

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS  
SECOND HALF 2026

The Minor  
**PROPHETS**



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Second Half 2026

THE MINOR PROPHETS

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**PROPHETS**

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# INTRODUCTION

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The Twelve Minor Prophets, often labeled as "minor" due to the brevity of their writings compared to the more extensive books of Isaiah and Jeremiah, wield significant influence within the biblical narrative. Their messages, though concise, are profoundly impactful and possess a timeless relevance that continues to resonate today.

These prophets are classified into three distinct phases, spanning from approximately 800 to 400 BC. First, we encounter the voices of the Assyrian period, including Hosea, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, and Joel. Each prophet confronts the pressing issues of their time, articulating profound truths that echo through the ages. Next, we transition to the later period, featuring Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah. These prophets adeptly address the tumultuous changes and moral dilemmas of their era, offering compelling insights that remain relevant. Finally, we turn to the messages from the Persian period and beyond, represented by Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. Their words resonate with the themes of restoration and renewal of faith following exile, delivering a powerful call to reformation.

Engaging with these prophets goes beyond mere chronological understanding; it encompasses an exploration of the deep thematic elements that reflect both their historical contexts and the spiritual lessons that continue to inspire us in our lives today. As we immerse ourselves in these texts this semester, we will unveil their enduring significance and uncover the invaluable wisdom they offer, empowering our spiritual journeys and enriching our understanding of faith.

"The Old Testament Scriptures were the lesson book of Israel.... There are practical lessons in the word of God... That word teaches living, holy principles, which prompt men to do unto others as they would have others do unto them—principles which they are to bring into the daily life here below, and carry with them into the school above. This is the higher education. No learning of human origin can gain these heights; for they reach into eternity, and are immortalized. We know altogether too little of the greatness of the love and compassion of God.

"Take the Bible as a study book, and see if you are not filled with the love of God. Your heart may be barren, your intellect feeble; but if you will prayerfully study the word of God, light will flash into your mind. God works with every diligent student. ...

"I could refer to chapter after chapter of the Old Testament Scriptures that contain great encouragement. These Scriptures are a treasure house of precious pearls, and all need them. ...

"God calls upon His creatures to turn their attention from the confusion and perplexity around them and admire His handiwork. As we study His works, angels from heaven will be by our side to enlighten our minds and guard them from Satan's deceptions. As you look at the wonderful things that God's hand has made, let your proud, foolish heart feel its dependence and inferiority. How terrible it is when the acknowledgment of God is not made when it should be made! How sad to humble oneself when it is too late!...

"These things were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come; ...The word of God contains instructive lessons, given in reproof, in warning, in encouragement, and in rich promises."  
—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, pp. 455-457.

—*The General Conference Ministerial Department*

# LESSON

# 1

Sabbath,  
July 4,  
2026

Special Sabbath School Offering  
COSTA RICA

Give your offering from your heart, as God has blessed you!

## BOOK OF JOEL “HATH THIS BEEN IN YOUR DAYS?”

*“And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?”*  
Matthew 16:3.

“The description of this event, as given by eyewitnesses, is but an echo of the words of the Lord, recorded by the prophet Joel, twenty-five hundred years previous to their fulfilment...

“Christ had bidden His people watch for the signs of His advent, and rejoice as they should behold the tokens of their coming King.” —*Maranatha*, p. 150.




SUNDAY

### 1. From whom did the prophet Joel receive a message? To whom was it addressed?

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 **Joel 1:1-3** *The word of the Lord that came to Joel the son of Pethuel. <sup>2</sup>Hear this, ye old men, and give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land. Hath this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers? <sup>3</sup>Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.*

“Oh, how few know the time of their visitation! How few, even among those who claim to believe present truth, understand the signs of the times or what we are to experience before the end! We are today under divine forbearance; but how long will the angels of God continue to hold the winds, that they shall not blow?” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 426.



MONDAY

## 2. What disastrous environmental conditions were prophesied in the book of Joel?

 **Joel 1:4, 10, 12** *That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the canker-*


*worm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten.* <sup>10</sup>*The field is wasted, the land mourneth; for the corn is wasted: the new wine is dried up, the oil languisheth.* <sup>12</sup>*The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.*

"Although the earth was blighted with the curse, nature was still to be humanity's lesson book. It could not now represent goodness only; for evil was everywhere present, marring earth and sea and air with its defiling touch. Where once was written only the character of God, the knowledge of good, was now written also the character of Satan, the knowledge of evil. From nature, which now revealed the knowledge of good and evil, humankind was continually to receive warning as to the results of sin." —*Education*, p. 26.



TUESDAY

## 3. How terrible was the earth's condition?

 **Joel 1:17-20** *The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered.* <sup>18</sup> *How do the beasts groan!*

*the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.* <sup>19</sup> *O Lord, to thee will I cry: for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame hath burned all the trees of the field.* <sup>20</sup> *The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.*

"Though marred by sin, it speaks not only of creation but of redemption. Though the earth bears testimony to the curse in the evident signs of decay, it is still rich and beautiful in the tokens of life-giving power. The trees cast off their leaves, only to be robed with fresher verdure; the flowers die, to spring forth in new beauty; and in every man-

ifestation of creative power is held out the assurance that we may be created anew in "righteousness and holiness of truth" (Ephesians 4:24, margin). Thus the very objects and operations of nature that bring so vividly to mind our great loss become to us the messengers of hope."  
—*To Be Like Jesus*, p. 42.



WEDNESDAY

#### **4. What was the people's spiritual condition, and what were the consequences?**



**Joel 1:13, 16** *Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl, ye minis-*

"I am filled with sadness when I think of our condition as a people. The Lord has not closed heaven to us, but our own course of continual backsliding has separated us from God. Pride, covetousness, and love of the world have lived in the heart without fear of banishment or condemnation. Grievous and presumptuous sins have dwelt among us. And yet the general opinion is that the church is flourishing, and that peace and spiritual prosperity are in all her borders. The church has turned back from following Christ her leader, and is steadily retreating toward Egypt. Yet few are alarmed or astonished at their want of spiritual power. Doubt and even disbelief of the testimonies of the Spirit of God is leavening our churches everywhere. Satan would have it thus."  
—*Christian Service*, p. 38.



THURSDAY

#### **5. What dissipation and violence were described in the book of Joel?**

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**Joel 1:5, 6** *Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth. <sup>6</sup>For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion.*

"The world over, cities are becoming hotbeds of vice. On every hand are the sights and sounds of evil. Everywhere are enticements to sen-

suality and dissipation. The tide of corruption and crime is continually swelling. Every day brings the record of violence, —robberies, murders, suicides, and crimes unnamable." —*Country Living*, p. 5.

 **FRIDAY**

**6. What stupendous universal event was prophesied?**

 **Joel 1:15** *Alas for the day! for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.*

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"The dreadful state of our nation calls for deep humility on the part of God's people. The one all-important inquiry which should now engross the mind of everyone is: Am I prepared for the day of God? Can I stand the trying test before me?" —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol.1, p. 355.

 **SABBATH**

**7. What appeal applied to the past as well as to the present?**

 **Joel 1:14** *Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the Lord your God, and cry unto the Lord.*

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"To prepare a people to stand in the day of God, a great work of reform was to be accomplished. God saw that many of his professed people were not building for eternity, and in his mercy he was about to send a message of warning to arouse them from their stupor, and lead them to make ready for the coming of their Lord.

"This warning is brought to view in Revelation 14. Here is a threefold message represented as proclaimed by heavenly beings, and immediately followed by the coming of the Son of man 'to reap the harvest of the earth.'" —*The Great Controversy*, p. 311.



# LESSON

# 2

Sabbath,  
July 11,  
2026

## BOOK OF JOEL “WHO CAN ABIDE IT?”

*“And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.” Daniel 12:3.*

“The Lord has declared that the history of the past shall be rehearsed as we enter upon the closing work. Every truth that He has given for these last days is to be proclaimed to the

world. Every pillar that He has established is to be strengthened. We cannot now step off the foundation that God has established.” —*Manuscript 129, 1905.*




SUNDAY

### 1. What supernatural events are part of the “great day of the Lord”?

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 **Joel 2:10, 11, 30, 31** *The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: “And*

*the Lord shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?*

<sup>30</sup>*And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.*

<sup>31</sup>*The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.*

“These signs have appeared. On May 19, 1780, the sun was darkened. That day is known in history as ‘the dark day.’ In the eastern part of North America, so great was the darkness that in many places the people had to light candles at noonday. And until after midnight the moon,

though at its full, gave no light. Many believed that the day of judgment had come. No satisfactory reason for the unnatural darkness has ever been given, except the reason found in the words of Christ. The darkening of the sun and the moon was a sign of His coming." —*The Story of Jesus*, p. 176.



## MONDAY

### 2. What will happen to the people?

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**Joel 2:6-9** *Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. <sup>7</sup> They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men*

*of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks:...*

*<sup>8</sup> Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path... <sup>9</sup> They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.*

"In the Saviour's conversation with His disciples upon Olivet, after describing the long period of trial for the church, —the 1260 years of papal persecution, concerning which He had promised that the tribulation should be shortened, —He thus mentioned certain events to precede His coming, and fixed the time when the first of these should be witnessed. ...: The 1260 days, or years, terminated in 1798. A quarter of a century earlier, persecution had almost wholly ceased." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 306.



## TUESDAY

### 3. What will God's people do?

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**Joel 2:1, 15** *Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand; <sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly.*

"If every soldier of Christ had done his duty, if every watchman on the walls of Zion had given the trumpet a certain sound, the world might ere this have heard the message of warning. But the work is years behind. ... Putting our trust in God, we are to move steadily forward,


doing His work with unselfishness, in humble dependence upon Him, committing ourselves and our present and future to His wise providence, holding the beginning of our confidence firm unto the end, remembering that it is not because of our worthiness that we receive the blessings of heaven, but because of the worthiness of Christ, and our acceptance, through faith in Him, of God's abounding grace." –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9, p. 29.

 **WEDNESDAY**

**4. What attitude is necessary to be spared from complete destruction?**

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 **Joel 2:12, 13, 16, 17** *Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: <sup>13</sup> And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he*

*is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. <sup>16</sup> Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. <sup>17</sup> Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord ...*

"The Lord requires our undivided affections. If people are not whole-hearted, they will fail in the day of test and proving and trial. When the enemy shall put his forces in array against them, and the battle seems to go hard, at the very time when all the strength of intellect and capability, all the tact of wise generalship, is needed to repulse the enemy, those who are halfhearted will turn their weapons against their own soldiers; they weaken the hands that should be strong for warfare." –*Christ Triumphant*, p. 123.


 **THURSDAY**

**5. What will be the result?**

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 **Joel 2:18, 23, 28, 29** *Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people. <sup>23</sup> Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come*

down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.<sup>28</sup> And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall proph-

esy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:<sup>29</sup> And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

“It was by the confession and forsaking of sin, by earnest prayer and consecration of themselves to God, that the early disciples prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. The same work, only in greater degree, must be done now. Then the human agent had only to ask for the blessing, and wait for the Lord to perfect the work concerning him. It is God who began the work, and He will finish His work, making man complete in Jesus Christ. But there must be no neglect of the grace represented by the former rain. Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it.” – *The Review and Herald*, March 2, 1897.




FRIDAY

## 6. What is the purpose of all prophecy?

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 **Joel 2: 26, 27** *And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.<sup>27</sup> And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.*

“As the dew and the rain are given first to cause the seed to germinate, and then to ripen the harvest, so the Holy Spirit is given to carry forward, from one stage to another, the process of spiritual growth. The ripening of the grain represents the completion of the work of God’s grace in the soul. By the power of the Holy Spirit the moral image of God is to be perfected in the character. We are to be wholly transformed into the likeness of Christ.” – *The Review and Herald*, March 2, 1897.




## 7. What wonderful promise will be fulfilled?

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 **Joel 2:32** *And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.*

"I saw that none could share the 'refreshing' unless they obtain the victory over every besetment, over pride, selfishness, love of the world, and over every wrong word and action. We should, therefore, be drawing nearer and nearer to the Lord and be earnestly seeking that preparation necessary to enable us to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord. Let all remember that God is holy and that none but holy beings can ever dwell in His presence." —*Early Writings*, p. 7.

### NOTES




### ADDITIONAL STUDY

"We must have a knowledge of the Scriptures, that we may trace down the lines of prophecy and . . . see that the day is approaching, so that with increased zeal and effort we may exhort one another to faithfulness. . . . Give up our faith? lose our confidence? become impatient? No, no. We will not think of such a thing. . . . Let us lift up our heads and rejoice, for our redemption draweth nigh. It is nearer than when we first believed." —*That I May Know Him*, p. 348.

## LESSON

# 3

Sabbath,  
July 18,  
2026

## BOOK OF JOEL “WHAT HAVE YE TO DO WITH ME?”

*“I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom.” 2 Timothy 4:1.*

“Christ would have all understand the events of his second appearing. The judgment scene will take place in the presence of all the worlds; for in this judgment the govern-

ment of God will be vindicated, and His law will stand forth as ‘holy, and just, and good.’ Then every case will be decided, and sentence will be passed upon all. Sin will not then appear attractive, but will be seen in all its hideous magnitude.” —*Maranatha*, p. 292.




### SUNDAY


#### 1. What will God do with this world?

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 **Joel 3:11-14** Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O Lord. <sup>12</sup> Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about. <sup>13</sup> Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the

fats overflow; for their wickedness is great. <sup>14</sup> Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

 **Revelation 16:14-16** For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. <sup>15</sup> Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. <sup>16</sup> And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

"Intemperance dethrones reason; sensual indulgence, strife, and bloodshed follow. Satan delights in war, for it excites the worst passions of the soul and then sweeps into eternity its victims steeped in vice and blood. It is his object to incite the nations to war against one another, for he can thus divert the minds of the people from the work of preparation to stand in the day of God." –*The Great Controversy*, p. 589.




## MONDAY


### 2. What will God do, and why?

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 **Joel 3:2** *I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel.*

 **Revelation 14:15** *And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.*

"For six thousand years the great controversy has been in progress; the Son of God and His heavenly messengers have been in conflict with the power of the evil one, to warn, enlighten, and save the children of men. Now all have made their decisions; the wicked have fully united with Satan in his warfare against God. The time has come for God to vindicate the authority of His downtrodden law. Now the controversy is not alone with Satan, but with men. 'The Lord hath a controversy with the nations'" –*The Great Controversy*, p. 656.




## TUESDAY

### 3. What conflict was prophesied?

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 **Joel 3:9–11** *Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: <sup>10</sup>Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong. <sup>11</sup>Assemble your-*

selves, and come, all ye heathen,  
and gather yourselves together  
round about: thither cause thy

mighty ones to come down, O  
Lord.

"The apostle Paul points to this judgment as an event that follows the second advent. 'Judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts.' 1 Corinthians 4:5. Daniel declares that when the Ancient of Days came, 'judgment was given to the saints of the Most High.' Daniel 7:22. At this time the righteous reign as kings and priests unto God. John in the Revelation says: 'I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them.' 'They shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.' Revelation 20:4, 6. It is at this time that, as foretold by Paul, 'the saints shall judge the world.' 1 Corinthians 6:2. In union with Christ they judge the wicked, comparing their acts with the statute book, the Bible, and deciding every case according to the deeds done in the body. Then the portion which the wicked must suffer is meted out, according to their works; and it is recorded against their names in the book of death." –*The Great Controversy*, p. 660.



WEDNESDAY

#### **4. How will God reveal Himself, and what message will thus be made known?**

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**Joel 3:16, 17** *The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. <sup>17</sup>So shall ye know that I am the Lord your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.*

"For six thousand years, Satan's work of rebellion has 'made the earth to tremble.' He had 'made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof.' And he 'opened not the house of his prisoners.' For six thousand years his prison house has received God's people, and he would have held them captive forever; but Christ had broken his bonds and set the prisoners free." –*The Great Controversy*, p. 659.

**5. What contrast will be revealed?**

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 **Joel 3:19-21** *Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence against the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land. <sup>20</sup>But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation. <sup>21</sup>For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed: for the Lord dwelleth in Zion.*

*olate wilderness, for the violence against the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land. <sup>20</sup>But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation. <sup>21</sup>For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed: for the Lord dwelleth in Zion.*


"The judgment will be conducted in accordance with the rules God has laid down. By the law which men are now called upon to obey, but which many refuse to accept, all will be judged. As by it character is tested, every man will find his proper place in one of two classes. He will either be holy to the Lord through obedience to His law, or be stained with sin through transgression. . . . He will place the sheep on His right hand, and the goats on His left. Then men and women will see that their course of action has decided their destiny." –*The Review and Herald*, June 18, 1901.

**6. What will ultimately be consumed?**

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 **Joel 2:3, 4** *A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. <sup>4</sup>The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run.*

"Then are fulfilled the words of the prophet: 'The indignation of the Lord is upon all nations, and His fury upon all their armies: He hath utterly destroyed them, He hath delivered them to the slaughter.' Isaiah 34:2. 'Upon the wicked He shall rain quick burning coals, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.' Psalm 11:6, margin. Fire comes down from God out of heaven. The earth is broken up. The weapons concealed in its depths are drawn forth. Devouring flames burst from every yawning chasm. The very rocks are on fire. The day has come that 'shall burn as an oven.' Malachi 4:1. The

elements melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein are burned up. (2 Peter 3:10.) The fire of Tophet is prepared for the king, the chief of rebellion; the pile thereof is deep and large, and 'the breath of the Lord, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.' Isaiah 30:33. The earth's surface seems one molten mass—a vast, seething lake of fire. It is the time of the judgment and perdition of ungodly men 'the day of the Lord's vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion.' Isaiah 34:8." —*The Story of Redemption*, p. 428.




## SABBATH

### 7. Where will God's people dwell safely?

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 **Joel 3:18** *And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the Lord, and shall water the valley of Shittim.*

"While the earth is wrapped in the fire of God's vengeance, the righteous abide safely in the Holy City. Upon those that had part in the first resurrection, the second death has no power. (Revelation 20:6.) While God is to the wicked a consuming fire, He is to His people both a sun and a shield. (Psalm 84:11.)" —*The Story of Redemption*, p. 429.



## ADDITIONAL STUDY

"There is a day just about to burst upon us when God's mysteries will be seen, and all His ways vindicated; when justice, mercy, and love will be the attributes of His throne. When the earthly warfare is accomplished, and the saints are all gathered home, our first theme will be the song of Moses, the servant of God. The second theme will be the song of the Lamb, the song of grace and redemption. This song will be louder, loftier, and in sublimer strains, echoing and re-echoing through the heavenly courts. Thus the song of God's providence is sung, connecting the varying dispensations; for all is now seen without a veil between the legal, the prophetic, and the gospel. The church history upon the earth and the church redeemed in heaven all center around the cross of Calvary. This is the theme, this is the song, —Christ all and in all, —in anthems of praise resounding through heaven from thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand and an innumerable company of the redeemed host. All unite in this song of Moses and of the Lamb. It is a new song, for it was never before sung in heaven." —*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 433.

## LESSON

# 4

Sabbath,  
July 25,  
2026

## BOOK OF JONAH “OF WHAT PEOPLE ART THOU?”

*“One shall say, I am the Lord’s; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the Lord, and surname himself by the name of Israel.” Isaiah 44:5.*

“Our obedience to His commandments testifies whether we are indeed children of God. We are inclined to worry at the outlook of things transpiring in our world. ... God knows all about the outcome.” –*The Upward Look*, p. 44.



