 3:13

Even as the words, “Worthy is the Lamb,” rang out once more, a great roar came to Logan’s ears. It thundered again and again through the reaches of space with tremendous intensity. Into Logan’s consciousness came a verse learned long ago, “Heaven and earth shall pass away.” It was happening! The sin-polluted earth, all that was in it, and the heavens around it vanished like smoke.

Then, from the Figure on the Throne—the Figure wrapped in all the majesty of the Godhead—came the words, “Behold, I make all things new.”

All earthly concept of time faded from reality as a scene of unequalled splendor unfurled in front of Logan’s eyes. From before the Throne emerged the Holy City, coming down from God out of Heaven. It was even as John the Beloved had described it in the Book of Revelation. It grew and expanded, encompassing a vast area. And it was a marvel of purity and perfection! The City was filled with the glory of God, and was surrounded by massive walls of crystal-clear jasper. No blemish or imperfection marred its heavenly quality. No shadow was there, no touch of darkness lingered, for the glorious light of the Lamb completely illuminated every corner of it. The gates of pearl, the foundation of precious jewels—the City gleamed and shone with such a dazzling beauty that Logan’s wondering eyes could scarcely comprehend its magnificence.

Descending, this beautiful City was united with a new earth, an earth untainted by the touch of Satan or any of his followers. It seemed to Logan that as the new earth took shape before his eyes, even the remembrance of the old earth drifted away from his memory as a wisp of vapor. “All things new”—surely he was experiencing this himself!

Again the Voice from the Throne of Heaven rang out in majesty. “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him

that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.”

The water of life—eternal, abundant life with Jesus Christ himself, the Lamb upon the Throne! Logan’s heart once again seemed to well up with joy. As he watched, he saw the river, clear as glass, springing out of the Throne of the Lamb. On each side of it were trees, whose drooping branches were laden with blossoms and many kinds of glorious fruit.

Logan’s wondering eyes could scarcely comprehend what he was seeing, yet it all seemed so perfect, so natural. Purity! Purity! was the word that rang through his mind again and again. There was no shadow of dust, no hint of decay on fruit or flower. The grass, edging the crystal depths of the stream, looked freshly washed by summer rain, and every blade was the brightest green. And all was bathed in the golden glow of the light emanating from the One on the Throne.

In awe and wonderment, Logan turned again to the Throne. A compelling urgency drew him nearer, until at last he knelt before the Lamb of God, the One who had died for him. The greatest joy that he had known on earth was but the faintest shadow of the joy he felt here in the presence of his Redeemer. No sadness, no pain, no disappointments, no misplaced hopes, no unfulfilled longings, no unfinished plans, no night, no storms, no trouble—only light and love and peace and joy forever and ever.

Words poured forth from his full heart. “Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen!”

**IT'S GOING TO
BE GREAT**

New heavens and a new earth! And John tells us of a holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of Heaven! Doesn't that sound exciting? The activity below has some questions, scrambled words, and missing words. Read the verses given and complete the activity. You'll find out about some exciting things awaiting you.

1. Read Revelation 21:4 and list five things there will not be in the New Jerusalem.

2. Light in the holy city will be like which stone? _____ (Revelation 21:11)

3. Why does the New Jerusalem have no need of the sun or moon? _____
_____ (Revelation 21:23; 22:5)

4. What lives in the middle of the city? _____ (Revelation 22:2)

5. The pure river of water of life comes from where? _____
_____ (Revelation 22:1)

6. What was made of gold? _____; of pearl? _____ (Revelation 21:21)

7. R _____ will dwell (or be present) in the earth. (2 Peter 3:13)

8. Unscramble the names of these stones which help to make up the foundation of the wall of the city. (Revelation 21:19-20)

a) DELEMAR _____ d) PHRISAEP _____ g) IJCTAHN _____


b) SERJAP _____ e) LBYRE _____ h) YADSRNOX _____

c) AZTPO _____ f) SATMYHET _____ i) DISRAUS _____

SOLVE ^{THE} PUZZLE



READ THE ANSWER NEXT QUARTER



APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH
5414 SE DUKE STREET
PORTLAND, OREGON 97206

YOUR NAME:
