

NEXT 06: "Glorious Appearing"
Revelation 16, 19 and Ezekiel 37-38

July 2, 2023

Main Idea: At the end of the Great Tribulation Jesus will return to destroy the enemies of Israel.

Israel and the Glorious Appearing

The Glorious Appearing is primarily about Israel. Remember, that's what confuses many people about biblical prophecy. **They confuse Israel and the NT Church.** They are NOT the same. God has separate plans for each. The Rapture is for the church; the Glorious Appearing is for Israel. When Christ returns at the close of the Great Tribulation, Israel will be in a really tight spot. The nation will be mired in a war and opposed on all sides by primarily 6 nations. The Bible identifies these nations and even tells us where the battle takes place (Ezekiel 37-39 and Revelation 16).

Armageddon

Jesus will return during this great battle to protect Israel. Ezekiel 38 describes it in detail. In fact, many Bible passages speak of a battle that happens during the Great Tribulation – Daniel, Isaiah, Joel, Zechariah, all add even more details. Jesus will eliminate Israel's enemies and Israel will finally recognize Him as "Messiah."

Revelation 16 and 19

By Revelation 16 we are deep into the Great Tribulation. The Seal and Trumpet judgments have unfolded during the Great Tribulation. Chapter 16 contains the Bowl judgments, 7 angels and 7 bowls. An epic battle is coming. We call it "Armageddon." Armageddon (Valley of Megiddo) is south of Nazareth where Jesus grew up, and 60 miles north of Jerusalem. It is surrounded by mountains with the Sea of Galilee to the Northeast and the Mediterranean to the West.

Ezekiel 37 and 38

The details for this battle are spelled out in the OT book of Ezekiel. Thousands of years before the battle begins, God has already planned it out. At some point during the great Tribulation major European and Asian nations will unite with Arab states to destroy Israel. Jesus will destroy the nations at the Glorious Appearing and the Battle of Armageddon.

Family Night Big idea – Read Jeremiah 31:31-37

Everything we believe regarding the return of Jesus Christ is based on His personal promises and the promises contained in the Bible. **God keeps His promises.** That's the message you want to teach your family.

Discussion Starter – Read Jeremiah 31:31-37

Six hundred years before Jesus was born God made this promise to Israel through Jeremiah the prophet. Part of the prophecy was fulfilled by Jesus Himself and part will be fulfilled when Jesus returns (at the Glorious Appearing).

- **Preschool/ Elementary** – Ask, "Have you ever made a promise to someone? Did you keep it? Do you always keep your promises? Is it hard to keep your promises?" Emphasize that God always keeps His promises.
- **Middle/ High School** – Ask, "Why do we make promises to others? What makes a promise special? What are some promises God has made to us?" Emphasize that God always keeps His promises.

Prayer

"Father, thank You for keeping Your promises. We trust You to keep all of them. Help us keep our promises to You."

Happy 4th of July

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: NO Velocity this Wednesday, July 5th.

Gravity: Middle Schoolers come to the Community Room.

Today's Songs

Battle Belongs.....Phil Wickham

Graves into Gardens.....Elevation Worship

Praise You Anywhere.....Brandon Lake

Plus One

We challenge you to add 1 thing to your weekly worship:
Family Night, Small Group, or Personal Study. Ask us how!

Ladies T-Shirt Sale

Check out the T-Shirts you can order! Money goes to offset the cost of upcoming retreat. Easy ordering. Just scan the bar code and select size and payment.

Kenya Mission Trip

The team leaves for Kenya next week. You can help them carry more supplies to Mission Thome by donating in the lobby. Each extra bag costs \$100 so please help us if you can.

Promotion Sunday

August 6th, children starting Pre-School move up to KidsJAM and kids starting 6th grade move up to Velocity.