Conferencia General de la Iglesia de Dios



SABBATH SCHOOL

YOUTH AND ADULTS

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2026

General Conference of the
Church of God
R.A. Constitutive Registration SGAR 18/93.

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EDITORIAL

The word of God warns us that the coming of the Lord Jesus is approaching and the great day of Almighty God (Luke 21), and therefore it is necessary for the Church of God to remain firm, with solid foundations before the revealed truth.

The following Sabbath School Lesson booklet that we place in the hands of the Church of God today is not simply Bible study material; it is a spiritual guide that connects us to God's eternal purpose revealed in prophecy. Each lesson reminds us that human history is not out of control, but rather unfolds according to the sovereign plan of the Lord, who directs events toward the consummation of His Kingdom.

The study of prophecy is not meant to spark fleeting curiosity or unfounded speculation. Its purpose is to prepare God's people to live with discernment, hope, and faith in the midst of a turbulent world. Prophecy shows us that, though nations rise and fall, though human powers grow and then are brought low, the Word of God remains steadfast and His promises are fulfilled. "But the word of the Lord endures forever. And this is the word that was preached to you" (1 Peter 1:25). This workbook invites us to look beyond current crises and focus our attention on God's promises. By studying the cities that were judged, the empires that rose up against God, and the visions of the prophet Daniel and John in Revelation concerning the beast and the final battle, we learn that God's justice is inevitable, but also that His mercy always offers a path to salvation.

May this notebook be more than prophetic study material: may it be an instrument of spiritual growth, a call to holiness, and a source of comfort for every member of the Church of God.

As Scripture says: "We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts." (2 Peter 1:19).

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EDITORIAL BOARD

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FOURTH QUARTER
OCTOBER - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER
2026

THIS IS A REPRINT OF THE EDITION:
APRIL-JUNE 2014

«PUBLISHED UNDER THE DOCTRINAL SUPERVISION OF THE COMMISSION ON DOCTRINAL AFFAIRS»

«DESIGN, EDITING, AND PRINTING UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE EDITORIAL COMITEE»

LESSON
1
5325

SOME CITIES OF PROPHECY

BIBLE READING: Jeremiah 51:1-24.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«You have destroyed the proud who are cursed, who stray from your commandments» (Psalm 119:21).

OBJECTIVE:

To understand that God rules over the nations according to His justice and mercy, recognizing the exact fulfillment of the prophecies pronounced concerning Nineveh and Babylon as evidence of the faithfulness of His word.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

In Deuteronomy 28:1-2 God promised Israel, the nation He chose for Himself, that He would exalt it above all the nations of the earth and that He would place upon it all the blessings of heaven, under the condition that it kept His commandments. But if it did not keep those commandments, all the curses and calamities pronounced in that chapter would come upon it. This establishes a divine principle: man reaps what he sows (Galatians 6:7).

In the long history of the world, nations have risen and have fallen, because all are subject to the principles of justice established by God, as described in the aforementioned chapter. The predictions of the prophets regarding the destruction of those imposing structures and distinguished monuments, apparently indestructible, were fulfilled just as it was written.

In the word of God we read that He does not want the death of the wicked (Ezekiel 33:11). But because of the rebellion of men, the judgment of death and destruction came upon the nations. This was the result of their rebellion against the laws of God. The Lord says: «for they have transgressed the laws, violated the statutes, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore a curse devours the earth» (Isaiah 24:5-6).

Due to limitations of time and space, in this lesson we will focus the questions only on two cities of ancient times, which sowed wickedness and, finally, prophetic judgment came against them at the time appointed by God.

But, although wickedness is punished, the mercy of God is always present,

«for he does not afflict from his heart» (Lamentations 3:33). Because of that love God sends His prophets in order to warn of punishment for disobedience.

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- What message did God give the prophet Jonah to deliver to the inhabitants of Nineveh? Jonah 1:1-2. How did the people of Nineveh respond after hearing that message? Jonah 3:1-9.

2.- How did God act in response to the action of the Ninevites? Jonah 3:10.

3.- What prophecy was pronounced against Nineveh many years after the events narrated in the book of Jonah? Zephaniah 2:13-15; Nahum 1:1; 2:8, 13; 3:1-7.

4.- What did God say through the prophecy concerning the great city of Babylon when it was in its glory and splendor? Jeremiah 51:1-2, 7-9, 37; Isaiah 13:19-22. How was all this fulfilled? Daniel 5:25-28, 30-31.

5.- What had the Lord said about Cyrus, the Persian general, many years before he was born? Isaiah 45:1.

6.- Had God foreseen that the Medes would destroy Babylon? Isaiah 13:17-22.

LESSON
2
5326

THINGS THAT HAD TO HAPPEN

BIBLE READING: Romans1:21-32.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

« The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.» (Genesis 6:5).

