Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on The Cosmic Conflict. Today’s topic: EARTH’S CLOSING EVENTS.

1. Truth that sets us free
   a) In the great battle between truth and error, how did Jesus describe Satan, the arch enemy? John 8:44
   b) In contrast, how did Jesus describe Himself? John 14:6
   c) Why does truth matter? John 8:32
   d) Where can we discover truth? John 17:17, Psalm 119:105,130,160, 1 Peter 1:16-21, John 16:13, etc.
   e) Reflect on the following quotation from The Great Controversy: “None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict.” GC 593

2. The Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast
   a) Revelation 7:1-2, 14:1
   b) Ephesians 4:30 What is the relationship between being sealed by the Holy Spirit and honoring God in every aspect of our lives? (John 14:15-17)
   c) Exodus 20:8-11 What is the significance of the Sabbath for those who have chosen to worship God and recognize His authority over their lives? (See also Revelation 4:11, 14:12)
   d) Revelation 14:6-7 How does the message of the First Angel reaffirm the importance of the Sabbath truth?
   e) Revelation 13:16-17 What is the Mark of the Beast power, the seal of its authority?
   f) Explain why the Mark of the Beast can be received on the right hand or the forehead, but the Seal of God can only be received on the forehead.
   g) If we are saved by grace through faith, why is it important to share the truth about God’s holy Sabbath day with others?
   h) When will the Sabbath become a testing issue for faithful followers of Jesus? Revelation 13:13-17

3. Empowered by the Holy Spirit
   a) Joel 2:21-24 What important message was the prophet Joel giving when he spoke about the former rain and the latter rain? (See also Joel 2:28-29)
   b) What testimony did the apostle Peter give on the Day of Pentecost? Acts 1:8, 2:1-4, 14-18
   c) How did empowerment by the Holy Spirit impact the witness of the early Christians? Acts 2:41-47, 6:6-7, 8:4, 17:6, etc.
   d) Why is it important to pray for the latter rain? Zechariah 4:6, 10:1
   e) What will the Holy Spirit accomplish through empowered followers of Jesus? Revelation 18:1-4, Habakkuk 2:14, Matthew 24:14, etc.
   f) What personal preparation can we make to receive the latter rain of the Holy Spirit?