SUNDAY

### 1. What mission did the Lord give to the prophet Jonah? How did he respond to this command?



**Jonah 1:1-3** Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, <sup>2</sup>Arise, go to

*Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. <sup>3</sup>But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.*

“As the prophet thought of the difficulties and seeming impossibilities of this commission, he was tempted to question the wisdom of the call. From a human viewpoint it seemed as if nothing could be gained by proclaiming such a message in that proud city. He forgot for the moment that the God whom he served was all-wise and all-powerful. While he hesitated, still doubting, Satan overwhelmed him with discouragement.” –*Prophets and Kings*, p. 266.




MONDAY

## 2. What happened? What characteristics were revealed by the sailors and the shipmaster?

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 **Jonah 1:4-6** *But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be*

*broken. <sup>5</sup>Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep. <sup>6</sup>So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.*

"In the charge given him, Jonah had been entrusted with a heavy responsibility; yet He who had bidden him go was able to sustain His servant and grant him success. Had the prophet obeyed unquestioningly, he would have been spared many bitter experiences, and would have been blessed abundantly. Yet in the hour of Jonah's despair the Lord did not desert him. Through a series of trials and strange providences, the prophet's confidence in God and in His infinite power to save was to be revived." —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 266.




TUESDAY

## 3. What important conversation ensued?

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 **Jonah 1:8-12** *Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou? <sup>9</sup>And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the*

*God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land. <sup>10</sup>Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them. <sup>11</sup>Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous. <sup>12</sup>And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.*

"The world today is in crying need of a revelation of Christ Jesus in the person of His saints. God desires that His people shall stand before the world a holy people. Why? Because there is a world to be saved by the light of gospel truth; and as the message of truth that is to call men out of darkness into God's marvelous light is given by the church, the lives of its members, sanctified by the Spirit of truth, are to bear witness to the verity of the messages proclaimed. . . .

"The world is in need of a demonstration of practical Christianity. In view of the fact that those who claim to be followers of Christ are a spectacle to an unbelieving world, it behooves them to make sure that they are in right relation to God." –*The Review and Herald*, March 31, 1910.




WEDNESDAY

#### 4. What happened to the prophet?

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 **Jonah 1:15-17** *So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging. <sup>16</sup>Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the Lord, and made vows. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.*

"The bright and cheerful side of religion will be represented by all who are daily consecrated to God. We should not dishonor our Lord by a mournful relation of trials that appear grievous. All trials that are received as educators will produce joy. The whole religious life will be uplifting, elevating, ennobling, fragrant with good words and works." –*God's Amazing Grace*, p. 184.




THURSDAY

#### 5. What did the prophet do? What did he cry to God?

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 **Jonah 2:1, 2** *Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly, <sup>2</sup>And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.*

"Looking to Jesus, the Author and Finisher of the faith, who endured the contradiction of sinners against Himself, the believer will willingly brave contempt and derision. And help and grace sufficient for every circumstance are promised by Him whose word is truth. His everlasting arms encircle the soul that turns to Him for aid. In His care we may rest safely, saying, 'What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee.' Psalm 56:3. To all who put their trust in Him, God will fulfill His promise." – *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 467.




FRIDAY

## 6. What important truths did Jonah express?

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 **Jonah 2 :6-9** *I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up*

*my life from corruption, O Lord my God. <sup>7</sup>When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple. <sup>8</sup>They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy. <sup>9</sup> But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. ...*

"Not in freedom from trial, but in the midst of it, is Christian character developed. Exposure to rebuffs and opposition leads the follower of Christ to greater watchfulness and more earnest prayer to the mighty Helper. Severe trial endured by the grace of God develops patience, vigilance, fortitude, and a deep and abiding trust in God. It is the triumph of the Christian faith that it enables its followers to suffer and be strong; to submit, and thus to conquer; to be killed all the day long, and yet to live; to bear the cross, and thus to win the crown of glory." – *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 467.



SABBATH

## 7. What was the result?

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**Jonah 2:9, 10** ... *Salvation is of the Lord. <sup>10</sup>And the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.*



# LESSON

# 5

Sabbath,  
August 1,  
2026

## BOOK OF JONAH “DOEST THOU WELL?”

“... Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.” Revelation 15:3.

“Having undertaken our redemption, He will spare nothing, however dear, which is necessary to the completion of His work. No truth essential to our salvation is withheld, no miracle of mercy is neglected, no divine agency is left unemployed. Favor is heaped upon favor, gift upon gift. The whole treasury of heaven is open to those He seeks to save.” –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 57.




SUNDAY

### 1. What commission did the prophet receive again? What did he do this time?

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 **Jonah 3:1-4** And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>Arise, go unto

*Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. <sup>3</sup>So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey. <sup>4</sup>And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.*

“The message of warning is to be given in all the highways and by-ways. The cities are to be worked, not merely preached to; there must be house-to-house labor.” –*Manuscript 33*, 1894.



MONDAY

## 2. How did the king, his nobles, and the people respond to Jonah's preaching?



**Jonah 3:6-8** For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him

with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. <sup>7</sup>And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: <sup>8</sup>But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.

"The duty of God's servants at this time is to preach the Word in the cities. Christ came from the heavenly courts to this earth in order to save souls and we, as almoners of His grace, need to impart to the inhabitants of the great cities a knowledge of His saving truth." -Letter 62, 1910.



TUESDAY

## 3. What complaint and request did Jonah present?



**Jonah 4:1-3** But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. <sup>2</sup>And he prayed unto the

Lord, and said, I pray thee, o Lord, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil. <sup>3</sup>Therefore now, o Lord, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.

"You are to know that God has you under His special care; you are to trust in Him because you love Him, and He loves you. He will uphold all who put their trust in Him. God will make everything work for your sanctification if you will stop fretting and trust in Him. The words spoken to you by One who cannot make a mistake were: 'Do not fall into the temptation to harass your own life and make yourself miserable by your own reflections, which are frequently the direct insinuations of Satan.' You keep fresh in your mind your own grievances, and go over

and over the same things, cutting and bruising your own soul...." –*The Upward Look*, p. 314.




WEDNESDAY

#### 4. What was God's plan? What was in Jonah's mind?

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 **Jonah 4:4, 5** Then said the Lord, Doest thou well to be angry? <sup>5</sup>So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city.

"The faith of the people of the God of heaven should be strong, active, and enduring—the substance of things hoped for. Then the language of such will be, 'Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name,' for He hath dealt bountifully with me." –*The Story of Redemption*, p. 129.




THURSDAY

#### 5. What did God do to give Jonah a necessary lesson?

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 **Jonah 4:6-8** And the Lord God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah

was exceeding glad of the gourd. <sup>7</sup>But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered. <sup>8</sup>And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

"Many have their present wants supplied; yet they will not trust the Lord for the future. They manifest unbelief and sink into despondency and gloom at anticipated want. Some are in continual trouble lest they shall come to want and their children suffer. When difficulties arise or when they are brought into strait places—when their faith and their love to God are tested—they shrink from the trial and murmur at the process by which God has chosen to purify them. Their love does not prove pure and perfect, to bear all things." –*The Story of Redemption*, p. 128.




FRIDAY

## 6. What question did God ask the prophet? Why?

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 **Jonah 4:9, 10** *And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death. <sup>10</sup>Then said the Lord, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night.*

"God has no pleasure in the death of the unrighteous. He has borne long with stubborn, obdurate hearts. He who gave Christ to the world has sent messages of warning, but many have refused to heed. Long has He borne with men who have not glorified His name. He now calls upon His people to make a thorough work and remove every stumbling block. Let us clear the highway for our God." –*Manuscript 106*, November 20, 1905.




SABBATH

## 7. What divine attributes did God reveal?

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 **Jonah 4:11** *And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?*

"You who in heart long for something better than this world can give, recognize this longing as the voice of God to your soul. Ask Him to give you repentance, to reveal Christ to you in His infinite love, in His perfect purity. In the Saviour's life the principles of God's law—love to God and man—were perfectly exemplified. Benevolence, unselfish love, was the life of His soul. It is as we behold Him, as the light from our Saviour falls upon us, that we see the sinfulness of our own hearts." –*Steps to Christ*, p. 28.



# LESSON

# 6

Sabbath,  
August 8,  
2026

## BOOK OF OBADIAH “WHO SHALL BRING ME DOWN?”

*“Now these are the generations of Esau, who is Edom. And Esau took his wives, and his sons, and his daughters, and all the persons of his house, and his cattle, and all his beasts, and all his substance, which he had got in the land of Canaan; and went into the country from the face of his brother Jacob. For their riches were more than that they might dwell*

*together; and the land wherein they were strangers could not bear them because of their cattle. Thus dwelt Esau in mount Seir: Esau is Edom.”*  
Genesis 36:1, 6-8.

“If Esau had received the blessing of his father, which was bestowed upon the first-born, his prosperity could have come from God alone; and He would have blessed him with prosperity, or brought upon him adversity, according to his course of action. If he should love and reverence God, like righteous Abel, he would be accepted and blessed of God. If, like wicked Cain, he had no respect for God nor for His commandments, but followed his own corrupt course, he would not receive a blessing from God but would be rejected of God, as was Cain.” –*The Story of Redemption*, p. 88.




SUNDAY

**1. What message was the prophet Obadiah commissioned to give to the nation of Edom?**

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 **Obadiah 1:1, 2** *The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord God concerning Edom; We have heard a rumour from the Lord, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen, Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle. <sup>2</sup>Behold, I have made thee small among the heathen: thou art greatly despised.*

"The Edomites were descendants of Abraham and Isaac, and for the sake of these His servants, God had shown favor to the children of Esau. He had given them Mount Seir for a possession, and they were not to be disturbed unless by their sins they should place themselves beyond the reach of His mercy." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 423.




MONDAY

## 2. How was this nation described?

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 **Obadiah 1:5–8** *If thieves came to thee, if robbers by night, (how art thou cut off!) would they not have stolen till they had enough? if the grapegatherers came to thee, would they not leave some grapes? <sup>6</sup>How are the things of*

*Esau searched out! how are his hidden things sought up! <sup>7</sup>All the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border: the men that were at peace with thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they that eat thy bread have laid a wound under thee: there is none understanding in him. <sup>8</sup>Shall I not in that day, saith the Lord, even destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau?*

"The inhabitants of the unfallen worlds look with pity and reproach on man's pride and self-importance. The wealthy and the honored of the world are not the only ones who glorify self. Many who profess to revere God talk of their wisdom and their might. They act as if God is under obligations to them, as if He cannot carry on His work without their aid. Let such gaze into the starry heavens, and with admiration and awe study the marvelous works of God. Let them think of the wisdom He displays in maintaining perfect order in the vast universe, and of the little reason that man has to boast of his attainments." —*Lift Him Up*, p. 54.



TUESDAY

## 3. What did this kingdom do to its neighbors and even its closest relatives?

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**Obadiah 1: 10, 11** *For thy violence against thy brother Jacob shame shall cover thee, and thou shalt be cut off for ever. <sup>11</sup>In the day that thou stoodest on the other side, in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and*

foreigners entered into his gates,  
and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even  
thou wast as one of them.

"All selfishness comes from Satan. Human beings belong to one great family, the family of God. They are to respect and love one another. They are not to speak words which wound and bruise. No one is to be unfair in his dealings, causing his fellow-beings to lose confidence in him. Selfishness and injustice bring unhappiness. Under their baleful influence men lose the sense of what it means to love one another as Christ loves us." –*Lift Him Up*, p. 292.


 WEDNESDAY

**4. How did the nation of Edom act when its relatives were suffering?**

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 **Obadiah 1:12** *But thou shouldest not have looked on the day of thy brother in the day that he became a stranger; neither shouldest thou have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress.*

"The Word of God exhorts, 'Love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.' 2 Peter 3:8. True moral worth does not seek to make a place for itself by thinking and speaking evil, by depreciating others. All envy, all jealousy, all evilspeaking, with all unbelief, must be put away from God's children." –*Our High Calling*, p. 234.


 THURSDAY

**5. What was its attitude toward others, and what did it do?**

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 **Obadiah 1:13, 14** *Thou shouldest not have entered into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; yea, thou shouldest not*

*have looked on their affliction in the day of their calamity, nor have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity; <sup>14</sup>Neither shouldest thou have stood in the crossway, to cut off those of his that did escape; neither shouldest thou have delivered up those of his that did remain in the day of distress.*

"The spirit of hatred and revenge originated with Satan, and it led him to put to death the Son of God. Whoever cherishes malice or unkindness is cherishing the same spirit, and its fruit will be unto death. In the revengeful thought the evil deed lies enfolded, as the plant in the seed. 'Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him' (1 John 3:15)." –*Mind, Character, and Personality*, vol. 2, p. 608.




## FRIDAY

### 6. What would be the consequences of such actions?

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 **Obadiah 1:15, 16** *For the day of the Lord is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head. <sup>16</sup>For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.*

"It is a wonderful and grand fact that in the laws of God in nature, effect follows cause with unerring certainty. The seed sown will produce a harvest of its kind. So it is in human nature. He that sows to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption. He who sows to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting. If human beings would consider that they are making their own harvest, they would be careful what seed they sow." –*Manuscript 104*, 1898.




## SABBATH

### 7. What would ultimately come to those who were hurt, and what could the wrongdoers expect?

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 **Obadiah 1:17, 21** *But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions. <sup>21</sup>And saviours shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the Lord's.*

"The well-doer, the obedient, does not war against the transgressor of God's holy law. But those who do not respect the law of God oppress and persecute other people. They follow their leader, who is an accuser



## LESSON

# 7

Sabbath,  
August 15,  
2026

## BOOK OF AMOS

# “... WHAT DOETH THE LORD REQUIRE OF THEE?”

*“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doeth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?” Micah 6:8.*

*“The laws of the nations bear marks of the infirmities and passions of the unrenewed heart; but God’s laws bear the stamp of the divine, and if they are obeyed, they will lead to*

*a tender regard for the rights and privileges of others.... His watchful care is over all the interests of His children, and He declares He will undertake the cause of the afflicted and the oppressed. If they cry unto Him, He says, ‘I will hear; for I am gracious.’” –To Be Like Jesus, p. 170.*




SUNDAY

### 1. What nations were warned before they were struck by disaster?

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 **Amos 1:1, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15; 2:2** *The words of Amos, who was among the herdmen of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash*

*king of Israel, two years before the earthquake. <sup>5</sup>I will... cut off... the people of Syria. <sup>8</sup>... the remnant of the Philistines shall perish, saith the Lord God. <sup>10</sup>But I will send a fire on the wall of Tyrus, which shall devour the palaces thereof. <sup>11</sup>Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof. <sup>13</sup>... the children of Ammon ... <sup>15</sup>And their king shall go into captivity, he and his princes together, saith the Lord. <sup>22</sup>... and Moab shall die.*

“God has given His law for the regulation of the conduct of nations, of families, and of individuals. There is not one worker of wickedness, though his sin is the least and the most secret, that escapes the de-

nunciation of that law. The whole work of the father of lies is recorded in the statute books of heaven; and those who lend themselves to the service of Satan, to present to men his lies by precept and practice, will receive according to their deeds. Every offense against God, however minute, is set down in the reckoning. And when the sword of justice is taken in hand, it will do the work that was done to the Divine Sufferer. Justice will strike; for God's hatred of sin is intense and overwhelming." —*Lift Him Up*, p. 158.


 MONDAY

**2. How would God deal with such unjust nations, as well as with those who treated individuals with cruelty?**

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 **Amos 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 13; 2:1** Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions... and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof;

*because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron. <sup>6</sup>... because they carried away captive the whole captivity, to deliver them up. <sup>9</sup>... and remembered not the brotherly covenant. <sup>11</sup>... because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually. <sup>13</sup>... because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead, that they might enlarge their border. <sup>2</sup>because he burned the bones... into lime.*

"The two great principles of the law of God are supreme love to God and unselfish love to our neighbor. The first four commandments and the last six hang upon, or grow out of, these two principles." —*To Be Like Jesus*, p. 169.


 TUESDAY

**3. Through the prophet, what did God say concerning Judah's sins and their consequences?**

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 **Amos 2:4** Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Judah, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have despised the law of the Lord, and have not kept his commandments, and their lies caused them to err, after the which their fathers have walked.

"Such are the warnings which God has given to guard men against changing in any manner that which He has revealed or commanded.


These solemn denunciations apply to all who by their influence lead men to regard lightly the law of God. They should cause those to fear and tremble who flippantly declare it a matter of little consequence whether we obey God's law or not. All who exalt their own opinions above divine revelation, all who would change the plain meaning of Scripture to suit their own convenience, or for the sake of conforming to the world, are taking upon themselves a fearful responsibility. The written word, the law of God, will measure the character of every man and condemn all whom this unerring test shall declare wanting." – *The Great Controversy*, p. 268.



WEDNESDAY

#### 4. How did Amos, through inspiration, lament over the sins of Israel?

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 **Amos 2:6-8** Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they sold the righteous for silver, and the


*poor for a pair of shoes; <sup>7</sup>That pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor, and turn aside the way of the meek: and a man and his father will go in unto the same maid, to profane my holy name. <sup>8</sup>And they lay themselves down upon clothes laid to pledge by every altar, and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god.*

"O that you would search your hearts as with a lighted candle, and discover and break the finest thread that binds you to worldly habits, which divert the mind from God! Plead with God to show you every practice that draws your thoughts and affections from Him. God has given His holy law to man as His measure of character. By this law you may see and overcome every defect in your character. You may sever yourself from every idol, and link yourself to the throne of God by the golden chain of grace and truth." – *The Review and Herald*, May 14, 1901.



THURSDAY

#### 5. With what rhetorical questions did God admonish His people? What promise was an encouragement to those who trusted in Him?

 **Amos 3:3-8** Can two walk together, except they be agreed? <sup>4</sup>Will a lion roar in the forest, when he hath no prey? will a young lion cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing? <sup>5</sup>Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no gin is

for him? shall one take up a snare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all? <sup>6</sup>Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not

done it? <sup>7</sup>Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. <sup>8</sup>The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord God hath spoken, who can but prophesy?

"The soul that loves God loves to draw strength from Him by constant communion with Him. When it becomes the habit of the soul to converse with God, the power of the evil one is broken, for Satan cannot abide near the soul that draws nigh unto God. If Christ is your companion, you will not cherish vain and impure thoughts; you will not indulge in trifling words that will grieve Him who has come to be the sanctifier of your soul.

"The religion of Christ will refine the taste, sanctify the judgment, elevate, purify, and ennoble the soul." –*The Review and Herald*, December 3, 1889.




FRIDAY

## 6. What terrible calamities did the Lord permit to come upon the people? What should those things have motivated them to do?

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 **Amos 4:2, 6-11** *The Lord God hath sworn by his holiness, that, lo, the days shall come upon you, that he will take you away with hooks, and your posterity with fish-hooks... <sup>6</sup>And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord. <sup>7</sup>And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months*

*to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered. <sup>8</sup>So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord. <sup>9</sup>I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the palmerworm devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord. <sup>10</sup>I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses; and I have made the stink of your camps to come up unto your nostrils: yet have ye*

*not returned unto me, saith the Lord. "I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a fire-*

*brand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.*

"If we overcome our trials and get victory over the temptations of Satan, then we endure the trial of our faith, which is more precious than gold, and are stronger and better prepared to meet the next. But if we sink down and give way to the temptations of Satan, we shall grow weaker and get no reward for the trial and shall not be so well prepared for the next. In this way we shall grow weaker and weaker, until we are led captive by Satan at his will. We must have on the whole armor of God and be ready at any moment for a conflict with the powers of darkness. When temptations and trials rush in upon us, let us go to God and agonize with Him in prayer. He will not turn us away empty, but will give us grace and strength to overcome, and to break the power of the enemy. Oh, that all could see these things in their true light and endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus! Then would Israel move forward, strong in God, and in the power of His might." —*Early Writings*, p. 46.


