

**THE NON-PROPHET'S GUIDE™ TO
THE END TIMES**

Study Guide

TODD HAMPSON



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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guided journal is to help you process what you learn as you read *The Non-Prophet's Guide™ to the End Times* and to offer the opportunity to go deeper into the subject. If you approach this study with the mindset that (1) the Bible was truly inspired by God (literally, God-breathed, see 2 Timothy 3:16); (2) is without error (in its original manuscripts); (3) God has sovereignly ordered events that led to the collection of sacred writings we call the Bible; and (4) that every single word in Scripture is divinely chosen (see Matthew 5:18) by Him to convey real truth to humanity; I believe you will form deep, clear convictions as you read its pages. If you don't have that mindset, I encourage you to consider those claims as you read the book. Fulfilled Bible prophecy is a strong argument for the divine nature and intentional design of the Bible.

I also want to challenge you to be very honest as you answer the questions for each chapter. Think of this as a devotional workbook that only you are going to see. If you don't ask the tough questions and wrestle to find truths that you can consider to be among your own personal convictions, you will gain more head knowledge, but you may miss out on the opportunity to let Scripture influence your heart.

At the end of each day is an opportunity to "Go Deeper." This includes a series of questions and a suggested scripture to study. I recommend using the S-O-A-P method of Bible study. It's a simple format that has you write the SCRIPTURE, write down your OBSERVATIONS, then think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Finally, you take time to PRAY for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied. As you do this, you can use the suggested Scripture passage or write out one of your own from the correlating chapter in *The Non-Prophet's Guide™ to the End Times*.

Finally, if you are a believer in Christ, you have the Holy Spirit inside of you. Pray that He will guide you into truth as you study these important things. Pay attention to the leading of the Spirit as He illuminates Scripture to you. And if you are not yet a believer in Christ, I pray this study will spur you to become one—not because I want to win an intellectual argument, but because entering into a personal relationship with Jesus as Savior and Lord can truly change your life. God longs for you to receive Him, and I hope you'll respond to His invitation. If nothing else, be sure to read and study chapter 20: "The Safest Place to Be."

DAY 1

Chapter 1: What Is Bible Prophecy, and Why Is It So Important?

PART 1

What God Is Telling Us Through Prophecy

“Men of Galilee,” they said. “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).

Read Acts chapter 1 and use your imagination to put yourself there on the scene. What thoughts and feelings would you have experienced if you had been present with the disciples and witnessed this event?

Does the Lord’s future return seem distant or irrelevant? Why or why not?

How are you affected by the knowledge that the rapture could happen in your lifetime?

Do you have any reservations about studying Bible prophecy in general, or the end times specifically?

Were you aware that prophecy comprises such a significant portion of the Bible (27-33 percent)?

How does knowing that fact influence your view of Bible prophecy?

Does the world seem a scarier place to you now than it was five to ten years ago? Why or why not?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 13:11-12

Do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 2

Chapter 1: What Is Bible Prophecy, and Why Is It So Important?

PART 2

What Is Bible Prophecy?

Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:20-21).

How does it feel to know that prophecy comes from God (the Holy Spirit) and doesn't require a private or secret interpretation?

Do you believe God says what he means and means what he says? Why or why not?

Notice that God attaches his character to the accuracy of Bible prophecy. How does this help give you confidence in the trustworthiness of the Bible?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 42:8-9

I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to anyone else, nor share my praise with carved idols. Everything I prophesied has come true, and now I will prophesy again. I will tell you the future before it happens (NLT).

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 3

Chapter 1: What Is Bible Prophecy, and Why Is It So Important?

PART 3

Why Is Bible Prophecy Important to You?

Does fulfilled prophecy give you confidence in the other claims in the Bible?

“Experts report that 27-33 percent of the Bible is prophecy. More than 10,000 of the 31,102 verses in the Bible contain prophecy, and half of those have already been fulfilled. That is no small down payment. God has put his money where his mouth is and demonstrated his promise-keeping faithfulness to generations of believers” (from page 16 of *The Non-Prophet’s Guide™ to the End Times*).

How does Bible prophecy motivate us to share the gospel?

I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile (Romans 1:16 NLT).

What are some ways you can tell others the good news about Christ?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

John 14:29

I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 4

Chapter 1: What Is Bible Prophecy, and Why Is It So Important?

PART 4

What Are the “End-Time Signs”?

