

MAY 3 - MAY 17, 2026

A dramatic landscape featuring a path leading through ruins and a bright sunburst in the sky. The scene is filled with dark, jagged rocks and debris, suggesting a site of destruction. In the background, a classical building with columns is partially visible, shrouded in mist. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a brilliant sunburst breaking through on the right side, casting long, golden rays across the scene. The overall atmosphere is one of hope and renewal amidst devastation.

# THE GRAND NARRATIVE

EPOCH 10  
ALL THINGS NEW

**IN THE BEGINNING... THERE WAS NOTHING.**

Then, in a declaration that shook eternity  
—God said,

**“LET THERE BE LIGHT”**

Before time began, a story was written...

A story of creation and chaos, of covenants and kings, of exiles and redeemers, of battles—both seen and unseen.

Across the pages of Scripture, woven through generations, one narrative emerges—GRAND in scope, eternal in significance.

This is not just ancient history. This is not just a book.

**This... is the heart of God moving through every page, every person, every promise.**

From Genesis to Revelation, The Grand Narrative is our story—A journey from darkness to light, from brokenness to restoration,

From the garden... to the grave... to glory.

*To glory*

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# PAUL AND SILAS IN PRISON

## BIBLE BASIS:

Acts 16:16-40

## KEY VERSE:

1 Peter 3:15

## BIG IDEA:

The good news of Jesus is for all people, so we should always be ready to share why we believe.

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

### PAUL AND SILAS IN PRISON

#### OPENING QUESTION:

Describe a moment when you had to stand firm for what you believe, even though it was difficult. How did that experience shape your faith?

#### KEY SCRIPTURE:

- Acts 16:16-40
- 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

#### MAIN POINTS:

1. The gospel is for everyone—no matter their background or situation.
2. Paul and Silas responded to hardship with prayer and praise.
3. We are called to be ready to explain our hope in Jesus at all times.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. When have you seen the good news of Jesus impact someone's life in an unexpected place or way?
2. What can we learn from how Paul and Silas prayed and praised God in prison (Acts 16:25 NIV)?
3. What are practical ways we can "always be prepared" to give an answer for our hope (1 Peter 3:15 NIV)?
4. As a group, how can we support each other in sharing our faith with people from different backgrounds?
5. What's one step you can take this week to be more open or ready to share why you believe?

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS:

1. The message of Jesus is not limited by circumstances or boundaries.
2. Our attitude in hardship can point others to Christ.
3. God can use any situation to open doors for His good news.
4. We're called to be prepared to explain our hope with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15 NIV).
5. Sharing our faith is for everyday life, not just special occasions.

#### NEXT STEPS:

1. Reflect on a recent challenge—ask God to use it to show others His love.
2. Memorize 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV): "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."
3. Pair up with someone to check in this week about opportunities to share your faith.
4. Commit to praying daily for boldness and gentleness in sharing Jesus.
5. As a group, brainstorm or plan one way to serve or bless a part of your local community.

## MAY 4

**Reading** Revelation 11 | Witness boldly.

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## MAY 5

**Reading** Revelation 12 | War in heaven.

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## MAY 6

**Reading** Revelation 13 | Deception rises.

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## MAY 7

**Reading** Revelation 14 | Two eternal outcomes.

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## MAY 8

**Reading** Revelation 15 | Worship before wrath.

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## MAY 9

**Reading** Revelation 16 | Wrath poured out.

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MAY 10, 2026

# PAUL IS ARRESTED

## BIBLE BASIS:

Acts 21-28

## KEY VERSE:

Psalm 107:2

## BIG IDEA:

The good news of Jesus sets us free from sin, so we can tell our story to others.

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

### PAUL IS ARRESTED

#### OPENING QUESTION:

Have you ever had to stand up for what you believe in, even when it was unpopular or difficult? How did it feel and what happened as a result?

#### KEY SCRIPTURE:

- Acts 21-28
- Psalm 107:2 (NIV): "Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe."