 **SABBATH**

**7. How alone can a genuine transformation come about?**

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 **Amos 4:12, 13** *Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel. <sup>13</sup>For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The Lord, The God of hosts, is his name.*

"Through nature and revelation, through His providence, and by the influence of His Spirit, God speaks to us. But these are not enough; we need also to pour out our hearts to Him. In order to have spiritual life and energy, we must have actual intercourse with our heavenly Father. Our minds may be drawn out toward Him; we may meditate upon His works, His mercies, His blessings; but this is not, in the fullest sense, communing with Him." —*Steps to Christ*, p. 93.



## LESSON

# 8

Sabbath,  
August 22,  
2026

Please read the Missionary Report from  
**Malaysia**  
on page 48

## BOOK OF AMOS “IS THERE YET ANY WITH THEE?”

*“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”* Matthew 6:33.

“This promise will never fail. We cannot enjoy the favor of God unless we comply with the conditions upon which His favor is bestowed. By so doing there will come to us that peace, contentment, and wisdom that the world can

neither give nor take away. A humble mind and a grateful heart will elevate us above petty trials and real difficulties.” —*Conflict and Courage*, p. 370.




SUNDAY

### 1. What critically important counsel did God give to His people? Why?

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 **Amos 5:4-9** For thus saith the Lord unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me, and ye shall live: <sup>5</sup>But seek not Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal, and pass not to Beersheba: for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Bethel shall come to nought. <sup>6</sup>Seek the Lord, and ye shall live; lest

he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel. <sup>7</sup>Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth, <sup>8</sup>Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is his name: <sup>9</sup>That strengtheneth the spoiled against the strong, so that the spoiled shall come against the fortress.

“Wait before Him with humility of heart. Pray most earnestly for an understanding of the times in which we live, for a fuller conception of His purpose, and for increased efficiency in soul saving....”

"This is no time for trifling or self-seeking. If the times in which we are living fail to impress our minds seriously, what can reach us? ..." —*Our Father Cares*, p. 324.


 **MONDAY**

**2. What other vital command did God give them? For whose benefit was this?**

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 **Amos 5:14, 15** *Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken. <sup>15</sup>Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.*

"There seemed to be a great movement—a work of revival—going forward in many places. Our people were moving into line, responding to God's call.... Shall we not heed His voice? Shall we not trim our lamps, and act like men who look for their Lord to come? The time is one that calls for light bearing, for action." —*Our Father Cares*, p. 324.


 **TUESDAY**

**3. For what purpose did God measure the people at that time? How does that apply to the world and His church today?**

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 **Amos 7:7, 8; 5:3** *Thus he shewed me: and, behold, the Lord stood*

*upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more. <sup>5:3</sup>For thus saith the Lord God; The city that went out by a thousand shall leave an hundred, and that which went forth by an hundred shall leave ten, to the house of Israel.*

"Today men and nations are being tested by the plummet in the hand of Him who makes no mistake....

"Today the signs of the times declare that we are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Everything in our world is in agitation. Before our eyes is fulfilling the Saviour's prophecy of the events to precede His coming." —*Evangelism*, p. 703.



## 4. What frightening events were signs of coming afflictions, especially at the end of time?

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**Amos 8:9-13** *And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day: <sup>10</sup>And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will bring up sack-*

*cloth upon all loins, and baldness upon every head; and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day. <sup>11</sup>Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it. <sup>13</sup>In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst.*

"A moment of respite has been graciously given us of God. Every power lent us of heaven is to be used in doing the work assigned us by the Lord for those who are perishing in ignorance. ...

"Every day we have been associating with men and women who are judgment bound. Each day may have been the dividing line for some soul. Each day someone may have made the decision which will determine his future destiny." –*The Review and Herald*, November 23, 1905.



## 5. Why are God's judgments inescapable?

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**Amos 9:1-3** *I saw the Lord standing upon the altar: and he said, Smite the lintel of the door, that the posts may shake: and cut them in the head, all of them; and*

*I will slay the last of them with the sword: he that fleeth of them shall not flee away, and he that escapeth of them shall not be delivered. <sup>2</sup>Though they dig into hell, thence shall mine hand take them; though they climb up to heaven, thence will I bring them down: <sup>3</sup>And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out thence; and though they be hid from my sight*

*in the bottom of the sea, thence  
will I command the serpent, and  
he shall bite them.*

"The final judgment is a most solemn, awful event. This must take place before the universe. To the Lord Jesus the Father has committed all judgment. He will declare the reward of loyalty to the law of Jehovah. God will be honored and His government vindicated and glorified, and that in the presence of the inhabitants of the unfallen worlds. On the largest possible scale will the government of God be vindicated and exalted. It is not the judgment of one individual or of one nation, but of the whole world. Oh, what a change will then be made in the understanding of all created beings. Then all will see the value of eternal life." —Letter 131, October 14, 1900.




## FRIDAY

### 6. What will happen to God's people?

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 **Amos 9:9, 10** *For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth. <sup>10</sup>All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us.*

"But the days of purification of the church are hastening on apace. God will have a people pure and true. In the mighty sifting soon to take place we shall be better able to measure the strength of Israel. The signs reveal that the time is near when the Lord will manifest that His fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor." —*Counsels for the Church*, p. 338.




## SABBATH

### 7. What great promise was given to the Lord's faithful children?

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 **Amos 9:11** *In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old.*

“For six thousand years, faith has builded upon Christ. For six thousand years the floods and tempests of satanic wrath have beaten upon the Rock of our salvation; but it stands unmoved. ...

“The Rock of faith is the living presence of Christ in the church.” – *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 413, 414.

## NOTES




### **ADDITIONAL STUDY**

“It is God’s purpose that His people shall be a sanctified, purified, holy people, communicating light to all around them. It is His purpose that, by exemplifying the truth in their lives, they shall be a praise in the earth. The grace of Christ is sufficient to bring this about. But let God’s people remember that only as they believe and work out the principles of the gospel can He make them a praise in the earth. Only as they use their God-given capabilities in His service will they enjoy the fullness and power of the promise whereon the church has been called to stand. If those who profess to believe in Christ as their Saviour reach only the low standard of worldly measurement, the church fails to bear the rich harvest that God expects. ‘Found wanting’ is written upon her record.” – *Testimony Treasures*, vol. 3, p. 205.

## MISSIONARY REPORT FROM MALAYSIA

To be read on Sabbath, August 22, 2026

The Special Sabbath School Offering  
will be gathered on Sabbath, August 29, 2026

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

May the grace and the love of the Father in Jesus be with you all. Greetings from the Scriptures found in Ecclesiastes 11:1: “Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.”

Malaysia is a country in Southeast Asia. A federal constitutional monarchy, it consists of thirteen states and three federal territories, separated by the South China Sea into two regions—Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo's East Malaysia. Peninsular Malaysia shares a land and maritime border with Thailand and maritime borders with Singapore, Vietnam, and Indonesia. East Malaysia shares land borders with Brunei and Indonesia, as well as a maritime border with the Philippines and Vietnam. Kuala Lumpur is the national capital, the country's largest city, and the seat of the legislative branch of the federal government.

Islam is the state religion of Malaysia, but other religions may be practiced by non-Malay citizens of the country. Nevertheless, one must be Muslim to be considered Malay. As of the 2020 Population and Housing Census, 63.5 percent of the population practices Islam; 18.7 percent, Buddhism; 9.1 percent, Christianity; 6.1 percent, Hinduism; and 2.7 percent other religion or gave no information. The remainder is accounted for by other faiths, including animism, folk religion, Sikhism, the Bahá'í faith, and other belief systems.

The plan to open the work in Malaysia began in 2008, when Pastors Anton Salavyov and Leonard Jastiva visited the state of Sabah as Asian Pacific Regional Representatives. They sent a sister from the Philippines to work in Lahad Datu, Sabah, Malaysia. In 2009, five souls were baptized from Lahad Datu. The next visit resulted in four individuals from the Seventh-day Adventist Church accepting the Reformation message. From then on, the work was extended in Kota Kinabalu,

the capital of Sabah. The work was continued beyond that by Pastors Arnolfo Cortez and Roland De La Paz, and a church was organized in Lahad Datu. Brother Cortez stayed in Sabah for a number of months to encourage the newly baptized souls and also to seek for interested souls. We tried to register the church at that time, but the requirements from the government were too difficult to comply with. The main reason is that Malaysia is an Islamic country, even as it claims to grant religious liberty. This means that Christians always encounter discrimination. It was also very difficult when three of our members died one after the other.

In 2013, three more souls were baptized, including Brother Salleh Suli, who is presently the leader of the Field. He translated for Brother Cortez for three weeks and became convinced of the Reformation message. He was baptized with his wife and another brother. From that time on, the members did their best to share the message in Sabah and other parts of Malaysia. We were able to rent a place for worship until the COVID-19 crisis began. Then the owner of the place that we were renting sold the property, making it necessary to seek for a better location for a place of worship and headquarters. As of this writing, we have new contacts in Tamparuli, Kota Belud, Kota Marudu, Inanam, and Kota Kinabalu. We held several seminars and conferences in 2023 and 2024, and many people were invited; but it is always a challenge when we do not have our own place of worship.

Because of this, we appeal to you to help the Malaysian Field find a good place so that the work may be well established and more souls may come to the feet of Jesus. Please remember the work in Malaysia as we do our part to carry out the commission that Jesus gave to His disciples to preach the gospel of the kingdom to all nations. God bless your generous hearts and offerings.

—*Pastor Roland De La Paz*  
Asian Division Leader

# LESSON

# 9

Sabbath,  
August 29,  
2026

SPECIAL SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERING FOR  
MALAYSIA

*God multiply your generous donations!*

## BOOK OF HOSEA “SHALL THE LORD NOW FEED THEM?”

*“The word of the Lord that came unto Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.” Hosea 1:1.*

*“The idolatrous course of Ahaz, in the face of the earnest appeals of the prophets, could have but one result. ‘The wrath of the Lord*


*was upon Judah and Jerusalem, and He ... delivered them to trouble, to astonishment, and to hissing.’ 2 Chronicles 29:8. The kingdom suffered a rapid decline, and its very existence was soon imperiled by invading armies.” –Prophets and Kings, p. 327.*




SUNDAY

**1** .What strange command did the prophet Hosea receive from the Lord? What important message did it convey?

*and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the Lord.<sup>2:13</sup> And I will visit upon her the days of Baalim, wherein she burned incense to them, and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgat me, saith the Lord.*

 **Hosea 1:2; 2:13** *The beginning of the word of the Lord by Hosea. And the Lord said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms*

 **Ephesians 5:25** *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.*

*“Marriage, a union for life, is a symbol of the union between Christ and His church. The spirit that Christ manifests toward the church is the spirit that husband and wife are to manifest toward each other.” –Counsels for the Church, p. 127.*

"The unfaithfulness of the church to Christ in permitting her confidence and affection to be turned from Him, and allowing the love of worldly things to occupy the soul, is likened to the violation of the marriage vow. The sin of Israel in departing from the Lord is presented under this figure; and the wonderful love of God which they thus despised is touchingly portrayed ... 'As a wife treacherously departeth from her husband, so have ye dealt treacherously with Me, O house of Israel, saith the Lord'; 'as a wife that committeth adultery, which taketh strangers instead of her husband!' Ezekiel 16:8, 13-15, 32; Jeremiah 3:20." –*The Great Controversy*, p. 381.



MONDAY

## 2. How incomprehensible was and is God's love for His people?

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**Hosea 2:14-16** *Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her. <sup>15</sup>And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt. <sup>16</sup>And it shall be at that day, saith the Lord, that thou shalt call me Ishi; and shalt call me no more Baali.*


"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" Romans 11:33.

"It is through the gift of Christ that we receive every blessing. Through that gift there comes to us day by day the unending flow of Jehovah's goodness. Every flower, with its delicate tints and its fragrance, is given for our enjoyment through that one Gift. The sun and the moon were made by Him. There is not a star which beautifies the heavens that He did not make. Every drop of rain that falls, every ray of light shed upon our unthankful world, testifies to the love of God in Christ. Everything is supplied to us through the one unspeakable Gift, God's only-begotten Son. He was nailed to the cross that all these bounties might flow to God's workmanship." –*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 424.



TUESDAY

**3. How did the prophet picture the dysfunctional relationship between God and His people? Nevertheless, what would finally come about?**

 **Hosea 3:1-5** Then said the Lord unto me, Go yet, love a woman beloved of her friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the Lord toward the children of Israel, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine. <sup>2</sup>So I


bought her to me for fifteen pieces of silver, and for an homer of barley, and an half homer of barley: <sup>3</sup>And I said unto her, Thou shalt abide for me many days; thou shalt not play the harlot, and thou shalt not be for another man: so will I also be for thee. <sup>4</sup>For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim: <sup>5</sup>Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days.

"From the opening of the great controversy it has been Satan's purpose to misrepresent God's character and to excite rebellion against His law, and this work appears to be crowned with success. The multitudes give ear to Satan's deceptions and set themselves against God. But amid the working of evil, God's purposes move steadily forward to their accomplishment; to all created intelligences He is making manifest His justice and benevolence. Through Satan's temptations the whole human race have become transgressors of God's law, but by the sacrifice of His Son a way is opened whereby they may return to God. Through the grace of Christ they may be enabled to render obedience to the Father's law. Thus in every age, from the midst of apostasy and rebellion, God gathers out a people that are true to Him—a people 'in whose heart is His law.' Isaiah 51:7." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 338.



WEDNESDAY

**4. What tragic statement did God make about His people? How does this apply to conditions in the world today?**

 **Hosea 4:6, 1-3** My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also for-

get thy children. <sup>1</sup>... for the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. <sup>2</sup>By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and

blood toucheth blood. <sup>3</sup>Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away.

"Transgression has almost reached its limit. Confusion fills the world, and a great terror is soon to come upon human beings. The end is very near. We who know the truth should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise." –*Evangelism*, p. 623.




THURSDAY

## 5. How do people reflect their leaders, and vice versa?

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 **Hosea 4:9; 5:1, 10** *And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways,*

*and reward them their doings.* <sup>5:1</sup>, <sup>10</sup>Hear ye this, O priests; and hear-ken, ye house of Israel; and give ye ear, O house of the king; for judgment is toward you, because ye have been a snare on Mizpah, and a net spread upon Tabor. <sup>10</sup>The princes of Judah were like them that remove the bound: therefore I will pour out my wrath upon them like water.

"The guilt of these leaders in Israel was not like the guilt of the ordinary sinner. These men stood under the most solemn obligation to God. They had pledged themselves to teach a 'Thus saith the Lord' and to bring strict obedience into their practical life. Instead of doing this they were perverting the Scriptures." –*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 292.




FRIDAY

## 6. What does God generally do when apostasy continues to grow?

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 **Hosea 5:13-15** *When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jar-eb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound. <sup>14</sup>For I will be unto Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah:*

*I, even I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall rescue him. <sup>1</sup>I will go and return to my place, till they acknowl-*

*edge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.*

"God will accept nothing less than unreserved surrender. Half-hearted, sinful Christians can never enter heaven. There they would find no happiness, for they know nothing of the high, holy principles that govern the members of the royal family. The true Christian keeps the windows of the soul open heavenward. He lives in fellowship with Christ. His will is conformed to the will of Christ. His highest desire is to become more and more Christlike." —*The Review and Herald*, May 16, 1907.


 **SABBATH**

**7. But what does God want?  
How will He bring it about?**

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 **Hosea 6:1-3** *Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. <sup>2</sup>After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight. <sup>3</sup>Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.*

"Wherever the word of God has been faithfully preached, results have followed that attested its divine origin. The Spirit of God accompanied the message of His servants, and the word was with power. Sinners felt their consciences quickened. The 'light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world' illumined the secret chambers of their souls, and the hidden things of darkness were made manifest. Deep conviction took hold upon their minds and hearts. They were convinced of sin and of righteousness and of judgment to come. They had a sense of the righteousness of Jehovah and felt the terror of appearing, in their guilt and uncleanness, before the Searcher of hearts. In anguish they cried out: 'Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?'" —*A New Life*, p. 6.



## LESSON

# 10

Sabbath,  
September 5,  
2026

## BOOK OF HOSEA “WHAT SHALL I DO UNTO THEE?”

*“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”* Romans 12:2.

“A revival and a reformation must take place, under the ministration of the Holy Spirit. Revival and reformation are two different things.

Revival signifies a renewal of spiritual life, a quickening of the powers of mind and heart, a resurrection from spiritual death. Reformation signifies a reorganization, a change in ideas and theories, habits and practices. Reformation will not bring forth the good fruit of righteousness unless it is connected with the revival of the Spirit. Revival and reformation are to do their appointed work, and in doing this work they must blend.” —*The Review and Herald*, February 25, 1902.



SUNDAY

**1. How unpredictable were God's Old Testament people, and what about now? How do human beings try to cover up a lack of spirituality?**

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**Hosea 6:4-6** O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away. <sup>5</sup>Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth. <sup>6</sup>For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

“To obey is better than sacrifice.’ The sacrificial offerings were in themselves of no value in the sight of God. They were designed to express on the part of the offerer penitence for sin and faith in Christ and

to pledge future obedience to the law of God. But without penitence, faith, and an obedient heart, the offerings were worthless." –*Conflict and Courage*, p. 158.




## MONDAY

### 2. What is the source of all evil? How can such horrible conditions be discerned?

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 **Hosea 6:7; 7:8, 10** *But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me. <sup>7:8</sup>Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned. <sup>10</sup>And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the Lord their God, nor seek him for all this.*

"God did not create evil, He only made the good, which was like Himself. But Satan would not be content to know the will of God and do it. His curiosity was on the stretch to know that which God had not designed he should know. Evil, sin, and death were not created by God; they are the result of disobedience, which originated in Satan. But the knowledge of evil now in the world was brought in through the cunning of Satan. These are very hard and expensive lessons; but men will learn them, and many will never be convinced that it is bliss to be ignorant of a certain kind of knowledge, which arises from unsatisfied desires and unholy aims. The sons and daughters of Adam are fully as inquisitive and presumptuous as was Eve in seeking forbidden knowledge. They gain an experience, a knowledge, which God never designed they should have, and the result will be, as it was to our first parents, the loss of their Eden home. When will human beings learn that which is demonstrated so thoroughly before them?" –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 503.




## TUESDAY

### 3. What makes apostasy multiply among people in groups as well as to individuals?

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 **Hosea 8:1, 3, 11-14** *Set the trumpet to thy mouth..., because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my law. <sup>3</sup>Israel hath cast off the thing that is good... <sup>11</sup>Because Ephraim hath made many altars to sin, ... <sup>12</sup>I have*

written to him the great things of my law, but they were counted as a strange thing. <sup>13</sup>they shall return to

Egypt. <sup>14</sup>For Israel hath forgotten his Maker, ...

"Let God's word be the guide and the rule of life. Let that word, expressing His revealed commands, be obeyed. God summons everyone to put forth all his powers as a responsible being, to do His plainly specified will. If you do this, you will show it. Grappling with your own inherent defects of character, which are at war with spiritual advancement, is proof that you are doing your part of the work." —*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 452.




WEDNESDAY

## 4. What even clearer evidence confirms a condition of apostasy?

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 **Hosea 10:1, 2, 4** *Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased*

*the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images. <sup>2</sup>Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images. <sup>4</sup>They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant: thus judgment springeth up as hemlock in the furrows of the field.*

"God calls His people to elevate the standard. The church must show their zeal for God in dealing with those who have, while professing great faith, been putting Christ to open shame. They have imperiled the truth. They have been unfaithful sentinels. They have brought reproach and dishonor upon the cause of God. The time has come for earnest and powerful efforts to rid the church of the slime and filth which is tarnishing her purity. The church of Christ is called to be a holy, powerful people, a name and praise in all the earth. There has been opened a fountain for Judah and Jerusalem, to wash from all

uncleanness and sin. There is an astonishing backsliding with God's people, to whom has been entrusted sacred, holy truth. Her faith, her service, her works, must be compared to what they would have been if her course had been continually onward and upward, according to grace and holy truth given her." –*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 450.