OBJECTIVE:

To identify the manifestations of the moral and social deterioration announced in the Scriptures as signs of the last days, recognizing that their fulfillment confirms the faithfulness of the Word of God and announces the nearness of the coming of Christ.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

Every passing day we are surprised by what is happening in society, in politics, in the economy, etc. The inflation of the currency is not the outcry of only one country. The threat of a nuclear war reaches greater proportions every day. Drug trafficking and drug addiction itself have become a problem that harasses the world and governments. Terrorism is a cancer that has surpassed every effort to control it. The remarkable scientific development has not necessarily produced a more just society nor one closer to God.

But the unbelief and lack of attention of men cannot change the course of prophecy; what was previously written must come to its complete fulfillment, even though men do not believe it or pretend to ignore it. A sign of the last times is that believers in Jesus Christ will also be confused in the midst of this turbulent world, and they would also doubt the promises of the coming of Christ, saying: «"Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation» (2 Peter 3:4).

More than all that, we should ask as the disciples of Christ did when they were on the Mount of Olives: «Tell us, what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?». We should fix our attention on the writings of the prophets of the Old Testament and on the messages of Christ and the apostles, who emphatically warn of all the things that had to happen before His coming.

October 10

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- What is the moral condition of our society in these last days? 2 Timothy 3:1-5. These passages present 18 types of wickedness in our modern society. Mention those you consider most common.

2.- What did Jesus point out about the moral disorder of this generation? Matthew 24:37-39. What attitude of that generation was the Lord denouncing? Comment by reading Genesis 6:1-2, 4-5.

3.- Read Genesis 6:11. In what way is this being repeated today? Comment on the following aspects:

a) Sexual degeneration (Romans 1:24-26).
b) Homosexuality (Romans 1:27-28).
c) Idolatry (Jeremiah 7:9, 18).

4.- Read Romans 1:29-31. How many of these 23 sins mentioned here are practiced more in Mexico?

5.- What effects does the moral deterioration of society produce? Mention some current examples, such as alcohol abuse, tobacco, drugs, and other destructive behaviors. What is the economic situation described by the prophets? Amos 8:4-6; James 5:1-4.

6.- Is God unaware of what is happening in this world? Jeremiah 16:17. What determination has God made concerning all this? Jeremiah 5:29-30.

7.- What is the cause of all these calamities? Isaiah 24:5-6. What does God express as reasons for men to diminish? Proverbs 1:24-30.

LESSON
3
5327

THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY

BIBLE READING: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

« In order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.»
(2 Thessalonians 2:12).

OBJECTIVE:

To understand the development, nature, and deceptive work of the «mystery of iniquity», recognizing its prophetic fulfillment and the need to remain faithful to the truth revealed in the Word of God.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

According to the prophetic understanding adopted in this study, the mystery of iniquity developed very slowly as an ecclesiastical power supported by the civil government. This mystery from the days of Daniel was symbolically described as a little horn, which arose among the ten horns of the beast, which represented the Roman Empire.

The beast represents a political power; the woman represents a church. This woman had to ride for a determined time upon that beast (political power). That is, the hierarchical system of the papacy mounted upon that beast, taking the reins of power, both ecclesiastical and political. When this political phenomenon manifested itself, it became known as the union between Church and State. While the Roman government, despite being very powerful, did not have ecclesiastical power, it could not take the preeminence to totally dominate the saints of the Most High or Church of God. And when it achieved this, it became weak to give all authority to the little horn, that is, the Catholic government, led by the pope, taking on a form of simulated Christianity just as the Bible calls it «the mystery of iniquity».

The Roman emperors of the first three centuries after Christ tried to destroy true Christianity with all their strength, but failed. Then Satan began a new attempt, but this time using religion as a weapon.

At the beginning of the fourth century, the political conflict in the Roman Empire was creating a great competition for power, and this weakened the government of the State of Rome. Constantine, trying to solve the problems and carry out his political ambitions, legalized Christianity, while at the same time adapting many ceremonies of paganism in order to unify the two religions.

October 17

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- What had to precede the coming of Jesus? Matthew 24:24, 2 Thessalonians 2:3.

2.- What descriptions are given to this deceiving power? 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 7-8. What warning do we have concerning this spirit of lies? 2 Thessalonians 2:2, 2 Peter 2:1.

3.- How does Scripture describe the mystery of iniquity and what does it reveal about its satanic nature? Daniel 7:25, 2 Thessalonians 2:4, 9-10.

4.- How does the apostle John identify this power? Revelation 13:11-12. In what way is the healing of the wound on the head of the beast considered? Revelation 17:8.

5.- Whom would this power deceive? 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12. What influence would it use to deceive? 2 Corinthians 11:14-15.

6.- How does the apostle Paul describe that wicked one? 2 Thessalonians 2:8-9. What are the lying signs and miracles that he performs? Revelation 13:13-14.