Jesus openly and boldly criticized the religious leaders (the Pharisees and Sadducees) and the crowds for not understanding the prophetic nature of their times. His first coming had been clearly prophesied in the Old Testament books, yet upon His arrival, many did not recognize who He was. Some individuals, however, had been alert to the signs and realized that He was the Messiah—including the wise men, Simeon, Anna, and John the Baptist.

To the religious leaders Jesus said, “You know how to interpret the weather signs in the sky, but you don’t know how to interpret the signs of the times!” (Matthew 16:3 NLT).

To the crowds he said, “You fools! You know how to interpret the weather signs of the earth and sky, but you don’t know how to interpret the present times” (Luke 12:56 NLT).

Do you think Jesus expects us to recognize the signs of our times? Why or why not?

As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?” (Matthew 24:3).

How does Jesus’s response to his disciples’ honest questions differ from his criticism of the religious leaders and the crowds? Why is this significant?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:36

Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man (NKJV).

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 5

Chapter 1: What Is Bible Prophecy, and Why Is It So Important?

PART 5

A Clear Witness for Jesus

What does the following verse exhort us to do as the return of Christ draws closer?

... not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching (Hebrews 10:25).

Revelation 19:10 says, “The essence of prophecy is to give a clear witness for Jesus” (NLT). According to this verse, what is the main purpose of prophecy?

Give some thought to Revelation 19:10 and rephrase it, using your own words.

What other observations or questions do you have about this chapter that you want to study further? Write them below. As you do so, consider Bible verses that speak to these questions, and use books or online resources that will help shine more light on what the verses mean and how they apply to you.

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 5:4

You, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief (NKJV).

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 6

Chapter 2: How Does Prophecy Prove Divine Authorship?

PART 1

Only God Knows the Future

I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come (Isaiah 46:9-10).

What does the above passage say (much like Isaiah 42:8-9) that indicates the Bible, which comes from God, is different from any other book ever written?

Have you given much thought to the fact that God is timeless, or outside of time? Why is this significant when it comes to Bible prophecy?

What do you think it means to say that Christianity is a “reasoned faith”? What reasons cause people to believe? What reasons cause people to doubt? How can you research any doubts or questions you might have?

What do you think of the statement, “Fulfilled prophecy is a fact we can analyze and verify. Either it has occurred or it has not”?

In what ways does fulfilled prophecy give you greater confidence in God and the Bible?

World Empire Prophecies

Read Daniel chapter 2. In verse 45, Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar, “The great God was showing the king what will happen in the future. The dream is true, and its meaning is certain” (NLT).

Chapter 2: How Does Prophecy Prove Divine Authorship?

Do you think it's merely a coincidence that the four consecutive empires that played out in history match perfectly with those described in Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the statue?

How do the feet of the statue match conditions today in the region that comprises the former Roman Empire?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 46:9-10

I am God, and there is no other...I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 7

Chapter 2: How Does Prophecy Prove Divine Authorship?

PART 2

Jesus and Bible Prophecy

Luke 3:15 informs us that “everyone was expecting the Messiah to come soon” (NLT).

How was it possible for people to know they were living in the general timeframe for the Messiah to arrive?

How significant is it to you that the Old Testament offered 109 distinct prophecies about the Messiah that were all fulfilled at Jesus’s first coming?

Do you think there is any way that the fulfillment of all 109 prophecies could be a mere coincidence?

Could Jesus have self-fulfilled any of the prophecies noted on the abbreviated chart entitled “26 of the 109 Messianic Prophecies”? (See page 28 in *The Non-Prophet’s Guide™ to the End Times*.)

How significant is it that Psalm 22:16 and Isaiah 53:5-6 predicted the specific details of the Messiah’s death on the cross before crucifixion even came into existence as a method of execution by the Romans?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

Chapter 2: How Does Prophecy Prove Divine Authorship?

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 53:5-6

He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 8

Chapter 2: How Does Prophecy Prove Divine Authorship?

PART 3

Israel and Bible Prophecy

The mega-prophecy regarding the Jewish people is that Israel would be reborn as a nation again after a long period of its people being scattered all over the world. This rebirth occurred in 1948, and no other people group or nation has had such a rebirth after nearly 2,000 years of being scattered and persecuted.

Read what this profound passage says about Israel's gathering in the context of the last days:

This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms (Ezekiel 37:21-22).

What specific details do you notice in these verses? Have these details been met?

What other notes or questions do you have about this chapter that you want to study further? Write them below, and use a study resource that can help answer your questions.

