COUNTDOWN-TO ETERNITY LESSON STUDY GUIDES

Below are 10 Study Guides for each topic presented in this Bible Study series:





To request a set of all 10 lesson study guides, please contact us at:

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No. 10 – The Great Controversy

INTRODUCTION

- a. All humanity is involved in a cosmic battle between good and evil
- b. This battle has been fought for many years
- c. This topic discusses this battle and what it means to us

I. How Did It Begin?

- a. It began with Lucifer (Satan) I John 3:8, Rev. 12:9
- b. Lucifer was a created being an angel Ezekiel 28:13,15
- c. He became jealous of God (Jesus) Isaiah 14:13,14, Eze. 28:17
- d. He wanted to be worshipped like God

II. What Are the Issues?

- a. All about WORSHIP Eze. 28:14-15
- b. Satan tempted Jesus in wilderness to worship him Matt. 4:8-11
- c. Everybody worships something
- d. God says, :"Thou shalt not have any other gods before Me"

III. What Happened as a Result ?

- a. Satan rebelled against God
- b. Satan convinced 1/3 of angels to join his rebellion
- c. War broke out in heaven between Jesus (Michael) and Satan Rev. 12:7-9
- d. Satan loses and is cast out of heaven with his angels heaven rejoices
- e. Satan and angels end up on earth woe unto inhabitants on earth

IV. How Did We Get Involved ?

- a. Satan disguised as a serpent tempts Eve to eat forbidden fruit- Gen 2:17
- b. Eve convinces Adam to eat fruit Gen. 3:1-8
- c. Both Adam and Eve are reprimanded by God. Gen 3:9-24
- d. God sentences them to death, but offers hope Gen 3:15

V. How Has Sin Affected Us ?

- a. Death is passed on to human race because of Adam's sin Gen. 3:19
- b. Satan has dominion on earth to cause destruction Job 2:2
- c. Satan has God's permission to demonstrate his plan Rev. 12:12
- d. This explains why "Bad things happen to good people" - 1 Peter 5:8

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. Jesus promised to come Gen 3:15
- Jesus promises to destroy the devil and his works 1 John 3:8
- c. Jesus has prepared hell's fire for Satan and His angles Matt. 25:41
- d. Jesus has not left us here to battle Satan alone Heb. 1:14

- _____ It is my desire to be on Jesus' side in this Great Controversy.
 - ____ I want to learn more about God's word.

No. 09 – End-Time Events in Bible Prophecy

INTRODUCTION:

- a. Our world appears to be out of control
- b. Many turn to the occult and spirit mediums to find answers
- c. Real answers can be found only in the Word of God -Bible
- d. Bible prophecy is a light that illuminates our pathway Psalm 119:105

I. Where Are We In Time?

- a. Daniels vision with five world empires Dan. Chap. 2
- b. Secular history confirms Bible prophecy
- c. We are living in the feet and toes of human history
- d. Christ (the stone) is about to set up His kingdom
- e. The book of Daniel was "shut up" until the time of the end Dan. 12:4

II. How Does the Bible Describe the End-Time?

- a. Many shall run to and fro Dan. 12:4
- b. Knowledge shall increase Dan. 12:4
- c. Perilous times shall come 2 Tim 3:1-5

III. What Are the Top 10 Signs of the End-Time?

- a. False Christ Matt. 24:45
- b. Wars and Rumors of Wars -v34:6,7
- c. Famines v24:7
- d. Pestilences v34:7
- e. Earthquakes 24:7
- f. Persecution -v24:9
- g. Abounding Wickedness v24:12
- h. Sun, Moon, and Stars Luke 21:25

- i. Worldwide Fear v21:25,26
- j. Worldwide proclamation of the Gospel Matt.24:12,14

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. All these signs confirm that we are living in the "End-Time"
- b. The next great event on planet earth is the coming of Jesus
- c. Every sign we see should remind us that Jesus is Coming!
- d. Every fulfilled prophecy should remind us that God is in control!

