

THE END OF DAYS: REFORMATION TO MODERN TIMES

Introduction

If you are entering our study of world history from another curriculum, not having studied medieval history using the book of Revelation, we recommend studying the following together with your students before beginning Year 4.

PREPARATION

Books Needed for This Study:

- Bible
- Revelation Revealed*
- Fire upon the Earth*
- Map Trek*

HIGH SCHOOL SUPPLEMENT

- You may wish to check the recommended reading list from Year 3, available at <http://homeschoolingtorah.com/wp-content/uploads/Year3-booklist1.pdf>.

Day 1

- Read ***Fire Upon the Earth, Ch. 1.***
- Discuss:
 - Why were the Roman Caesars worshiped as gods?
 - What name did the Jews give to all the other nations of the world?
 - Why did Pilate agree to the crucifixion of Yeshua?
 - What caused the faith of the followers of Yeshua to be spread across the Roman Empire?

Day 2

- Read ***Fire Upon the Earth, Ch. 2.***
- Discuss:
 - Read Ezekiel 34:30-31. What does God call His people, the House of Israel?
 - Read John 10:10-17. What other people are called “sheep”?
 - How did God use Paul to reach the “lost sheep” from other nations?
- While reading, students can find the cities Paul visited on his missionary journeys (***Map Trek, p. 51, or e-book p. 81***¹). You can see a map that shows Tarsus, the birthplace of Paul, at <http://www.ccel.org/bible/phillips/JBPhillips.htm>.

¹ Note: The e-book version of *Map Trek* has different page numbers than the printed version of *Map Trek*.

Day 3

- Read ***Fire Upon the Earth, Ch. 3.***
- Discuss:
 - Why were Christians considered the “enemies of the human race”? (because the Christians were against the amusements and sins that the Roman people enjoyed)
 - Describe how the early Christians worshiped God.
 - What is a martyr, and how did some of the early Christian martyrs die?

Day 4

- Read ***Revelation Revealed, pp. 171-195*** (“The Precedent of Daniel”).
- Do **Daniel’s Statue worksheet** (see p. 8 of this study guide).

Day 5

- Read ***Revelation Revealed, pp. 5-15*** (“The Design of Revelation”).

Day 6

- Read ***Revelation Revealed, pp. 165-170*** (“The Teaching Tools of Scripture”).

Day 7

- Read **Revelation 1:1-3.**²
- Discuss:
 - Why was the book of Revelation written (see verse 1)?
 - Revelation 1:3 has a blessing on those who read, hear, and keep the words of this prophecy. We cannot understand the book of Revelation unless we first read and understand all the other books of the Bible. Compare this blessing to the one in Revelation 22:18-19.
 - When would the things prophesied in this book happen? See Revelation 1:1, Revelation 1:3, and Revelation 4:1.
- Read **Revelation 1:4-8.**
- Discuss:
 - Revelation 1:7 says, “He cometh with clouds.” We will learn that clouds are a symbol of God’s judgment. Read Ezekiel 30:3, Joel 2:1-2, and Isaiah 19:1. What will much of the book of Revelation be about?
 - Now read Deuteronomy 28:58-65, 30:1-10, and 32:43. Pay special attention to Deuteronomy 30:7 and 32:43. Tell why YHWH is punishing the nations of the earth. Since only the tribe of Judah (“Jews”) has returned to the land of Israel, we know that these prophecies have not yet been fulfilled. How do you think the book of Revelation will end? (You may also wish to read Nehemiah 1:8, Isaiah 11:10-11, Zechariah 8:7-8.)³
- Read **Revelation 1:9-20.**
- Discuss:
 - Revelation 1:9 says that this book was written by whom? Where was he when he wrote this book?

“Most evangelical scholars affirm that Revelation was written in A.D. 95 or 96. This is based on accounts of the early church fathers that the Apostle John had been

² These questions are based upon the King James Version. You may use the translation of your choice.

³ For the sake of time, feel free to only look up a few of these verses.

exiled on Patmos Island during the reign of Domitian who died in A.D. 96. John was then allowed to return to Ephesus.” (*Bible Knowledge Commentary: New Testament*, by John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck (Victor Books: 1985), p. 925.).

