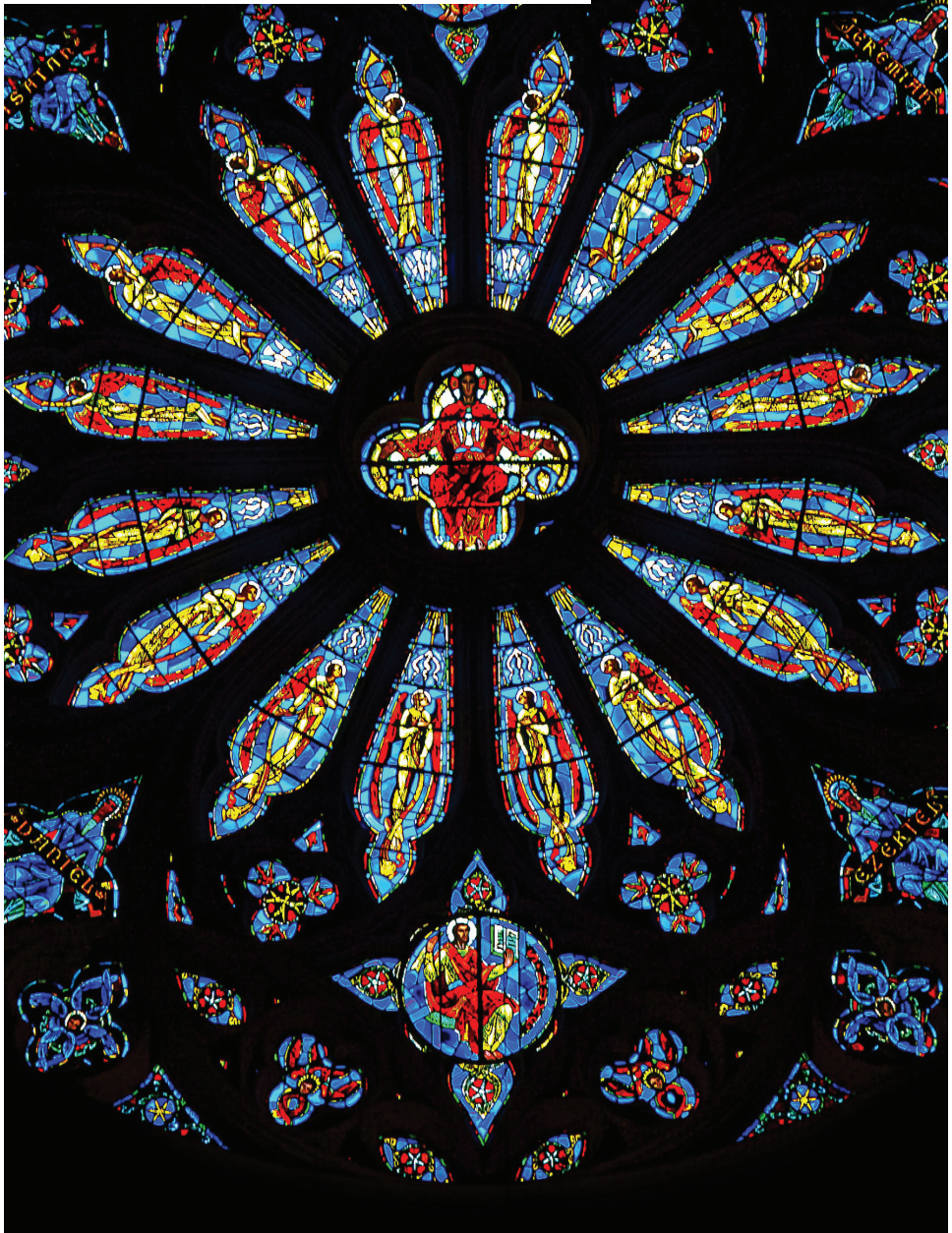


# WEEK 4



# WHO CAN STAND UNDER GOD'S JUDGMENTS?

## REVELATION 8–13

### OPENING PRAYER:

Holy Father, your love for your creation is evident from the glory of the mountains to the intricacies of insects. Mankind is the crown of your creation and your love for man has never wavered. Give us hearts to receive your love and the tenderness to persevere in that love, even during difficult times. You are a God of love but also a God of judgment. Keep our eyes focused on you through good times and bad, trusting in your love. We pray this in the name that is above every name, Jesus. Amen.

### KEY VERSE:

“For the for the accuser of our brothers[a] has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. 11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.” (Revelation 12:10b–11)

### INTRODUCTION:

How important are our prayers? It seems that God will silence the adoration of the heavenly hosts to hear the prayers of his people. Our prayers matter. Slowly, the judgments are getting more and more intense. John is told to eat a little scroll—a scroll which is not to be confused with the scroll that was opened by the Lamb. This one tasted sweet but soured soon in his stomach. Symbolizing the future kingdom of God sounds wonderful, but it will involve tragic and difficult choices involving God's judgment. A woman is introduced in chapter 12 who is an explanation of how the battle for man's souls began. The sides are aligned, and the players are moving. Who can survive? Who can stand under these judgments? The answer is found in our memory verse for the week.

## OPENING QUESTIONS:

1. Satan was an archangel who desired to take the throne of God. He and his followers lost the battle described in chapter 12. What does this tell you about the power he still has today?
2. The Antichrist represented by the beast and his false prophet have power. It is said there is an Antichrist in each generation. Have you seen this played out in history?

## VIDEO:

Who Can Stand Under God's Judgments?

## VIDEO NOTES:

Prayers are powerful. They can change the course of history. Prayers can change our lives and the lives of everyone we hold up to the throne of God. During the end times, God will be moving with miracles while Satan is also working his evil ways. The two witnesses of chapter 11 have similarities to the powers of Elijah and Moses. They prophesy, but then are killed, and the people rejoice. Satan has a grip on the people, but the judgments become more intense, and God's kingdom on earth is about to be birthed. On one side you have the beast and the false prophet. On the other side are the two prophets. How do we recognize the good guys and the bad guys? Remember, Satan can masquerade as an angel of light. The answer is the blood of Jesus.

### BEFORE CLASS



## Read Revelation 8:1–13:18.

## SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS:

1. Read Revelation 11:15–18. What does it tell you about the judgments of God and the return of Jesus?

2. Read Revelation 11:19. What is seen? This ancient item was where God met his people. The blood of the sacrifices was poured on its cover which was the atonement cover or mercy seat. Notice that the cover is off. What do you think that symbolizes?

### **APPLICATION QUESTIONS:**

1. Discuss your prayer life. Are we as committed to prayer as we need to be to fight the forces of evil?
2. Revelation 12:10–11 teaches us that we overcome the accuser of the brothers (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony. What is your testimony?

### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

Loving Father, you call each of us to battle for your kingdom as prayer warriors. Give us courage to proclaim you to those we encounter. Give us hearts of love for those who are lost. May we be ready at any moment to plead the blood of Jesus over the words of our testimony. Make us ready to speak when you call on us. Help us to speak the truth of your word in love. We pray this in the name of our Savior, Jesus. Amen.