- It is my desire to be ready to meet Jesus when He comes.
 - I want to learn more about God's word.

No. 8 – God's Final Warning

INTRODUCTION:

- a. The world's condition is deplorable
- b. God's mercy and longsuffering has its limit-2 Peter 3:9
- c. God's Spirit will not always strive with man-Gen. 6-3
- d. This topic reveals God's Last warning to man

I. Where Is It Revealed?

- a. The Book of Revelation
- b. Revelation is Jesus' book Rev. 1:1-3
- c. Written for people of the end time Rev 1:19
- d. The name "Revelation" means "Revealing"

II. How Will It Be Given?

- a. Symbolized by three angels of Revelation 14
- b. The word "Angel" means "Messenger"
- c. God messages will be given with super-natural power

III. What Is It About?

- a. It is the Everlasting Gospel Salvation in Jesus alone-John 14:6
 - i. NOT Salvation by works Eph. 2:8
 - ii. NOT Salvation in Sin Matt. 1:21
- b. It will be preached to every person on earth Rev. 14:6
- c. It will be a powerful witness unto all the world Matt. 24:14

- d. It will be a three-point message:
 - i. God's Judgment hour has arrived Rev. 14:6
 - ii. Come out of fallen Babylon Rev. 14:8,18:4
 - iii. Beware of the Mark of the Beast Rev. 14:9,10

IV. How Should We Respond?

- a. God's message calls for a decision
- b. Elijah's message challenged people to make a decision
- c. God's people will respond by:
 - i. Keeping His commandments John 14:15
 - ii. Maintaining faith in Jesus Rev. 14:12

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. God's final message is one of love
- b. Jesus does not want anyone to perish -2 Peter 3:9
- c. Heed God's final warning Revelation 18:4
- d. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve" Josh. 24:15

MY DECISION:

_ It is my desire to heed God's Final Message

I want to learn more about God's word.

No. 7 – Judgment Day

INTRODUCTION:

- a. A day is coming in which God will review lives of everyone on earth
- b. Bible mentions a judgment more than 1000 times
- c. Its importance cannot be over-emphasized
- d. Main purpose of the Judgment is to vindicate God's character
- e. There are three phases of the judgment

I. First Phase – Investigative Judgment

- a. Takes place before Jesus' second coming
- b. Determines who will be saved or lost
- c. Judgment begins at the house of God (Church) I Pet. 4:17
- d. Ends before Jesus' second coming Rev22:11,2
- e. God the Father, the ancient of days presides Dan 7:9,10
- f. Jesus is defense attorney 1 John 2:1
- g. The Father has committed all judgment to the Son John 5:22
- h. Satan is the only accuser Rev. 12:9,10
- i. The evidence will be the Books Dan 7:10, Rev. 20:12
- j. God will bring every work into judgment Eccl 12:14

II. Second Phase – Millennial Judgment

- a. Takes place after Jesus' return
- b. Saints shall judge the world & angels I Cor 6:2,3
- c. Judgment will be given to the saints Rev. 20:4
- d. This will answer all questions of the righteous about the wicked

III. Third Phase – Executive Judgment

- a. Takes place after the millennium
- b. Wicked from all ages along with Satan and angels will be present
- c. Satan convinces them to take New Jerusalem Rev. 20:9
- d. All the wicked face God as He Executes Judgment
- e. Every knee shall bow and confess that Jesus is Lord!
- f. Fire comes down from God and destroys Satan, his angels, and all the wicked.

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. God's character will be fully vindicated in the judgment
- b. Judgment will be decided in favor of God's people
- c. The righteous will be safe from sin for eternity
- d. Sin will be completely eradicated and will never rise a second time

MY DECISION:

It is my desire to be ready for Judgment Day and have Jesus as my representative.

I want to learn more about God's word.

