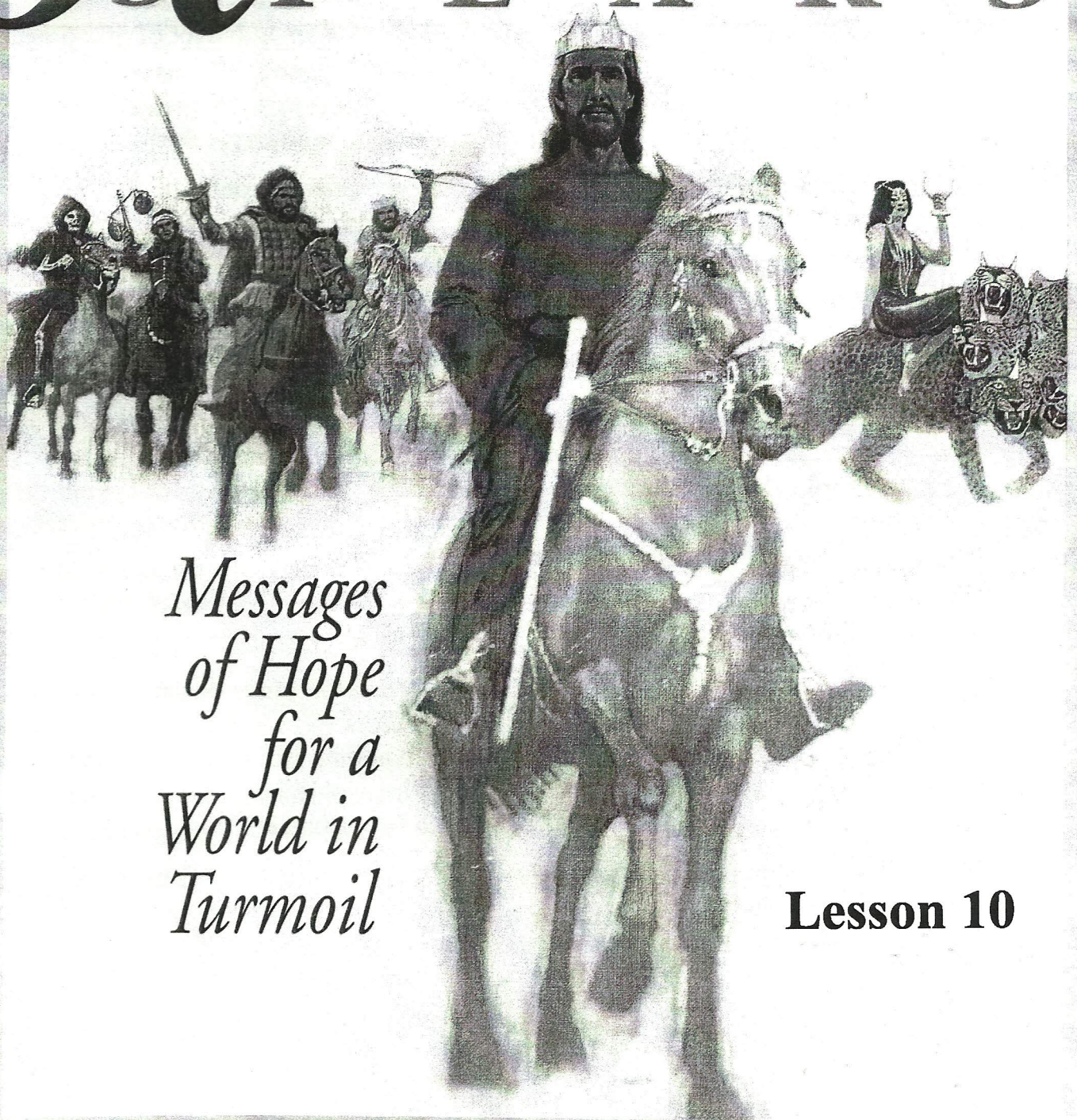


# Revelation

S P E A K S



*Messages  
of Hope  
for a  
World in  
Turmoil*

**Lesson 10**



## The Truth About the Time of the End

[This chapter is based on Revelation, Chapter 10]

**Y**OU may have come to this study of the Book of Revelation with a lot of questions. It is easy to be confused, with so many different voices declaring, "We have the truth." Can we really know for sure what truth is? How can we be certain that what we believe is true? Is truth just a matter of personal opinion?