LESSON
4
5328

THE SEVENTY-YEAR CAPTIVITY

BIBLE READING: Jeremiah 25:1-14.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«The Lord will bring a nation against you from far away, from the end of the earth, swooping down like the eagle, a nation whose language you do not understand, a hard-faced nation who shall not respect the old or show mercy to the young. » (Deuteronomy 28:49-50).

OBJECTIVE:

To analyze the consequences of the disobedience of the people of Israel and corroborate the faithfulness of God in fulfilling both His judgments and His promises of restoration.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

God, in order to fulfill all His plans, has always made use of men, whom He made according to His image and likeness. We began to see this from the beginning of the history of the world, long before God separated His peculiar people to make them the nation of Israel. Our God used the patriarchs such as Abel, Enoch, Abraham, and many others and placed them as His ambassadors. Later, the posterity of Abraham became the vehicle of God's plan to enlighten the nations with knowledge and reveal His plans to the nations of the earth. The promises of God to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, which He would make real under the conditions of obedience to His will, were faithfully fulfilled during the reign of David and of Solomon his son.

After this period of time, Israel gradually began to forget Jehovah, the true God, and fell into the idolatry practiced by the pagan nations around them. But the love of God never departed from them. On the contrary, He repeatedly warned them through the prophets to turn from their evil way. The people, despite everything, rejected divine mercy and grace, and prostituted themselves, lowering themselves to the carnal dissolution of the orgies they performed in their pagan rites. Thus the chosen people of God brought upon themselves the curses that the Lord had expressed beforehand in Deuteronomy 28:15-68.

How good it would do us now to learn the lessons of yesterday recorded in history, especially those referred to in the word of God! Paul, when remembering this time, says: «The people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play» (1 Corinthians 10:7).

October 24

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- Whom did God use to warn His people concerning the imminent judgment that would come upon them as a result of their disobedience? 2 Chronicles 36:15, Jeremiah 11:7-8.

2.- What kind of judgment was that which had been prophesied? 2 Chronicles 36:17-21, 2 Kings 25:1-10.

3.- How long were the Jews to be captive in Babylon? 2 Chronicles 36:20-21, Jeremiah 25:11-12. At what time did this period of captivity end? Ezra 1:1-4.

4.- What were some of the prophetic warnings that the Lord pronounced concerning the destruction of Jerusalem and the captivity of the people? Deuteronomy 28:36-41, Isaiah 39:6-7.

5.- Now observe the prophetic pronouncements concerning the return of the Jews:

a. By Isaiah (44:28, 52:1-6).
b. By Jeremiah (23:3, 8; 29:10-14).
c. By Ezekiel (28:25-26, 36:24-28).

6.- What important part of those prophecies had its fulfillment there? Nehemiah 2:17-18, 6:15-16.

LESSON
5
5329

THE POWER OF THE LITTLE HORN

BIBLE READING: Daniel 7:20-28.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months.» (Revelation13:5).

OBJECTIVE:

To analyze the emergence of the little horn in the context of Daniel's prophecy and to identify its prophetic characteristics and its actions against the saints of the Most High..

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

According to what we know of the metal image in Daniel 2, the Roman Empire was both very strong and very weak. This is represented by the iron mixed with baked clay. We also know that from the time of Theodosius onward, the empire was divided in two.

Around 350 AD, but more precisely around 370, this empire began to crumble, later giving rise to the kingdoms symbolized by the ten horns of Daniel 7. In a period of 100 years, beginning in 370, the Roman Empire almost collapsed.

Fearing the kingdom's demise, the Imperial crown was moved from Rome to the city of Constantinople, which had been the capital of the Eastern Empire since the days of Theodosius. This was done in order to maintain the imperial crown, even if out of place, in order to preserve dominion.

History tells us that at that time a religious empire began to emerge within the pagan Roman Empire itself. Kings and historical events led to the fulfillment of the prophecy, so that the power of the little horn—that is, the power of the Roman papacy—would be manifested.

October 31

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- Where did the little horn come from? Daniel 7:8, 24-25.

2.- What characteristics does the little horn have? Daniel 7:25.

3.- What did the prophecy indicate when it said that the little horn had eyes? Daniel 7:8, 20.

4.- How would this horn treat the saints of the Most High? Daniel 7:25, Revelation 13:7-8.

5.- What changes would this power try to introduce according to the prophecy? Daniel 7:25.

6.- What period of terrible persecution of the saints did God establish? Daniel 7:25. What wi l be the end of this destructive power, and when wi l it end? Daniel 7:26-27.

LESSON
6
5330

THE DRAGON'S WAR AGAINST THE SAINTS

BIBLE READING: Revelation 12:1-12.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«And he said to them, I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven». Luke 10:18.

OBJECTIVE:

Understanding the symbolism of Revelation 12 in its prophetic context, recognizing the constant hostility of Satan (the dragon) against Christ and the Church of God.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

We reiterate that the book of Revelation contains many symbolic figures.That is prophetic language. If we can arrange these figures in an orderly fashion with the help of the Holy Spirit, and taking into account the element of "time," it is possible to understand the true meaning of all these symbols.