No. 6 – Babylon is Fallen

INTRODUCTION:

- a. Bible speaks about the Bride of Christ in Revelation
- b. But there is another women trying to seduce believers from Christ
- c. Revelation describes her as "Babylon"
- d. Christ's people must escape her charm or perish
- e. This topic will reveal the real truth about Babylon

I. What Does Babylon Mean?

- a. The name originated at the Tower of Babel Gen. 11:1-9
- b. Babylon means "Confusion" Tower of Babel
- c. Revelation describes her as "Mystery Babylon, The Great Mother of Harlots" Rev.17:1-5
- d. The woman of Revelation 17 represents the apostate church
- e. The beast of Revelation 17 represents the civil government
- f. The woman riding the beast means that the church is in control of the government
- g. This woman (church) persecuted the saints
- h. She was dressed in purple and scarlet
- i. The beast had seven heads and is guilty of blasphemy
- j. The woman (church) ruled over the kings of the earth
- k. "Mystery Babylon, The Great Mother of Harlots" symbolizes the *Roman Catholic Church*
- 1. Apostate churches are her offspring also harlots
- m. Babylon is a term which describes all religious bodies and movements that have fallen away from the truth (Apostatized)

II. Why Is It Fallen?

a. Because "She made all nations drink of the wine of her fornication" – Rev. 14:8

- b. Spiritual fornication means to **turn away** from the truth and true worship of God
- c. "All the nations of the earth" refers to all churches and religious bodies who accept her false teachings
- d. Churches that adopt the teachings of Mother Babylon, become "Babylon" themselves
- e. Satan's strategy is to deceive all who will not demand scriptural proof 2 Tim. 3:4
- f. God's strategy to counter deception is Isaiah 8:20

III. What is Babylon's Wine?

- a. False doctrines Rev. 17:4
- b. Worship of Images Ex. 20:4
- c. Immortality of the Soul Gen. 3:4
- d. Eternally burning Hell Mal. 4:1,3
- e. Infant Baptism Matt. 28:19,20
- f. Sunday Sacredness Ex. 20:8
- g. Confessions to Priests I Tim. 2:5
- h. Traditions above the Bible Mark 7:7

IV. What Must We Do About Babylon?

- a. Come out of Babylon Rev. 18:4,5
- b. Do not stay and try to reform it!
- c. Babylon is going to be destroyed, not reformed
- d. She will become hopelessly drunk with her wine
- e. That's why God calls His people to "COME OUT!"

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. God is calling His "Sheep" from other folds (Churches)
 John 10:16
- b. God's sheep will hear his voice John 10:16
- c. Jesus is knocking at the door of your heart Rev. 3:20

- ____ It is my desire to Come Out of Babylon.
- I want to learn more about God's word.

No. 5 – The Mark of the Beast

INTRODUCTION:

- a. The 3rd Angel of Revelation also has a very solemn message for those living during the End-Time.
- b. Like the two Angels before, his message involves True and False WORSHIP
- c. This topic discusses an identifying mark that will be placed upon False Worshippers-The Mark of the Beast!

I. Who Is The Beast

- a. God reveals the identity of the Beast in Rev. 13
- b. 10 Characteristics of the Beast
 - **Rises from the sea** (populated area) Rev. 13:1
 - **Composite of four beasts** (four kingdoms) Dan. 7:2
 - Dragon gives it power (Satan gives it power) Rev.13:2
 - Receives a deadly wound (Pope Pius dies in exile) v.3
 - **Deadly wound healed** (*Pope restored to power*) v.3
 - Strong political power (*Papacy*) v.3
 - Strong religious power (*Papacy*) v.3
 - **Guilty of blasphemy** (*Pope claims to be God*) v.6
 - Makes wars with Saints (a persecuting church) v.7
 - Mysterious number 666 (Vicarius Filii Dei) v.18
- c. Only one power has all these characteristics The Papacy!