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 23:7-8

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when people will no longer say, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,’ but they will say, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the descendants of Israel up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them.’ Then they will live in their own land.”

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 9

Chapter 3: What Are the Practical Benefits to Studying Prophecy?

PART 1

Bible Prophecy and Spiritual Growth

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near (Revelation 1:3).

What promise is made in the verse above?

How does this affect your perspective of Bible prophecy in general and the book of Revelation in particular?

How Prophecy Influences Us

In what ways do you want to grow spiritually?

How does Bible prophecy help you grow?

Hebrews 4:12 says, “The word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

According to this verse, what effect does studying God’s Word have on us?

If you knew the Lord was going to return in the near future, or even during your lifetime, what influence would that have on the earnestness with which you share your faith with others?

Chapter 3: What Are the Practical Benefits to Studying Prophecy?

Second Peter 3:9 says, “The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”

What does this verse tell us about God’s love and patience?

Do you think people sometimes mistake God’s patience for not keeping his word about his return?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 13:12-14

The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 10

Chapter 3: What Are the Practical Benefits to Studying Prophecy?

PART 2

Living with an Eternal Perspective

Colossians 3:2 says, “Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things.”

How can a heavenly mindset benefit us here and now?

How can we guard against becoming too attached to the things of this world?

How can an understanding of future events foretold in Scripture impact our mindset today?

How can an awareness of our amazing future with Christ influence the way we live today?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:19-21

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 11

Chapter 4: Key Terms Defined

Keys to Understanding Bible Prophecy

Chapter 4 in the book *The Non-Prophet's Guide™ to the End Times* lists some key terms related to Bible prophecy. Are there any other words, phrases, or terms that confuse you or that you would like to study? If so, list them here, then use a concordance to look up all the uses of those words in Scripture. Use the headings below to guide your study.

Word/Phrase/Term I'd Like to Study

Number of Times Used

First Mention

Notes

Conclusion

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

Chapter 4: Key Terms Defined

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 12

Chapter 5: The Four Interpretation Methods

PART 1

Unity and Humility

You may have heard the saying, “In essentials unity, in nonessentials liberty, in all things charity.”

What would you say are the “essentials” of Christianity? These would be baseline, nonnegotiable teachings of the faith, or fundamental beliefs of true biblical Christianity. Make your list below, and compare it with the chart on page 52 of *The Non-Prophet’s Guide™ to the End Times*.

According to the verses below, how important do you think it is for Christians to verify what they hear by studying the Bible for themselves?

2 Timothy 2:15—“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”

Acts 17:11—“Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.”

In view of these passages, do you think it is important to compare scripture with scripture to determine a passage’s meaning?

Why is it dangerous to infuse our own ideas into God’s Word or allegorize Scripture when we come across a confusing or complex passage?

Do you think God intends to communicate clearly with us?

Why do you think some Scripture passages require careful study in order to be understood?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

1 John 4:20

Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 13

Chapter 5: The Four Interpretation Methods

PART 2

The Views

The Idealist View: Prophecy Is All Symbolic

Do you think this view is correct? Why or why not? (As you explain this and the other views in your own words, you'll be able to think through their implications.)

The Preterist View: The Prophecies Already Happened

Do you think this view is correct? Why or why not?

The Historicist View: Prophecy Is an Overview of History

Do you think this view is correct? Why or why not?

The Futurist View: Prophecy Is Literally Going to Happen as Stated

Do you think this view is correct? Why or why not?

Do you think holding to a literal understanding of Scripture is the correct approach to interpreting Bible prophecy? Why or why not?

A paraphrase of the golden rule of interpretation states, "When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense, lest it result in nonsense."

How is this related to a literal interpretation of Scripture?

How can a spiritualized or allegorized interpretation of Scripture lead to nonsense?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 14

Chapter 6: The Three Views of the Rapture

Understanding the Rapture

The Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

Why do you think the Lord kept the details of the rapture a mystery until after the cross?

After studying the three main views of the rapture, which one seems to fit Scripture the best? Why?

What do you think of the partial list of first-half events on pages 68-69 of your book?

What do the following passages make clear about the rapture?

1 Thessalonians 5:2—“You know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.”

Matthew 24:36—“About that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”

Matthew 24:43—“Understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into.”

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

Chapter 6: The Three Views of the Rapture

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 15

Chapter 7: Five Reasons to Believe in the Pre-Tribulation View of the Rapture

PART 1

Reason #1: We Are Not Appointed to Wrath

God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 5:9).

