



Time . . . to Define

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”

Matthew 24:35



Timeline Vocabulary

1. Beginnings

- **Sin**—A word, thought, or act against the law of God. Sin is wrong, and God must punish sin. Jesus died to pay for our sins. He saved us from being punished. He took the punishment we deserve for the wrong things we have done.
- **Righteous**—Free from guilt or sin. Morally right. Acting according to God's laws.
- **Atonement**—Reconciliation of the guilty by divine sacrifice. Bringing man back together with God. "*At - one - ment.*" In the Old Testament, it was the blood of animals that provided atonement for God's people, but in the New Testament, Christ steps up to the cross as our atonement and brings us "*at - one - ment*" with God.

2. Fathers

- **Patriarch**—One of the scriptural fathers of the Hebrew people. A man who is a father or a founder. A man who is the head of a group of people. Abraham was a patriarch.
- **Faith**—Belief and trust. Faith in Jesus means believing that he is the Son of God and trusting Him as Savior. People who have faith obey God and His word. Faith is shown by our actions.
- **Diligently**—Busily working hard. Diligence is shown by energetic application and effort.
- **Covenant**—A promise, contract or special agreement. God made such agreements with His people in the Old Testament. He also made a new covenant with His people through Christ in the New Testament. God made a covenant with Abraham that He would give him a great land, make his name great and make a great nation from his descendants.

3. Slavery—

- **Plagues**—To smite, infest or afflict with disease, calamity or natural evil. God caused ten plagues to occur in Egypt during the time of the slaves. These plagues included diseases, and natural calamities.
- **Redeem**— To purchase or buy back. To free someone from captivity by payment of a ransom.

- **Passover Lamb**—A male lamb was chosen on the 10th day of the 1st month. Then it was killed at twilight of the 14th day. It was roasted and eaten whole inside the Jewish houses in haste. The blood of this lamb was to be painted on the doorposts and lintels of the houses. This was done so that the LORD would “Passover” these houses during the 10th plague, the death of the firstborn of Egypt. The Jews were instructed to observe the Passover Feast every year on this day. Jesus is called our “Passover” in 1 Corinthians 5:7.

4. Victory—

- **Covenant**— A promise, contract or special agreement. God made such agreements with His people in the Old Testament. He also made a new covenant with His people through Christ in the New Testament.
- **Holy**—Means “pure”, belonging to God. Holy also means good, doing what is right. God is holy, for He does only what is right. God’s people are called holy because they belong to him. Holy also means “set apart” or different. God’s people are to be different from the people of the world.
- **Priest**—A person who was appointed to serve at God’s tabernacle or temple. Priests helped the people by offering sacrifices for them and by bringing their gifts to God. Men could only be priests if they were from the tribe of Levi. The High Priest could only be a descendant of Aaron, Moses’ brother.
- **Law**—Means “rules.” God gave the Jewish people special rules to live by. God’s laws teach people how to please Him and how to love others. Sometimes the first five books of the Bible are called the “Law of Moses.” Sometimes the whole Old Testament is called “the law.”
- **Tabernacle**—A tent used by the people of Israel as a place of worship. God had specific rules concerning how it was to look and how it was to be set up. God designed the tabernacle in such a way so that it could be portable—taken from place to place. God’s presence dwelt in the section of the tabernacle called the “most holy place” where the Ark of the Covenant was.
- **Sabbath**—It is the seventh day of the Jewish week and was a day set aside by God for rest and worship. God “rested” on the seventh day. God commanded the people of Israel to set aside this day to rest as well.

5. Struggles—

- **Cycles of Sin**—This term is used to describe the time period of the Judges. The people would follow God as long as one of His judges was ruling the land. Soon, they would forget God, fall into sin, and then He would send enemies to test and harass them. After they began to suffer, they would call upon God again, He would send another judge to help them and they would return to God. This happened several times in the book of the Judges.

- **Judges**—Leaders in Israel for about 400 years. They ruled from the time of Joshua to the time of the first king, Saul. Some of these judges were soldiers and fighters. Deborah, Gideon and Samson were judges.
- **Unfaithful**—Not loyal to God. Disobedient to God's laws. God's people began to be unfaithful during the time of the judges by following after idols and ignoring His laws.

6. United—

- **Covenant**— A promise, contract or special agreement. God made such agreements with His people in the Old Testament. He also made a new covenant with His people through Christ in the New Testament. God made a covenant with David that someone from his line would always sit on the throne of Israel. This was fulfilled with Christ who was a direct descendant of David.
- **Temple**—A building where people worship. God told His people to worship Him in the Temple in Jerusalem. This temple was planned by King David then built by King Solomon. It was destroyed in later times and then rebuilt. Jesus worshiped at a rebuilt temple.
- **Wisdom**—Having knowledge and understanding and doing what is right and good. It is much better to be wise than to be rich. The New Testament teaches that if you ask God for wisdom, He will give it to you. Solomon asked God for wisdom to lead his people.