- ❑ **Revelation 1:19** contains the outline of the book of Revelation. Tell the three things John wrote down in this book.
- ❑ Review:
 - When will these judgments start? (Look back at Revelation 1:1, Revelation 1:3, and Revelation 4:1.)
 - What is the purpose of these judgments? (Look back at Revelation 1:7 and Deuteronomy 30:7 and 32:43.)
 - During the judgments of the nations, will the people repent? (Peek ahead at Revelation 9:20-21 and Revelation 16:10-11.) Who will win in the end? (Peek ahead at Revelation 19:1-2.)

Day 8

- ❑ **Revelation 1:1** says that the things in this book were “sent and signified.” Look in a dictionary to see what it means to “signify.”⁴
- ❑ Some symbols are defined right in the text. Here are some examples. Tell what each symbol means:
 - Seven stars (Rev. 1:20)
 - Seven candlesticks (Rev. 1:20)
 - Seven lamps of fire (Rev. 4:5 and Isaiah 11:2) – Note: The number 7 often means “complete” or “all”
- ❑ Other symbols are not defined in the text, if they have been defined previously in the Bible. One example of this is “clouds,” which we learned yesterday were a symbol of YHWH’s judgment (see Revelation 1:7). Here are some other examples. Tell what each symbol means:
 - A sharp two-edged sword (Rev. 1:16 and Heb. 4:12)
 - A door (Rev. 4:1 and John 10:7-9, Acts 14:27, 1 Cor. 16:9, 2 Cor. 2:12, Col. 4:3, Rev. 3:8, Rev. 3:20)⁵
 - Twenty-four elders (Rev. 4:4 and Rev. 21:12 and 14)
 - Four beasts around the throne (Rev. 4:6-7 and Ezekiel 1). Note: While Ezekiel 1 seems to be describing the same beasts but in greater detail, it never says exactly what the beasts are.
 - Root of David (Rev. 5:5 and Isaiah 11:10)
 - Lion of the tribe of Judah (Rev. 5:5 and Isaiah 11:10)
 - Lamb as it had been slain (Rev. 5:6 and Isaiah 53:7, 1 Peter 1:19)
 - Horn (Rev. 5:6 and 1 Sam. 2:10, Psalm 132:17, Daniel 8:21)
- ❑ Other symbols just need common sense to interpret. Look up the following in a dictionary:
 - Alpha and Omega (Revelation 1:11)
- ❑ Read **Revelation 5:1-14**.
- ❑ Discuss:
 - In Daniel 12:4, Daniel was told to “shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end.” In Revelation 5:1, John saw a book sealed with seven seals. Who was found worthy to open this book?
 - We will see that the seven seals contain seven judgments on the people of the earth. The seventh seal contains seven “trumpet” judgments, and the seventh trumpet contains seven more “bowls” or “vials” of judgment.

⁴ We use and recommend Webster’s 1828 Dictionary, available free at <http://1828.mshaffer.com/>

⁵ For the sake of time, feel free to only look up a few of these verses.

Day 9

- Read **Revelation 1:4, 1:11**. To whom was John to send the book of Revelation? List the names of the seven cities where these churches are located.
- Read again the “outline” of the book in **Revelation 1:19**. Which part of the outline is covered in the letters to the seven churches?
 - The things which thou hast seen
 - The things which are
 - The things which shall be hereafter
- Read **Revelation 1:12**. What did John see? According to Revelation 1:20, what do the seven candlesticks represent?
- Read **Revelation 1:16**. What did Yeshua hold in his right hand? According to Revelation 1:20, what do the seven stars represent? The word “angels” is the Greek word *aggellos*. This word means “messenger.”⁶ Who do you think these messengers were?
- Optional: Read **Revelation 2 and 3** to discover what Yeshua wanted the seven churches to know.
- Map Study: Seven Churches.** You may wish to use this map to locate the cities that received John’s letter. Try to copy the location of these cities to the map from *Map Trek*, p. 49 (e-book, p. 77).