How does it make you feel to know that believers are not appointed to wrath?

Do you think that only applies to the afterlife, or to the future end-times judgment as well?

How is it that God is a God of grace but also a God of wrath?

Would God truly be a God of love if he let evil go unpunished? Why or why not?

Take a few minutes to look up these Old Testament passages about the Day of the Lord—Isaiah 2:12; 13:6,9; Ezekiel 13:5; 30:3; Joel 1:15; 2:1,11,31; 3:14; Amos 5:18,20; Obadiah 15; Zephaniah 1:7,14; Zechariah 14:1; Malachi 4:5. After reading them, take a moment to stop and thank God for his grace and mercy toward you personally if you have accepted the gift of salvation.

If you are not yet a believer in Christ, do any of the above passages on the Day of the Lord help you to see the wisdom of receiving Christ as Savior? Why or why not?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using one of the Bible passages below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Pick one of the verses below to use in your S-O-A-P study for today.

Romans 5:9—“Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!”

1 Thessalonians 1:10—“... to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.”

Revelation 3:10—“Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth” (NKJV).

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 16

Chapter 7: Five Reasons to Believe in the Pre-Tribulation View of the Rapture

PART 2

Rapture Hidden in the Old Testament

With the mystery of the rapture revealed to us after the death and resurrection of Christ, it's interesting to go back and see the rapture hidden in veiled language throughout the Old Testament. Consider this passage:

Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, until the indignation is past. For behold, the LORD comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; the earth will also disclose her blood, and will no more cover her slain (Isaiah 26:20-21 NKJV).

How does this line up with the pre-tribulation rapture view?

Read these verses and note the various ways they line up with the pre-tribulation rapture view as well.

Psalm 27:5—

Psalm 57:1—

Zephaniah 2:3—

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

Chapter 7: Five Reasons to Believe in the Pre-Tribulation View of the Rapture

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using one of the Bible passages below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Use one of the four passages on the previous page (Psalm 27:5; Psalm 57:1; Isaiah 26:20-21; Zephaniah 2:3) for your S-O-A-P study today. Write the verse here:

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 17

Chapter 7: Five Reasons to Believe in the Pre-Tribulation View of the Rapture

PART 3

Reason #2: Patterns and Types

Was it surprising to discover the parallels between end-time events and patterns and types in other accounts of God's judgment?

Which account stood out to you the most, and why?

What other instances of God's judgment contain details that parallel those of end-time events? Pick almost any passage about God's judgment, and you'll find the pattern of warning, a time for repentance, removal or protection of believers, then sudden destruction and unmistakable judgment.

For believers, how should this pattern provide hope instead of fear?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 19:12-13

Then the two men said to Lot, “Whom else have you here? A son-in-law, and your sons, and your daughters, and whomever you have in the city, bring them out of the place; for we are about to destroy this place, because their outcry has become so great before the LORD that the LORD has sent us to destroy it” (NASB).

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 18

Chapter 7: Five Reasons to Believe in the Pre-Tribulation View of the Rapture

PART 4

Reason #3: The Jewish Wedding Tradition

What parallels between Jewish wedding traditions and the rapture stood out to you, and why?

Why do you think God refers to his church as a bride?

How does this make you understand God's feelings toward you as a believer?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using one of the Bible passages below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Look up 2 Corinthians 11:2 and Revelation 19:7-9, and choose one for your S-O-A-P study.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 19

Chapter 7: Five Reasons to Believe in the Pre-Tribulation View of the Rapture

PART 5

Reason #4: The Focus of the Tribulation Is Israel, Not the Church

What is the significance of the absence of the word “church” after Revelation chapter 3?

Read Daniel chapter 9 with the idea that the last seven years are “the time of Jacob’s [Israel’s] trouble.” How does that line up with the claim here in Reason #4?

What are some reasons people might not see Jesus as the Messiah, even though he fulfills all the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah?

How does it make you feel to know that by the end of the tribulation period, the Jewish people will turn to Jesus for salvation and, as Paul says in Romans 11:26, “all Israel will be saved”?

Why is it so important that God keeps his covenant promises to Israel and the Jewish people?

