



# Lesson 6



Ask God the Holy Spirit to teach you the key to understanding Revelation.

This lesson introduces our eternal God and helps organize the book of Revelation for careful study.



## GOD'S OUTLINE

### **A. TIME AND ETERNITY**

Do you remember what it was like the day you were born? Of course you don't, you were a brand new baby, too little to remember anything. Your mother probably went to the hospital where she did a lot of hard work and you, when you finally arrived, did a lot of crying. It was your first day on earth; the humble beginning of your life's story.

At first your story was told in seconds. As you grew, the moments of your life became days, which turned into months and then years. Time always moves forward, the future becomes the present and the present turns into the past.

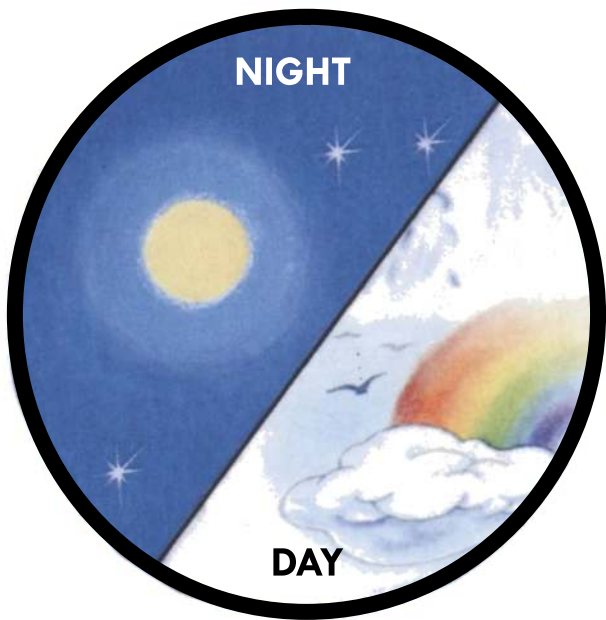


*Time Flies.*

Time flies when you're having fun.

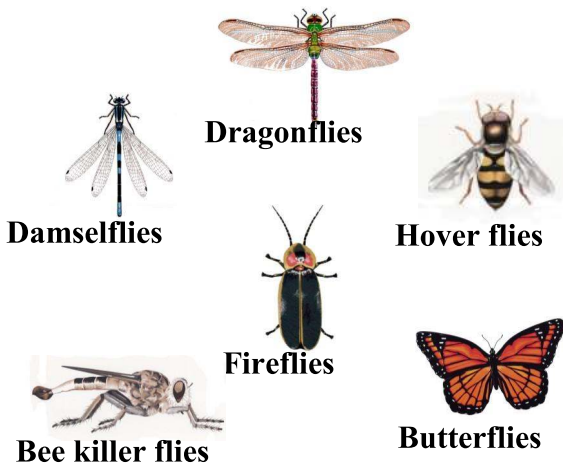
Today is the tomorrow we talked about yesterday.





The word time comes from an ancient word meaning “to divide up”. When God created the sun and moon, He divided light from darkness so man could tell one day from another. God also gave us seasons to divide our days into months and years. He knew His creatures would need a way to measure the passing moments of their lives so He designed and established time.

## Do you have . . .



Then God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years. Genesis 1:14

God is not like man: He is timeless. He was not born and He can never die—He is eternal. With God there is no past (yesterday), present (today) or future (tomorrow); to Him everything is one timeless whole.

Time is fun when you're having flies.

## OR . . .



Before the mountains were born, or Thou didst give birth to the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God. For a thousand years in Thy sight are like yesterday when it passes by. Psalm 90:2,



## GOD'S WORD

Because there is no time with God, He is always there and knows everything all at once. Anyone interested in knowing the past can trust God's Word because He was there. Anyone interested in knowing the future can trust God's Word because He is there too. And... God's Word, sometimes called Scripture, is written in the Bible. It reveals everything we need to know about the past, present and future – without error. There is no other book on earth or in heaven like the Bible.



Thy word is truth. John 17:17

Thy word is very pure, Therefore Thy servant loves it. The sum of Thy word is truth. Psalm 119:140, 160

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.  
II Timothy 3:16, 17



Anyone can understand  
the Bible

Anyone, any age, can understand the Bible because its text is clear and makes plain sense. In many passages the Bible explains itself. For example, in our study of Revelation, God gives us a key to understanding the entire book. It is an outline which shows Revelation's three major divisions and their relationship to time.



Write, therefore the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall take place after these things. Revelation 1:19



In this key verse God tells John to write his eye witness account of past events – “the things which you have seen”; present events – “the things which are”; and future events – “the things which shall take place after these things.” This lesson uses God’s outline to divide Revelation into past, present and future events. With that framework it’s easier to understand The Revelation of Jesus Christ, God’s final written word to man.