#### MAIN POINTS:

1. Paul's arrest and trials gave him a unique platform to share the gospel.
2. The message of Jesus brings true freedom—freedom from sin.
3. Our stories of God's redemption have the power to impact others.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Personal Application: Where have you seen God give you opportunities to share your story, even in tough circumstances?
2. Scripture Understanding: Why do you think Paul chose to share his testimony so boldly, even when it put him in danger (see Acts 26:28-29 NIV)?
3. Practical Implementation: What are some simple ways you can tell your story of faith to the people around you this week?
4. Group Reflection: How does hearing others' stories of redemption strengthen your faith?
5. Challenge/Growth: What is one area of your life where you need to experience more of Jesus' freedom, and how might sharing your story help that process?

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS:

1. God can use every situation—even hardship—for His purposes.
2. The gospel truly sets us free from the power of sin.
3. Sharing our faith stories is a natural response to God's redemption.
4. Our testimony points others to Jesus and invites them into freedom.
5. Boldness grows as we see God work through our willingness to speak.

#### NEXT STEPS:

1. Individual Action Step: Pray for courage to share your testimony this week with at least one person.
2. Scripture Memory/Study Step: Memorize Psalm 107:2 (NIV).
3. Accountability Step: Pair up with someone from the group to check in about opportunities to share your story.
4. Prayer/Spiritual Discipline Step: Spend time thanking God in prayer for the freedom He's given you, and ask for fresh opportunities to share your story.
5. Community Engagement Step: Look for ways as a group to serve or support people who may need to hear stories of God's redemption.

## MAY 11

**Reading** Revelation 17 | Corruption exposed.

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## MAY 12

**Reading** Revelation 18 | Babylon falls.

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## MAY 13

**Reading** Revelation 19 | Jesus returns victorious.

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## MAY 14

**Reading** Revelation 20 | Satan defeated.

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## MAY 15

**Reading** Revelation 21 | All things made new.

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## MAY 16

**Reading** Revelation 22 | Come, Lord Jesus.

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MAY 17, 2026

# A NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH

## **BIBLE BASIS:**

Revelation 19-22

## **KEY VERSE:**

John 14:3

## **BIG IDEA:**

Jesus will return to  
make all things new.

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

### A NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH

## **OPENING QUESTION:**

When you think about the future, what are some hopes or dreams you have about what is to come, both for yourself and for the world?

## **KEY SCRIPTURE:**

- Revelation 19-22
- John 14:3 (NIV): 3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

## **MAIN POINTS:**

1. Jesus promises to return and prepare a place for His followers.
2. God will bring about a new heaven and new earth, making all things new.
3. The hope of Jesus' return encourages us to live faithfully and expectantly.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. What does Jesus' promise in John 14:3 mean to you personally?
2. As you read Revelation 21-22, what stands out to you about the new heaven and new earth?
3. How can knowing that Jesus will make all things new affect the way you live today?
4. In what ways can we, as a group, encourage one another to live with hope and anticipation of Christ's return?
5. What is one change you can make this week to align your life with the hope Jesus offers?

## **KEY TAKEAWAYS:**

1. Jesus' return is a certain and hope-filled promise for all believers.
2. God's ultimate plan is the restoration of all things—nothing will be left broken or incomplete.
3. The reality of a new heaven and new earth gives us strength to face challenges today.
4. Living with hope in Christ's return shapes our attitudes, actions, and relationships.
5. We are called to live faithfully and look forward to the glorious future God has prepared.

