

This free study guide is made available for use with the book:

Breaking It Down: The Short Version of the Last Days and can be used for personal or group study.

An Answer Key is also provided on page 11. Each answer refers back to a page number from which the question came and where the answer can be found. To get the most out of this study, take time to consider each question on your own before referring to the Answer Key.

May God bless you in your search for truth and the answer to the question: “Can I know where we are on the prophetic timeline?”

With Prayer,
Steve

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5. Understanding Matthew 24's outline allows us to do what with prophetic events?

6. The events in Matthew 24 allow us to know what?

CHAPTER ONE: It Began With Three Questions

1. What three questions began Jesus' teaching on the last days?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

2. What is the first question asked by the disciples?

3. What does the first category of events in this first question tell us?

4. What three events characterize the first category of events?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

5. What does the second category of events tell us?

Study Questions

6. What does Jesus mean when He calls these events the beginning?
7. What events are characterized in this second category?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
 - f.
8. Why does the author believe the "beginning of sorrows" started in 1914?
9. What is the second question asked by the disciples?
10. What events take place during this second question?
 - a.
 - b.
11. What is the sign of Christ's return?
12. When does Jesus return?

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13. What is the third question asked by the disciples?

14. What is the first thing Jesus does after He returns?

15. What is the bottom-line to Jesus' last days teaching?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.

16. Moving through the last days is nothing more than what?

17. According to our chart on page 23, where are we on the prophetic timeline?

CHAPTER TWO: We Can Know When We Are Near

1. What is the key sign letting us know Jesus will return to earth within seven years?

2. What is the lesson of the parable of the fig tree?

Study Questions

3. Why did Jesus refer to the days of Noah?
4. What one main responsibility is given to the faithful and wise?
5. What is the danger of not fulfilling this responsibility in question 4?
6. What should all of life revolve around?

CHAPTER THREE: The Holy Spirit and Matthew 25

1. What is the focus of Matthew 25?
2. What will characterize the church prior to the arrival of the Antichrist?
3. In the parable of the ten virgins, what do they all have in common?
4. What is the main difference between the true and false Christian?

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5. Is it possible to be a Christian without the Holy Spirit?

6. A focus of the parable of the ten talents is on using the gifts given to us through the Holy Spirit. Are you using the gifts/power of the Holy Spirit given to you?

7. The man taking a long journey represents who?

8. The talents represent what?

9. What will Jesus expect when He returns?

10. What happens to the Holy Spirit if He is not active within a person here on earth?

11. How are we judged when Jesus returns?

12. Who is the main focus of our love?

Study Questions

13. Are you prepared to help God's people, just because they are God's people?

14. As persecution and troubles increase, assisting other Christians could be dangerous. Are you up to the task?

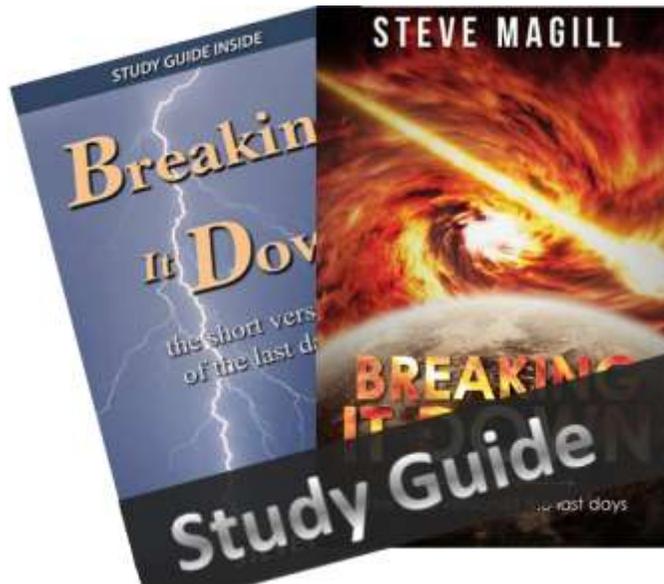
15. Thinking about question 14, do you think God thinks we are up to the task?

CHAPTER FOUR: Considerations

1. What is our hope through Christ?

2. What five things does the author encourage his readers to do?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.

3. The things of prophecy are written to let us know three things:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.



Answer Key

A - Introduction

1. Jesus did not go into long details about the events He spoke of. He taught the ordering and events of the last days in only 28 verses. (p.7)
2. Jesus teaching on the last days gives to us: (p.7)
 - a. a road map for understanding the ordering of last day events
 - b. understanding of where we are on the prophetic timeline
 - c. understanding of how close we are to the appearing of the Antichrist, the return of Christ, and the rapture.
3. Jesus pointed to events that were already part of everyday life (p.8)
4. Jesus' goal for teaching about the last days was to give understanding (p.8).
5. When we understand Matthew 24's outline of the last days, we will have the necessary outline to insert all prophetic events in their proper time period (p.8)
6. The events in Matthew 24 allows us to know how close we are to the appearing of the Antichrist, the return of Christ, and the end of the world (p.9)

A - CHAPTER ONE: It Began With Three Questions

1. a. When will these things take place? (p.11)