THURSDAY

## 5. How merciful is God under such circumstances, even though the consequences for the people are inevitable?

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 **Hosea 10:12-15** Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon

you. <sup>13</sup>Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men. <sup>14</sup>Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shalman spoiled Betharbel in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children. <sup>15</sup>So shall Bethel do unto you because of your great wickedness: in a morning shall the king of Israel utterly be cut off.

"A knowledge of the state of the backslider from God seems to be hidden from him. Has the candlestick been removed out of its place? I call upon all who are resting unconcerned in their present state of spiritual deadness, to arouse and arise from the dead, and Christ will give them light. Many rest as content as though the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night were sheltering and guiding them. Many profess to know God, and yet deny Him in their works. They reckon themselves among God's peculiar, chosen people, who have a special, solemn message entrusted to their keeping to sanctify their lives and to give to the world, and yet the power of the truth is scarcely felt or manifested in our midst in zealous work for God. How great is our darkness, and we know it not! The light has not diminished, but we walk not in its rays." –*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 450.




**6. What tragic experience of unrequited love was described by Hosea? How applicable are such statements today?**

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 **Hosea 11:1-3** *When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt. <sup>2</sup>As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images. <sup>3</sup>I taught Ephraim also to go, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them.*

“The Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.’ James 5:11. His heart of love is touched by our sorrows and even by our utterances of them. Take to Him everything that perplexes the mind. Nothing is too great for Him to bear, for He holds up worlds, He rules over all the affairs of the universe. Nothing that in any way concerns our peace is too small for Him to notice. There is no chapter in our experience too dark for Him to read; there is no perplexity too difficult for Him to unravel. No calamity can befall the least of His children, no anxiety harass the soul, no joy cheer, no sincere prayer escape the lips, of which our heavenly Father is unobservant, or in which He takes no immediate interest.” –*Steps to Christ*, p. 100.




**7. What divine efforts should touch every heart? How are the examples presented in this Bible verse to be understood?**

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 **Hosea 11:4** *I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love: and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them.*

“Christ is drawing sinners to Himself by the cords of love, seeking to unite them to Himself, that they may be laborers together with God, not in pride and self-sufficiency, but in meekness and lowliness. When sinners are converted, God is glorified before the principalities and



# LESSON

# 11

Sabbath,  
September 12,  
2026

## BOOK OF HOSEA “HOW SHALL I GIVE THEE UP?”

*“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.” 1 John 4:7.*

“God is love. The love of the Father and the Son is an attribute of every believer. The Word of God is the channel through which divine love is communicated to man. God’s truth is the medium by which the intellect is reached.

The Holy Spirit is given to the human agent who works in cooperation with divine agencies. It transforms mind and character, enabling man to endure as seeing Him who is invisible. Perfect love can be enjoyed only through the belief of the truth and the reception of the Holy Spirit....” —*Our Father Cares*, p. 261.




SUNDAY

### 1. How sad are the God’s questions about His love for His people when applied to the world today?

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 **Hosea 11:8, 9** *How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together. <sup>9</sup>I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city.*

“The Son of God, heaven’s glorious Commander, was touched with pity for the fallen race. His heart was moved with infinite compassion as the woes of the lost world rose up before Him. But divine love had conceived a plan whereby man might be redeemed. The broken law of

God demanded the life of the sinner. In all the universe there was but one who could, in behalf of man, satisfy its claims. Since the divine law is as sacred as God Himself, only one equal with God could make atonement for its transgression. None but Christ could redeem fallen man from the curse of the law and bring him again into harmony with Heaven. Christ would take upon Himself the guilt and shame of sin—sin so offensive to a holy God that it must separate the Father and His Son. Christ would reach to the depths of misery to rescue the ruined race." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 63.



## MONDAY

### 2. What example of complete transformation imparts hope to every person?

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**Hosea 12:3, 4, 12** *He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God: <sup>4</sup>Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed: he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him in Bethel, and there he spake with us. <sup>12</sup>And Jacob fled into the country of Syria, and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep.*

"From that night of wrestling beside the Jabbok, Jacob had come forth a different man. Self-confidence had been uprooted. Henceforth the early cunning was no longer seen. In place of craft and deception, his life was marked by simplicity and truth. He had learned the lesson of simple reliance upon the Almighty Arm, and amid trial and affliction he bowed in humble submission to the will of God. The baser elements of character were consumed in the furnace fire, the true gold was refined, until the faith of Abraham and Isaac appeared undimmed in Jacob." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 208.



## TUESDAY

### 3. How important is the Spirit of prophecy in the history of God's people?

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**Hosea 12:10, 13** *I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets. <sup>13</sup>And by a prophet the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved.*

"We call upon you to take your stand on the Lord's side, and act your part as a loyal subject of the kingdom. Acknowledge the gift that has been placed in the church for the guidance of God's people in the closing days of earth's history. From the beginning the church of God has had the gift of prophecy in her midst as a living voice to counsel, admonish, and instruct." –*Selected Messages*, book 3, p. 83.




WEDNESDAY

#### 4. What critical decision and request must every person make?

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 **Hosea 14:1, 2** *O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. <sup>2</sup>Take with you words, and turn to the Lord: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.*

"Pure religion has to do with the will. The will is the governing power in the nature of man, bringing all the other faculties under its sway. The will is not the taste or the inclination, but it is the deciding power, which works in the children of men unto obedience to God, or unto disobedience." –*Messages to Young People*, p. 151.




THURSDAY

#### 5. What will God do for one who genuinely repents of his evil ways?

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 **Hosea 14:4-7** *I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him. <sup>5</sup>I will be as the dew*

*unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. <sup>6</sup>His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon. <sup>7</sup>They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.*

"In Jesus the Redeemer they discern infinite wisdom, infinite justice, infinite mercy—depths, heights, lengths, and breadths of love which passeth knowledge. Beholding the perfection of Christ's character, contemplating His mission, His love, His grace, His truth, they are charmed; the great want of the soul is met, and they will say with the psalmist, 'I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with Thy likeness.' The

divine object of faith and love they see to be Jesus Christ; with them the love of the world, the worshipping of earthly treasures, has come to an end...." –*Medical Ministry*, p. 244.



FRIDAY

**6. What will one say when he or she becomes fully aware of God's divine, infinite love?**

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**Hosea 14:8** *Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard him, and observed him: I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found.*

"In the apostasy, man alienated himself from God. The separation is wide and fearful; but Christ has made provision again to connect us with Himself. The power of evil is so identified with human nature that no man can overcome except by union with Christ. Through this union we receive moral and spiritual power. If we have the spirit of Christ we shall bring forth the fruit of righteousness, fruit that will honor and bless men, and glorify God." –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 230.



SABBATH

**7. What important conclusions will those who long for righteousness reach?**

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**Hosea 14:9** *Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein.*

"Every day hereditary tendencies to wrong will strive for the mastery. Every day you are to war against your objectionable traits of character, until there are left in you none of those things which need to be separated from you. Then you will think candidly and wisely how to take yourself to the Lord. You will foresee the evils which will come, unless you change by avoiding the cause which produces the effect." –*The Voice in Speech and Song*, p. 304.



## LESSON

# 12

Sabbath,  
September 19,  
2026

## BOOK OF NAHUM “WHO CAN STAND?”

*“Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.” Nahum 1:6.*

“God is the source of all wisdom. He is infinitely wise and just and good. Apart from Christ, the wisest men that ever lived cannot comprehend Him. ...

“If men could see for a moment beyond the range of finite vision, if they could catch a glimpse of the Eternal, every mouth would be stopped in its boasting. Men living in this little atom of a world are finite; God has unnumbered worlds that are obedient to His laws and are conducted with reference to His glory.” —*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, p. 66.




SUNDAY

### 1. What prophecy did the prophet Nahum receive concerning the capital city of the Assyrian Empire?

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 **Nahum 1:1; 3:1-4** *The burden of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite. <sup>3</sup>Woe to the bloody city! it is all full of lies and robbery; the prey departeth not; <sup>2</sup>The noise of a whip, and the noise*

*of the rattling of the wheels, and of the prancing horses, and of the jumping chariots. <sup>3</sup>The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear: and there is a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcases; and there is none end of their corpses; they stumble upon their corpses: <sup>4</sup>Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts.*

"Had the antediluvians believed the warning, and repented of their evil deeds, the Lord would have turned aside His wrath, as he afterward did from Nineveh. But by their obstinate resistance to the reproofs of conscience and the warnings of God's prophet, that generation filled up the measure of their iniquity, and became ripe for destruction. The period of their probation was about to expire." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 97.



MONDAY

## 2. What did the Assyrians do to the people of Judah?

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*for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.<sup>22</sup>For the Lord hath turned away the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel: for the emptiers have emptied them out, and marred their vine branches.*



**Nahum 1:15; 2:2** Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows:



**2 Kings 17:6** In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria...

"Among the cities of the ancient world in the days of divided Israel one of the greatest was Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian realm. Founded on the fertile bank of the Tigris, soon after the dispersion from the tower of Babel, it had flourished through the centuries until it had become 'an exceeding great city of three days' journey.' Jonah 3:3.

"In the time of its temporal prosperity Nineveh was a center of crime and wickedness. Inspiration has characterized it as 'the bloody city, ... full of lies and robbery.' In figurative language the prophet Nahum compared the Ninevites to a cruel, ravenous lion. 'Upon whom,' he inquired, 'hath not thy wickedness passed continually?' Nahum 3:1, 19." —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 265.



TUESDAY

## 3. How did God say about the Ninevites' thoughts concerning Him?

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**Nahum 1:9-11** What do ye imagine against the Lord? he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.<sup>10</sup>For while they be folded together as thorns, and while

*they are drunken as drunkards,  
they shall be devoured as stubble  
fully dry. "There is one come out of*

*thee, that imagineth evil against  
the Lord, a wicked counsellor.*

"Ought men to be surprised over a sudden and unexpected change in the dealings of the Supreme Ruler with the inhabitants of a fallen world? Ought they to be surprised when punishment follows transgression and increasing crime? Ought they to be surprised that God should bring destruction and death upon those whose ill-gotten gains have been obtained through deception and fraud? ...

"The forbearance of God has been very great—so great that when we consider the continuous insult to His holy commandments, we marvel. The Omnipotent One has been exerting a restraining power over His own attributes. But He will certainly arise to punish the wicked, who so boldly defy the just claims of the Decalogue.

"God allows men a period of probation; but there is a point beyond which divine patience is exhausted, and the judgments of God are sure to follow." —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 276.




WEDNESDAY

## **4. In the year BC 612, Nineveh perished as a city, along with the Assyrian Empire by extension. How was this prophesied?**

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 **Nahum 3:12-15** *All thy strong holds shall be like fig trees with the firstripe figs: if they be shak-*

*en, they shall even fall into the mouth of the eater. <sup>13</sup>Behold, thy people in the midst of thee are women: the gates of thy land shall be set wide open unto thine enemies: the fire shall devour thy bars. <sup>14</sup>Draw thee waters for the siege, fortify thy strong holds: go into clay, and tread the mortar, make strong the brickkiln. <sup>15</sup>There shall the fire devour thee; the sword shall cut thee off, ...*

"But the rulers of Assyria, instead of using their unusual blessings for the benefit of mankind, became the scourge of many lands. Merciless, with no thought of God or their fellow men, they pursued the fixed policy of causing all nations to acknowledge the supremacy of the gods of Nineveh, whom they exalted above the Most High. God had sent Jonah to them with a message of warning, and for a season they humbled themselves before the Lord of hosts and sought forgiveness. But soon they turned again to idol worship and to the conquest of the world.

"The prophet Nahum, in his arraignment of the evildoers in Nineveh, exclaimed: 'Behold, I am against thee, Saith the Lord of hosts.'

"With unerring accuracy the Infinite One still keeps account with the nations. While His mercy is tendered, with calls to repentance, this account remains open; but when the figures reach a certain amount which God has fixed, the ministry of His wrath begins. The account is closed. Divine patience ceases. Mercy no longer pleads in their behalf." –*Prophets and Kings*, p. 364.




THURSDAY

**5. What important parallel exists between the prophecy of Nahum and the events of the end time?**

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 **Nahum 1:2, 3** *God is jealous, and the Lord revengeth; the Lord revengeth, and is furious; the Lord will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth wrath for his enemies. <sup>3</sup>The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the Lord hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.*

"The Lord is 'merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, ... forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.' Yet He will 'by no means clear the guilty.' 'The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked.' Exodus 34:6, 7; Nahum 1:3. By terrible things in righteousness He will vindicate the authority of His downtrodden law. The severity of the retribution awaiting the transgressor may be judged by the Lord's reluctance to execute justice. The nation with which He bears long, and which He will not smite until it has filled up the measure of its iniquity in God's account, will finally drink the cup of wrath unmixed with mercy." –*The Great Controversy*, p. 62.




FRIDAY

**6. How terrible will the condition of the wicked be at the end?**

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 **Nahum 3:19** *There is no healing of thy bruise; thy wound is grievous: all that hear the bruit of thee shall clap the hands over thee: for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually?*

"The pride of Assyria and its fall are to serve as an object lesson to the end of time. Of the nations of earth today who in arrogance and pride array themselves against Him, God inquires, 'To whom art thou thus like in glory and in greatness among the trees of Eden? yet shalt thou be brought down with the trees of Eden unto the nether parts of the earth. ...

"The pride of Assyria shall be brought down, and the scepter of Egypt shall depart away.' Zechariah 10:11. This is true not only of the nations that arrayed themselves against God in ancient times, but also of nations today who fail of fulfilling the divine purpose. In the day of final awards, when the righteous Judge of all the earth shall 'sift the nations (Isaiah 30:28), and those that have kept the truth shall be permitted to enter the City of God, heaven's arches will ring with the triumphant songs of the redeemed." —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 366.




## SABBATH

**7. What wonderful certainty did the prophet express concerning God and His children?**

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 **Nahum 1:7** *The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.*

"How shall we know for ourselves God's goodness and His love? The psalmist tells us—not, hear and know, read and know, or believe and know; but—'Taste and see that the Lord is good' (Psalm 34:8). Instead of relying upon the word of another, taste for yourself. Experience is knowledge derived from experiment. Experimental religion is what is needed now." —*God's Amazing Grace*, p. 252.



## LESSON

# 13

Sabbath,  
September 26,  
2026

## BOOK OF MICAH “... ARE THESE HIS DOINGS?”

“Who will render to every man according to his deeds.” Romans 2:6.

“The fruit of the tree testifies if it is a good or corrupt tree. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit; neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. By their fruits ye shall know them. Let us so speak and so labor that our fruit may be unto righteousness and we letting our

light shine forth in good works. Profession is nothing. A godly life alone will God approve....” —*The Upward Look*, p. 154.



SUNDAY

**1. During what difficult period in the history of God's people did Micah carry out his mission?**

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**Micah 1:1-3** *The word of the Lord that came to Micah the Morasthite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>Hear, all ye people; hearken, O earth, and all that therein is: and let the Lord God be witness against you, the Lord from his holy temple. <sup>3</sup>For, behold, the Lord cometh forth out of his place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth.*

“In sharp contrast with the reckless rule of Ahaz was the reformation wrought during the prosperous reign of his son. Hezekiah came to the throne determined to do all in his power to save Judah from the fate that was overtaking the northern kingdom. The messages of the prophets offered no encouragement to halfway measures. Only by most decided reformation could the threatened judgments be averted.” —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 331.




## MONDAY

### 2. What questions did God ask his people about their spiritual condition?

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 **Micah 1:5** *For the transgression of Jacob is all this, and for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? is it not Samaria? and what are the high places of Judah? are they not Jerusalem?*

"God calls upon men to act under His supervision, to accept His standard, to take all their decisions and plans to Him for approval. His holiness, His justice, is to keep them from unprincipled actions...." —*The Upward Look*, p. 227.




## TUESDAY

### 3. How did the prophet describe the social condition of Judah and of Israel?

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 **Micah 2:1, 2** *Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand. <sup>2</sup>And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away: so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.*

"Nor is the social status of the human family lost sight of. Slavery, the caste system, unjust racial prejudices, the oppression of the poor, the neglect of the unfortunate,—these all are set forth as unchristian and a serious menace to the well-being of the human race, and as evils which the church of Christ is appointed by her Lord to overthrow." —*Life Sketches*, p. 473.




## WEDNESDAY

### 4. About what did God ask the children of Israel to think very seriously?

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 **Micah 2:7** *O thou that art named the house of Jacob, is the spirit of the Lord straitened? are these his doings? do not my words do good to him that walketh uprightly?*

"The whole heart must be yielded to God, or the change can never be wrought in us by which we are to be restored to His likeness. By nature we are alienated from God. The Holy Spirit describes our condition in such words as these: 'Dead in trespasses and sins;' 'the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint;' 'no soundness in it.' We are held fast in the snare of Satan, 'taken captive by him at his will.' Ephesians 2:1; Isaiah 1:5, 6; 2 Timothy 2:26. God desires to heal us, to set us free. But since this requires an entire transformation, a renewing of our whole nature, we must yield ourselves wholly to Him." –*Steps to Christ*, p. 43.




#### THURSDAY

### 5. Was there any hope for them in their condition of gross idolatry?

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 **Micah 2:12** *I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men.*

"But in Judah there dwelt some who maintained their allegiance to Jehovah, steadfastly refusing to be led into idolatry. It was to these that Isaiah and Micah and their associates looked in hope as they surveyed the ruin wrought during the last years of Ahaz. Their sanctuary was closed, but the faithful ones were assured: 'God is with us.' 'Sanctify the Lord of hosts Himself; and let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread. And He shall be for a sanctuary.' Isaiah 8:10, 13, 14." –*Prophets and Kings*, p. 330.




#### FRIDAY

### 6. What was essential then, and what is still necessary now?

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 **Micah 2:10** *Arise ye, and depart; for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction.*

"The church at \_\_\_ are filled with their own backslidings, and they need not dream of prosperity until those who name the name of Christ are careful to depart from all iniquity, until they learn to refuse the evil and

choose the good. We are required to watch and pray without ceasing; for a snare is set in our path, and we shall find some device of Satan when and where we least expect it. If at that particular time we are not watching unto prayer we shall be taken by the enemy and meet with decided loss." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 397.




## SABBATH

### 7. How did God treat the faithful believers, who were a very small minority?

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 **Micah 2:13** *The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king shall pass before them, and the Lord on the head of them.*

"You say, we are in the minority. Is not God a majority? If we are on the side of the God who made the heaven and the earth, are we not on the side of the majority? We have the angels that excel in strength on our side." — *Manuscript 27*, 1893.



### ADDITIONAL STUDY

"We are now in a time when we are to stand steadfast for the truth. We are to cherish love for souls, but never, never are we to surrender the least vital point of truth, for it is by maintaining truth, pure, unadulterated truth, that we can at this time bring honor and glory to Jesus Christ our Prince. The Word is the bread of life, and in the Word Christ's disciples are represented as eating and drinking the flesh and the blood of Christ,—making His Word a part of their lives. No lie is of the truth. Truth will stand the test in the time of false theories, if we hold fast the beginning of our confidence firm unto the end...." — *Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 196.

