

# SABBATH SCHOOL

## Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

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Level 4 • Unit 1 • Week 2

### THE SOON COMING RETURN OF JESUS

**OBJECTIVE:**

To teach the student about the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets, including the events before and after the return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the battle of Armageddon.

**ATTENTION GETTER:**

The Feast of Trumpets pictures the very next step in God's master plan of salvation. The blowing of the trumpet will occur just prior to the return of Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:16). Just before Jesus Christ returns, there will be a terrible time of war such as the world has never seen.

Over 8 million military men were killed or died in World War I.

Over 55 million military personnel and civilians were killed or died in World War II.

(From the Microsoft Encarta Encyclopedia)

It's incredible to think how bad the end-time wars and plagues will be. Revelation 9:15 states a third of mankind will be killed. With a current world population of approximately 6 billion, that would total 2 billion killed in that prophesied war alone.

Do: Read Matthew 24:21-22 and discuss.

Before the return of Jesus there will be great tribulation and turmoil; following His return, there will be great peace. After Jesus returns He will teach the nations not to fight anymore.

Do: Read Isaiah 2:4.

## **BIBLE LESSON:**

### **THE BLOWING OF THE TRUMPET**

The ancient Israelites used a shofar, or horn of a ram [use a picture if possible; Level 3, Unit 1, Week 1 has illustrations that could be used], as a trumpet. In Leviticus 23:24 the ancient Israelites had a “memorial of blowing of trumpets.” What does blowing a trumpet have to do with the return of Jesus Christ? Ezekiel 33:1-6 gives us a clue. The watchman blew a trumpet to warn the people of an approaching army. Numbers 10:9 tells us that in ancient Israel trumpets were blown to warn the people of a coming battle. The blowing of a trumpet will announce the return of Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:16). An angel will blow the trumpet (Revelation 8:2; 11:15).

**Do:** Ask the students about what kind of trumpets they have seen. [Ideas: modern trumpet in today’s orchestras, shofar or ram’s horn, long straight trumpet from medieval times, trumpet blown by the U.S. Cavalry.]

### **WHY JESUS MUST RETURN**

Why does Jesus have to return to the earth? One reason is that He must return to remove Satan the devil from the throne, or rulership, of the earth (Revelation 20:2-3). Another reason is that when Jesus Christ returns the “firstfruits” will be resurrected. The “firstfruits” are those with God’s Spirit (true Christians), whether they have already died or are still alive at Jesus’ return.

1 Corinthians 15:20-27 gives us the order of the resurrection. Christ is already risen from the dead (verse 20). He now sits at the right hand of God in heaven. All people must die, but through Jesus Christ all will be made alive again (verse 22). Christ is the first and then those who are Christ’s (have the Holy Spirit) will be resurrected at His coming (verse 23).

### **THE CURRENT RULER OF THIS WORLD**

God placed the great archangel Lucifer on the throne of this earth as ruler. His job was to care for the earth and rule over millions of angels. But Lucifer wasn’t satisfied with just ruling the earth. He wanted to rule over God as well. He tried to overtake God’s throne but was defeated and his name was changed to Satan the devil. God has allowed Satan to still rule this world until today. We can see this by the violence and hatred that exist in our world. We know from this example to never follow Satan’s way of life. When Jesus came to earth the first time, He qualified to become our Savior and to replace Satan as world leader by obeying God instead of Satan (Matthew 4:1-11). Jesus showed us the real way of life—one that leads to happiness.

There are two ways of life—give and get. Satan wanted to “get” God’s throne, but Jesus wants to “give” us eternal life.

**Do:** Have the students tell of other examples of give and get in the world around them.

### **THE FUTURE RULER OF THIS WORLD**

Jesus lived a perfect life of obedience to God and His laws (Hebrews 4:15). Jesus never sinned or broke any of God’s laws or commands. He has set an example for us to follow. That is why we are called Christians, or followers of Christ.

Satan is on the throne of this world now. However, Jesus will soon take over the throne of the earth from Satan the devil. The Feast of Trumpets pictures a time in the future when Jesus will return as “King of kings and Lord of lords” (Revelation 19:11-16). At that time, Jesus will replace Satan and become the ruler of the earth.