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- b. What will be the sign of Christ's return? *(p.11)*
- c. What will be the sign of the end of the world? *(p.12)*
2. When will these things take place? *(p13)*
3. The first category of events do not tell us the end is coming soon, only that the beginning to the end has come *(p14)*
4. a. deception by people saying they are Christ *(p14)*
 - b. wars *(p14)*
 - c. rumors of wars.*(p.14)*
5. The second category of events tells us that we have entered earth's last generation *(p14)*
6. These events will progressively increase like a woman with child whose pregnancy pain and discomfort increases in intensity and frequency until there is great pain and the child is born. *(p15)*.
7. The following events characterize this second category:
 - a. nation against nation *(p.15)*
 - b. kingdom against kingdom *(p.16)*
 - c. famines, diseases, earthquakes *(p.16)*
 - d. persecution *(p.17)*
 - e. the great tribulation *(p.17)*
 - f. the gospel will be taken into all the world *(p.18)*
8. This is when we had the first global war where the dominating world powers aligned themselves with one side or the other. WWI essentially saw the entire world at war *(p.20)*
9. The second question asked by the disciple was "What shall be the sign of Christ's return?" *(p.20)*
10. The sun, moon, stars and all of the heavens are shaken *(p.21)*
 - b. Jesus returns *(p.20)*
11. The sign of Christ's coming is the shaking of the sun, moon, etc. above the earth *(p.21)*
12. Jesus returns immediately after the great tribulation brought by the Antichrist *(p.20)*

13. The third question asked by the disciples was, “What will be the sign of the end (p.21) of the world?”
14. Immediately after Jesus returns, the rapture/gathering by the angels take place (p.21)
15. Here’s the bottom-line to Jesus’ teaching of the last days (p.22)
- a. There are certain events that we are to keep our eyes upon
 - b. These events will continue to increase throughout history
 - c. These events will become so intense and frequent that life will be filled with almost unbearable pressure
 - d. Jesus returns after the reign of terror by the Antichrist—the great tribulation
 - e. After Jesus returns the rapture takes place
16. the increase in frequency and intensity of the events Jesus taught (p.23)
17. According to our chart on page 23, we are presently living at the end of the beginning of sorrows just before the Antichrist appears (p.24)
18. The abomination of desolation is the key sign letting us know that the earth has only seven years before it ends (p.24) The abomination of desolation is the Antichrist.

A - CHAPTER TWO: We Can Know When We Are Near

1. The fig tree lets us know that we can know the generation in which Christ returns, though we do not know the day or hour. (p.26)
2. Jesus taught that in the same way that the people did not listen to the warnings about impending doom, so will the people in the last generation disregard the warnings we give out (p.27)
3. To provide for those of God’s household (p.28)
4. Our focus will not be on the return of Christ and we will not know when Christ is ready to appear (p.28)
5. All of life should revolve around the hope of Christ’s return and not on the pleasures and cares of this life (p.29)

A - CHAPTER THREE: The Holy Spirit and Matthew 25

1. It's focus is on the Holy Spirit (p.31)
2. Deception, departure from the Holy Spirit (p.31)
3. Kept themselves pure, all heard Christ's voice when He returned (p.32)
4. The wise took oil (Holy Spirit) in their vessels (body) with their lamps (spirit). The foolish did not have an actual living part of God to sustain them (p.32)
5. Without the Holy Spirit you cannot be a Christian. See also Romans 8:9 (p.33)
6. Self-Answer (S/A)
7. Jesus (p34)
8. The Holy Spirit and the gifts He brings with Him (p.34)
9. The Holy Spirit and His gifts are to be multiplied within us (p.34)
10. He is removed from the person and given to someone who will let Him develop (p.34)
11. We will be judged based on how we have taken care of those of the household of faith (p.35, 36)
12. God's people (p.36)
13. S/A
14. S/A
15. S/A

A - CHAPTER FOUR: Considerations

1. A better world is coming to those who accept His message and live in relationship with God through the Holy Spirit (p.39)
2. a. Learn about Jesus (p.39)
 - b. Understand what Jesus did for you (p.39)
 - c. Make the decision to choose Christ (p.40)

- d. Live according to His teaching (*p.40*)
 - e. Live with the Holy Spirit (*p.40*)
- 3.
- a. What is coming (*p-40*)
 - b. How it is coming (*p.40*)
 - c. Where our focus is to be during the difficult times to come (*p.40*)
- 4.
- a. To hold tight to the hope of eternal life that is given to all who believe in Jesus Christ (*p.40*)
 - b. Endure whatever we may face (*p.40*)
 - c. Do all within our ability to inform others of the hope that Christ gives (*p.40*)
- 5.
- a. warn others of the danger ahead (*p.41*)
 - b. offer others the hope of Christ (*p.41*)
 - c. get our family in order with Christ (*p.42*)
 - d. remove ourselves from the world system, including religion (*p.42*)
 - e. move toward a living relationship with God through the Holy Spirit (*p.42*)
- 6.
- a. consider carefully Jesus (*p.42*)
 - b. believe His message (*p.42*)
 - c. live in harmony with Christ (*p.42*)
 - d. read the Gospel of Luke to learn more about Jesus (*p.42*)
 - e. talk with God to get to know Him one-on-one (*p.42*)
 - f. live your life without those things that keep you from focusing on the things belonging to God and eternal life (*p.42, 43*)

~ END OF ANSWER KEY ~

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