The Book of Revelation is designed to give certainty! It provides definite, concrete answers to our deepest questions. In this chapter we will begin a journey which will eventually lead us to discover God's truth for the end time, just before the day when God's prophetic clock will stop and time shall be no longer!

**1. What did Jesus say about the result of discovering truth? John 8:32.**

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**2. Some people believe that understanding the symbols of Revelation is just a matter of personal opinion. However, in the Book of Revelation and other Scripture, the symbols of Revelation are explained. What does John say Revelation contains? Revelation 19:9 (last part).**

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NOTE: *After* the death of Christ and His disciples, false teachings began to gradually slip into the Christian church. Some early church leaders were willing to compromise truth to make Christianity more acceptable to pagan culture. But God promised that at the time of the end, truths lost sight of for centuries would be restored—His Word would triumph! Of this we can be certain! (See also Proverbs 23:23)

**3. Revelation 10 pictures an angel descending from the presence of God. This angelic messenger brings a heavenly message of utmost importance for all inhabitants of Planet Earth. What does this angel have in his hand? Revelation 10:1, 2.**

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**4. What is the only Bible book decreed closed or "sealed" until the time of the end? Daniel 12:4, 9.**

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**5. What particular portion of Daniel's message does the angel of Revelation emphasize? Revelation 10:6.**

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NOTE: The little book opened reveals that "there shall be time *no* longer" (verse 6). Therefore, it must focus on the time prophecies of Daniel. Since *no* man knows the day or hour of Christ's coming, the expression, "time *no* longer" cannot relate to a literal date for Christ's return (Matthew 24:36).

When the time prophecies of Daniel are unsealed, prophetic time runs out. The human race arrives at a period of time the Bible calls the time of the end. Prophetic time has run out-the end-time has begun!

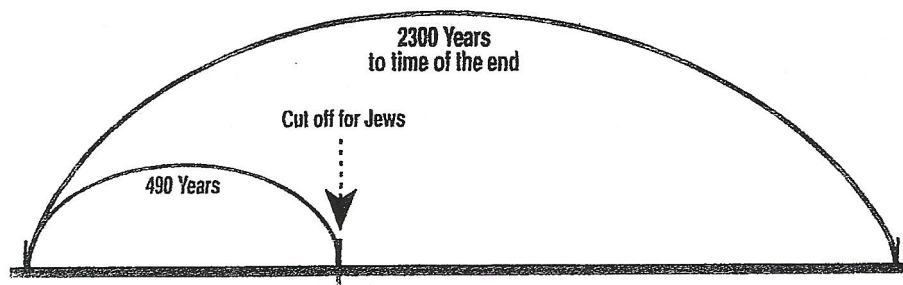
**6. What time-period focusing on the last days does Daniel describe in detail? Daniel 8:14.**

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NOTE: Since in Bible prophecy one prophetic day equals one literal year, 70 weeks equals 7 x 70, or 490 literal years (Ezekiel 4:6).

Daniel 9:24 states that these 70 weeks are determined, or cut off, for the Jews. From *what* are they cut off? The answer is clear.

Since Gabriel returns to explain the portion of Daniel's vision (Daniel 8) which Daniel did *not* understand, and since the only portion he didn't understand was the time period of 2,300 years, the 490 years must be cut off from this previous time period. Therefore, our prophetic time-line looks like this:



**7. When does this entire prophetic period begin? Daniel 9:25.**

NOTE: The dating of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem, after its destruction by the Babylonians, is one of the certain, fixed dates in history. Ezra 7 reveals that this important decree was issued by King Artaxerxes to Persia in his seventh year-or in 457 B.C Therefore, this entire prophecy begins in 457 B.C Previous decrees by Cyrus and Darius in 536 B.C and 519 B.C were for the building of the temple, not the city. The temple was completed in 515 B.C (Ezra 6:15).