How is that directly related to the promises God has made to those of us who are Gentile believers?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

Chapter 7: Five Reasons to Believe in the Pre-Tribulation View of the Rapture

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using one of the Bible passages below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Look up Deuteronomy 7:6-8 and Psalm 105:8-15, and choose one for your S-O-A-P study today. Write it out below.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 20

Chapter 7: Five Reasons to Believe in the Pre-Tribulation View of the Rapture

PART 6

Reason #5: 2 Thessalonians 2

Do you think “the departure” spoken of in 2 Thessalonians 2 is a spiritual departure or a physical one? Why?

How is this a strong support for the pre-tribulation position if it is talking about a literal, physical departure?

Titus 2:13 calls the rapture our “blessed hope.” If the pre-tribulation view is not correct, would it be possible for us to call the rapture our blessed hope? Why or why not?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

2 Thessalonians 2:3

Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 21

Chapter 8: The Three Views of the Millennium

The Three Views

Which of the three views makes the most plain sense to you when reading the Scripture text?

Do you feel Revelation 20:1-6 supports a literal 1,000-year reign on Earth?

Acts 1:6 says, “They gathered around him and asked him, ‘Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?’” Based on this verse, is it safe to say that the disciples were expecting a literal and physical earthly kingdom?

Jesus also said the kingdom is within us. What do you think he meant by that?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 20:1-3

I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 22

Chapter 9: The Keys to Watching God's Plan Unfold

An Overview of the Ages

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel (Genesis 3:15).

How does this verse point to the future Messiah?

Adam and Eve and their children didn't know what we now know about Jesus, but Genesis 3:15 pointed to a future offspring (literally, "seed") of the woman who would defeat Satan. Through each era of biblical history, this was the crux of the battle for the hearts, minds, and souls of people.

Imagine what it must have been like to live in each of the dispensations with the limited knowledge people had of God's future provision. They still needed faith, and salvation was always by grace.

Do you see God's fingerprints upon each era or dispensation? How so?

The Greek word translated "dispensation" is *oikonomia* and is found in 1 Corinthians 9:17; Ephesians 1:10; 3:2-3,9 and Colossians 1:24-26. Look up these verses. What details do you observe?

What stands out to you about the dispensations chart on page 96 of *The Non-Prophet's Guide™ to the End Times*?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

Chapter 9: The Keys to Watching God's Plan Unfold

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 22:17-18

I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice (ESV).

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 23

Chapter 10: Daniel's Visions

PART 1

The Rise and Fall of World Empires

The succession of kingdoms predicted in Daniel 2 provides an eye-opening awareness of how accurately God's prophetic declarations are fulfilled. The statue was Nebuchadnezzar's vision, but we also find the same empires described from God's perspective in Daniel 7. God saw these evil empires for what they were, and the vision in Daniel 7 depicted them as four beasts.

Read Daniel 7, and note the similarities and differences with Daniel 2.

What did you learn about the antichrist from the book of Daniel?

What symbolism did you see in the book of Daniel that connects to Revelation and other end-times passages? (Example: horns representing power, etc.)

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Daniel 7:23

He gave me this explanation: "The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth. It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it."

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 24

Chapter 10: Daniel's Visions

PART 2

The 70 Weeks of Daniel 9

Review the five things we learn from the 70-weeks prophecy as stated on pages 110-111 of *The Non-Prophet's Guide™ to the End Times*. Note anything that stands out that you may want to study further.

What two entities does the prophecy focus on in Daniel 9:24?

What does this say about God's view of the Jewish people and the city of Jerusalem?

Note God's concern about a specific area of real estate. What do you think explains this concern?

How do God's unconditional promises to Abraham—the father of the Jewish race—relate to Daniel 9:24?

Do you see the gap in Daniel's vision (which we now know has to do with the church age) between the destruction of one temple (verse 26) and the existence of a new one (verse 27)?

Why do you think God kept the church age concealed (yet present) in the Old Testament?

Chapter 10: Daniel's Visions

Just as God is sovereign over every detail of world history, he is sovereign over every part of your life. How does God's ongoing and faithful activity in the world help you face the struggles or challenges of the day?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Daniel 9:24

Seventy "sevens" are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 25

Chapter 11: The Olivet Discourse

Jesus's Teaching on the End Times

If you were to have a private meeting with Jesus, what three questions would you ask him? Take a few minutes to think about this, and write your questions below.

Do you think it's natural for people to want to know when the end will come?

Why is it significant that Jesus didn't rebuke his disciples for asking about the end?

In the Olivet Discourse, how significant is it that the first thing Jesus mentioned was deception (Matthew 24:4)? How important is it that we guard the truth?