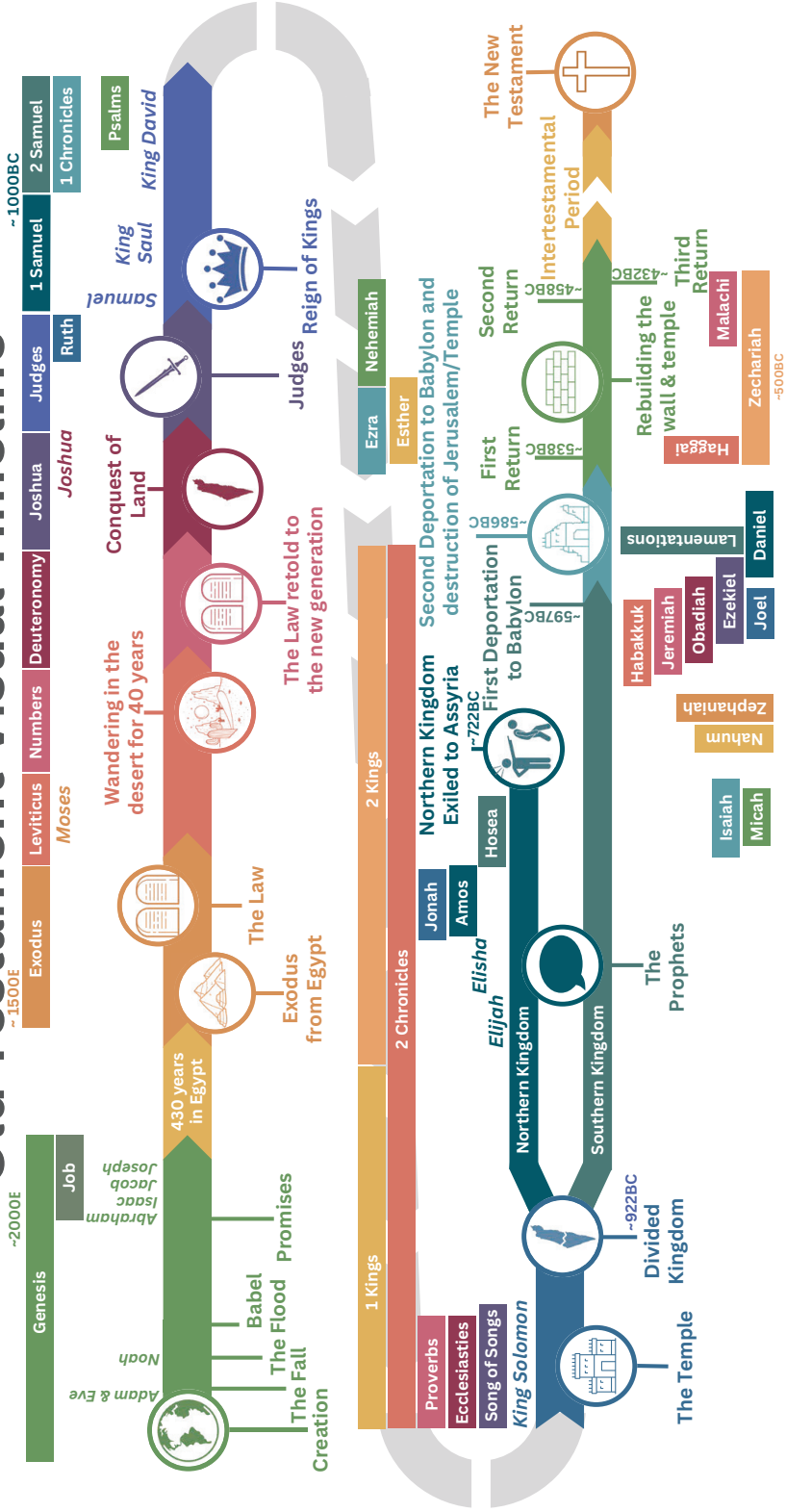
## **NEXT STEPS:**

1. Reflect daily on the promises Jesus gave about His return and a new creation.
2. Memorize John 14:3 (NIV) this week and meditate on its meaning.
3. Partner with another group member to pray and encourage each other to live with hope.
4. Set aside time each day for prayer, asking God to renew your perspective and strengthen your faith.
5. Find a way, as a group or individually, to bring hope to someone in your community this week—share the message of Jesus' renewal through a kind action or word.

