



**SAVED TO SERVE**  
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**THE SEVEN SEALS - THE SIXTH SEAL, PART 1**

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study the opening of the sixth seal found in the book of Revelation.
2. Let us read Revelation 6:12-17. What is the first event that is mentioned under the sixth seal? Revelation 6:12

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3. On what date did this great earthquake take place? See quotations below. \_\_\_\_\_

"...The revelator thus describes the first of the signs to precede the second advent: "There was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood." Revelation 6:12." {GC 304.1}

"These signs were witnessed before the opening of the nineteenth century. In fulfillment of this prophecy there occurred, in the year 1755, the most terrible earthquake that has ever been recorded. Though commonly known as the earthquake of Lisbon, it extended to the greater part of Europe, Africa, and America. It was felt in Greenland, in the West Indies, in the island of Madeira, in Norway and Sweden, Great Britain and Ireland. It pervaded an extent of not less than four million square miles. In Africa the shock was almost as severe as in Europe. A great part of Algiers was destroyed; and a short distance from Morocco, a village containing eight or ten thousand inhabitants was swallowed up. A vast wave swept over the coast of Spain and Africa engulfing cities and causing great destruction." {GC 304.2}

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Lisbon-earthquake-of-1755>

4. What is the next event that is mentioned under the sixth seal? Revelation 6:12

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5. On what date did the sun become black and the moon become as blood? See quotation below. \_\_\_\_\_

"Twenty-five years later appeared the next sign mentioned in the prophecy—the darkening of the sun and moon. What rendered this more striking was the fact that the time of its fulfillment had been definitely pointed out. In the Saviour's conversation with His disciples upon Olivet, after describing the long period of trial for the church,—the 1260 years of papal persecution, concerning which He had promised that the tribulation should be shortened,—He thus mentioned certain events to precede His coming, and fixed the time when the first of these should be witnessed: "In those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light." Mark 13:24. The 1260 days, or years, terminated in 1798. A quarter of a century earlier, persecution had almost wholly ceased. Following this persecution, according to the words of Christ, the sun was to be darkened. On the 19th of May, 1780, this prophecy was fulfilled." {GC 306.1}

6. What is the next event that is mentioned under the sixth seal? Revelation 6:13

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7. On what date did the stars fall from heaven? See quotation below. \_\_\_\_\_

"In 1833, two years after Miller began to present in public the evidences of Christ's soon coming, the last of the signs appeared which were promised by the Saviour as tokens of His second advent. Said Jesus: "The stars shall fall from heaven." Matthew 24:29. And John in the Revelation declared, as he beheld in vision the scenes that should herald the day of God: "The stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind." Revelation 6:13. This prophecy received a striking and impressive fulfillment in the great meteoric shower of November 13, 1833. That was the most extensive and wonderful display of falling stars which has ever been recorded; "the whole firmament, over all the United States, being then, for hours, in fiery commotion! No celestial phenomenon has ever occurred in this country, since its first settlement, which was viewed with such intense admiration by one class in the community, or with so much dread and alarm by another." "Its sublimity and awful beauty still linger in many minds.... Never did rain fall much thicker than the meteors fell toward the earth; east, west, north, and south, it was the same. In a word, the whole heavens seemed in motion.... The display, as described in Professor Silliman's Journal, was seen all over North America.... From two o'clock until broad daylight, the sky being perfectly serene and cloudless, an incessant play of dazzlingly brilliant luminosities was kept up in the whole heavens."—R. M. Devens, American Progress; or, The Great Events of the Greatest Century, ch. 28, pars. 1-5." {GC 333.1}

8. What should have been the following event after the falling of the stars in 1833? Revelation 6:14-17
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9. After the signs in the sun, moon, and stars, Luke 21:25-26 brings to view more events that will transpire before Jesus returns. What events were to take place after the falling of the stars according to Luke 21:25?
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10. When did we see distress of nations on the earth following 1833? Answer: The Revolutions of 1848, World War I, & World War II

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Revolutions-of-1848> (European history)

<https://www.britannica.com/event/World-War-I> (1914–1918)

<https://www.britannica.com/event/World-War-II> (1939–1945)

11. There are many examples of calamities that have been caused by the sea leading up to our present day (i.e. hurricanes, floods, tsunamis, earthquakes). Luke 21:26 mentions that men's hearts will be failing them for fear. The number for the word "fear" in the Greek portion of the Strong's Exhaustive Concordance is 5401 - it means "terror." What event on U.S. soil began the rise of terrorism on a global scale? Answer: The terror attacks on the Twin Towers on 9/11/2001.
12. Note: The powers of heaven that will be shaken, according to Luke 21:26, 27, refer to the sun, moon, and stars being moved out of their places by the voice of God just before the Second Coming of Jesus. For confirmation, compare Luke 21:26-27 with Revelation 16:17-18, 20 and Revelation 6:14. Also read Early Writings page 41, paragraphs 1 and 2.
13. Since all of these aforementioned events have been fulfilled, why has Jesus delayed His coming? Revelation 7:1-3
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14. Note: In the next lesson, we will look at Revelation 7 and identify what the Seal of God is and the experience needed to be sealed.

15. Going back to Revelation 6, the sixth seal states that the stars would fall. What is another application of the stars falling? Answer: Stars represent people (Genesis 37:9-10; Daniel 12:3)

"The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us. Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. In this time the gold will be separated from the dross in the church. True godliness will be clearly distinguished from the appearance and tinsel of it. Many a star that we have admired for its brilliancy will then go out in darkness. Chaff like a cloud will be borne away on the wind, even from places where we see only floors of rich wheat. All who assume the ornaments of the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ's righteousness, will appear in the shame of their own nakedness." {5T 81.1}

16. Read Revelation 6:13. The stars falling from heaven are compared to a fig tree. What causes the fig tree to cast off her untimely figs?
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17. Those who fall away from the truth will depart because they will be shaken out. What are some reasons why they will leave God and His truth? Ephesians 4:14; Matthew 7:26-27 compared with Romans 9:27; Mark 4:16-19
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18. Read Revelation 6:15-16. List the classes of people that are mentioned there who will be running from Jesus.
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19. Why will they be running and hiding from Jesus at His Second Coming? Revelation 13:16-17
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20. Note: When Jesus returns the second time, people from all ranks and walks of life will seek to hide FROM His presence because they failed to hide IN Him during this probationary time on earth. The account of Moses is a perfect parallel showing us why the wicked will run from Jesus' presence and why the righteous will finally be able to see Jesus face to face.

21. What did Moses request of God? Exodus 33:18 \_\_\_\_\_

22. What is God's glory? Exodus 33:19; 34:5-7 \_\_\_\_\_

23. Where was Moses to stand? Where did God say He would place Moses? Exodus 33:20-22  
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24. Note: In Revelation 6:16, the wicked will be calling for the rocks to hide them from the face of Jesus because, unlike Moses, they failed to be hid in Christ and receive His character while on earth. Let us now understand what it means to stand ON the rock (Jesus) and to be hid IN the rock (Jesus).

25. What does it mean to stand ON the rock?

a) Matthew 7:24-25 \_\_\_\_\_

b) Colossians 2:6-8 \_\_\_\_\_

26. What does it mean to be hid IN the rock?

a) Colossians 3:1-6 \_\_\_\_\_

b) Psalm 27:1-5; Psalm 32:7 \_\_\_\_\_

27. Read Revelation 6:17. The question is asked, "who shall be able to stand?" What answer does the Bible give? Psalm 24:3-6; 130:3-4; Malachi 3:2-3

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