Jesus left earth from the Mount of Olives (see Luke 24:50-52 and Acts 1:11-12), and at the end of the tribulation he will return and set his feet on the Mount of Olives (see Zechariah 14:4). Here are some Old Testament verses to read that mention the Mount of Olives. Look them up, and note any interesting details.

2 Samuel 15:30

1 Kings 11:7

Ezekiel 11:23

In Matthew 24, what signs stood out to you the most as you read about them?

Chapter 11: The Olivet Discourse

What signs would you like to further study? List them below, and use a concordance to find other verses in Scripture that may shed light on these signs. Or, use a trusted Bible study resource to find out what you can.

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using one of the Bible passages below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Choose one of the passages on the previous page (Matthew 24:4; 2 Samuel 15:30; 1 Kings 11:7; Ezekiel 11:23) for your S-O-A-P study for today. Write it below.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 26

Chapter 12: John's Revelation

Understanding the Book of Revelation

Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later (Revelation 1:19).

The book of Revelation has three basic parts:

1. Things you have seen (glorified Christ in heaven, 1:12-18)
2. Things which are (direction to the seven churches, chapters 2–3)
3. Things that take place after (future/tribulation/kingdom/eternity, chapters 4–22)

How does Revelation 1:19 help lay out the book chronologically? Does it take some of the mystery and confusion away and give you a sense for how the book plays out?

Study the basic outline chart on page 126 of *The Non-Prophet's Guide™ to the End Times*. Do the chapter descriptions help provide further chronological details about the book?

What new things have you learned about the chronology of the book of Revelation?

Do you think the symbolism in Revelation can be understood?

As an exercise, pick one symbol that seems confusing or unclear to you. Using a concordance, look up other usages of that symbol (or word) in Scripture.

Each time you look up that symbol or word, what is the context? What is the symbol or word related to?

Chapter 12: John's Revelation

Now look up four or five other instances of the word in the Old Testament, and see if you notice any patterns that help give it greater definition. Write your notes below.

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 1:3

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 27

Chapter 13: The Super Sign—Israel

Israel's Place in Bible Prophecy

The LORD gave another message to Jeremiah. He said, “Have you noticed what people are saying?—‘The LORD chose Judah and Israel and then abandoned them!’ They are sneering and saying that Israel is not worthy to be counted as a nation. But this is what the LORD says: I would no more reject my people than I would change my laws that govern night and day, earth and sky” (Jeremiah 33:23-25 NLT).

What did you think of the comment “Jesus expects his followers to know when his return is near”? (See page 139 of *The Non-Prophet's Guide™ to the End Times*.)

Is that comment biblically accurate? Why or why not?

Deuteronomy 28:64 says, “The LORD will scatter you among all nations, from one end of the earth to the other.” And Isaiah 11:11 says, “In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the surviving remnant of his people.” Is there any way that these verses (and others like them) could have been fulfilled by accident?

Jeremiah 16:14-15 says, “‘The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when it will no longer be said, “As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,” but it will be said, “As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them.”’ For I will restore them to the land I gave their ancestors.”

Think about the claim in that passage. Think about the millions of details over the past 2,000 years that have had to be worked out to make the prophecies about Israel and the Jewish people come true. In what ways is all of this such a great miracle?

In what ways do you think the reestablishment of Israel as a key end-time marker is special?

How does this sign affect you as you consider the potential closeness of end-time events?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 37:21-22

This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 28

Chapter 14: The Geopolitical Signs

God's Sovereignty and World Events

As you read about the geopolitical signs discussed in chapter 14 of *The Non-Prophet's Guide™ to the End Times*, which one seems most relevant? Which one is the clearest to you? List that sign or condition here.

Now do a quick Internet search about one of the nations or key leaders, and see what news articles show up for this week. List the developments below. Do you see anything that seems to indicate that our world is generally drawing closer to the end times?

Which world leaders or political figures seem to be having the greatest effect on world events right now (for good or bad)? List them below.

Consider this verse: “[God] changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning” (Daniel 2:21).

As world leaders exercise free will, do you find it comforting to know that God is still in control of geopolitical conditions and that this world is heading for its prophesied conclusion? Why?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10:25

Let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near (NLT).

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 29

Chapter 15: The Signs of Nature

Nature Is God's Billboard

What is the most recent natural catastrophe you've seen in the news? Have you noticed, in general, an increase in natural disasters over the last few years?

