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t?

Jesus asked us to be ready. Is it your desire to be ready for His glorious appearing?

NEXT TIME: We'll be looking at one of the most astonishing prophecies in the Bible—one that decisively proves that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the long-awaited Messiah!



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A PLANET IN UPHEAVAL

lomains: the	world, the	world and the		rows. The original word used in the Greek text i
world. ((Matthew 24:4-7)		odin, which means	. All the signs are things we have see
			before, but when the	become more intense and frequent, i
			is an indication that we are ge	etting close to the appearing.
he Bible lays out sig	gns of the times with such	n detail that we could probably		
alculate a date for C	Christ's return.			
			Name some of the signs Jesus	s told us to watch for. (Matthew 24:4-7, 11, 12)
[] TRUE	[] FALSE		a .	
			b.	
"But of that and no one knows, not even the of heaven, but My Father only." (Matthew 24:36)				
		с.		
			d	
***************************************		1 5	e	
	tell when Christ's appeari	ng is getting close?	f.	
(Matthew 24:32, 33	3)			
[]YES	[] NO			
[] 110	[]110			nakes reference to the fact that the world will
To what does Jesus	s compare the signs of His	s coming in Matthew 24:32?	uresemble the "days of Noah".	just prior to the appearing. What was the
10 What does Jesus	s compare the signs of the	, commis in macine w 24.32.	world like in those days? (Ger	nesis 6:5)

Some modern books on prophecy teach that Daniel 9 is primarily about a last-day antichrist who will desecrate a rebuilt temple in the last days. Whom does the text identify as the protagonist of the prophecy, and who brought an end to the sacrificial system? (Daniel 9:25-27; Matthew 27:51)

There is a parallel structure in Daniel 9:26, 27. Verse 26 describes Jesus being "cut off" for others, followed by someone who would come and destroy the city and sanctuary. Verse 27 repeats the same information, with different details: Jesus would "bring an end to sacrifice and offering" in the middle of the 70th week, followed by one who would make the temple "desolate." Was Daniel right? Did someone come after the crucifixion to destroy the temple?

NEXT TIME: We'll discover five things we can know for sure about the Second Coming of Christ!



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The phrase "abomination of desolation" often comes up in discussion Bible prophecy, but the historical context is rarely mentioned. Accord Bible, why was the first temple (the one Solomon built) made desolar (2 Chronicles 36:8, 9, 11, 12, 17, 18)	ding to the
When Jesus predicted the destruction of the second temple in the Nement, He referred to the way God's prophets were treated. (Matthew This was true before the destruction of the first temple as well. (2 Ch 36:15, 16; Nehemiah 9:26) What does this tell us about how God deals people? (Amos 3:7; 2 Peter 3:9; Ezekiel 33:11)	which event signated the close of the 490-year probationary period in AD 345 (Acts 7:57-60)
Daniel's city and people were to enjoy a period of probation after confrom Babylonian captivity. How long was that probationary period sulast? (Daniel 9:24) Given the principle we learned in Ezekiel 4:6 and 114:34, which literal period of time does that represent?	apposed to dants of Abraham. (Galatians 3:29; Acts 10:34, 35; Romans 10:12)

This means that when Christ returns, there will be no further opportunities to make things right with God—which tells us that Christ's return is ______.

There will only be two groups of people when Christ returns, and each group will react differently to the sight of Jesus' return. One reaction is found in Revelation 6:15-17; a description of the other is found in Isaiah 25:9. What is the difference between these two groups of people? Which reaction are you planning to experience?

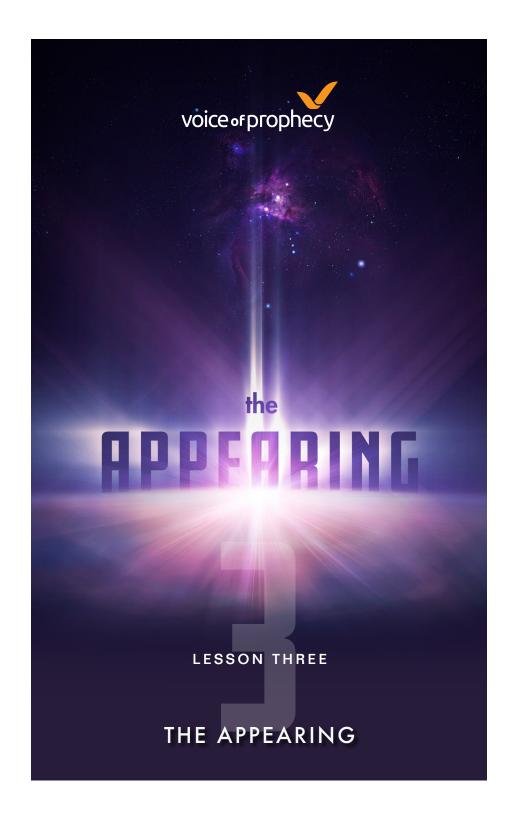
NEXT TIME: We'll search through history to discover why there is so much confusion about Bible prophecy in the 21st century.



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ith more than 2,500 references or allusions to it throughout the Bible, the Second Coming is clearly one of the most important subjects in Scripture. Yet in spite of the abundance of material describing it, many Christians find themselves disagreeing about the manner of Christ's return. Fortunately, if we take the time to read through all of the data, a clear picture emerges with a number of things we can know for sure when it comes to Jesus' appearing.