II. What Is His Mark

- a. The Catholic Church's Mark of Authority to change the day of worship from Sabbath to Sunday
- b. The Bible predicted the Beast would try to change God's laws Dan 7:25
- c. The Catholic Church:
 - a. Omitted the 2nd Commandment Ex.20:4,5
 - b. Shortened the 4^{th} Commandment Ex. 20:8
 - c. Divided the 10th Commandment into two

d. The Mark of the Beast encompasses much more than changing from Sunday to Saturday. It involves a decision regarding True and False Worship!

III. How Do You Receive It?

- a. In your forehead or in your hand Rev. 14:9,10
- Forehead refers to our mind, the seat of intellectual decisions.
- Hand refers to our actions, our behaviors, the things we do to support it
- b. Four important points to remember:
- No one has received the Mark of the Beast yet.
- It will be given when Sunday-keeping is enforced by law
- To keep the Mark of the Beast is to fail to keep God's sacred Sabbath
- A relationship with Christ is more important than obedience to the Beast!

IV. What Will Happen To Those Who Receive It?

- a. You won't be able to buy or sell anything unless you receive the Mark of the BEAST Rev. 13:16,17
- b. Those receiving the Mark of the Beast will suffer the full wrath of God (seven last plagues) and be tormented with fire and brimstone – Rev. 14:9-11

V. How Can We Avoid It?

- a. Cultivate a genuine relationship with Jesus through; Bible Study, Prayer, and Witnessing.
- b. Its all about True or False WORSHIP!

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. God is calling His people to Worship Him in Truth!
- b. Those who obey will receive the Seal of God (Sabbath)
- c. Those who refuse to obey will receive the Mark of the Beast (Sunday)

- It is my desire to avoid receiving the Mark of the Beast
 - I want to learn more about God's word.

No. 4 – The Close of Probation

INTRODUCTION:

- a. Before Jesus returns, every human being on planet earth will have an opportunity to make their final decision regarding truth
- b. This decision period is referred to as "The Close of Probation"
- c. This topic discusses the following questions regarding the Close of Probation:

I. What Does It Mean?

- a. The time when people all over the world make their final decisions about the truth, thereby sealing their eternal destiny (A Process over Time)
- b. The time when Jesus ceases His mediatorial ministry in the heavenly sanctuary (A Point in Time)

II. How Will It Affect the World?

- a. Before Probation Closes there are three classes of people in the world:
 - 1. Those who are loyal to Jesus
 - 2. Those who are loyal to Satan
 - 3. Those who are undecided
- b. After Probation Closes only two classes of people will remain:
 - 1. Those who are loyal to Jesus (receiving the Seal of God)
 - 2. Those who are loyal to Satan (receiving the Mark of the Beast)
- c. Biblical examples of Two classes of people:
 - OT Noah's Ark Gen:6, Sodom and Gomorrah Gen 18:22-23, The Jewish People – Dan 9:24
 - NT The Ten Virgins Matt. 25:1-3, The Wheat and Tares – Matt. 13:24-30, The Sheep and Goats – Matt. 25:31-36

III. When Will It Close?

a. For the Individual

- 1. When a person dies No more opportunity to change their decision
- 2. When a person commits the Unpardonable Sin by rejecting truth!

b. For the World:

- 1. When Jesus ceases His Mediatorial ministry in heaven as our High Priest!
- 2. "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still..." Rev. 22:11

IV. What Will Happen After It Closes?

- a. There shall be a Time of Trouble such as never was since there was a nation Dan. 12:1
- b. The Seven Last Plagues will fall on those who have rejected the truth and received the Mark of the Beast!
- c. The Second Coming of Christ! Behold He cometh with clouds... Rev. 1:7

V. How Can We Prepare For It?

- a. Preparation involves mainly three steps:
 - 1. Conviction Ask God to Show you your sins Ps. 139:23,24
 - Conversion Ask God to Change your desire to sin Ps. 51:10
 - Resistance Ask God to give you power to resist sin Phil. 4:13
- b. Two Important Principles to Remember:
 - 1. Only God can change our *Desires*
 - 2. Only We can change our *Behaviors* (with God's help)

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. The Close of Probation is the most important event that will take place on earth before Jesus returns
- b. If you are not prepared when your probation closes, then you will not be prepared for Jesus' return
- c. Make your final decision regarding truth TODAY!