7. Divided—

- **Prophet**—Means a “messenger” or one who speaks for someone else. The prophets of the Bible spoke God's message to people. Some of the prophets wrote down God's messages, such as Isaiah and Jeremiah.
- **Prophecy**—Means a “message.” It is God speaking through chosen people called prophets. Often these prophets told what would happen in the future.
- **Repent**—Means to change your heart and life. A person who repents stops doing bad things and chooses to do well. Literally means to “turn back from.” Jesus said that we must either repent or perish.
- **Judgment**—A sentence or formal decision made by God upon His people when they have disobeyed. A punishment sent by God. When Israel was divided into two nations, that was a judgment of God upon Solomon's unfaithfulness. When Israel and Judah were destroyed, that was God's punishment for their sin and disobedience.

- **Messiah**—Means “anointed one.” Jesus is the Messiah. This is how the prophets in the Old Testament referred to the one that God would send to save His people.

8. Punished—

- **Captivity**—When God’s people were taken away from their land to live in the land of Babylon for 70 years. They were not slaves; they could live in their own homes and work as they wished, but were not allowed to return home.
- **Punishment**---Consequences or penalty for sin such as suffering, pain or loss.
- **Repentance**---A change of heart and life. God’s people demonstrated repentance during their 70 years of captivity in Babylon.

9. Rebuild—

- **Restore**—To bring back to an original condition. To make something beautiful again that has been torn up or destroyed. God’s people were allowed to restore their lands and temple after their return from captivity.
- **Revive**---To make alive again. God’s people needed to revive their spiritual lives again when they returned to the Promised Land.
- **Renew**---To make something “new” again.

10. Christ—

- **Messiah**---Means the “anointed one.” The one chosen to lead God’s people. Jesus is the Messiah spoken of in Old Testament prophecy.
- **Parable**---A story that teaches a lesson by comparing things. Jesus often used parables to teach the people. “An earthly story with a heavenly meaning.”
- **Disciple**---A person who is learning from someone. Jesus’ disciples are those who believe and obey His teachings. During His ministry Jesus chose 12 special followers (disciples) and made them His apostles.
- **Crucifixion**---Refers to a cruel way of killing criminals in New Testament times. The person was nailed to wooden posts put together to make a “t” or an “x.” Then he was left hanging in a public place to die. Jesus was killed this way. The crucifixion reminds us that Jesus’ death was God’s way to save us from our sins.
- **Resurrection**---When a dead person is raised to life again. Two people who came back from the dead were Lazarus and the widow’s son. But these people died again. Jesus was raised from the dead to live forever. Christians will be resurrected too when Jesus returns. They will then live forever with God in heaven.

- **Redeem/Redemption---** To purchase or buy back. To free someone from captivity by payment of a ransom. Jesus' death on the cross paid the debt or ransom for our sins. He redeemed us by His death. In Him we have redemption.

11. Kingdom—

- **Church—**Means the “called out assembly.” In the New Testament it refers to a group of Christians. The church is made up of people. It is not a building. Jesus is the head of the church. The church is also referred to as His body.
- **Holy Spirit—**One of the three persons of God. The other two are God the Father and God the Son (Jesus). The Holy Spirit gave people power to do important things and to help them do right. The Holy Spirit helped the apostles do miracles. The Spirit also led men to write the word of God. Christians receive the “indwelling” of the Holy Spirit when they are baptized into Christ.
- **Baptism---**A Greek word that means to immerse. We are commanded to be baptized in water in order to wash away our sins and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. At baptism the Lord adds us to the Church.
- **Apostle---**A Greek word that means “someone who is sent.” Jesus gave this name to His twelve disciples. He sent them to tell the good news about Him to all the world.
- **Gentiles---**Means “nations.” The Jews called anyone who was not a Jew a gentile. Jewish people were not allowed to even eat with gentiles. The good news of Jesus is for all people, both Jews and non-Jews.
- **Deacon---**Men who are chosen by the church to carry out the work of the church. These men must be righteous and blameless believers of Christ who have the qualifications that Paul gave us in 1 Timothy 3:8-13.
- **Elders---**Overseers of God's people and work in a local congregation. These men must be blameless, faithful, good leaders in their own homes, the husband of one wife, not violent, not greedy, or quarrelsome. They must also be sober, temperate, hospitable, gentle and able to teach. They are sometimes referred to as “shepherds” or “Bishops.” They will answer to God for the souls of their congregation.
- **Grace---**Unmerited favor. A gift that is undeserved. God gave us His grace when he sent His only Son Jesus to die for our sins. We are saved not because of what we have done, but because of God's grace.