A woman symbolizes a church or a nation. If the woman used in the symbol is pure and clean, the Lord intends to represent the church of God or His chosen people, as in the examples found in Revelation 12:1-2 (see also these passages in Jeremiah 6:2; Lamentations 2:8, 13; 2 Corinthians 11:2).But if the symbolic woman is unclean and corrupt, what God intends to represent is a corrupt church, as in the example found in Revelation 17.

The crown of twelve stars refers to the twelve tribes of Israel, as stated in Genesis 37:9. This clearly indicates that the woman crying out in labor pains was not the New Testament church, but Israel as a nation (Jeremiah 6:2; Lamentations 2:8, 13).

The vision of this chapter encompasses the latter part of the old dispensation and the dispensation of the church in the present age. That nation had the moon under its feet, which is interpreted as the old covenant, which was the glory of this one (2 Corinthians 3:7).

But when Satan saw that he could not destroy the Son of God, he persecuted the Church of God, desiring to destroy it. But God protected and nourished it throughout the long period of his persecution.

Satan failed in his second attempt to destroy the Church and feeling

frustrated, according to this prophecy, he will again wage war against the offspring of the woman, against those who keep God's commandments and have faith in Jesus Christ. All this will happen in the future, during the time of the great tribulation.

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.-What did John see in this vision and what do these symbols represent? (Jeremiah 6:2, 2 Corinthians 11:2, Revelation 12:1) What might the twelve stars (Genesis 37:9) represent in the moon beneath his feet? (2 Corinthians 3:7, Galatians 4:24)

2.- How do we know that the male child refers to Christ? Revelation 12:5; Psalm 2:8, 9; Acts 1:11. What did Satan personified in Herod try to do? Matthew 2:16, Revelation 12:4.

3.- How did God protect His Church from the wrath of Satan? Revelation 12:6. If the Church of God has not always existed, as some claim, can God sustain something that does not exist?

4.- In what time period can the events mentioned in Revelation 12:7-9 be applied? Ephesians 6:12. Was this a literal battle in heaven or a spiritual one on earth? Matthew 4:1-10, 2 Corinthians 10:4.

5.- What was the effect of Christ's preaching? Luke 10:18, John 12:31, Revelation 12:9.

6.- What did Satan do when he was thrown to the earth? Revelation 12:1314. How does the prophecy describe the help the woman received from the earth? Revelation 12:15-16.

LESSON
7
5331

THE BEAST AND ITS IMAGE

BIBLE READING: Revelation 13:1-10.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation» (Revelation 13:7).

OBJECTIVE:

Explore the prophetic vision of Revelation 13, identifying the beast's mortal wound, its restoration, and the formation of its «image» through political-religious alliances to persecute God's people.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

In a different vision, the Lord reveals to John, His servant, a beast with seven heads and ten horns. This beast represents the Roman Empire and resembled a leopard, but its feet were not those of a leopard but those of a bear, and its mouth was not that of a leopard but a lion's mouth. This indicates that it possessed characteristics of three different beasts, plus the characteristics of its own nature: fierceness, power, and a terrifying and dreadful nature. Certainly, the Roman Empire had much in common with earlier empires: Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece. Its entire military and political strategy was a diversified copy of the kingdoms that preceded it. The prophecy contained in this vision spans a long period of time. We know that Rome was founded in 753 BC, but it took a long time for it to become a universal kingdom. He achieved this until he defeated the empire that held world domination, Greece, and it was then that he appeared on the scene of the universal kingdoms.

The Lord explains to his servant John the appearance of this beast and how the dragon supported it by giving it his power, and how this beast received a tremendous wound on one of its heads. Importantly, he revealed to him about the mouth given to the beast to speak blasphemies against the Most High and his saints. This entire sequence of events indicates that Roman rule spans a long period in world history. Note at the same time certain transitions or changes in systems of government until it becomes like another beast, very different from the previous ones, with two horns to wield al the power of the first Roman beast, which is essentially the same; what is different are the systems it adopts to exercise all that power.

November 14

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- What did John the Theologian see when he stood on the sand of the sea? Revelation 13:2. What does he understand by the mortal wound that this beast received on one of its heads? Revelation 13:3, compare with Daniel 7:23-24.

2.- When was that beast given a mouth—before or after receiving the fatal wound? Revelation 13:5-7; Daniel 7:19-21, 24-25.

3.- What was the reaction of the peoples of the earth when they saw that the beast had healed of its wound and had spoken? Revelation 13:8. What fundamental event took place when the beast received a mouth? Revelation 13:5, Revelation 17:3-5.

4.- If the beast (Roman empire) and the woman (Catholic church) joined together to exercise an apparently benign power. What historical phase of this empire is represented in Revelation 13:11?

5.- Under what system did this second (phase of government) of the beast cause the inhabitants of the earth to worship the first beast (pagan Roman Empire)? Revelation 13:12, compare 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4.