## LESSON

# 14

Sabbath,  
October 3,  
2026

## BOOK OF MICAH “IS IT NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW?”

*“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?” Micah 6:8.*

“And the effort to bless others will react in blessings upon ourselves. This was the purpose of God in giving us a part to act in the plan of redemption. He has granted men the

privilege of becoming partakers of the divine nature and, in their turn, of diffusing blessings to their fellow men. This is the highest honor, the greatest joy, that it is possible for God to bestow upon men. Those who thus become participants in labors of love are brought nearest to their Creator.” —*Steps to Christ*, p. 79.




SUNDAY

**1. What important responsibility belongs to every human being, not just civil and religious leaders?**

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 **Micah 3:1, 5** *And I said, Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel; Is it not for you to know judgment? <sup>5</sup>Thus saith the Lord concerning the prophets that make my people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him.*

“We are abiding in Christ by a living faith. He is abiding in our hearts by our individual appropriating of faith. We have the companionship of the divine presence, and as we realize this presence our thoughts are brought into captivity to Jesus Christ. Our spiritual exercises are in accordance with the vividness of our sense of this companionship.

Enoch walked with God in this way; and Christ is dwelling in our hearts by faith when we will consider what He is to us, and what a work He has wrought out for us in the plan of redemption. We shall be most happy in cultivating a sense of this great gift of God to our world and to us personally." –*Messages to Young People*, p. 159.




## MONDAY

### 2. What was striking about the faithful remnant, especially during times of spiritual decline?

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 **Micah 3:8, 9** *But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the Lord, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin. <sup>9</sup>Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity.*


"The long-suffering of God is wonderful. Long does justice wait while mercy pleads with the sinner. But 'righteousness and judgment are the establishment of his throne' (Psalm 97:2, margin) .... The world has become bold in transgression of God's law. Because of His long forbearance, men have trampled upon His authority.... But there is a line beyond which they cannot pass. The time is near when they will have reached the prescribed limit. Even now they have almost exceeded the bounds of the long-suffering of God, the limits of His grace, the limits of His mercy. The Lord will interpose to vindicate His own honor, to deliver His people, and to repress the swellings of unrighteousness...." –*God's Amazing Grace*, p. 371.



## TUESDAY

### 3. What characteristics identified the remnant, who were recognized as God's people?

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 **Micah 4:2, 3** *And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the*

*God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*

"The substitution of the false for the true is the last act in the drama. When this substitution becomes universal, God will reveal Himself. When the laws of men are exalted above the laws of God, when the powers of this earth try to force men to keep the first day of the week, know that the time has come for God to work. He will arise in His majesty, and will shake terribly the earth. He will come out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity. The earth shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain." –*The Review and Herald*, April 23, 1901.




### WEDNESDAY

#### 4. What sense of identity and belonging will characterize the faithful followers of the truth in all ages?

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 **Micah 4:5** *For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.*

"We are to love God, not only with all the heart, mind, and soul, but with all the strength. This covers the full, intelligent use of the physical powers." –*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 348.




### THURSDAY

#### 5. What decisive messianic prophecies were to be fulfilled in God's representatives on earth?

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 **Micah 5:1–3, 7** *Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek. <sup>2</sup>But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands*

*of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. <sup>3</sup>Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people as a dew from the Lord, as the showers upon the grass, that tarrieth not for man, nor waiteth for the sons of men.*

"Every child of God should be intelligent in the Scriptures, and able, by tracing the fulfillment of prophecy, to show our position in this world's history. The Bible was written for the common people as well as for scholars, and is within the comprehension of all. The great truths which underlie man's duty to his fellow men and to his Maker are clearly revealed; and those who really want the truth need make no mistake. The way is not left in uncertainty, as though we were standing where four roads met, not knowing which one to take. The truth is our guide; it is to us like a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night." –*The Review and Herald*, January 27, 1885.




## FRIDAY

### 6. What absolute certainty may one have, even in the face of personal and collective failure?

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 **Micah 7:7-9** *Therefore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the*

*God of my salvation: my God will hear me. <sup>8</sup>Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me. <sup>9</sup>I will bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgment for me: he will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness.*

"They must fall who would rise again. We must fall upon the Rock and be broken before we can be uplifted in Christ. Self must be dethroned, pride must be humbled, if we would know the glory of the spiritual kingdom." –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 56.




## SABBATH

### 7. How strong is God's love for those whom He created?

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 **Micah 7:18, 19** *Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. <sup>19</sup>He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.*



## LESSON

# 15

Sabbath,  
October 10,  
2026

## BOOK OF ZEPHANIAH “THE GREAT DAY OF THE LORD IS NEAR!”

*“The great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the Lord: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly.” Zephaniah 1:14.*

“We are near the close of time. I have been shown that the retributive judgments of God are already in the land. The Lord has given us warning of the events about to take place.

Light is shining from His word; yet darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the people. ‘When they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them; ... and they shall not escape.’”  
—*Testimony Treasures*, vol. 2, p. 11.



SUNDAY

**1. How serious have the times we’ve lived through been, both in the past and present?**

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**Zephaniah 1:7, 12** *Hold thy peace at the presence of the Lord God: for the day of the Lord is at hand: for the Lord hath prepared a sacrifice, he hath bid his guests. <sup>12</sup>And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, The Lord will not do good, neither will he do evil.*

“Our compassionate Redeemer, foreseeing the perils that would surround His followers at this time, has given them special warning: ‘Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them

that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.' If the church pursue a course similar to that of the world, they will share the same fate. Nay, rather, as they have received greater light, their punishment will be greater than that of the impenitent." –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 100.




## MONDAY

### **2. What counsel from God through the prophet Zephaniah is especially urgent for the believers as the end of the world approaches?**

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 **Zephaniah 2:1-3** *Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; <sup>2</sup>Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the Lord come upon you, before the day of the Lord's anger come upon you. <sup>3</sup>Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger.*

"There will be a series of events revealing that God is master of the situation. The truth will be proclaimed in clear, unmistakable language. As a people we must prepare the way of the Lord under the overruling guidance of the Holy Spirit. The gospel is to be given in its purity. The stream of living water is to deepen and widen in its course. In all fields, nigh and afar off, men will be called from the plow and from the more common commercial business vocations that largely occupy the mind, and will be educated in connection with men of experience. As they learn to labor effectively they will proclaim the truth with power. Through most wonderful workings of divine providence, mountains of difficulty will be removed and cast into the sea. The message that means so much to the dwellers upon the earth will be heard and understood. Men will know what is truth. Onward and still onward the work will advance until the whole earth shall have been warned, and then shall the end come." –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9, p. 96.



TUESDAY

### 3. What led human beings and nations into destruction?

 **Zephaniah 3:2** *She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the Lord; she drew not near to her God.*


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“God will not be trifled with. It is in the time of conflict that the true colors should be flung to the breeze. It is then that the standard-bearers need to be firm and let their true position be known. It is then that the skill of every true soldier for the right is tested. Shirkers can never wear the laurels of victory. Those who are true and loyal will not conceal the fact, but will put heart and might into the work, and venture their all in the struggle, let the battle turn as it will. God is a sin-hating God. And those who encourage the sinner, saying, It is well with thee, God will curse.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 272.



WEDNESDAY

### 4. What sad reality is observed in the religious world even as God’s holiness is clearly visible?

 **Zephaniah 3:4, 5** *Her prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law. <sup>5</sup>The just Lord is in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity: every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame.*

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“Belief in the near coming of the Son of man in the clouds of heaven will not cause the true Christian to become neglectful and careless of the ordinary business of life. The waiting ones who look for the soon appearing of Christ will not be idle, but diligent in business. Their work will not be done carelessly and dishonestly, but with fidelity, promptness, and thoroughness. Those who flatter themselves that careless inattention to the things of this life is an evidence of their spirituality and of their separation from the world are under a great deception. Their veracity, faithfulness, and integrity are tested and proved in temporal things. If they are faithful in that which is least they will be faithful in much.” –*Lift Him Up*, p. 365.




THURSDAY

## 5. In the past, what caused God to execute judgment? What can be expected in the future?

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 **Zephaniah 3:7, 8** *I said, Surely thou wilt fear me, thou wilt receive instruction; so their dwelling should not be cut off, howsoever I*

*punished them: but they rose early, and corrupted all their doings. <sup>8</sup>Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the Lord, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.*

“When, under the temptations of Satan, men fall into error, and their words and deportment are not Christlike, they may not realize their condition, because sin is deceptive and tends to deaden the moral perceptions. But through self-examination, searching of the Scriptures, and humble prayer, they will, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, be enabled to see their mistake. If they then confess their sins and turn from them, the tempter will not appear to them as an angel of light, but as a deceiver....

“Those who acknowledge reproof and correction as from God, and are thus enabled to see and correct their errors, are learning precious lessons, even from their mistakes.” –*That I May Know Him*, p. 239.




FRIDAY

## 6. What will characterize God's faithful people in the end time?

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 **Zephaniah 3:12-15** *I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the Lord. <sup>13</sup>The remnant of Israel shall not*

*do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid. <sup>14</sup>Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. <sup>15</sup>The Lord hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the Lord, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more.*

"The Lord's people are mainly made up of the poor of this world, the common people. Not many wise, not many mighty, not many noble are called. God hath 'chosen the poor of this world.' 'The poor have the gospel preached to them.' The wealthy are called, in one sense; they are invited, but they do not accept the invitation. But in these wicked cities the Lord has many who are humble and yet trustful." –*Manuscript 17, 1898.*


 **SABBATH**

**7. What beautiful description did the prophet give of Christ's great joy when He turns the captivity of His people?**

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 **Zephaniah 3:17, 20** *The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing. <sup>20</sup>At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you: for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth, when I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the Lord.*

"We should be filled with joy at the thought of Christ's soon appearing. To those that love His appearing He will come without sin unto salvation. But if our minds are filled with thoughts of earthly things, we cannot look forward with joy to His appearing." –*The Upward Look, p. 355.*



**ADDITIONAL STUDY**

"It is our duty to inquire the cause of this terrible darkness, that we may shun the course by which men have brought upon themselves so great delusion. ... The world pursues its unvarying round, absorbed as ever in its business and its pleasures, while the wrath of God is about to be visited on the transgressors of His law." –*Testimony Treasures, vol. 2, p. 11.*

## LESSON

# 16

Sabbath,  
October 17,  
2026

## BOOK OF HABAKKUK “HOW LONG!”

*“O Lord, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!” Habakkuk 1:2.*

“These anxious questionings were voiced by the prophet Habakkuk. Viewing the situation of the faithful in his day, he expressed the burden of his heart in the inquiry: ‘O Lord, how long shall I cry, and Thou wilt not hear!...’

And then, his faith reaching out beyond the forbidding prospect of the immediate future, and laying fast hold on the precious promises that reveal God's love for His trusting children, the prophet added, ‘We shall not die.’ Verse 12. With this declaration of faith he rested his case, and that of every believing Israelite, in the hands of a compassionate God.”  
—*Prophets and Kings*, pp. 385, 386.




SUNDAY

**1. What disturbed the prophet Habakkuk? How does this apply to today's world as well?**

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 **Habakkuk 1:3, 4** *Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up strife and contention. <sup>4</sup>Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.*

“God has given the world an opportunity to learn and to obey His will. He has given them, in His Word, the light of truth; He has sent them warning, counsel, and admonition; but few will obey His voice.” —*To Be Like Jesus*, p. 197.


 MONDAY

**2. What surprising reply did the Lord give to the prophet?**

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 **Habakkuk 1:5, 6** Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvellously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you. <sup>6</sup>For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces that are not theirs.

"Our compassionate Redeemer, foreseeing the perils that would surround His followers at this time, has given them special warning: 'Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.'" –*To Be Like Jesus*, p. 197.


 TUESDAY

**3. What acknowledgment and prayer of faith were made to a righteous God?**

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 **Habakkuk 1:12, 13** Art thou not from everlasting, O Lord my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die.


O Lord, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction. <sup>13</sup>Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?

"We are near the close of time. I have been shown that the retributive judgments of God are already in the land. The Lord has given us warning of the events about to take place. Light is shining from His Word; yet darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the people." –*To Be Like Jesus*, p. 197.



## WEDNESDAY

### 4. What was and still is the correct relationship between man and God in times of peril?

 **Habakkuk 2:1** *I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.*


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“There is strength to be obtained of God. He can help. He can give grace and heavenly wisdom. If you ask in faith, you will receive; but you must watch unto prayer. Watch, pray, work, should be your watchword.” – *Testimonies for the Church* vol. 2, p. 427.



## THURSDAY

### 5. What answer and explanation did the Lord give to the prophet's humble prayer? What principle produces eternal blessing?

 **Habakkuk 2:2-4** *And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. <sup>3</sup>For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. <sup>4</sup>Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.*

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“The faith that strengthened Habakkuk and all the holy and the just in those days of deep trial was the same faith that sustains God's people today. In the darkest hours, under circumstances the most forbidding, the Christian believer may keep his soul stayed upon the source of all light and power. Day by day, through faith in God, his hope and courage may be renewed.” – *Prophets and Kings*, p. 386.



## FRIDAY

### 6. What should God's people pray now in view of the great events that are just ahead?

 **Habakkuk 3:1, 2** *A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet upon Shigionoth. <sup>2</sup>O Lord, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the*

years, in the midst of the years  
make known; in wrath remember  
mercy.

"In the words we speak to the people and in the prayers we offer, God desires us to give unmistakable evidence that we have spiritual life. We do not enjoy the fullness of blessing which the Lord has prepared for us, because we do not ask in faith. If we would exercise faith in the word of the living God we should have the richest blessings. We dishonor God by our lack of faith; therefore we can not impart life to others by bearing a living, uplifting testimony. We cannot give that which we do not possess." –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 63.




## SABBATH

### **7. No matter how terrible circumstances may become, what praise will spring from the faithful soul?**

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 **Habakkuk 3:17-19** *Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:  
<sup>18</sup>Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.  
<sup>19</sup>The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.*

"When thick clouds of darkness seem to hover over the mind, then is the time to let living faith pierce the darkness and scatter the clouds. True faith rests on the promises contained in the Word of God, and those only who obey that Word can claim its glorious promises." –*Early Writings*, p. 72.



# LESSON

# 17

Sabbath,  
October 24,  
2026

Please read the Missionary Report from  
**Vietnam**  
on page 97

## BOOK OF HAGGAI “IS IT TIME FOR YOU?”

*“In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the Lord’s house should be built.” Haggai 1:1, 2.*

“The expression, ‘This people say,’ is significant. In the hour of their opportunity, the Israelites had not shown themselves willing. Prompt obedience is expected of those whom the Lord chooses and leads. Pleas for delay are a dishonor to God. And yet those who choose to follow their own way, often frame ingenious excuses in self-justification. Thus the Israelites declared that they had begun to rebuild, but that they were broken off in their work because of the hindrances devised by their enemies. These hindrances, they reasoned, were an indication that it was not the proper time to rebuild. They declared that the Lord had interposed difficulties to reprove their hot haste. This is why, in a communication through His prophet, He referred to them not as ‘my people,’ but as ‘this people.’” –*The Review and Herald*, December 5, 1907.




SUNDAY

**1. What did the Lord ask the remnant that had returned to Jerusalem after the Babylonian captivity?**

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 **Haggai 1:3-5** *Then came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying, <sup>4</sup>Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste? <sup>5</sup>Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.*

"Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it ceased until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.' When Darius came to the throne, he set aside the work and prohibition of the usurper. But even then the people that should have been the most interested continued to be indifferent. They misapplied the prophecy given by Inspiration. They misinterpreted the Word of God, and declared that the time to build had not yet come, and that until the days were fully accomplished, they would not undertake the work. But while they left the building of the house of the Lord, the temple in which they could worship God, until the end of the time specified as the captivity of the Jews had fully come, they built mansions for themselves." —*Manuscript 116, 1897.*




## MONDAY

### 2. Why were they in such a desperate situation?

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 **Haggai 1:6, 9** *Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe*

*you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. <sup>9</sup>Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.*

"We are to give ourselves to Christ, to live a life of willing obedience to all His requirements. All that we are, all the talents and capabilities we possess, are the Lord's, to be consecrated to His service. When we thus give ourselves wholly to Him, Christ, with all the treasures of heaven, gives Himself to us." —*Christ's Object Lessons, p. 116.*




## TUESDAY

### 3. What had to change if they expected God to bless their efforts to provide sustenance for themselves and their families?

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 **Haggai 1:7, 8, 10, 11** *Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. <sup>8</sup>Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord. <sup>10</sup>Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. <sup>11</sup>And I called for a*

*drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the*

*ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands.*

"The Israelites had no real excuse for leaving their work on the temple. The time when the most serious objections were raised, was the time for them to persevere in building. But they were actuated by a selfish dislike to encounter danger by arousing the opposition of their enemies. They did not possess the faith that is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. They hesitated to move forward by faith in the opening providences of God, because they could not see the end from the beginning. When difficulties arose, they were easily turned from the work." –*The Review and Herald*, December 5, 1907.




WEDNESDAY

#### **4. What important decision will always be made by faithful church members?**

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 **Haggai 1:12-14** *Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, and the words of Haggai*

*the prophet, as the Lord their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Then spake Haggai the Lord's messenger in the Lord's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the Lord. <sup>14</sup>And the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the Lord of hosts, their God.*

"It was after Haggai's second message that the people felt that the Lord was in earnest with them. They dared not disregard the repeated warning that their prosperity and the blessing of God were dependent upon their entire obedience to the instructions given them. As soon as they decided that they would do the words of the Lord, His messages of reproof changed to words of encouragement. O how merciful a God we have! He says, 'I am with you.' The Lord God omnipotent reigneth. He assured the people that if they were obedient, they would place themselves in a position where He could bless them for His own name's glory. If God's people will only rely upon Him, and believe in Him, He will bless them" –*Manuscript 116*, 1897.




THURSDAY

**5. How important is it to persevere in doing good? Why?**

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 **Haggai 2:4, 5** *Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the Lord; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work: for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts: <sup>5</sup>According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not.*

"This history will be repeated. There will be religious failures because men do not have faith. When they look at the things that are seen, impossibilities appear; but God can lead them step by step in the course He desires them to take. His work will advance only as His servants move forward by faith. While they may be called upon to pass through trying times, yet they should ever remember that they are contending with a weakened, beaten foe. God's people will finally triumph over every power of darkness." –*The Review and Herald*, December 5, 1907.




FRIDAY

**6. What divine security gives strength to the faithful remnant?**

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 **Haggai 2:6, 8** *AFor thus saith the Lord of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; <sup>8</sup>The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts.*

"The Lord has resources. His hand is on the machinery. When the time came for His temple to be rebuilt, He moved upon Cyrus as His agent to discern the prophecies concerning Himself, and to grant the Jewish people their liberty. And more, Cyrus furnished them the necessary facilities for rebuilding the temple of the Lord. This work began under Cyrus, and his successor carried on the work begun." –*Manuscript 116*, 1897.




**7. What messianic prophecy was proclaimed in the past, is still valid today, and will continue to be so in the days ahead?**

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 **Haggai 2:7, 9** *And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts. <sup>9</sup>The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts.*

“So now we are warned of Christ's second coming and of the destruction that is to fall upon the world, and all who heed the warning will be saved. The righteous, as they behold Christ at His coming, will exclaim, 'Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us.' Isaiah 25:9.” –*The Story of Jesus*, p. 180.

NOTES




**ADDITIONAL STUDY**

“God proves His people in this world. This is the fitting-up place to appear in His presence. Here, in this world, in these last days, persons will show what power affects their hearts and controls their actions. If it is the power of divine truth, it will lead to good works. It will elevate the receiver, and make him noblehearted and generous, like His divine Lord.” –*Lift Him Up*, p. 375.