How are the convulsions of nature serving as God's billboard to a watching world?

Even in disaster, God's grace shines through to mankind. Do you agree? Can you think of a specific example or two?

It's easy to become fearful these days. Look up the following verses and write down what the Lord says in them.

Isaiah 35:4

Isaiah 43:1

Matthew 6:33-34

John 14:27

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:22

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 30

Chapter 16: The Spiritual Signs

PART 1

The Good Spiritual Signs

This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come (Matthew 24:14).

Why do you think the gospel needs to go out to the whole world before end-time events unfold?

What does this say about God's patience, grace, and love?

Do you think Daniel's prophecies are now unsealed? Why or why not?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 31

Chapter 16: The Spiritual Signs

PART 2

The Bad Spiritual Signs

Do you see apostasy in the church? How so?

How can we distinguish apostasy (a departure from true biblical Christianity) from minor errors or secondary issues?

What are some fundamental tenets of the faith that all believers should hold to?

Do you agree that persecution is the worst it's ever been? Why or why not?

How can we be more aware of the struggles of the persecuted church of our day?

Do you see signs that the persecution of Christians is getting worse in the West? Can you give examples?

In what ways have you seen the occult creep into pop culture, politics, and other arenas of life?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 9:21

Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 32

Chapter 16: The Spiritual Signs

PART 3

Strong Delusion

During the tribulation, there will be strong delusion. We are told that people will believe “the lie.” We are warned over and over not to be deceived. We are told that even God’s true followers would be deceived if it were possible. Prophecy is never fulfilled in a vacuum, and God’s appointed times line up with real history in the context of cultural and political developments. With those thoughts in mind, do you see a trend toward more and more people being deluded these days?

What are some examples of delusions or lies that are being infused into culture, politics, and society?

How is this laying the ground for a massive delusion during the tribulation period?

Second Peter 3:3-4 says, “Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, ‘Where is this “coming” he promised?’”

Have you encountered scoffers yourself?

Does this type of behavior seem more prevalent today than it was 10 to 20 years ago?

Why do you think that is?

Do you think the apostle Peter was talking about scoffers in society at large, or within the church?

How can you personally guard against becoming a scoffer?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

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SCRIPTURE

2 Thessalonians 2:9-11

The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 33

Chapter 17: The Signs of Culture

Understanding the Times

Based on what you've read or heard recently, write down three to five different news topics from current events.

Using a computer or smart device, pull up one of the major news network sites and briefly skim through the headlines.

Now read 2 Timothy 3:1-4. Do you see any of what's happening today described in this passage?

The days of Noah and Lot were full of violence and immorality. Just in your lifetime, how much have you seen violence and immorality increase?

If you have children or grandchildren, how do you feel about their future right now?

Do you think Western society is experiencing the downward spiral described Romans 1:18-32? Why or why not?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 3:1-5

Mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 34

Chapter 18: The Signs of Technology

Technology and Bible Prophecy

Daniel 12:4 describes an explosion of knowledge and travel as we approach the end times. How have you seen technology and travel increase during your lifetime?

We don't often think of road systems or aqueducts as technology, but in Roman times, the presence of road systems and aqueducts made it the perfect era for the gospel to spread widely through the known world. In a similar way, Scripture tells us that in the end times the gospel would go to "all nations."

How have you seen technology being used to spread the gospel?

How can you yourself use technology to spread the gospel?

Technology is neutral and can be used for good or evil. In what ways do you see technology being used for good?

In what ways do you see technology being used for evil?

How does the development of technology intersect with Bible prophecy?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

Chapter 18: The Signs of Technology

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Daniel 12:4

You, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase (NKJV).

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 35

Chapter 19: Sign of Convergence

Are You Alert?

In chapter 19 of *The Non-Prophet's Guide™ to the End Times*, what is meant by the idea that end-time signs are converging?

Can you think of some ways that end-time conditions have been falling more rapidly into place after Israel's rebirth?

In light of all this, how should we as Christians be living? Put another way, what does it mean to be "more alert"?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 24:33

When you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 36

Chapter 20: The Safest Place to Be

PART 1

Your Next Step: A Starting Point

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8).

When did you become a Christian?

What is the difference between knowing *about* Jesus and actually *knowing* Jesus?