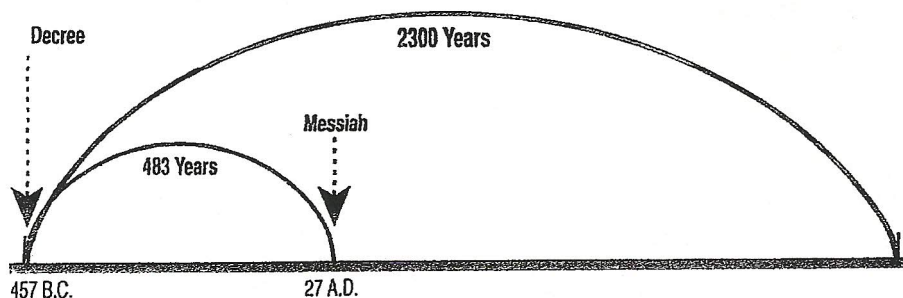
**8. How long would it be from the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the coming of the Messiah? Daniel 9:25.**

How many prophetic weeks? \_\_\_\_\_

How many prophetic days would that be? \_\_\_\_\_

How many literal years would that be? \_\_\_\_\_

Let's add this fact to our prophetic chart!



NOTE: Since there is no zero year on history's time line, 483 years forward brings us to exactly A.D. 27. The word *messiah* means the 'Anointed One.' When Jesus was baptized in Jordan, He was anointed for His ministry by the Holy Ghost (Acts 10:38). According to Luke, Jesus was baptized in the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar (Luke 3:1,21, 22)-or AD. 27. Once again, Bible prophecy was fulfilled exactly on time.



**9. How does the Bible describe Jesus' crucifixion? Daniel 9:26 (first part).**

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**10. What would occur in the middle of the last prophetic week? Daniel 9:27.**

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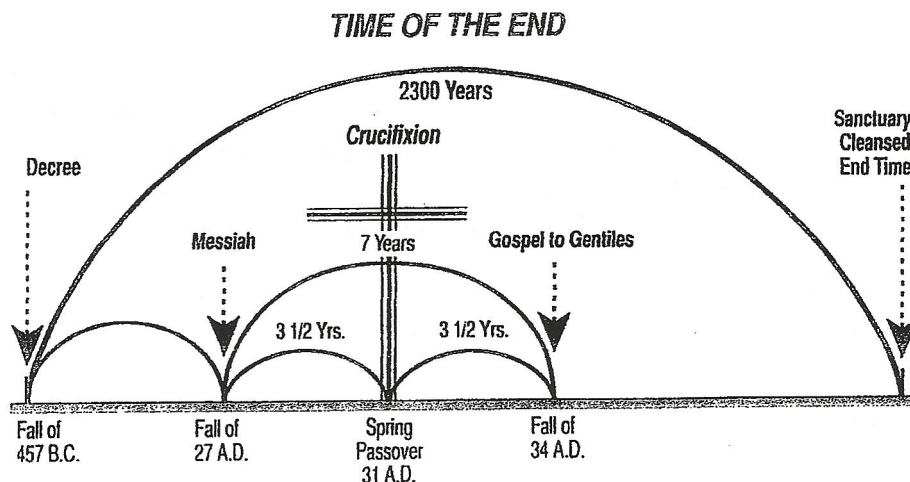
NOTE: Sixty-nine prophetic weeks of the seventy, or 483 years of the 490 years, ran out in A.D. 27. In the middle of the seventieth week, the Messiah would be "cut off," or crucified.

Since the last prophetic week of seven days equals seven literal years, one-half of one week equals three and-one-half years. Three years from the autumn of AD. 27 brings us to the fall of A.D. 30. Six additional months brings us to the spring of AD. 31.

It was in the spring of AD. 31, at the time of the Passover, when Jesus, the true Sacrificial Lamb, was crucified. At the end of the last prophetic week, God had confirmed the covenant with the Jews, and the gospel went to the Gentiles.