# MISSIONARY REPORT FROM VIETNAM

To be read on Sabbath, October 24, 2026

The Special Sabbath School Offering  
will be gathered on Sabbath, October 31, 2026

Dear brothers and sisters,

May the love and the grace of the Father in Jesus be with you all. Greetings with Ecclesiastes 11:1: "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days."

Vietnam, officially the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, is a country on the eastern edge of mainland Southeast Asia, with an area of about 331,000 square kilometers (128,000 square miles) and a population of over 100 million, making it the world's fifteenth-most populous country. One of the two Marxist-Leninist states in Southeast Asia, Vietnam shares land borders with China to the north, and Laos and Cambodia to the west. It shares maritime borders with Thailand through the Gulf of Thailand, as well as the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia through the South China Sea. Its capital is Hanoi, and its largest city is Ho Chi Minh City.

According to statistics from the Government Committee for Religious Affairs, as of 2018, Buddhists accounted for 14.9 percent of the total population; Christians, 8.5 percent (Catholics, 7.4 percent; Protestants, 1.1 percent); Hoahao Buddhists, 1.5 percent; and Caodaism followers, 1.2 percent. Other religions include Hinduism, Islam, and the Bahá'í faith, representing less than 0.2 percent of the population. Folk religions (worship of ancestors, gods, and goddesses), which are not included in the government's statistics, have experienced a revival since the 1980s.

The work in Vietnam began in May 2015, when the Asian Division with the help of the General Conference sent Pastor Nestor Manago to Thailand to visit some interested souls and other contacts. After several months of visits and Bible studies, three souls from Vietnam, Brothers Dieu Tung and Nguyen Sin, and Sister Quyen Thi, accepted the message and were baptized on October 2, 2015, in Thailand. The three newly baptized members went back to Vietnam, and in November 2015, the General Conference decided to send Brother Tung and Sister Quyen to the Asian Missionary School in the Philippines with

other foreign students from different countries in the region. The two went to the Philippines to attend the school but were denied entry by the immigration service.

Meanwhile, the Asian Division had regular communications with the members and sent another worker, Brother Peter Manago, to follow up the work in Vietnam. Two souls were baptized, Brother Quang and his wife. In June 2017, Brother Tung was imprisoned, and Sister Quang died. One more soul, Brother Nhat Hung, was baptized in the Philippines in December 2017. Eventually Brother Peter Manago decided to go back to the Philippines. In October 2018, Brother Tung was freed from prison, and he immediately contacted me. I went to Vietnam to meet him and to continue the work in Bihn Phuoc, Bao Loc, Ho Chi Minh City, and other places; this included giving Bible studies and visiting interested souls in the Sunday churches, Buddhists, and others.

Brother Tung also helped with translation and logistics. One time I was invited to speak in an Evangelical Church in Cai Be Province about prophecy, the law, and the gospel to fifteen ministers and Sunday church leaders. A lady from the neighborhood called the police, because she heard a "foreigner" preaching and teaching in English and being translated into Vietnamese. When we took a break after the first study, we were warned that the police were coming to see if the "foreigner" was still preaching. Those who were in the audience told me that there was a danger that I could be imprisoned and deported. I was advised to leave immediately to avoid such dangers, and I wore a motorcycle helmet to leave the place on a motorbike with Brother Tung. When the police arrived, they did not recognize me because of the helmet, and we went to the hotel to hide. Meanwhile, at the hotel nearby, and after thirty minutes of hiding, I heard somebody knocking on the door. I told Brother Tung to answer in Vietnamese, and I was praying to God to protect us. Brother Tung recognized the voice of the person who was knocking and opened the door. I was relieved when I saw that five of the Evangelical Church's ministers had followed us to continue studying the Bible. We prayed and proceeded with the study. One of them, Brother Philip Ven, requested an explanation about the beast and the mark of the beast. With the help of the Lord, we were able to study for three more days with seven interested souls on the subjects of the Sabbath, the sanctuary, and Revelation 12 and 14. I had to leave Vietnam prematurely because several countries were going to close their borders because of the COVID-19 lockdown. We continued communicating for the duration of that time. After almost two years of

waiting, in November 2022, Brother Ven was baptized, followed by two sisters on April 17, 2023, and another sister on April 23, 2023.

We organized extensive visits and studies, and the South Korean Field was very supportive in advancing the work in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. Pastor Woosan Kang from the Korean Field went with me to help in the Lord's work. The General Conference Publishing Department leader, Sister Raquel Orce Sotomayor, helped us to publish the Principles of Faith in three languages—Vietnamese, Khmer, and Lao-tian—which helped us to share the basic beliefs in the local languages.

On December 13, 2023, five more souls were baptized; and on June 8, 2024, two more souls were baptized. On November 14, 2024, three more souls were baptized by Pastor Pablo Hunger after an Evangelism seminar. As of this writing, there are fourteen members in Vietnam.

The Asian Division wishes to establish the work in Vietnam. We appeal to your generous hearts to help the work in these new territories to establish a foundation and construct a headquarters building, which is one of the requirements for completing the organization's registration and working legally with the help of the Lord in this socialist country. Meanwhile, the registration is proceeding and is pending two years later as the government monitors our humanitarian activities.

We thank God and the General Conference for guiding this work in this socialist country. Your offerings will be greatly appreciated as we do our part to fulfill the commission that Jesus gave to His disciples. "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." Matthew 28:19.

—*Pastor Roland De La Paz*  
Asian Division Leader

# LESSON

# 18

Sabbath,  
October 31,  
2026

Special Sabbath School Offering for  
VIETNAM

Let your offerings reflect the heavenly blessings that you have received!

## BOOK OF HAGGAI “SHALL IT BE HOLY?”

*“Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Ask now the priests concerning the law, saying, If one bear holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the priests answered and said, No.” Haggai 2:11, 12.*

“In speaking of the building of a house for God, the prophet Haggai shows in parables what God endorses and what He condemns.

“This is a parable. The sacrifice, spoken of as holy flesh, was a representation of Christ, who was the foundation of the Jewish economy, and who is ever to be regarded as the One who makes possible the purification of man from sin.” —*Manuscript 95, 1902.*


 SUNDAY

**1. To what did the prophet compare the people spiritual condition?**

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 **Haggai 2:13, 14** Then said Haggai, If one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the priests answered and said, It shall be unclean. <sup>14</sup>Then answered Haggai, and said, So is this people, and so is this nation before me, saith the Lord; and so is every work of their hands; and that which they offer there is unclean.

“In order that the builders of the second temple might make no mistakes, the Lord plainly instructed them, in the form of a parable, regarding the nature of service acceptable in His sight. ... A soul corrupted by sin is represented by the figure of a dead body in a state of

putrefaction. All the washings and sprinklings enjoined in the ceremonial law were lessons in parables, teaching the necessity of a work of regeneration in the inward heart for the purification of the soul dead in trespasses and sins, and also the necessity of the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit." –*The Review and Herald*, December 19, 1907.




## MONDAY

### 2. What did God ask His people to consider? What similar situation exists today?

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 **Haggai 2:15, 16** *And now, I pray you, consider from this day and upward, from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the Lord: <sup>16</sup>Since those days were, when one came to an heap of twenty measures, there were but ten: when one came to the pressfat for to draw out fifty vessels out of the press, there were but twenty.*

"In this scripture the heart is unveiled. The Lord takes cognizance of all the works of the children of men. He can diminish; He can increase and bless. Professing believers who reveal by their actions that they are still clinging to selfish practises, are working upon worldly principles. The principles of justice and integrity are not carried into the life-practise." –*Manuscript 95*, 1902.




## TUESDAY

### 3. What did God do to bring about a transformation?

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 **Haggai 2:17** *I smote you with blasting and with mildew and with hail in all the labours of your hands; yet ye turned not to me, saith the Lord.*

"Some may say it is exalting our own merits to expect favor from God through our good works. True, we cannot buy one victory with our good works; yet we cannot be victors without them. The purchase which Christ recommends to us is only complying with the conditions He has given us. True grace, which is of inestimable value, and which will endure the test of trial and adversity, is only obtained through faith and humble, prayerful obedience. Graces that endure the proofs of affliction and persecution, and evidence their soundness and sincerity,

are the gold which is tried in the fire and found genuine. Christ offers to sell this precious treasure to man: 'Buy of Me gold tried in the fire.' Verse 18. The dead, heartless performance of duty does not make us Christians. We must get out of a lukewarm condition and experience a true conversion, or we shall fail of heaven." –*Testimony Treasures*, vol. 1, p. 478.


 **WEDNESDAY**

**4. Why did He repeat the same admonition and then tell the people to think seriously about what they were doing?**

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 **Haggai 2:18** *Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of the Lord's temple was laid, consider it.*

"As the highest preparation for your work, I point you to the words, the life, the methods, of the Prince of teachers. I bid you consider Him. Here is your true ideal. Behold it, dwell upon it, until the Spirit of the divine Teacher shall take possession of your heart and life." –*Education*, p. 282.


 **THURSDAY**

**5. What promise did another message contain?**

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 **Haggai 2:19** *Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless you.*

"The sinner loves Christ, because Christ has first loved him, and love is the fulfilling of the law. The repenting soul realizes that God 'is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.' The Spirit of God works in the believer's soul, enabling him to advance from one line of obedience to another, reaching on from strength to greater strength, from grace to grace in Jesus Christ." –*Selected Messages*, book 1, p. 374.




FRIDAY

## 6. What did the prophet say that God would do?

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 **Haggai 2:21, 22** *Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, I will shake the heavens and the earth; <sup>22</sup>And I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms, and I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the heathen; and I will overthrow the chariots, and those that ride in them; and the horses and their riders shall come down, every one by the sword of his brother.*

“God has a controversy with the world. When the judgment shall sit, and the books shall be opened, He has an awful account to settle, which would now make the world fear and tremble were men not blinded and bewitched by satanic delusions and deceptions. ... The world has rejected Christ in the person of His saints, has refused His messages in the refusal of the messages of prophets, apostles, and messengers. They have rejected those who have been colaborers with Christ, and for this they will have to render an account.” –*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 39.




SABBATH

## 7. What did God promise concerning His faithful people in the end?

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 **Haggai 2:23** *In that day, saith the Lord of hosts, will I take thee, O Zerubbabel, my servant, the son of Shealtiel, saith the Lord, and will make thee as a signet: for I have chosen thee, saith the Lord of hosts.*

“The divine Worker spends little time on worthless material. Only the precious jewels does He polish after the similitude of a palace, cutting away all the rough edges. This process is severe and trying; it hurts human pride. Christ cuts deep into the experience that man in his self-sufficiency has regarded as complete, and takes away self-uplifting from the character. He cuts away the surplus surface, and putting the stone to the polishing wheel, presses it close, that all roughness

may be worn away. Then, holding the jewel up to the light, the Master sees in it a reflection of Himself, and He pronounces it worthy of a place in His casket.

"... Blessed be the experience, however severe, that gives new value to the stone, and causes it to shine with living brightness." –*The Review and Herald*, December 19, 1907.

## NOTES




### **ADDITIONAL STUDY**

"Christians are Christ's jewels. They are to shine brightly for Him, shedding forth the light of His loveliness. Their luster depends on the polishing they receive. They may choose to be polished or to remain unpolished. But every one who is pronounced worthy of a place in the Lord's temple must submit to the polishing process. Without the polishing that the Lord gives they can reflect no more light than a common pebble.

"Christ says to man, 'You are mine. I have bought you. You are now only a rough stone, but if you will place yourself in my hands, I will polish you, and the luster with which you shall shine will bring honor to My name. No man shall pluck you out of My hand. I will make you My peculiar treasure. On My coronation day, you will be a jewel in My crown of rejoicing.'" –*The Review and Herald*, December 19, 1907.

## LESSON

# 19

Sabbath,  
November 7,  
2026

## BOOK OF ZECHARIAH “O MY LORD, WHAT ARE THESE?”

*“In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the Lord unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo...”*  
Zechariah 1:1.

“... Zechariah had a series of visions regarding the work of God in the earth. These messages, given in the form of parables and symbols, came at a time of great uncertainty and anxiety,

and were of peculiar significance to the men who were advancing in the name of the God of Israel. It seemed to the leaders as if the permission granted the Jews to rebuild was about to be withdrawn; the future appeared very dark. God saw that His people were in need of being sustained and cheered by a revelation of His infinite compassion and love.” —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 579.



SUNDAY

**1. What did God invite the remnant to do when they returned to Jerusalem after the Babylonian captivity? What would He then do?**

**Zechariah 1:3** *Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Turn ye unto me, saith the Lord of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the Lord of hosts.*

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“The Lord’s purposes for his people have ever been the same. He desires to bestow on the children of men the riches of an eternal inheritance. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. When those who choose to become obedient subjects of the Most High are finally saved in the kingdom of glory, God’s purpose for mankind will have been fulfilled.” —*The Review and Herald*, December 26, 1907.




MONDAY

**2. What assurance did He give to His fearful people by explaining to them that He had commissioned heavenly beings to watch over and protect them?**

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 **Zechariah 1:8-11; 6:5** *I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white. <sup>9</sup>Then said I, O my lord,*

*what are these? And the angel that talked with me said unto me, I will shew thee what these be. <sup>10</sup>And the man that stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, These are they whom the Lord hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth. <sup>11</sup>And they answered the angel of the Lord that stood among the myrtle trees, and said, We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest. <sup>6:5</sup>And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth.*

"... the elements of nature: earthquake, tempest, and political strife, represented as being held by four angels. These winds are under control until God gives the word to let them go. There is the safety of God's church. The angels of God do His bidding, holding back the winds of the earth, that the winds should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree,..." –*Maranatha*, p. 266.




TUESDAY

**3. How did the Lord reveal His love to those who were faithful in Jerusalem?**

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 **Zechariah 1:13, 16, 17** *And the Lord answered the angel that talked with me with good words and comfortable words. <sup>16</sup>There-*

*fore thus saith the Lord; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be built in it, saith the Lord of hosts, and a line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem. <sup>17</sup>Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the Lord shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.*

"The Lord God, the Creator of the worlds, at infinite cost has given the gospel to the world. Through this divine agent, glad, refreshing springs of heavenly comfort and abiding consolation have been opened for those who will come to the fountain of life." –*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 188.




WEDNESDAY

#### **4. After confirming His divine protection over them, what did He reveal about the care, providence, and prosperity that would be imparted to them?**

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 **Zechariah 1:18-21** Then lifted I up mine eyes, and saw, and behold four horns. <sup>19</sup>And I said unto the angel that talked with me, What be these? And he answered me,

"Zechariah then saw the powers that had 'scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem,' symbolized by four horns. Immediately afterward he saw four carpenters, representing the agencies used by the Lord in restoring His people and the house of His worship." –*Prophets and Kings*, p. 581.



THURSDAY


#### **5. How else did the Lord confirm His sustaining grace and power over the afflicted people who returned to Jerusalem from Babylon?**


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*These are the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem. <sup>20</sup>And the Lord shewed me four carpenters. <sup>21</sup>Then said I, What come these to do? And he spake, saying, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, so that no man did lift up his head: but these are come to fray them, to cast out the horns of the Gentiles, which lifted up their horn over the land of Judah to scatter it.*

 **Revelation 17:12** And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings,...

 **Zechariah 2:1-5** I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. <sup>2</sup>Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof. <sup>3</sup>And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, <sup>4</sup>And said unto him, Run, speak to this

young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein: <sup>5</sup>For I, saith the

Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

"God had commanded that Jerusalem be rebuilt; the vision of the measuring of the city was an assurance that He would give comfort and strength to His afflicted ones, and fulfill to them the promises of His everlasting covenant. His protecting care, He declared, would be like 'a wall of fire round about;' and through them His glory would be revealed to all the sons of men. That which He was accomplishing for His people was to be known in all the earth." –*Prophets and Kings*, p. 581.


## FRIDAY

### 6. What appeal did the Lord make to His people who had not yet returned to Jerusalem?

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 **Zechariah 2:6-9** *Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the Lord: for I have spread you abroad as the*

*four winds of the heaven, saith the Lord. <sup>7</sup>Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon. <sup>8</sup>For thus saith the Lord of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye. <sup>9</sup>For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil to their servants: and ye shall know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me.*

"Revelation 18 points to the time when, as the result of rejecting the threefold warning of Revelation 14:6-12, the church will have fully reached the condition foretold by the second angel, and the people of God still in Babylon will be called upon to separate from her communion. This message is the last that will ever be given to the world; and it will accomplish its work. When those that 'believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness' (2 Thessalonians 2:12), shall be left to receive strong delusion and to believe a lie, then the light of truth will shine upon all whose hearts are open to receive it, and all the children of the Lord that remain in Babylon will heed the call: 'Come out of her, My people' (Revelation 18:4)." –*The Great Controversy*, p. 390.




## **7. What wonderful promise did He give to all who were faithful?**

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 **Zechariah 2:10-12** *Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord. <sup>11</sup>And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto thee. <sup>12</sup>And the Lord shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.*

"It was still the Lord's purpose, as it had been from the beginning, that His people should be a praise in the earth, to the glory of His name. During the long years of their exile He had given them many opportunities to return to their allegiance to Him. Some had chosen to listen and to learn; some had found salvation in the midst of affliction. Many of these were to be numbered among the remnant that should return. They were likened by Inspiration to 'the highest branch of the high cedar,' which was to be planted 'upon an high mountain and eminent: in the mountain of the height of Israel.' Ezekiel 17:22, 23." —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 599.



### **ADDITIONAL STUDY**

"Under the favor shown them by Cyrus, nearly fifty thousand of the children of the captivity had taken advantage of the decree permitting their return. These, however, in comparison with the hundreds of thousands scattered throughout the provinces of Medo-Persia, were but a mere remnant. The great majority of the Israelites had chosen to remain in the land of their exile rather than undergo the hardships of the return journey and the re-establishment of their desolated cities and homes." —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 598.

## LESSON

# 20

Sabbath,  
November 14,  
2026

## BOOK OF ZECHARIAH “... IS NOT THIS A BRAND PLUCKED OUT OF THE FIRE?”

*“And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a*

*brand plucked out of the fire?” Zechariah 3:1–2.*

“Joshua is represented as pleading with the Angel. Are we engaged in the same work? Are our supplications ascending to God in living faith? Are we opening the door of the heart to Jesus, and closing every means of entrance to Satan? Are we daily obtaining clearer light, and greater strength, that we may stand in Christ's righteousness? Are we emptying our hearts of all selfishness, and cleansing them, preparatory to receiving the latter rain from heaven?

“Now is the time when we are to confess and forsake our sins, that they may go beforehand to judgment and be blotted out.” —*Review and Herald*, November 19, 1908.




### SUNDAY

#### 1. What was shown in this vision, and who were present?

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 **Zechariah 3:3–5** Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. <sup>4</sup>And he answered and spake unto those

*that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. <sup>5</sup>And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the Lord stood by.*

"Poor, repentant mortals, hear the words of Jesus, and believe as you hear: 'And He answered [the accusing charge of Satan] and spake unto those [angels] that stood before Him [to do His bidding], saying, Take away the filthy garments from him.' I will blot out his transgressions. I will cover his sins. I will impute to him My righteousness.

"The filthy garments are removed; for Christ says, 'I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee.' The iniquity is transferred to the innocent, the pure, the holy Son of God; and man, all undeserving, stands before the Lord cleansed from all unrighteousness, and clothed with the imputed righteousness of Christ. Oh, what a change of raiment is this!

"This is the honor that God will bestow on those who are clothed with the garments of Christ's righteousness. With such encouragement as this, how can men continue in sin? How can they grieve the heart of Christ." —*Manuscript 125*, 1901.