- It is my desire to be prepared for the Close of Probation
- I want to learn more about God's word.

No. 3 – The Return of Christ

INTRODUCTION:

- a. In the last days there will be scoffers saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? 2 Pet. 3:4
- b. Many believe that "God is Dead"

I. Is Jesus Really Coming?

- a. 1st Coming Assured!
 - OT Prophets foretold His first coming Isaiah 6:14
 - Angels announced His arrival Luke 2:11
 - NT Apostles affirmed that He came John 1:14
- b. 2nd Coming Assured!
 - The Apostles preached He'd come again I Thess. 4:16
 - Angels assured He'd come again Acts 1:11
 - Jesus Himself declared He'd come again John 14:1-3

II. Why Hasn't He Come Yet?

- a. Gospel work not finished Matt.24:12
- b. We are not ready to receive Him Matt. 24:37-39
- c. God is patient and longsuffering -2 Pet. 3:9
- d. God's People not yet sealed Rev. 7:1-3

III. When Will He Come?

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- a. The specific day or hour has not been revealed Mark 13:32
- b. God's time is not the same as ours -2 Pet. 3:8
- c. Our time is limited by death Heb. 9:27
- d. When the Gospel work is finished Matt. 24:12
- e. When all the signs have been fulfilled Luke 21:28
 - Perilous Times 2 Tim 3:1-5 Earthquakes Luke 21:11
 - False Christ's Matt.24: Wars and Rumors – Matt. 24: • Abounding Wickedness
 - Wars and Rumors Matt. 24: Famines – Matt. 24:
 - Sun, moon and stars

• Pestilences – Matt. 24

• World-wide fear – Luke 21

f. When you least expect Him – Matt. 24:44

IV. How Will He Come?

- a. Same manner in which He left Acts 1:11
- b. Behold He cometh with clouds Rev. 1:7, Matt. 24:27
- c. With a shout and the sound of trumpets I Thess. 4:16,17
- d. With myriads of Holy Angels Matt. 25:31
- e. They shall see the Son of Man coming Matt. 24:30
- f. The Secret Rapture is NOT biblical!!!

V. How to Prepare to Meet Him?

- a. Building Faith in Jesus John 14:6
- b. Spending time in prayer I Thess. 5:17
- c. Studying God's Word 2 Tim. 2:15
- d. Seeking God's Will-Prov. 3:6
- e. Gaining Victory over Sin James 4:7
- f. Loving One Another John 15:12
- g. Attending Church Regularly Heb. 10:25
- h. Living with Expectancy Matt. 24:42,44

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. Be ye also ready Matt 24:44
- b. Be not overcharged with this world Luke 21:34
- c. Be not like people in Noah's day Matt 24:37
- d. Watch and Pray

MY DECISION:

_ It is my desire to be ready when Jesus comes

____ I want to learn more about God's word.

No. 2 – The Millennium

INTRODUCTION:

- a. The Bible speaks of a period of 1000 years in which there will be a total blackout on planet earth
- b. No Human beings will be alive on earth at that time
- c. Only Satan and his angels will be alive on earth
- d. This lesson describes this 1000 year period known as, "The Millennium"

I. Events Before the Millennium

- a. Close of Probation Rev.22:11
- b. Seven Last Plagues Rev. 16:1
- c. Second Coming of Jesus Rev. 1:7
- d. Righteous Dead Resurrected Rev. 20:4-6
- e. All Righteous given Immortality I Cor. 15:51,52
- f. Righteous caught up in the clouds I Thess. 4:17
- g. All Living Wicked Slain 2 Thess. 2:8, Jer. 25:33
- h. Wicked dead remain in their graves Rev. 20:5
- i. Jesus takes Righteous to Heaven Matt 24:34
- j. Satan is Bound in Bottomless Pit Rev. 20:1-3