1	In John 14:29, Jesus reveals an interesting principle of Bible prophecy. Even though many prophecies clearly and accurately predict the future, prophecy is not primarily about prediction. What is the primary purpose of Bible prophecy?
	There are several well-established facts about the nature of Christ's appearing that we can know for sure. Let's review those facts.
2	"This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like as you saw Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11) This tells us that Jesus will return
3	Jesus had a body made of This same Jesus will return, which tells us that He will appear (Luke 24:38-40)

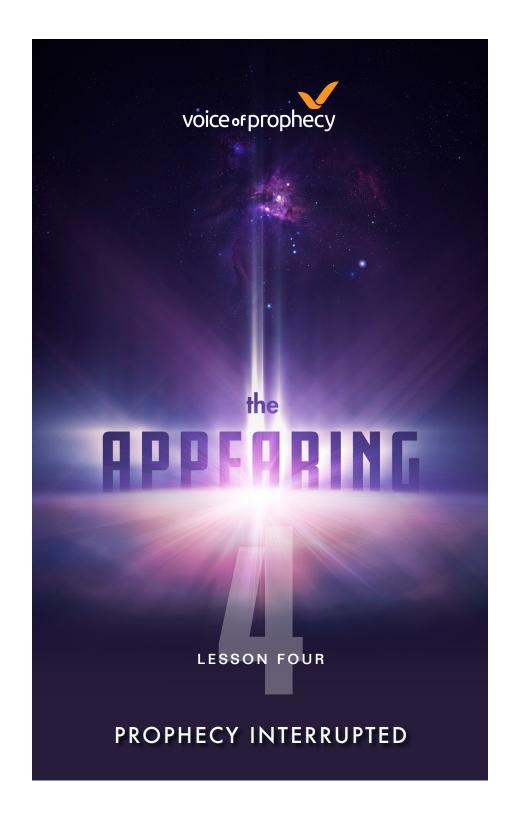
d	When Christ returns, will see Him. This means that His com-
4	ing will be (Revelation 1:7)
_	
ς.	When Christ returns, there will be a, with the voice of an
J	, along with the sound of a It will be so loud that
	it will wake the (1 Thessalonians 4:16; Matthew 24:31) Furthermore,
	in John 5:28, 29, we learn that who are in their graves will hear Jesus'
	. This tells us that Jesus will appear
	(Matthew 25:31) How many angels are there in the universe? (Revelation 5:11)
	Also, when Jesus comes, He will come with the of His .
	(Matthew 16:27) This demonstrates that Christ's return will be
7	When Jesus appears, what will He bring with Him? (Revelation 22:12; John 5:28, 29)

	Old Testament prophecy was very open about pointing out the sins of God's Old Testament people. Is the same true of the New Testament?
	(2 Thessalonians 2:3, 7; Revelation 3:14-18)
7	What prophetic symbol is used throughout Scripture to describe God's people What does this tell us about God's feelings toward us? (Jeremiah 6:2; Matthew 25:1, 6; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 21:1, 2)
3	Knowing the love that Jesus has for His bride, is it your desire to be one of the people who is ready for His return?
	NEXT TIME: The battle of Armageddon!



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In the second chapter of Daniel, what did God use to represent world history from Daniel's day to our day? What did the head of gold represent? (Daniel 2:31-38)	a) God has used several different methods to save sinners over the centuries. (Acts 4:12; Hebrews 10:4; Romans 4:2, 3) [] TRUE [] FALSE b) Why or why not?
What did the lower sections of the statue represent? (Daniel 2:32, 39-45)	What was the point of the sacrificial system if the blood of animals (Hebrews 10:4) could not save sinners? (John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:18-20; Revelation 5:6-9; Hebrews 8:1, 2)
According to Nebuchadnezzar's dream, when is the return of Christ and the establishment of His kingdom going to take place? (Daniel 2:44; Matthew 25:31)	— CONTINUED ON BACK —

	What does this tell us about what is important when Christ returns?
-	
1 1 1	The battle of Armageddon is ultimately a struggle for the hearts and minds of human beings. It is a warning that time <i>will</i> run out. Today, we are faced with the same decision that Elijah leveled at ancient Israel—if the Lord is God, follow Him; if He is not, follow another. In the end, the whole human race is figuratively gathered on the "Mountain of Megiddo" to make a decision. What decision will you make?



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LESSON FIVE THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

One of the most important keys to understanding the book of Revelation is to understand that approximately two-thirds of the imagery John uses is lifted from the Old Testament. This is especially true of one Old Testament prophet in particular who described the night Babylon fell. Which prophet told that story?	The literal city of Babylon is used throughout the book of Revelation as a symbol for religious confusion and rebellion against God. In Revelation 16:19, God promises that He will put an end to modern-day <i>spiritual</i> Babylon, ending the struggle with the appearing of Christ. (Revelation 19:11)
The word <i>Armageddon</i> is derived from the Hebrew words <i>Har Megiddon</i> , which mean what?	God gives His reason for the overthrow of ancient <i>literal</i> Babylon in Jeremiah 29:10, which foreshadows His reason for overthrowing last-day <i>spiritual</i> Babylon. What reason is given?
What is the most prominent mountain bordering the Valley of Megiddo, and what happened there? (1 Kings 18:19-21)	Are miraculous events a sure sign that God is at work? (Revelation 16:14; Revelation 13:11-14)