Day 10

- Read **Revelation 6:1-2**.
- Discuss:
 - John saw a white horse. What do you think the color white symbolizes? (Peace, purity, goodness, and conquest are all possible answers.) Discuss the white flag of surrender, meaning that peace is being sought.
 - Revelation 6:2 talks about a rider. What would this rider be like? (He will hold a bow, which means that he will be a warrior or would be involved in a battle with someone or something. He will be wearing a crown, which tells us that he is a ruler or king.)
 - Therefore, we note that during this period of history, a ruler will conquer something or someone, even though it is a time of peace.

⁶ <http://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongsg=G32&t=KJV>

- When will all of this happen? Review Revelation 1:1, Revelation 1:3, and Revelation 4:1.
- This week we will learn about the *Pax Romana*, which is a Latin term meaning “Roman Peace.” The *Pax Romana* extended from the death of evil Domitian in A.D. 96 to the death of the good emperor Marcus Aurelius in A.D. 180.
- Read ***Revelation Revealed***, pp. 17-18 (“The First Seal”).
- Map Study:** The Roman Empire was at its largest around AD 114. Trace a copy of ***MapTrek***, p. 52 (e-book, p. 81), showing the boundaries of the Roman Empire. You might enjoy comparing it to this online map: <http://www.roman-emperors.org/big100.htm>.

Day 11

- Read **Revelation 6:3-4**.
- Discuss:
 - In Revelation 6:3-4, when Jesus opened the second seal, John saw a red horse. What do you think the color red symbolizes? Blood. We know this because the verse continues, “And power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.”
 - When did all of this happen? The *Pax Romana* is said to have ended with the death of Marcus Aurelius in A.D. 180, because his son Commodus brought Rome into a period of terrible bloodshed, known as the “Period of Disorder” (A.D. 180-280).
- Read ***Revelation Revealed***, pp. 18-19 (“The Second Seal”).

Day 12

- Read **Revelation 6:5-6**.
- Read ***Revelation Revealed***, pp. 19-20 (“The Third Seal”).
- Discuss:
 - Look up **Isaiah 50:2-3** and **Micah 3:6**. Do you see why the black horse symbolizes darkness and depression?
 - How much would a quart of wheat and three quarts of barley cost in our society? If your parents only earned this much money each day, how would your life be different? If everyone in your country was this poor, how would it affect your country?
- Read **Revelation 6:7-8**.
- Read ***Revelation Revealed***, pp. 20-21 (“The Fourth Seal”).

Day 13

- Read **Revelation 6:9-11**.
- Read ***Revelation Revealed***, pp. 21-24 (“The Fifth Seal”).
- Discuss:
 - What happened during the time of the fifth seal? Many souls were killed because of the word of God and their testimony (verse 9)
 - What question did these souls ask God? (verse 10)
 - Note that the persecution of the Christians under Emperor Diocletian was the worst and bloodiest that had yet been known. More Christians died during Diocletian’s reign than all other Christians who had been martyred up to this point. This persecution took place from AD 303 to 313. The emperors felt that because the Christians did not worship the Roman gods, they had caused the wrath of the gods and the problems which were occurring in the empire.

Day 14

- Read **Revelation 6:12-17**.
- Read ***Revelation Revealed***, pp. 24-32 (“The Sixth Seal”).
- Discuss:

- Look up the Greek word translated as “earthquake” in Revelation 6:12. What are some other ways that it can be translated? (You may wish to visit <http://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G4578&t=KJV>)
- Review together:
 - **Earthquake** – a commotion, a great upheaval in matters of government, society, religion, economy, and worldview
 - **Total eclipse of the sun and moon** – the complete removal of Diocletian, the “Invincible Sun” god, and his dual-emperor from power
 - **The stars of the sky falling to earth** – the loss of influence and authority of paganism over the inhabitants of the Roman world
 - **The sky split apart** – another reference to the complete loss of influence of paganism; could be an allusion to the vision Constantine had of a shining cross which split the sky
 - **Every mountain and island moved from its place** – the complete change of provinces, boundaries, seats of authority, and rulers under Diocletian and his successors

Day 15

- Read ***Fire Upon the Earth***, Ch. 4.
- Discuss:
 - If you had been ordered to sacrifice to idols, what things would have made it difficult to refuse and remain faithful to Yeshua? What seemed to help the Christians be courageous?
 - Do you think that Constantine was a genuine believer in Yeshua? Why or why not?