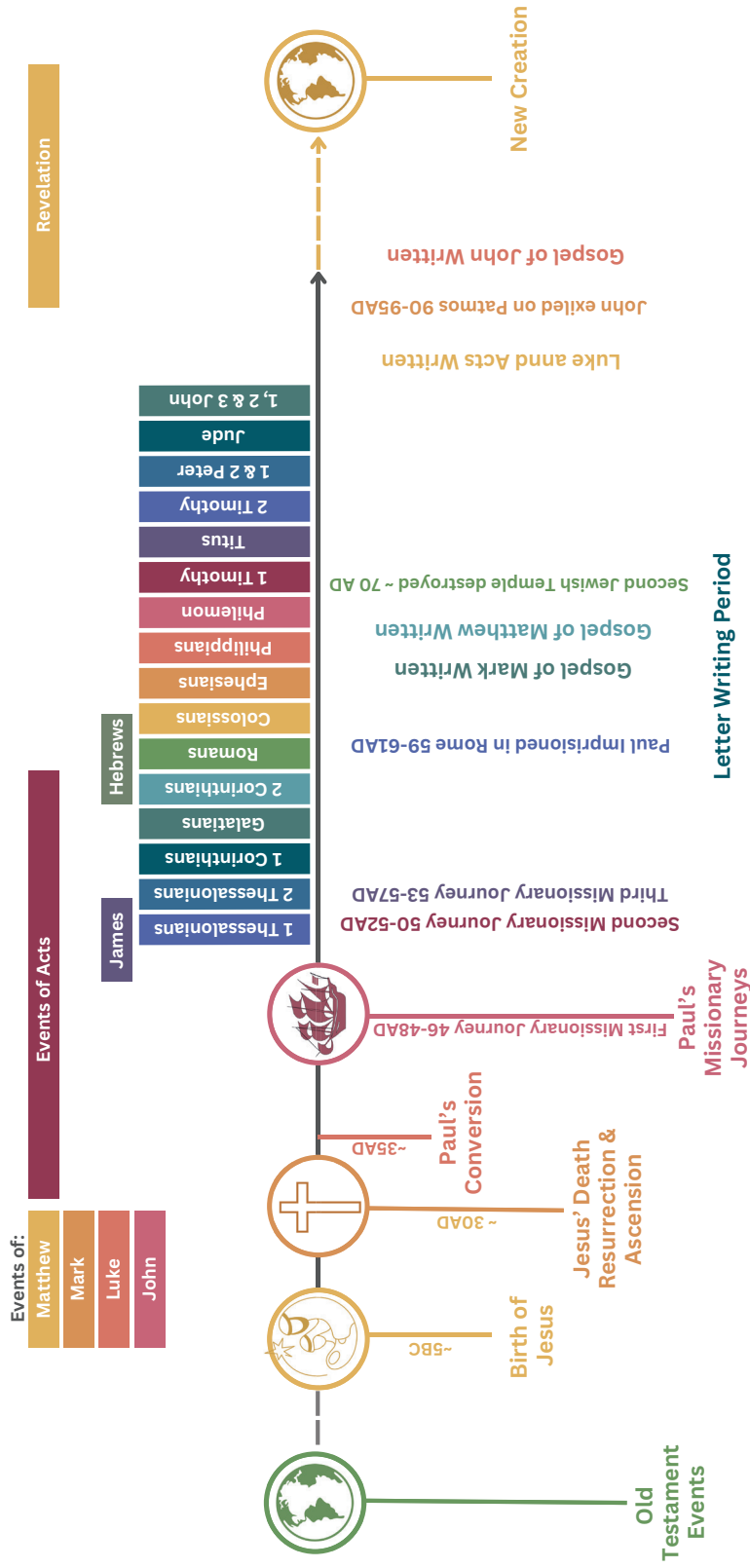




# Old Testament Visual Timeline



# New Testament Graphic Timeline





CHURCH  
— OF THE —  
LAKES