#### EVENTS PRIOR TO THE RETURN OF JESUS

Before Jesus returns, many events will happen on earth. As we have seen before, there will be a time of great war. Satan will be angry. The Day of Atonement, which we will study next time, shows us that Satan will be chained in a dark pit after he is removed as ruler of the earth. He knows that he only has a short time left on earth (Revelation 12:12). This final time of Satan’s wrath is known as the Great Tribulation. If God doesn’t stop, or cut short, the Great Tribulation, all of mankind will die (Matthew 24:22). During this time of tribulation just prior to Jesus’ return, God will protect His people from Satan (Revelation 12:14-16).

After the Great Tribulation, God will punish those people who have followed Satan’s way of life. This short period of time is known as the Day of the Lord. God will send plagues on the disobedient and many will die—but they still won’t change and follow God’s way of life.

#### JESUS CHRIST RETURNS

Jesus Christ’s return will be announced by a “shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God” (1 Thessalonians 4:16). “For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.” (Matthew 24:27) At His return, “We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (1 Corinthians 15:51-52). Those people with God’s Spirit, both dead and alive, will be changed into spirit beings.

There will be great joy in heaven. “The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!” (Revelation 11:15). Shouts of joy, alleluia and praise will be heard around God’s throne and throughout heaven (Revelation 19:1-9).

#### THE FINAL WAR

After Jesus returns, Satan will make one last attempt to defeat Him. Satan will influence a great army to fight against Jesus and His resurrected saints. This final battle is known as the Battle of Armageddon.

This battle ends with Jesus and the saints defeating Satan and his worshippers (Revelation 19:19-21). Many disobedient people will die in this battle. This is the end of Satan’s rule and the beginning of true peace and happiness on earth.

#### SUMMARY

The Feast of Trumpets pictures the time of the return of Jesus Christ. Before His return, the world will be in a time of great trouble. Jesus will return at the sound of a great trumpet blast. All of heaven will rejoice during Christ’s return. The “firstfruits,” or those with God’s Holy Spirit, will be resurrected at Christ’s return. Satan and his followers will try to fight Christ and His saints at His return. Christ and

His saints will win the war known as the battle of Armageddon.

**Music:**

Sing to the tune of "On Top of Old Smoky."

At the blast of the trumpet, Jesus comes back.  
Mankind will be frightened, God's Spirit they lack.

At the sound of the trumpet, the saints will arise.  
The rest are left standing, with the sound of their cries.

On top of a mountain, Jesus will land.  
The saints are all with Him, together they stand

Jesus is coming, someday He'll return.  
Mankind will obey Him, God's way they will learn.

**MEMORY VERSE:**

Revelation 19:16 "And He [Jesus] has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."

**LESSON APPLICATION:**

Play Bible Jeopardy (two or more players needed). This game is played like the television game of Jeopardy. The teacher shows the game board below. Each player is allowed to choose a category and dollar amount question. The teacher asks the corresponding question from the question sheet. If the player gets the question right, he/she adds the dollar amount to their total. If the player gets the wrong answer, another player may try for the answer and gets the money if correct. Each player gets one turn per round.

|                                 |                                 |   |                                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>\$10</b><br><b>Trumpets</b>  | <b>\$10</b><br><b>Rulers</b>    | <b>\$10</b><br><b>Events Before</b><br><b>Jesus' Return</b> | <b>\$10</b><br><b>Jesus' Return</b> |
| <b>\$25</b><br><b>Trumpets</b>  | <b>\$25</b><br><b>Rulers</b>    | <b>\$25</b><br><b>Events Before</b><br><b>Jesus' Return</b> | <b>\$25</b><br><b>Jesus' Return</b> |
| <b>\$50</b><br><b>Trumpets</b>  | <b>\$50</b><br><b>Rulers</b>    | <b>\$50</b><br><b>Events Before</b><br><b>Jesus' Return</b> | <b>\$50</b><br><b>Jesus' Return</b> |
| <b>\$10</b><br><b>Final War</b> | <b>\$25</b><br><b>Final War</b> | <b>\$50</b><br><b>Final War</b>                             |                                     |

# QUESTIONS FOR JEOPARDY

## Trumpets

- \$10 – In ancient Israel, the blowing of a trumpet meant what?
- \$25 – Israel used a ram's horn for a trumpet—what was it called?
- \$50 – Who will blow the trumpet at Christ's return?