Day 16

- Read ***Fire upon the Earth***, Ch. 5.
- Discuss:
 - The story of Ambrose marks the first time that a Christian bishop had more power than a Roman emperor. Why did the bishop have so much power?

Day 17

- Read **Revelation 7:1-8:6**.
- Discuss:
 - Who are the four angels? The same as the first four angels in Revelation 8:1, who are going to blow trumpets that will “hurt the earth and the sea” (Rev. 7:2).
 - In Revelation 7:1, what is the “wind” referring to? Wars and conquering nations. Read **Daniel 7:2, Jeremiah 49:35-37, Jeremiah 51:1-2**.
 - What does it mean to “seal” the servants of God? To be given the Holy Spirit when they accept Yeshua as Savior. See **Ephesians 4:30** and **2 Corinthians 1:22**.
 - Revelation 7:4-8 says that 12,000 were sealed from “all the tribes of the children of Israel.” Read **Romans 11:1-5** and **25-26**. According to verse 25, when will these verses be completely fulfilled? (when all the Gentiles are “come in”)
 - Revelation 7:9 says that “a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues” were standing before the throne, not just those of the children of Israel. Who is this referring to? (all the Gentiles)
 - In Revelation 7:13, one of the elders asks John, “Who are these” people? What is John’s answer? (see Rev. 7:14)
 - If you’d like, you can read Revelation 21:9-22:21 on your own and see how similar it is to Revelation 7:15-17.
- Read ***Revelation Revealed***, pp. 33-35 (“Revelation 7”).

Day 18

- Read **Revelation 8:6-7**.
- Read **Revelation Revealed**, pp. 37-38 (“Revelation 8”).
- Read **Revelation Revealed**, pp. 38-39 (“The First Trumpet”).
- Read **Revelation 8:8-9**. What do the words “as it were” in verse 8 mean? Was a literal mountain cast into the sea?
- Read **Revelation Revealed**, pp. 39-40 (“The Second Trumpet”).

Day 19

- Read **Revelation 8:10-12**.
- Read **Revelation Revealed**, pp. 40-41 (“The Third Trumpet”).
- Read **Revelation Revealed**, pp. 41-44 (“The Fourth Trumpet”).

Day 20

- Read **Fire upon the Earth**, Ch. 6.
 - In the Eastern Roman Empire, Jerome translated the Scriptures into Latin, which was called *The Vulgate*. Could people in the Western Roman Empire read Latin any longer? Why or why not?
 - What was a pope?
 - What was a monk?

Day 21

- Read **Fire upon the Earth**, Ch. 7.
 - The author wrote that “by monks and monarchs, by saints and by the sword, step by step the whole of northern Europe was brought under the dominion of the Church.” What did he mean by this?
 - What is a missionary? Name the men who were missionaries to Ireland, Scotland, France, and Germany.

Day 22

- Read **Revelation 8:13-9:11**.
- Read **Revelation Revealed**, pp. 44-45 (“The Three Woes”).
- Read **Revelation Revealed**, pp. 47-53 (“The Fifth Trumpet”).
- Read **Revelation 9:13-21**.
- Read **Revelation Revealed**, pp. 53-60 (“The Sixth Trumpet”).

Day 23

- Read **Fire upon the Earth**, Ch. 8.
 - What was feudalism?
 - What was a crusade?

Day 24

- Review **Revelation 9:20-21**.
- Read **Fire upon the Earth**, Ch. 9.

Day 25

- Read **Fire upon the Earth**, Ch. 10.

Worksheet – Daniel’s Statue



image by Arik Elliott

Color each section of the statue Nebuchadnezzar saw in his dream, which Daniel interpreted.
Label with the kingdom each section represented.

- Head – pure gold (Babylon)
- Chest and arms – silver (Persia)
- Belly and thighs – bronze (Greece)
- Legs – iron (Rome)
- Feet – partly of iron and partly of baked clay (Daniel 2:32-33, The Divided Roman Empire)