6.- Explain what an image is. When and how did this second beast compel the creation of an image of the other beast that had been mortally wounded? Revelation 13:14-15. Compare Daniel 7:25 and Revelation 17:67.

LESSON
8
5332

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

BIBLE READING: 2 Corinthians11:25-33.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for al her sins» (Isaiah 40:2).

OBJECTIVE:

To corroborate the prophetic fulfillment of the gathering and restoration of the people of Israel according to the promises of God.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

One of the most controversial topics, in which passages of Scripture have been subject to different interpretations, is the gathering of Israel to the land that God promised to their ancestors and from which they once departed. Some deny that the Jews will be gathered and established in their own land, denying the future fulfillment of these prophetic promises. Recent events in Israel's history present a chalenge to those who, ignoring the Scriptures, dispute the fact of the Jews' return to Jerusalem.

In 1914, World War I broke out, an event that set the world on a different course. This event began to prepare the way for the liberation of the people of Israel. In 1917, the Balfour Declaration was issued:a public declaration by the British government, during World War I, announcing its support for the establishment of a "national home for the Jewish people" in Palestine. Between 1929 and 1939, Palestine received between 225,000 and 300,000 Jews from Europe and Asia. European nations, especially those allied with the regime of German Führer Adolf Hitler and his ally Benito Mussolini of Italy, opposed this. World War II broke out.

It was 1939. The Jews, even under such circumstances, made efforts to send their children to Jerusalem, the land of their ancestors. They felt a flame of desire burning within their hearts to die in Jerusalem rather than in other countries. Hitler's wrath was unleashed against the Hebrews because of their longing to go and live in the land flowing with milk and honey. Milions of them never saw it because Hitler exterminated them.

In 1943, a fateful year for the Germans, Russian and British planes met in the heart of Germany, and Hitler's rule was defeated.

The surviving Jews, despite the milions who perished in the Holocaust, never lost hope of acquiring their land.

Finally, on May 14, 1948, the prophecy was fulfilled when David Ben-Gurion, leader of the Jewish Agency, proclaimed the independence of the State of Israel; since then, the blue and white flag of Israel has flown there.

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- What was written for the end of days concerning the fate of Israel? Isaiah 11:12. Would the Jews be gathered from a single continent or from a single country? Jeremiah 32:37-38.

2.- What important statement does God highlight regarding the punishment applied to his chosen people? Isaiah 40:2; Joel 3:6-7.

3.- What promise did God confirm in favor of Israel, which He would fulfill at the end of their punishment? Amos 9:14-15.

4.- Were the disabled excluded from this promise? Jeremiah 31:8.

5.- Was it prophesied that God would gather them and make them a nation with the name of Israel? Ezekiel 37:21-22.

6.- How far will the confidence of the people of Israel go? Isaiah 60:11. Will there be any nations that help to make this happen? Isaiah 66:20.

LESSON
9
5333

THE HEAVY STONE OF PROPHECY

BIBLE READING: Zechariah 12:1-8.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine, and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit.» (Amos 9:14).

OBJECTIVE:

To understand the meaning of Israel as the «heavy stone» for the nations in the last times, according to the promises revealed in the Scriptures.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

The people of God, Israel, currently is like a gigantic clock whose hands are about to come together, indicating the hour of the end. The Bible also speaks to us of the time of the Gentiles. That was a time in which God allowed the Gentile powers to take dominion over Jerusalem and scatter the people of Israel throughout all the earth because of their sins against the Most High God. But despite everything, the Lord would not let them perish in the land of their captivity. He had promised not to reject them nor consume them, invalidating His covenant (Leviticus 26:44). What God was trying to do was to manifest His power before His own people and before the nations of the world, that what He has promised will be fulfilled, and there is no force or power in the world that can prevent it.

In the month of June 1967 the whole world witnessed an unprecedented event in history, fulfilling a part of this prophecy. There, in the war of only six days, the enormous and well-armed armies of the Arab nations were subdued by an army as weak as that of Israel.

Six years later, in October 1973, the world saw another proof of the power of the almighty God. Despite the fact that the Arab armies possessed the most modern war equipment that Russia had provided them, Israel defeated them; even though they were caught unprepared and occupied celebrating their Yom Kippur feast. And not only did it win the war, but it recovered Jerusalem, the holy city that for many years had been in the power of its enemies.

Israel has truly been transformed into a heavy stone, into a vessel of trembling for all the nations that are enemies of this people.

November 28

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- What was written as a reason for the scattering and oppression of the people of Israel? Deuteronomy 28:5, 25, 29. Who carried the kingdom of Israel into captivity? 2 Kings 17:6, 23. Who took the kingdom of Judah into captivity? 2 Kings 25:1-7.

2.- How long did this punishment last? Jeremiah 29:10. What prophecy did the Lord leave concerning the future of Israel? Luke 21:20-24.