## Rulers

- \$10 – Who is the ruler of this earth now?
- \$25 – Who will rule the earth after the Battle of Armageddon?
- \$50 – What was Satan's name before he tried to overthrow God?

## Events Before Jesus' Return

- \$10 – Who will be protected from Satan's wrath before Jesus returns?
- \$25 – What is the time of Satan's wrath called?
- \$50 – What is the time of God's anger called?

## Jesus' Return

- \$10 – When Jesus returns, where will there be great joy?
- \$25 – What will happen to those who are dead and had God's Spirit at Jesus' return?
- \$50 – During which trumpet blast will Jesus return?

## Final War

- \$10 – What is the final war called?
- \$25 – Who wins the final war?
- \$50 – Who fights against Jesus and His saints?

# family activity

## THE POINT:

To teach the student about the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets, including the events before and after the return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the battle of Armageddon.

## WORD SEARCH:

Complete the following word search. Words can be found backwards, diagonally, up and down. The remaining letters, in order, spell a secret message.

|           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| FATHER    | R S T N I A S J E S |
| JESUS     | E M U T E P M U R T |
| TRUMPET   | S S O A N G E L W Y |
| SHOFAR    | U I L U L R E T U A |
| RESURRECT | R R N A N T T H E D |
| SAINTS    | R L O V E T L A S Y |
| RETURN    | E J E S U S A T T L |
| MOUNTAIN  | C R A F O H S I R O |
| ANGEL     | T N R U T E R U N H |
| HOLYDAY   | M R E H T A F P E T |
| LOVE      |                     |

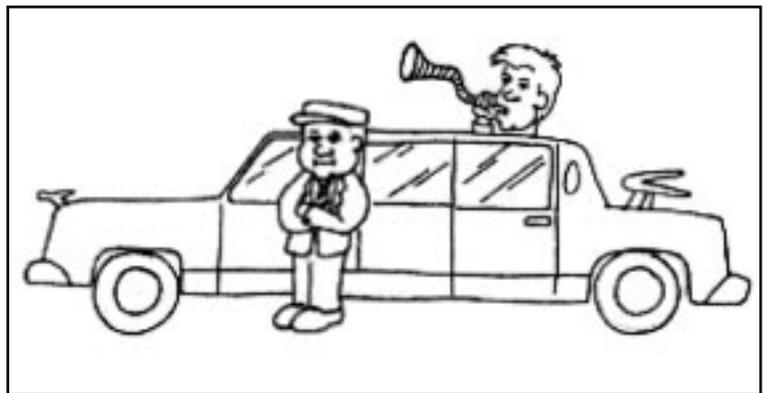
Secret Message: When will Jesus Return?

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## SCRAMBLED WORDS:

Unscramble the words below. Unscramble the circled letters to find the answer to the riddle. The cartoon provides a clue.

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| AEFTS    | □○□□□□   |
| LOYH     | □○□□□    |
| PUMRTSTE | □○□□□□□□ |



Riddle: This man drove him to the auditorium for trumpet practice. Answer: The -----

## MEMORY VERSE:

Revelation 19:16 "And He [Jesus] has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."

# ANSWERS

## JEOPARDY

### Trumpets

- \$10 A warning—either of an approaching army or battle
- \$25 A Shofar
- \$50 An angel

### Rulers

- \$10 Satan
- \$25 Jesus
- \$50 Lucifer

### Events Before Jesus' Return

- \$10 God's people
- \$25 Great Tribulation
- \$50 Day of the Lord

### Jesus' Return

- \$10 Heaven
- \$25 Resurrected
- \$50 Last or seventh trumpet

### Final War

- \$10 Battle of Armageddon
- \$25 Jesus and His saints
- \$50 Satan and his worshippers

## FAMILY ACTIVITY

### WORD SEARCH

Secret Message: When will Jesus Return? JESUS WILL RETURN AT THE LAST TRUMPET!

### SCRAMBLED WORDS

FEAST  
HOLY  
TRUMPETS

Answer to riddle: THE SHOFAR