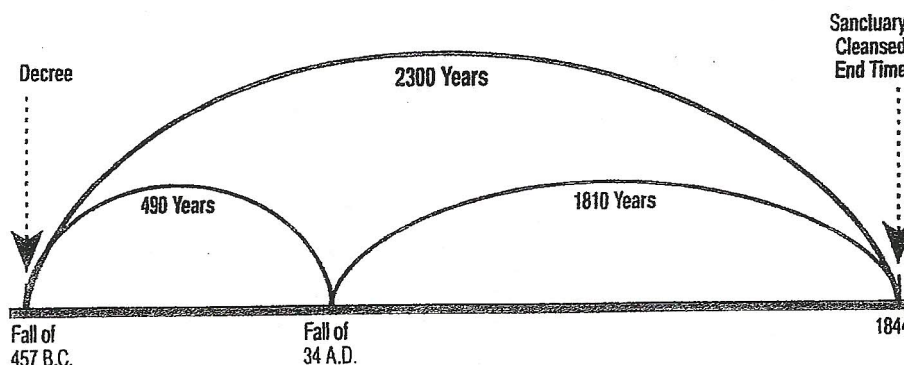
The martyrdom of Stephen, described in Acts 7:51-60, and the great persecution of the church (Acts 8:1), marked the formal rejection of the gospel of Jesus by the Jewish leaders. The days of Jewish probation ran out in AD. 34. Although individual Jews may still be saved (just as may anyone else who accepts Jesus and follows Him), as a nation, Israel is no longer God's special people to give the gospel to the world.

Now take a few moments to review the following chart, which summarizes what we have studied so far about the 2300-day/year prophecy. . .



11. If the 490 years allotted to the Jews are a smaller part of the 2,300 years, how many years of prophecy were left after 34 A.D.?

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NOTE: Since 1844 we have been living in the time of the end! Prophetic time ran *out* in 1844. There is no prophetic time period which reaches beyond this date. However, there are many other prophecies yet to be fulfilled; each of them takes place within the context of the time of the end.

12. What expression in Revelation 10:7 indicates that this prophetic period would take us down to the time *of* the end?

"... the mystery of God \_\_\_\_\_"

13. As Bible students studied the Book of Daniel to discover the meaning of the prophecy, what contrasting experience would be theirs? Revelation 10:9, 10.

Their experience would be \_\_\_\_\_

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NOTE: When did this bitter-sweet experience occur? In the early 1800s, independent of one another, Bible students around the world began a renewed study of the prophecies of Daniel. This rekindled interest in prophecy led those honest-hearted men and women of God to believe that Jesus was coming very soon.

They misunderstood the prophecies regarding the time of the end. They thought Jesus would come in 1844. The date was right, but the event was wrong! Like the first-century disciples, a misunderstanding of Bible prophecy led them to be bitterly disappointed.

## Revelation Speaks – 6

**14. After their bitter disappointment, what did God instruct His people to do? Revelation 10:11.**

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**15. How extensively will the gospel be preached before Jesus returns? Matthew 24:14, Revelation 14:6, Revelation 18:1.**

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What wonderful news! Before Jesus comes, His Word will be preached to the whole world. Men and women everywhere will have an opportunity to know His truth. Isn't it exciting to know that we are living in the end time-a time when God's message of love will circle the globe-a time when God will rapidly finish His work-a time when every human being will have an opportunity to decide for Christ?

The suffering, heartache, and sorrow of this world can't go on much longer. In love, Jesus has delayed His coming. He wants everyone, everywhere, to be ready for His coming. He desires that His truth might shine forth out of the darkness of this world.

Since we are living in the end time, it is time to open our hearts to Jesus and His truth as never before. It is now time to discover teachings lost sight of through the centuries. If you are willing to make this deep commitment to Jesus and His truth, please check the appropriate box(es) below.

### ***My Response***

☐ Sensing that we are living at the end time, I want to dedicate my life fully to Jesus.

☐ I desire to discover and then follow all the truth Jesus has for me!