3.- Would all of them be gathered again to the land of Jerusalem? Jeremiah 30:3, 18-22; 31:8.

4.- How can we know if these passages refer only to the seventy years of captivity or also to the final gathering in the last days? Ezekiel 36:8-11, Amos 9:14-15, Zechariah 12:2-3, 6.

5.- For what time can this prophecy be applicable? Joel 2:18-20, 3:1-2; Zechariah 14:1-4.

6.- Who will show Himself in the last times in favor of His people? Daniel 12:1-2, Zechariah 14:2-4, Revelation 19:11-16.

LESSON

10

5334

THE BEAST THAT COMES OUT OF THE BOTTOMLESS PIT

BIBLE READING: Revelation 17:7-14.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

« And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.» (Matthew 24:22).

OBJECTIVE:

To distinguish the prophetic resurgence of the beast described in Revelation 17 and its participation in the final events announced by God.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

From the revelation given to Daniel, the Lord began to use beasts to represent the kingdoms of the earth (Daniel 7:1-8, 17-23). The beast that we are now going to study represents the Roman kingdom or empire. But the prophecy represents it as a beast that, during the time of Napoleon Bonaparte, was left without political power, and this historical event is declared by the prophecy as the beast that went into the bottomless pit.

When the beast that was cast into the bottomless pit comes out again, then it will be known as the eighth head, but at the same time it will be the seventh head, which previously had an empire. This eighth head will be the papacy with more power. Since it received the mortal wound, the papacy has been recovering from its wounds, which it received from the Protestant Reformation until its fall during the time of Napoleon.

The power of the Roman Empire has begun to show signs that this monster is beginning to awaken. The influence of Catholicism is now very strong in the political, social, and, above all, religious aspects. The ecumenical spirit (between Catholics and Protestants) has the tendency to unify the main religious denominations.

The revival of the beast indicates the consolidation of various countries of Europe, which are currently integrating. The goals being pursued are to achieve political unity. They suggest having schools with uniform systems, social systems whose purpose is equality, courts of justice common to the people. And thus evidently they will increase their pressure until they manage to establish one official faith or religion. The ten horns will give power to the beast for one hour, that is, a short time.

December 5

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- What did God want to represent in a beast? Daniel 7:17-24.

2.- How does John describe that beast? Revelation 13:1-2. Who sat upon the beast? Revelation 17:3-4.

3.- Does Revelation 17:6-7 refer to the persecution that the Catholic Church carried out against the People of God?

4.- What will happen to the beast in the future? Revelation 17:8.

5.- What is the resurrected Roman Empire called in the prophecy? Revelation 17:11. Will there be persecution for the saints then? Revelation 13:15-16. What plan does God have so that His children will not be exterminated? Matthew 24:22.

6.- Is the power of the ten horns future or past? Revelation 17:12. At what moment does the prophecy present the fulfillment of Revelation 17:14?

LESSON

11

5335

GOD'S PLANS WITH THE NATIONS

BIBLE READING: Job 1:1-8.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«"Therefore wait for me," declares the Lord, "for the day when I rise up to seize the prey. For my decision is to gather nations, to assemble kingdoms, to pour out upon them my indignation, all my burning anger; for in the fire of my jealousy all the earth shall be consumed. » (Zephaniah 3:8).

OBJECTIVE:

To understand the divine purpose behind the judgment and gathering of the nations, recognizing the panorama of armament and worldwide war tension that will result in the gathering of the armies of the earth for the Battle of Armageddon.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

Wars have resulted in the establishment of weapons factories and all kinds of military equipment. A very high budget of each government is dedicated to the production of instruments of war: bombs, rockets, tanks, guided missiles, etc.

The contemporary world faces armed conflicts, violence, economic crises, and other problems that reflect the growing instability of the nations. What will God's attitude be toward such crucial conditions of the nations of the world? God will intervene in this worldwide conflict. When God intervenes, He will unleash His wrath to bring judgment upon all.

The battle of Armageddon will be unleashed, in which all the armies of the world will become involved, even the smallest ones (Revelation 16:16). Then Jehovah will intervene in favor of His people; otherwise no flesh would be saved (Matthew 24:22).

The Scriptures announce a growing conflict among the nations before the final outcome, as it is written «and the nations were angry» (Revelation 11:18). Soon the Prince of peace will appear in the clouds of heaven, who will establish a kingdom of true harmony.

December 12

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- What are God's plans for the last days and why? Zephaniah 3:8. Relate this passage with Revelation 16:13-16.

2.- Where will the center of this gathering of the nations be? Joel 3:1-2, 16. What nations will participate? Ezekiel 38:2-6.

3.- What will be the nations' attempt in this battle? Ezekiel 38:10-13. What will be the outcome of this confrontation? Zechariah 14:3-4, 9; Revelation 19:17-21.

4.- What is God's plan concerning the opposing armies? Ezekiel 39:11-12. In what way will Israel be able to survive this terrible trial? Joel 3:16, Zephaniah 3:15-17.