II. Events During the Millennium

- a. Earth in battered condition from earthquakes & plagues
- b. Earth in Total Blackout Jer. 4:23
- c. Satan and his angels are forced to stay on the earth Rev. 20:1-3
- d. All the Saints are in Heaven Judging the Wicked Rev. 20:4, I Cor. 6:2,3
- e. All Wicked are Dead on the Earth Jer. 25:33

III. Events After the Millennium

- a. The third Coming of Jesus
- b. The Holy City descends to the earth Rev. 21:2,3
- c. God the Father comes with Jesus Zech. 14:5
- d. Wicked Dead are Raised John 5:29, Rev. 20:5
- e. Satan is Loosed Rev. 20:5,7,8
- f. Satan Deceives the entire World to Battle against God Rev. 20:8
- g. Wicked surround the Holy City Rev. 20:7-9
- h. Satan and Wicked Destroyed by Fire (Hell) Rev. 20:9,10

IV. What Will Happen Next?

- a. God Creates a New Heaven and Earth Isaiah 65:17
- b. God's People enjoy eternity in the New Earth Rev. 21:3

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. The Great Controversy is Ended. Sin and Sinners are no more
- b. One Pulse of Harmony beats throughout the vast creation
- c. All things, animate and inanimate declare, "God is Love"

- It is my desire to be on Jesus' side in this Great Controversy.
 - _ I want to learn more about God's word.

No. 1 – The New Earth

INTRODUCTION:

- a. Jesus promises to create a New Earth Isaiah 65:17
- b. It will be like nothing you can ever imagine I Cor.2:9
- c. The Bible has a lot to say about the New Earth

I. What Will It Be Like?

- a. It will be a Real Place John 14:1-3
- b. It will have Real People Phil. 3:21
- c. They will have Real Bodies Luke 24:36-43
- d. They will be doing Real Things Isaiah 65:21
- e. The Capital City will be a perfect square Rev. 21:16
- f. It will be a walled city with 12 gates Rev. 21:12
- g. Walls made of jasper Rev. 21:11
- h. Each gate made of a solid pearl Rev. 21:21
- i. Streets made of pure gold Rev. 21:18
- j. The Tree of Life will be in the midst of the city Rev. 22:2

II. Who Will Live There?

- a. Jesus says, "The meek shall inherit the earth" Matt.5:5
- b. God's People will dwell in a peaceable habitation Isaiah 32:18
- c. Jesus Himself will dwell there with His people Rev. 21:3
- d. Boys and girls will be playing in the streets Zech. 8:5
- e. Animals of all kind will dwell there Isaiah 11:6,9

III. Who Will Not Live There?

a. The Unrighteous – "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?" I Cor. 6:9

- b. "Be not deceived: neither fornicators, Idolaters, adulterers, nor effeminate, nor thieves, nor drunkards ...shall inherit the kingdom of God." I Cor. 6:9,10
- c. "Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murderers, drunkenness, revelries, and the like...those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God." Galatians 5:19-21

IV. What Things Will Be Missing?

- a. No more Crying Rev. 21:4
- b. No more Pain Rev. 21:4
- c. No more Sickness Isaiah 33:24
- d. No more Sea Rev. 21:1
- e. No more Sun or Moon Rev. 21:23
- f. No more Blind, Deaf, or Lame people Isaiah 35:5
- g. No more Violence Isaiah 60:18
- h. No more Death Rev. 21:4

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- a. The new earth will be like nothing you can ever imagine
- b. Jesus is preparing to come back for His people
- c. You cannot afford to miss out on this brand new home
- d. Don't you want to be there with your family?

MY DECISION:

____ It is my desire to live in the New Earth with Jesus and His saints

_ I want to learn more about God's word.