



The Bible & Current Events

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Note: Scripture used in this Bible Study is from the New King James Version unless otherwise indicated.

Warm-Up

How do you deal with all the bad news stories?

What news have you heard that has changed your life?

How should we regard the Bible if it helps us see how current events relate to the return of Christ?

What kinds of current events reveal that we are getting close to the return of Jesus?

Why should we study Bible prophecy?

Assumptions

1. God is Almighty
2. God created us for a purpose
3. God's Word is true

What does it mean that God is Almighty?

Revelation 19:6 - Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns! (NIV)

How does accepting God's Almighty nature help us to see that His prophecies about what will happen in the future are 100% accurate?

Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,'

What is special about people in God's creation?

Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

What does it mean that we are in the image of God?

Why did God give us a free will to make our own choices?

Why did God create people?

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

What keeps people from having a relationship with God?
Romans 3:23 - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

What happens to those who refuse a relationship with God?
Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death

What provision did God make for us so that we could enter into a relationship with Him?
Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

How should we respond to God's offer of a relationship?
Romans 10:9 - if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

How can we know that the Bible is truly God's Word, that we should trust it to accurately present the truth?
2 Timothy 3:16 - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness

What is context and why is it important?

Why is it important to take the Bible as literally as possible?

End-Time Time-Line

What will happen when Jesus returns?

Revelation 19:11,15-16 - ¹¹I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war... ¹⁵Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (NIV)

Why does the Church look forward to the return of Jesus?
1 Thess 5:9 - For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. (NIV)

How do we know Jesus is going to come back?

John 14:1-3 - Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you.

I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

When will Jesus return?

Matthew 24:42 - Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.

What should we be watching for?

Titus 2:13 - looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ

So what happens when the Lord returns?

Philippians 3:20-21 – For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

What is the blessed hope of the church?

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 – For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

What did Jesus tell us would be a sign of His soon return?

Matthew 24:21 - there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

What will happen after Jesus returns?

Revelation 20:4 - And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

What happens after the 1000 year reign of Christ on earth?

Revelation 21:3-4 - "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." (NIV)

End Times Themes

What end-time trend is represented by Luke 21:25-26?

Luke 21:25-26 - And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken.

What end-time trend is represented by Matthew 24:12?

Matthew 24:12 - And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

What end-time trend is represented by Daniel 12:4?

Daniel 12:4 - But 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.

What end-time trend is represented by Revelation 13:7?

Revelation 13:7 - It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

What end-time trend is represented by Joel 3:9-10?

Joel 3:9-10 - Proclaim this among the nations: Prepare for war! Rouse the warriors! Let all the fighting men draw near and attack. Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weakling say, "I am strong!" (NIV)

What end-time trend is represented by Revelation 13:7?

James 5:1-4 - Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you. Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you.

What end-time trend is represented by Ezekiel 37:21?

Ezekiel 37:21 - "Then say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land;