MONDAY

## 2. How was the plan of salvation presented in this important message?

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 **Zechariah 3:6–10** *And the angel of the Lord protested unto Joshua, saying, <sup>7</sup>Thus saith the Lord of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places*

*to walk among these that stand by. <sup>8</sup>Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the Branch. <sup>9</sup>For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the Lord of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. <sup>10</sup>In that day, saith the Lord of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.*

"So it will be in the great final day, when judgment shall fall upon the rejecters of God's grace. Christ, their Rock of offense, will then appear to them as an avenging mountain. The glory of His countenance, which to the righteous is life, will be to the wicked a consuming fire. Because of love rejected, grace despised, the sinner will be destroyed." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 600.




TUESDAY

### 3. What was especially significant in this messianic prophecy?

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 **Zechariah 6:11-13** *Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest; <sup>12</sup>And speak unto him,*

*saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The Branch; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord: <sup>13</sup>Even he shall build the temple of the Lord; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.*

"The love of the Father, no less than of the Son, is the fountain of salvation for the lost race. Said Jesus to His disciples before He went away: 'I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: for the Father Himself loveth you.' John 16:26-27. God was 'in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself.' 2 Corinthians 5:19. And in the ministration in the sanctuary above, 'the counsel of peace shall be between Them both.' 'God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' John 3:16." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 416.




WEDNESDAY

### 4. What other vision did the prophet record concerning the utensils from the ancient sanctuary and the temple? What was its significance?

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 **Zechariah 4:2-3, 12-14** *And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven*

*lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof: <sup>3</sup>And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof... <sup>12</sup>And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves? <sup>13</sup>And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. <sup>14</sup>Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.*

"By the holy beings surrounding His throne, the Lord keeps up a constant communication with the inhabitants of the earth. The golden oil represents the grace with which God keeps the lamps of believers supplied. Were it not that this holy oil is poured from heaven in the messages of God's Spirit, the agencies of evil would have entire control over men. God is dishonored when we do not receive the communications that He sends us. Thus we refuse the golden oil which He would pour into our souls to be communicated to those in darkness."  
—*Review and Herald*, February 3, 1903.



THURSDAY

## 5. What extremely important message was added to it?

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**Zechariah 4:6–9** Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. <sup>7</sup>Who

*art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it. <sup>8</sup>Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, <sup>9</sup>The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto you.*

"These empty themselves into the golden bowls, which represent the hearts of the living messengers of God, who bear the word of the Lord to the people in warnings and entreaties. The word itself must be as represented, the golden oil, emptied from the two olive trees that stand by the Lord of the whole earth. This is the baptism by the Holy Spirit with fire. This will open the soul of unbelievers to conviction. The wants of the soul can be met only by the working of the Holy Spirit of God. Man can of himself do nothing to satisfy the longings and meet the aspirations of the heart." —*Manuscript 109*, 1897.



FRIDAY

## 6. What two behaviors did the scroll reveal that were and still are abominable to God?

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**Zechariah 5:2–4** ... I see a flying roll; the length thereof is twenty cubits, and the breadth thereof ten cubits. <sup>3</sup>Then said he unto me, This is the curse that goeth forth over

*the face of the whole earth: for every one that stealeth shall be cut off as on this side according to it; and every one that sweareth shall be cut off as on that side according to it. 'I will bring it forth, saith the Lord of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the*

*house of him that sweareth falsely by my name: and it shall remain in the midst of his house, and shall consume it with the timber thereof and the stones thereof.*

"Against every evildoer God's law utters condemnation. He may disregard that voice, he may seek to drown its warning, but in vain. It follows him. It makes itself heard. It destroys his peace. If unheeded, it pursues him to the grave. It bears witness against him at the judgment. A quenchless fire, it consumes at last soul and body. 'What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?'"  
—*Education*, p. 144.


## SABBATH

### **7. How did the Lord comfort His people in difficult times?**

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 **Zechariah 6:15** *And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the Lord, and ye shall know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto you. And this shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God.*

"He promised to honor them, to manifest His love and power upon them, and constantly to care for them, if they would comply with the conditions He asked of them. They were not merely to profess to worship God, but were to obey His voice indeed." —*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 1, p. 104.

## NOTES




### **ADDITIONAL STUDY**

“The one who was clothed with filthy garments represents those who have committed wrongs, but who have come into so sincere a position of repentance that the Lord, who forgives all sins that are repented of, was satisfied. Satan seeks to place in a humiliating position those who have truly repented of their sins. And those who are continuing in a wrong course of action are prompted by Satan to tantalize the one who has repented....

“Men who have gone to great lengths in transgression, and who have never confessed their sins will seek to bring all the reproach possible upon those whom Satan has worked to destroy, but who have repented and humbled themselves before God, confessing their sins to the sin-pardoning Saviour, and receiving pardon. Men who have not repented of their sins, and have not received pardon, will tantalize the truly repentant ones, repeating their wrongdoing to those who knew nothing of the wrong done. They accuse and condemn the repentant ones as if they themselves were guiltless.

“It has been shown me that the experience recorded in the third chapter of Zechariah is now being acted over, and will continue to be while men, making profession of cleanness, refuse to humble the heart and confess their sins.”

—*Letter 360, 1906.*

## LESSON

# 21

Sabbath,  
November 21,  
2026

## BOOK OF ZECHARIAH “WHAT IS IT?”

*“Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me.” John 5:39.*

“We see and feel the importance of each having an understanding of the Scriptures. There may be those who will tell us of the things contained in the word of God, but that will not meet the requirements. We must search the

Scriptures for ourselves. There are special points that we must understand pertaining to our own time. We are living in an age of error and heresy on every hand... Consequently it is of the greatest necessity that we search the Scriptures for ourselves, and learn their contents.”

—*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 3, p. 88.



### SUNDAY


## 1. What vision that was connected to the land of Shinar can be applied to the end of time?

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**Zechariah 5:6–11** *And I said, What is it? And he said, This is an ephah that goeth forth. He said moreover, This is their resemblance through all the earth. <sup>7</sup>And, behold, there was lifted up a talent of lead: and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of the ephah. <sup>8</sup>And he said,*

*This is wickedness. And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of lead upon the mouth thereof. <sup>9</sup>Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out two women, and the wind was in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork: and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven. <sup>10</sup>Then said I to the angel that talked with me, Whither do these bear the ephah? <sup>11</sup>And he said unto me, To build it an house in the land of Shinar: and it shall be established, and set there upon her own base.*

 **Genesis 10:10; 11:1–2** *And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar....<sup>11</sup>And the whole earth was of one language,*

*and of one speech.<sup>2</sup>And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.*

"The term 'Babylon' is derived from 'Babel,' and signifies confusion. It is employed in Scripture to designate the various forms of false or apostate religion. In Revelation 17 Babylon is represented as a woman—a figure which is used in the Bible as the symbol of a church, a virtuous woman representing a pure church, a vile woman an apostate church." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 381.



MONDAY


## **2. What great wickedness that led to Israel's captivity and exile in Babylon for seventy years should never be repeated after that city and empire were left behind?**

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*none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.<sup>11</sup>But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.<sup>12</sup>Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the Lord of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the Lord of hosts....<sup>14</sup>But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate.*

 **Zechariah 7:9–12, 14** *Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother:<sup>10</sup>And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let*

"Self must be denied; self must be crucified. Therefore Satan presents to them an easier way by making void the law of God. When God lets man have his own way, it is the darkest hour of his life. For a willful, disobedient child to be left to have his own way, to follow the bent of his own mind and gather the dark clouds of God's judgment about him, is a terrible thing." —*Faith and Works*, p. 45.




TUESDAY

### 3. What great ideal did God desire for His people in the past as well as now?

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 **Zechariah 8:3, 7-8** *Thus saith the Lord; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the Lord of hosts the holy mountain. <sup>7</sup>Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country; <sup>8</sup>And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.*

"The work of which the prophet Zechariah writes is a type of the spiritual restoration to be wrought for Israel before the end of time." —Letter 42, 1912.




WEDNESDAY

### 4. What clear instructions did the Lord give through the prophet?

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 **Zechariah 8:16-17, 19** *These are the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbour; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates: <sup>17</sup>And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbour; and love no false oath: for all these are things that I hate, saith the Lord.... <sup>19</sup>Therefore love the truth and peace.*

"The love of the truth as it is in Jesus means the love of all that is comprised in the truth Christ taught. Let our teachers strive to follow His example, to cherish His spirit of tender sympathy. Let none leave the love of Christ out of their labors, but let each ask himself the questions, Is my life a consistent life? Am I guided by the Holy Spirit?... If he truly loves the service of Christ, he will have spiritual discernment and spiritual life." —*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, p. 362.




THURSDAY

**5. What important aspects of Jesus' ministry were prophesied? How were they fulfilled?**

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 **Zechariah 13:6, 7** *And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends. <sup>7</sup>Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the Lord of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.*

"One reminder alone remains: Our Redeemer will ever bear the marks of His crucifixion. Upon His wounded head, upon His side, His hands and feet, are the only traces of the cruel work that sin has wrought. Says the prophet, beholding Christ in His glory: 'He had bright beams coming out of His side: and there was the hiding of His power.' Habakkuk 3:4, margin. That pierced side whence flowed the crimson stream that reconciled man to God—there is the Saviour's glory, there 'the hiding of His power.' 'Mighty to save,' through the sacrifice of redemption, He was therefore strong to execute justice upon them that despised God's mercy. And the tokens of His humiliation are His highest honor; through the eternal ages the wounds of Calvary will show forth His praise and declare His power." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 674.



FRIDAY

**6. What prophetic references to the first, second and third comings of Jesus Christ can be seen in the book of Zechariah?**

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 **Zechariah 9:9–12; 14:2–4** *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout,*

*O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. <sup>10</sup>And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth. <sup>11</sup>As for thee also, by the blood of*

thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water. <sup>12</sup>Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee. <sup>14:2</sup> For I will gather all nations against Jerusa-

lem to battle... <sup>3</sup> Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. <sup>4</sup> And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, ...

"God will be to us everything we will let Him be.... Ask in faith, wait in faith, receive in faith, rejoice in hope, for everyone that seeketh findeth. Be in earnest in the matter. Seek God with all the heart. People put soul and earnestness into everything they undertake in temporal things, until their efforts are crowned with success. With intense earnestness learn the trade of seeking the rich blessings that God has promised, and with persevering, determined effort you shall have His light and His truth and His rich grace." —*Our Father Cares*, p. 99.



## SABBATH

### 7. What is God's great longing?

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**Zechariah 13:1, 9** *In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.... <sup>9</sup>And will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God.*

"Those who hold fast their faith unto the end will come forth from the furnace of trial as fine gold seven times purified.... When in trouble, remember that faith tried in the furnace of affliction is more precious than gold tried with fire...." —*Christ Triumphant*, p. 199.



## ADDITIONAL STUDY

"We need to educate the soul to lay hold, and hold fast the rich promises of Christ. The Lord Jesus knows that it is not possible for us to resist the many temptations of Satan, only as we shall have divine power given us from God. He well knows that in our own human strength we should surely fail. Therefore every provision has been made, that in every emergency and trial we shall flee to the Stronghold.... We have the word of promise from lips that will not lie.... We must individually cherish the faith that we receive of Him the things He hath promised." —*Our Father Cares*, p. 99.

## LESSON

# 22

Sabbath,  
November 28,  
2026

## BOOK OF MALACHI “WHEREIN HAST THOU LOVED US?”

*“The burden of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi. I have loved you, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, Wherein hast Thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob’s brother? saith the Lord: yet I loved Jacob, And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness.” Malachi 1:1–3.*

“Esau had despised the blessings of the cove-

nant. He had valued temporal above spiritual good, and he had received that which he desired. It was by his own deliberate choice that he was separated from the people of God. Jacob had chosen the inheritance of faith. He had endeavored to obtain it by craft, treachery, and falsehood; but God had permitted his sin to work out its correction...

“The baser elements of character were consumed in the furnace fire, the true gold was refined, until the faith of Abraham and Isaac appeared undimmed in Jacob.” —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 208.




SUNDAY

### 1. What explanation in the book of Malachi reveals whether or not one has a true relationship with God?

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 **Malachi 1:6–9** *son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is*

*mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the Lord of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name? <sup>7</sup>Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the Lord is contemptible. <sup>8</sup>And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept*

thy person? saith the Lord of hosts.  
9And now, I pray you, beseech God  
that he will be gracious unto us:

this hath been by your means: will  
he regard your persons? saith the  
Lord of hosts.

"Through disloyalty, God's chosen people developed a character exactly the opposite of the character he desired them to develop. They placed their own mold and superscription upon the truth. They forgot God, and lost sight of their high privilege as His representatives. The blessings they had received brought no blessing to the world. All their advantages were appropriated for their own glorification. They robbed God of the service He required of them, and they robbed their fellowmen of religious guidance and a holy example. Like the inhabitants of the antediluvian world, they followed out every imagination of their evil hearts. Thus they made sacred things appear a farce, saying, 'The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, are these,' while at the same time they were misrepresenting God's character, dishonoring His name, and polluting His sanctuary." —*The Southern Work*, January 10, 1905.




MONDAY

## 2. How important is true, heartfelt service in God's cause?

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 **Malachi 1:9–10** And now, I pray you, beseech God that he will be gracious unto us: this hath been by your means: will he regard your persons? saith the Lord of hosts. 10Who is there even among you that would shut the doors for nought? neither do ye kindle fire on mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you, saith the Lord of hosts, neither will I accept an offering at your hand.

"God calls for willing service—a service inspired by the love of Jesus in the heart. God is never satisfied with halfhearted, selfish service. He requires the whole heart, the undivided affections, and a complete faith and trust in His power to save from sin." —*Selected Messages*, book 1, p. 108.



TUESDAY

### 3. What was and has always been the Lord's desire for His people and leaders?

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**Malachi 2:6-7** *The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips; he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity. <sup>7</sup>For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.*

"The Lord requires of all who profess to be His people, far more than they give Him. He expects believers in Christ Jesus to reveal to the world, in word and deed, the Christianity that was exemplified in the life and character of the Redeemer. If the word of God is enshrined in their hearts, they will give a practical demonstration of the power and purity of the gospel. The testimony thus borne to the world is of much more value than sermons, or professions of godliness that do not reveal good works. Let those who name the name of Christ remember that individually they are making an impression favorable or unfavorable to Bible religion, on the minds of all with whom they come in contact." —*The Southern Work*, January 17, 1905.



WEDNESDAY

### 4. What divine censure is just as relevant today as it was when it was written in the book of Malachi?

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**Malachi 2:8-9** *But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the Lord of hosts. <sup>9</sup>Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law.*

"Everything in our character that cannot enter the city of God will be re-proved; if we submit to the Lord's refining, all the dross and the tin will be consumed. As the Lord's chosen ones will receive the light appropriate for this time, they will not be led to exalt themselves. They will not manufacture a standard whereby to measure their own character;

for the Lord has given one standard, by which every character is to be tested. There is not one standard for the poor, and another for the rich; for all will be tested by that law which bids us to love God supremely and our neighbor as ourselves. Those who win the treasure of heaven will be those who have laid up their treasure above. God gives us light and opportunities to learn from Christ; that we may be like Him in spirit and character; but we are not to conform to any human standard. We are to receive the truth of God into the heart, that it may regulate the life and form the character." —Letter 20a, 1893.




THURSDAY

## 5. What questions of self-examination should we ask ourselves?

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 **Malachi 2:10–12** *Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the*

*covenant of our fathers? <sup>11</sup>Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the Lord which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god. <sup>12</sup>The Lord will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the Lord of hosts.*

"The Lord is looking upon men in the different spheres in which they move, and the character is tested under the different circumstances in which they are placed. The truth, pure, refined, elevating, is a continual test, to measure the man. If truth controls the conscience and is an abiding principle in the heart, it becomes an active working agent, it works by love and purifies the soul. But if the knowledge of the truth produces no beauty in the soul, if it does not subdue, soften, and recreate the man after God's own image, it is of no benefit to the receiver; it is as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal. The truth as it is in Jesus, planted in the heart by the Holy Spirit, always works from within outward; it will be revealed in our words and spirit and actions toward everyone with whom we are connected." —Letter 20a, 1893.



FRIDAY

## 6. What important area of life reveals who an individual really is?

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**Malachi 2:14–16** *Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacher-*

*ously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. <sup>15</sup>And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the Lord of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.*

“What object is there that calls for greater earnestness than the salvation of souls and the glory of God? There are considerations here which cannot be lightly regarded. They are as weighty as eternity. Eternal destinies are at stake. Men and women are deciding for weal or woe. Christian zeal will not exhaust itself in talk, but will feel and act with vigor and efficiency. Yet Christian zeal will not act for the sake of being seen. Humility will characterize every effort and be seen in every work. Christian zeal will lead to earnest prayer and humiliation, and to faithfulness in home duties. In the family circle will be seen the gentleness and love, benevolence and compassion, which are ever the fruits of Christian zeal....” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 232.



SABBATH

## 7. How significant is the proper understanding of the truth?

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**Malachi 2:17** *Ye have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?*

“Oh, how few feel the worth of souls! How few are willing to sacrifice to bring souls to the knowledge of Christ! There is much talking, much professed love for perishing souls; but talk is cheap stuff. It is earnest Christian zeal that is wanted—a zeal that will be manifested by doing



## LESSON

# 23

Sabbath,  
December 5,  
2026

## BOOK OF MALACHI “WHO MAY ABIDE THE DAY OF HIS COMING?”

*“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Thessalonians 5:23.*

*“Thus the preaching of Christ’s second coming, the announcement of its nearness, is shown to be an essential part of the gospel message.” —Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 227.*




### SUNDAY

**1. What important prophecy was given in the book of Malachi? To whom did it refer?**

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 **Malachi 3:1** *Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.*


“As John the Baptist ... called their attention to the Ten Commandments, so we are to give, with no uncertain sound, the message: ‘Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come.’ With the earnestness that characterized Elijah the prophet and John the Baptist, we are to strive to prepare the way for Christ’s second advent.” —*Maranatha*, p. 22.

## MONDAY

### 2. How overwhelming will the event be that is described in the next verse?

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 **Malachi 3:2** *But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth?...*


"The message preceding the public ministry of the Son of God was, Repent, publicans; repent, Pharisees and Sadducees, 'for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Matthew 3:2. Our message is not to be one of 'peace and safety.' 1 Thessalonians 5:3. As a people who believe in Christ's soon appearing, we have a work to do, a message to bear—'Prepare to meet thy God.' Amos 4:12. We are to lift up the standard, and bear the third angel's message—the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." —*Selected Messages*, book 2, p. 150.

## TUESDAY

### 3. What will prepare the way for that singular event?

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 **Malachi 3:2–3** *For he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: <sup>3</sup>And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.*

"In this scripture is portrayed a refining, purifying process, to be carried on in the hearts of men by the Lord of hosts. The process is most trying to the soul, but it is only by this means that the dross can be removed. Of necessity we must endure trials; for through these we are brought close to our heavenly Father, in obedience to His will, that we may render to Him an offering in righteousness." —*The Southern Work*, February 7, 1905.

## WEDNESDAY

### 4. How important are the trials of each faithful follower of Jesus?

 **Romans 5:3–4** *And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; <sup>4</sup>And patience, experience; and experience, hope.*

"The Master sees wherein we need to be purified for His heavenly kingdom. He will not leave us in the furnace until we are wholly consumed. As a refiner and purifier of silver, He is beholding His children, watching the process of purification, until He shall discern His image reflected in us. Although we often feel affliction's flame kindling about us, and at times fear that we shall be utterly consumed, yet the lovingkindness of God is just as great toward us at these times as when we are free in spirit and triumphing in Him. The furnace is to purify and refine, but not to consume and destroy." —*The Southern Work*, February 7, 1905.