Have you made a conscious decision to believe in Jesus and accept his offer of salvation? If yes, what prompted you to make that decision? If no, what is keeping you from welcoming Jesus into your life as Savior and Lord?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using one of the Bible passages below as your SCRIPTURE, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your OBSERVATIONS. Next, think through the possible practical APPLICATION. Then PRAY specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Acts 4:12

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 37

Chapter 20: The Safest Place to Be

PART 2

God's Invitation to Every Person

We often make it complex, but it's so simple a child can understand it. It's as simple as A, B, C.

ADMIT—Admit that you are a sinner. No one is perfect. We all fall short. Romans 3:23 says, “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 6:23 says, “The wages [payment] of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

BELIEVE—Believe that Jesus is God's Son and that he died on the cross to pay the penalty for your sins. He took on your sins so that you could have his righteousness given to you. Romans 5:8: “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

CONFESS—Confess Jesus as your Lord. This doesn't mean you will never mess up again. Rather, it means you will grow spiritually and serve him and learn his ways. Romans 10:9 says, “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Here's a simple prayer you can pray. These words aren't magic; this is not a formula. But if these words accurately reflect your heart, then when you pray this prayer, you will become a Christian. You will have placed your faith in Christ and will have had your sins forgiven. You will look forward to an eternity with Jesus in heaven, and you will avoid the terrible time of tribulation that will soon come to the world. Pray this prayer now:

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am a sinner. I have sinned against you, and sin separates me from you. I thank you that you died on the cross for me. You took my sins upon you and paid my penalty at the cross. I believe you are who you say you are—God in the flesh. I believe you died for my sins. I want to accept your gift of salvation and, at this moment, I ask you to be my Savior. I thank you for this great forgiveness. I now have new life. I now claim you as my Savior and my Lord. In Jesus's name, amen.

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

Chapter 20: The Safest Place to Be

What things about Bible prophecy would you like to understand better? List them here. At the end of this 40-day study, you can return to this page to see whether you have gained more clarity on the items you list.

S-O-A-P Study

Using the Bible passage below as your **SCRIPTURE**, read the verse(s) a few times, then write down your **OBSERVATIONS**. Next, think through the possible practical **APPLICATION**. Then **PRAY** specifically for the Lord to help you apply what you have studied.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:1

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 38

Chapter 21: How Should We Live?

PART 1

Bad Stuff Out

One thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13-14).

What sin, habit, or struggle most often keeps you from running free?

How long have you struggled with it?

What small step can you take to gaining victory over it?

Does the thought of the Lord's soon return help you focus forward instead of looking back?

Imagine yourself standing before him, knowing he loves you unconditionally and that he died for your sin.

How does this drive you to keep fighting for victory over sin?

(Note: being part of a local church, trusting mature believers to hold you accountable, being in a Christian community, and seeking counsel from a trusted source are all good steps to take in the case of addiction. All believers battle temptation and sin, but Christ died so we could be free from slavery to sin.)

Hebrews 12:1 says, "Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

Chapter 21: How Should We Live?

How does throwing off sin and getting unhealthy things out of our lives help us run with more passion, energy, and perseverance?

What simple (notice I didn't say easy) step can you take today to run a little lighter?

Going Deeper

Describe something eye-opening you learned in this chapter.

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S-O-A-P Study

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SCRIPTURE

Romans 13:12-14

The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 39

Chapter 21: How Should We Live?

PART 2

Good Stuff In

... not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching (Hebrews 10:25).

Are you a member of a local church? If not, why?

In addition to being part of a church, what other spiritual disciplines do you think would be of benefit to you as the Lord's return draws nearer?

For each discipline, write action steps for you to take by specific dates:

Take time to pray now and ask God to help you take those steps.

Going Deeper

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SCRIPTURE

Galatians 6:9

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER

DAY 40

Chapter 21: How Should We Live?

PART 3

Finish Strong

We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad (2 Corinthians 5:10).

The judgment seat of Christ, which is for believers, is for rewards and not punishment. But it will be both a humbling and exciting experience for believers. Read 2 Corinthians 5 and place yourself there. What do you think this will be like for you?

How does reading 2 Corinthians 5:10 motivate you to maximize your opportunities for serving the Lord during the church age?

Habakkuk 2:3 says, “The revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.”

We are shortsighted, and God is not. During times of struggle or delay, how can we maintain the mindset that one day, God will set everything straight and that we will be with him for eternity?

Going Deeper

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SCRIPTURE

Revelation 22:12-13

Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last (NKJV).

OBSERVATIONS

APPLICATION

PRAYER