5.- What is God's plan for the church in those days? Isaiah 26:20, Matthew 24:21-22, Revelation 15:2-3.

6.- What thing will be singular in that last battle? Zechariah 14:4.

LESSON

12

5336

THE FINAL BATTLE

BIBLE READING: Revelation16:12-16.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon». Revelation 16:16.

OBJECTIVE:

To deepen the study of the prophecies related to Armageddon in order to understand the outcome of the conflict and the absolute victory of Jesus Christ over the beast and its allies.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

Revelation 19 presents a description of the final triumph of the Lord over the powers that oppose His kingdom. The chapter begins with the description of heavenly voices that sing: «Alleluia: Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God». The word «hallelujah» describes the praise of every creature, because the bride of the Lamb—the Church of God—is about to be united for eternity to the husband, to the One who purchased her with His own blood (Revelation 19:9).

After the fall of Babylon, the Word of God appears riding upon a white horse, but His clothing is stained with blood (19:11-21). This represents the Son of God who has triumphed in the battle, after He has destroyed all His enemies. The white horse, as we have already studied, represents purity, as well as the victorious power of the Divine Word. But His clothes became stained with blood. The prophet Isaiah presents this picture saying: «Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?». The Lord answers: «I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment» (Isaiah 63:1-3).

This scene describes the battle of Armageddon, and the conditions that will prevail during the great battle and after it. In Revelation 16 we find the mention of Armageddon during the sixth plague. From these days, the three unclean spirits will be working to gather all the nations at Armageddon, where the Lord Jesus will fight for His people and destroy all the enemy powers. This is the day of judgment, the year of recompense, says Isaiah 34:8.

December 19

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- Compare Revelation 19:11-13 with Ezekiel 38:2, 7-9. What peoples are involved in this war?

2.- Who promotes the gathering of the kings of the earth according to Revelation 16:12-14?

3.- Where and against whom will this battle be? Ezekiel 38:11-12, Revelation 16:16. How many peoples will gather there? Joel 3:2, 11.

4.- Who will fight in favor of the people of Israel? Daniel 12:1, Zechariah 14:3-4.

5.- How does John describe this battle? Revelation 19:12-16. Compare Joel 3:12-16.

6.- Does Revelation 19:17-18 reveal how that war will end? Compare Ezekiel 39:17-19. What will take place after the battle? Ezekiel 39:9-11.

LESSON

13

5337

HE WHO IS TO COME WILL COME

BIBLE READING: Luke 19:12-26.

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

«For, "Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay;» (Hebrews 10:37).

OBJECTIVE:

To reaffirm the certainty of the Second Coming of Christ, recognizing its purposes and evaluating the believer's commitment while awaiting His return.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMENTARY

The history of this world, which began in Eden, has now reached more than 6,000 years, according to chronology. In that long history great kingdoms have risen, and they have also fallen. Men became corrupted and formed a society estranged from God. Knowledge increases, men became vain, saying themselves to be wise, they became fools (Daniel 12:4, Romans 1:22). Sin exceeded tolerable limits. No man, no system can nor will ever be able to change the course of this wayward world. Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many; there remains no other sacrifice for sin: «the second time, without sin, shall he appear to those who look for him for salvation» (Hebrews 9:26-28).

There are many reasons why Christ has to come again. One of them is because He comes to suppress the power of Satan and to give payment to those who did not know God nor obeyed the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:8). Many of the prophecies related to the time of the end show signs of fulfillment. One of these prophecies says that there would be scoffers who would mock the promises of Christ (2 Peter 3:3-4). These include unbelievers, atheists, and those who claim that Jesus already came a second time, of whom Jesus said: «You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God» (Matthew 22:29).

The promises of His coming are for His believers, for those who await Him for salvation. He comes, as He promised, bringing the reward that each one deserves.

Every believer must make a review of his life and his actions before that great day arrives. Perhaps he must do as the prophet said: «Therefore thus I will do to you, O Israel because I will do this to you, prepare to meet your God, O Israel!» (Amos 4:12).

December 26

QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE ANALYSIS

1.- In view of the fact that many of the prophecies of the last days are being fulfilled, what do Habakkuk 2:3-4 and Hebrews 10:36-37 teach about the nearness and certainty of the coming of the Lord?

2.- Read 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10. To whom does this biblical portion refer? Compare Malachi 4:1-2.

3.- Describe some reasons for His coming according to the following passages: Daniel 2:44-45, Matthew 16:27, 1 Thessalonians 4:14-16.

4.- In what way did Jesus involve His followers in heavenly matters before ascending into heaven? Luke 19:12-13. What teaching does the giving of the minas convey? What did He mean by «occupy till I come»?

5.- What was the result of that negotiation in some? Luke 19:15-19. What excuse did the one who could not negotiate anything present? 19:20-24.