THURSDAY

## 5. What will all who enter God's kingdom become?

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 **Malachi 3:4** *Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years*

"Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for His children. Godliness—godlikeness—is the goal to be reached.... There is opened a path of continual progress. He has an object to achieve, a standard to attain, that includes everything good, and pure, and noble. He will advance as fast and as far as possible in every branch of true knowledge. But his efforts will be directed to objects as much higher than mere selfish and temporal interests as the heavens are higher than the earth." —*Education*, p. 18.




FRIDAY

## 6. In what special time are we today?

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 **Malachi 3:5** *And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts.*

"We are seldom, in all respects, placed in the same condition twice. Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Daniel, and many others, were all sorely tried,

but not in the same way. Every one has his individual tests and trials in the drama of life, but the very same trial seldom comes twice. Each has his own experience, peculiar in its character and circumstances, to accomplish a certain work. God has a work, a purpose, in the life of each and all of us. Every act, however small, has its place in our life experience. We must have the continual light and experience that come from God. We all need them, and God is more than willing we should have them, if we will take them." —*Review and Herald*, June 22, 1886.


## SABBATH

### 7. What must always be kept in mind?

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 **Romans 2:6–8** *Who will render to every man according to his deeds: <sup>7</sup>To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: <sup>8</sup>But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath.*

"If we have shunned the truth to save our lives, then we shall lose eternal life. We have a soul to save or to lose. We must work out our salvation with fear and trembling. We must press against the darkness and take hold of the mighty arm of God. We have but a little time to prepare for eternity. May the Lord help us to overcome and win the crown and see the King in His beauty. Then we shall not have lived in vain." —*Manuscript 44*, 1886.



## ADDITIONAL STUDY

"It is God that has led you through straight places. He had a purpose in this, that tribulation might work in you patience, and patience experience, and experience hope. The trials He permitted to come upon you were that through the exercise of these you would experience the peaceable fruits of righteousness....

"God would lead you through affliction and trials that you might have more perfect trust and confidence in Him and that you might think less of your own judgment. You can bear adversity better than prosperity. The all-seeing eye of Jehovah detected in you much dross that you considered gold and too valuable to throw away. The enemy's power over you had at times been direct and very strong." —*Letter 54*, October 24, 1874.

## LESSON

# 24

Sabbath,  
December 12,  
2026

## BOOK OF MALACHI “WHEREIN SHALL WE RETURN?”

*“For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from Mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto Me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?” Malachi 3:6–7.*

“Every man will at the judgment receive according to the deeds done in the body, whether they be good or evil. Our Saviour bids us: ‘Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation.’ If we encounter difficulties, and in Christ’s strength overcome them; if we meet enemies, and in Christ’s strength put them to flight; if we accept responsibilities, and in Christ’s strength discharge them faithfully, we are gaining a precious experience. We learn, as we could not otherwise have learned, that our Saviour is a present help in every time of need.” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 34.




SUNDAY

### 1. What special area of life needs to be analyzed with reference to the truth?

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 **Malachi 3:8–9** *Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup>Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.*

“In the third chapter of Malachi two parties are brought to view. Here the Lord denounces against His professed people who are not faithful sentinels. The charge and challenge of God against this people is marked and decided. [Malachi 3:5–12 quoted.] Man’s duty to be faith-

ful in giving the Lord the portion which He claims in tithes and offerings, that there may be a supply to carry forward the work without embarrassment or hindrance, is plainly specified." —*Manuscript 15*, 1899.


 **MONDAY**

**2. What is the purpose of generosity?**

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 **Malachi 3:10** *Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts....*

"Those who are selfishly withholding their means need not be surprised if God's hand scatters their possessions. That which should have been devoted to the advancement of His work and cause, but which has been withheld, may in various ways be taken away. God will come near to them in judgments. Many losses will be sustained. God can scatter the means He has lent to His stewards, if they refuse to use it to His glory. Some may have none of these losses to remind them of their remissness in duty, but their cases may be the more hopeless." —*The Southern Work*, February 21, 1905.


 **TUESDAY**

**3. What does God expect from those who profess the truth?**

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 **Exodus 25:2** *Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.*

"The only means which God has ordained to advance His cause is to bless men with property. He gives them the sunshine and the rain; He causes vegetation to flourish; He gives health and ability to acquire means. All our blessings come from His bountiful hand. In turn He would have men and women show their gratitude by returning Him a portion in tithes and offerings—in thank offerings, in freewill offerings." —*Counsels for the Church*, p. 273.




## WEDNESDAY

### 4. How does one's perception of material goods influence his life?

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 **1 Timothy 6:10** *For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*

"It is the love of money that the word of God denounces as the root of all evil. Money itself is the gift of God to men, to be used with fidelity in His service. God blessed Abraham, and made him rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. And the Bible states, as an evidence of divine favor, that God gave David, Solomon, Jehoshaphat, Hezekiah, very much riches and honor.

"Like other gifts of God, the possession of wealth brings its increase of responsibility, and its peculiar temptations. How many who have in adversity remained true to God, have fallen under the glittering allurements of prosperity. With the possession of wealth, the ruling passion of a selfish nature is revealed. The world is cursed today by the miserly greed and the self-indulgent vices of the worshipers of mammon."  
—*Review and Herald*, May 16, 1882.




## THURSDAY

### 5. How does generosity, as opposed to meanness, affect a person's possessions as well as his own character?

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 **2 Corinthians 9:6** *He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.*

"By the mercies of Christ and the riches of His goodness, and for the honor of truth and religion, we beseech you who are followers of Christ to dedicate yourselves and your property anew to God. In view of the love and compassion of Christ, which brought Him from the royal courts to suffer self-denial, humiliation, and death, let each ask himself the question, 'How much do I owe my Lord?' and then let your

grateful offerings be in accordance with your appreciation of the great gift of heaven in God's dear Son." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 484.



FRIDAY

## 6. What balance did Jesus explain?

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**Luke 12:48** *For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.*

"In the days of Israel the tithe and freewill offerings were needed to maintain the ordinances of divine service. Should the people of God give less in this age? The principle laid down by Christ is that our offerings to God should be in proportion to the light and privileges enjoyed." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 528.



SABBATH

## 7. What principle applies to receiving divine gifts?

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**Matthew 10:8** *Freely ye have received, freely give.*

"As our blessings and privileges are increased—above all, as we have before us the unparalleled sacrifice of the glorious Son of God—should not our gratitude find expression in more abundant gifts to extend to others the message of salvation? The work of the gospel, as it widens, requires greater provision to sustain it than was called for anciently; and this makes the law of tithes and offerings of even more urgent necessity now than under the Hebrew economy. If His people were liberally to sustain His cause by their voluntary gifts, instead of resorting to unchristian and unhallowed methods to fill the treasury, God would be honored, and many more souls would be won to Christ." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 528.



## LESSON

# 25

Sabbath,  
December 19,  
2026

## BOOK OF MALACHI “WHAT HAVE WE SPOKEN SO MUCH AGAINST THEE?”

*“Your words have been stout against Me, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against Thee?” Malachi 3:13.*

“The fact that the Lord has been represented as hearkening to the words spoken by His witnesses, tells us that Jesus is in our very

midst. He says, ‘Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst.’ One person is not to do all the witnessing for Jesus; but everyone who loves God is to testify of the preciousness of His grace and truth. Those who receive the light of truth are to have lesson upon lesson to educate them not to keep silent, but to speak often one to another. They are to keep in mind the Sabbath meeting, when those who love and fear God, and who think upon His name, can have opportunity to express their thoughts in speaking one to another.”  
—*Manuscript 32, 1894.*



### SUNDAY

**1. How far do human statements extend? Why is this so?**

**Matthew 12:37** *For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.*

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“Your words are an index of your character, and they will testify against you. Here we see the importance of carefulness in the employment of speech. This talent is a great power for good when it is used aright, but it is just as great a power for evil when the words spoken are poison-

ous. If this talent is abused, out of the heart proceed evil things. The words are either a savor of life unto life or of death unto death." —*The Voice in Speech and Song*, p. 20.



## MONDAY

### 2. What did the prophet say was all too common in the way people think?

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**Malachi 3:14** *Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts?*

"We are closely to examine ourselves.... We should plead with God for spiritual eyesight, that we may discern our mistakes and understand our defection of character. If we have been critical and condemnatory, full of faultfinding, talking doubt and darkness, we have a work of repentance and reformation to do. We are to walk in the light, speaking words that will bring peace and happiness. Jesus is to abide in the soul. And where He is, instead of gloom, murmuring, and repining, there will be fragrance of character." —*Review and Herald*, June 12, 1894.



## TUESDAY

### 3. What will characterize the conversation of godly people?

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**Malachi 3:16** *Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.*

"The Majesty of heaven identifies His interests with those of the believers, however humble may be their circumstances. And whenever they are privileged to meet together, it is appropriate that they speak often one to another, giving utterance to the gratitude and love that is a result of thinking upon the name of the Lord. Thus shall God be glorified as He hearkens and hears, and the testimony meeting will be considered the most precious of all meetings; for the words spoken are recorded in the book of remembrance." —*Manuscript 32*, 1894.



WEDNESDAY

#### 4. What tender words beautifully portrayed God's relationship to His faithful children?

 **Malachi 3:17** *And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.*


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"God has jewels in all the churches, and it is not for us to make sweeping denunciation of the professed religious world, but in humility and love, present to all the truth as it is in Jesus. Let men see piety and devotion, let them behold Christlikeness of character, and they will be drawn to the truth. He who loves God supremely and his neighbor as himself, will be a light in the world. Those who have a knowledge of the truth are to communicate the same. They are to lift up Jesus, the world's Redeemer; they are to hold forth the Word of life." —*Review and Herald*, January 17, 1893.



THURSDAY

#### 5. What differentiates the "righteous" from the "wicked"?

 **Deuteronomy 11:26–28** *Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; <sup>27</sup>A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: <sup>28</sup>And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.*

 **Malachi 3:18** *Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.*

"To the Christian is granted the joy of gathering rays of eternal light from the throne of glory, and of reflecting these rays not only on his own path, but on the paths of those with whom he associates. By speaking words of hope and encouragement, of grateful praise and kindly cheer, he may strive to make those around him better, to elevate them, to point them to heaven and glory, and to lead them to seek, above all earthly things, the eternal substance, the immortal inheritance, the riches that are imperishable." —*The Southern Work*, March 7, 1905.




FRIDAY

## 6. What lofty ideal did God offer to humanity?

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 **Malachi 3:11–12** *And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. <sup>12</sup>And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts.*

"The closing words of this scripture outline the experience that the people of God are yet to have. We have a wonderful future before us as a people. The promises of the third chapter of Malachi will be verified to the letter." —*Letter 223, 1904.*




SABBATH

## 7. How were the promises of the Old Testament reflected in the gospels?

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 **Matthew 25:34** *Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.*

"For Christ's sake do not speak or think evil. May the Lord help us not only to read the Bible, but to practice its teachings. The human agent who is faithful in His work, who unites gentleness with His power, justice with His love, causes rejoicing among the heavenly intelligences, and glorifies God. Let us strive earnestly to be good and to do good, and we shall receive the crown of life that fadeth not away." —*Manuscript 116, 1898.*



## LESSON

# 26

Sabbath,  
December 26,  
2026

Please read the Missionary Report from  
**CAMBODIA**  
on page 145

## BOOK OF MALACHI “WHERE IS NOW THEIR GOD?”

*“Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is now their God?” Psalm 115:2.*

“The enemy seeks in many ways to draw our minds from the study of the word. Many he leads to seek for satisfaction in amusements and pleasures that seem desirable to the carnal heart. But the true children of God are not seeking their happiness in this world;

they seek for the lasting joys of a home in the eternal city where Christ dwells, and where the redeemed shall receive the rewards of obedience to the requirements of God. These do not desire the transitory, cheap amusements of this life, but the enduring bliss of heaven.” —*Manuscript 51, 1912.*




SUNDAY

### 1. What lies ahead for all who turn their backs on God?

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 **Malachi 4:1** *For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.*

“The wicked receive their recompense in the earth, ‘according to their deeds.’ The sins of the righteous having been transferred to Satan, he is made to suffer not only for his own rebellion, but for all the sins which he has caused God’s people to commit. In the cleansing flames the wicked are at last destroyed, root and branch—Satan the root, his followers the branches. The full penalty of the law has been visited; the demands of justice have been met; Satan’s work of ruin is forever ended. Now God’s creatures are forever delivered from his presence and temptations.” —*The Great Controversy*, p. 673.




## MONDAY

### 2. What will happen to those who followed and obeyed God?

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 **Malachi 4:2** *But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.*

"As the flower turns to the sun, that the bright beams may aid in perfecting its beauty and symmetry, so should we turn to the Sun of Righteousness, that heaven's light may shine upon us, that our character may be developed into the likeness of Christ." —*Steps to Christ*, p. 68.




## TUESDAY

### 3. What Biblical character, along with the legacy that he received, should be constantly remembered?

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 **Malachi 4:4** *Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.*

"The Lord would have every soul who believes in Christ forming a character that will give him a fitness for the mansions which Christ has gone to prepare for those who in this life keep God's commandments.... A better kingdom is being prepared for all who are faithful, tried, and sanctified, those who are living constantly on the plan of addition, adding virtue to virtue, and grace to grace." —*Manuscript 116*, December 19, 1905.




## WEDNESDAY

### 4. Why were Elijah and John the Baptist presented as role models for the end time?

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 **Malachi 4:5** *Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.*

"God calls upon His messengers to proclaim His law in the spirit and power of Elias. As John the Baptist, in preparing a people for Christ's first advent, called their attention to the ten commandments, so we are to give, with no uncertain sound, the message: 'Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come.' With the earnestness that characterized Elijah the prophet and John the Baptist, we are to strive to prepare the way for Christ's second advent." —*The Southern Work*, March 21, 1905.




THURSDAY

## 5. What was the prophet Elijah's central message?

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 **1 Kings 18:21** *And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.*

"Among the mountains of Gilead, east of the Jordan, there dwelt in the days of Ahab a man of faith and prayer whose fearless ministry was destined to check the rapid spread of apostasy in Israel. Far removed from any city of renown, and occupying no high station in life, Elijah the Tishbite nevertheless entered upon his mission confident in God's purpose to prepare the way before him and to give him abundant success. The word of faith and power was upon his lips, and his whole life was devoted to the work of reform. His was the voice of one crying in the wilderness to rebuke sin and press back the tide of evil. And while he came to the people as a reprover of sin, his message offered the balm of Gilead to the sin-sick souls of all who desired to be healed." —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 119.




FRIDAY

## 6. What words of Elijah expressed the necessity of a decisive reformation?

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 **1 Kings 19:14** *And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.*

"Those who are to prepare the way for the second coming of Christ are represented by faithful Elijah, as John came in the spirit of Elijah to prepare the way for Christ's first advent." —*Maranatha*, p. 22.




## SABBATH

### 7. What wonderful commendation and invitation will be given to every faithful soul?

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 **Matthew 25:23** *His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

"The Master has given to every man his work. He has given to every man according to his ability, and his trust is in proportion to his capacity. God requires everyone to be a worker in His vineyard. You are to take up the work that has been placed in your charge, and to do it faithfully." —*Review and Herald*, May 1, 1888.



## ADDITIONAL STUDY

"To His faithful followers Christ has been a daily companion and familiar Friend. They have lived in close contact, in constant communion with God. Upon them the glory of the Lord has risen. In them the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ has been reflected. Now they rejoice in the undimmed rays of the brightness and glory of the King in His majesty. They are prepared for the communion of heaven; for they have heaven in their hearts." —*Our Father Cares*, p. 338.

## MISSIONARY REPORT FROM CAMBODIA

To be read on Sabbath, December 26, 2026

The Special Sabbath School Offering  
will be gathered on Sabbath, January 2, 2027

Dear brothers and sisters,

Peace be unto you, and greetings with Ecclesiastes 11:6, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good."

The Kingdom of Cambodia is a country in Southeast Asia on the Indochinese Peninsula. It is bordered by Thailand on the northwest, Laos on the north, and Vietnam on the east; it has a coastline along the Gulf of Thailand in the southwest. It spans an area of 181,035 square kilometers (69,898 square miles), primarily a low-lying plain and the confluence of the Mekong River and Tonlé Sap, Southeast Asia's largest lake. The tropical climate makes the country very rich in biodiversity. Cambodia has a population of about 17 million people, the majority of whom are ethnically Khmer. Its capital and most populous city is Phnom Penh, followed by Siem Reap and Battambang.

Buddhism is the state religion of Cambodia. Approximately 97 percent of the population follows Theravada Buddhism, with Islam, Christianity, and tribal animism as well as the Bahá'í faith making up most of the small remainder. The wat (Buddhist monastery) and sangha (monkhood), together with essential Buddhist doctrines, such as reincarnation and the accumulation of merit, are at the center of religious life. According to the 2019 national census, Cambodia's population was 97.1 percent Buddhist, 2 percent Muslim, 0.3 percent Christian, and 0.5 percent other. According to the Pew Research Center in 2010, 96.9 percent of Cambodia's population was 2.0 percent Buddhist, 2.0 percent Muslim, 0.4 percent Christian, and 0.7 percent folk religion and non-religious.

The work in Cambodia began in early 2018, when the Asian Division put into action a plan to use social media as a tool to connect and communicate with Asians, regardless of their denomination and beliefs. After several months of communications, correspondence, and groundwork, we organized a Bible Seminar in Phnom Penh, Cambodia,

on June 9-13, 2019, with Pastor Pablo Hunger, the General Conference Evangelism leader, inviting Christians, pastors, and Bible workers from the capital and other provinces, numbering around fifty people. After the seminar, we began follow-up work with those who attended the meetings.

From then on, we visited Cambodia regularly, giving Bible studies, making missionary visits, and conducting health seminars and fairs in Phnom Penh, Svay Rieng, and Kratie. By the grace of God, on February 1, 2020, the first five souls were baptized.

Afterward we organized extensive visits and studies. The South Korean Field was very supportive of the work in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. Pastor Woonsan Kang from that field went with me to help in the work. The General Conference publishing leader, Sister Raquel Orce Sotomayor, helped us to print the Principles of Faith in three languages (Vietnamese, Khmer, and Laotian), which helped us to explain the basic Bible beliefs in the local languages. In November 2024, we held an evangelism seminar with Pastor Pablo Hunger, inviting members, interested souls, and young people to attend.

In response to the commission that Jesus gave to His disciples to teach the gospel in the world, the Asian Division wishes to establish the work in these countries. We appeal to your generous hearts to help the work in this new territory to establish a foundation and construct a headquarters building, which is one of the requirements for registering the church and working legally with the help of the Lord in this communist country. Meanwhile, the registration in Cambodia will be processed so that we can work legally and reach more people. As of this writing, we have five members in Cambodia with several interested souls awaiting baptism. We organized online Bible studies and online church services to encourage and motivate the members to be established in the truth and to share the message with others.

We thank God for leading the work in Cambodia and are grateful for the support provided by the General Conference. We are praying and looking forward to the time when the Cambodian church will be well established. Your prayers and offerings are greatly appreciated as we do our part to fulfill the commission that Jesus gave to His disciples. "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matthew 28:19.

—Pastor Roland De La Paz  
Asian Division Leader



# The Minor PROPHETS

**"God calls upon His creatures to turn their attention from the confusion and perplexity around them and admire His handiwork. As we study His works, angels from heaven will be by our side to enlighten our minds and guard them from Satan's deceptions. As you look at the wonderful things that God's hand has made, let your proud, foolish heart feel its dependence and inferiority. How terrible it is when the acknowledgment of God is not made when it should be made! How sad to humble oneself when it is too late!..."** –*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, pp. 455-457



International  
Missionary Society

Seventh-day Adventist Church  
Reform Movement