6.- Why is it important that Jesus come? Revelation 22:12. Explain by comparing the following passages: Isaiah 65:6-7, 2 Timothy 4:8. What will be the fate of the hurtful and undisciplined servants? Matthew 24:48-51.

National Development Plan

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2026 OUARTER

In this quarter, we will learn the great teachings left by the patriarchs. As we delve into studying their lifestyle, we will understand the moral quality that characterized them, their fear of straying from evil, and their love for God.

Some of them had to endure great trials and sufferings; however, the testimony of unwavering faith to attain God's promises teaches us that those afflictions were never a reason to give up. Although it seemed that the promises they were waiting for would not come due to those adversities, they persevered; some of them, from their very names, carried God's prophetic message to humanity.

We live in difficult times, which are continuously worsening, so we must be inspired by the life of faith and holiness that the patriarchs led, learning to conduct ourselves with the sense of belonging to God that these servants of His demonstrated. We must seek to persevere in strengthening our identity as children of God, which He requests from those of us who seek His blessings because we have believed in His promises. Aspiring to develop the personality traits that the patriarchs possessed, we will perfect our faith without wavering or adopting the customs of the world in which we live while not belonging to it, persevering in obeying the will of God until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"According to faith, all these died without having received the promises, but having seen them from afar, and believing them, and greeting them, and confessing that they were pilgrims and strangers on the earth" (Hebrews 11:13).

01
3
***oct**ober*

THE FIRST MAN (ADAM)

BIBLICAL READING: Genesis 3:6

OBJECTIVE: To highlight that the man of God must not distort or twist divine commandments, as Adam did.

02
10
***oct**ober*

AND WALKED WITH GOD (ENOCH)

BIBLICAL READING: Genesis 5:23-24

OBJEC**TIV**E: To emphasize that the man of God must live in holiness throughout his entire life, following the example of Enoch.

03
17
***oct**ober*

THE BLESSING OF GOD IN METHUSELAH

BIBLICAL READING: Genesis 5:25-27

OBJECTIVE: To understand that God has a unique purpose for the life of each person, as shown in Methuselah (through the meaning of his name).

04
24
***oct**ober*

PROCLAIMER OF JUSTICE LIKE NOAH

BIBLICAL READING: 2 Peter 2:5

OBJECTIVE: To exalt the virtues of Noah as a proclaimer of justice, who, even in difficult times, never ceased to announce the word of God.

05
31
october

GOD'S MERCY BEFORE THE FLOOD

BIBLICAL READING: Matthew 24:38-39

OBJECTIVE: To explain that God's goodness and mercy towards humanity have a limit, as demonstrated by the antediluvian generation.

06
7
November

THE FAITHFULNESS OF SHEM

BIBLICAL READING: Genesis 9:26

OBJECTIVE: To analyze how Shem, even surrounded by the wickedness of the world before the flood, remained faithful and behaved well both during that time and afterwards.

07
14
November

THE CONFUSION OF THE INHABITANTS OF BABEL

BIBLICAL READING: Genesis 11:6-8

OBJECTIVE: To analyze how confusion not only destroys communication but also unity and shared purposes, just as it happened with those who were building the tower of Babel.

08
21
November

THE FAITH OF ABRAHAM

BIBLICAL READING: Romans 4:9-12

OBJECTIVE: To identify the relevance of Abraham's example of faith and action, whose moral quality distinguished him both in circumcision and uncircumcision.

09
28
November

THE SENSE OF BELONGING OF LOT

BIBLICAL READING: 2 Peter 2:6-8

OBJECTIVE: To highlight Lot's firmness in preserving his sense of belonging to God, despite living in a morally adverse environment.

10
5
December

THE HOLINESS OF MELCHIZEDEK

BIBLICAL READING: Hebrews 7:1-3

OBJECTIVE: To learn from the testimony of holiness and faithfulness that gave Melchizedek the title of king and priest of the Most High God, inspiring every member of the Church to be kings and priests.

11
12
December

THE OBEDIENCE OF ISAAC

BIBLICAL READING: Genesis 22:7-9

OBJECTIVE: To highlight the importance of living in constant obedience and submission to God, traits that characterized Isaac and made him a possessor of the divine promise.

12
19
December

THE PERSEVERANCE OF JACOB

BIBLICAL READING:: Genesis 32:9-12

OBJECTIVE: To analyze the perseverance with which Jacob maintained hope in receiving God's promises, remaining faithful even in moments when his life was in danger.

13
26
December

THE FIRMNESS OF JOSEPH, SON OF JACOB

BIBLICAL READING: Acts 7:9-10

OBJECTIVE: To exalt the firmness of Joseph in overcoming adversities and maintaining his identity as a child of God, a quality for which he was exalted by Him in Egypt.

Glossary

In this edition, we intend to share a glossary through the following QR code, with the aim of providing the congregation with a clear guide on the grammatical rules for specific use in the literature of the Church of God. Additionally, it is suggested that these grammatical practices be acquired in the beloved Church.



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