

THE CHURCH OF GOD



The Moon as a Witness to the Coming Kingdom of Christ

A Bible Study Guide

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THE CHURCH OF GOD

*"It shall be established forever like the moon,
even like the faithful witness in the sky."*

— Psalm 89:37 (NKJV)



How to Use This Study

This study is designed for your Bible study group to work through together at your own pace. There's no rush. Each section gives you Scripture passages to look up and read aloud together, followed by commentary and study helps to guide your discussion. You don't need any special background or preparation — just bring your Bible and a willing heart.

Take your time. Let the Word speak. When you come to the passage lists, have someone in the group look each one up and read it out loud. Then walk through the commentary together. Use the discussion questions to go deeper — and don't be afraid to sit with the hard ones. Some of the best moments in Bible study come from the questions nobody has an easy answer for.

Let's begin where God began — at creation.



"Look Up: Humanity Reaches for the Moon"

We are living in a remarkable moment. Humanity is reaching for the moon again — and this time, the goal is to stay.

NASA's Artemis I launched on November 16, 2022 — an uncrewed test flight that sent the Orion spacecraft on a 1.4-million-mile journey around the moon and back. It was a proving flight, and it succeeded. Then, just weeks ago, on April 1, 2026, Artemis II carried four astronauts on a crewed flyby of the moon — the first time human beings have traveled to lunar distance since Apollo 17 in December 1972. That's more than fifty years. Artemis III is planned for 2027 to test a lunar lander in orbit, and Artemis IV in 2028 aims to put boots back on the lunar surface, with plans for a permanent base to follow.

Humanity is reaching for the moon. But long before any rocket left the launch pad, God placed the moon in the sky for a purpose far greater than exploration. He made it a sign, a timekeeper, and a witness.

Let's open our Bibles and see what God says about why He put the moon there.

Passages to Look Up and Read Aloud:

1. **Genesis 1:14–18** — The creation of the lights in the heavens
2. **Psalms 136:7–9** — Praise for God's great works in creation

Commentary & Study Helps

Genesis 1:14–18 — God created the "lesser light" to rule the night. But I want you to notice the language in verse 14 carefully — the lights are for "*signs*" (Hebrew: **אוֹת**, *ot* — a signal, a marker, an omen), "*seasons*" (Hebrew: **מוֹעֲדִים**, *moedim* — appointed times, divine appointments), "*days and years.*" The moon was never merely decorative. From the first week of creation, God assigned it a prophetic purpose: to mark His calendar and signal His plans.

Psalms 136:7–9 — This is a praise psalm — the moon is listed among God's great works. And notice the refrain: "*His mercy endures forever.*" That refrain ties creation to covenant. The same God who set the moon in its place is the God whose faithfulness never fails. When we see the moon, we see a monument to mercy.

Discussion Helps

- What does it tell us that God assigned the moon a purpose before He ever created mankind?

- How does knowing the Hebrew word *moedim* (appointed times) change how you think about the moon's role?
- Humanity is spending billions to reach the moon. What did God intend it for?



"The Faithful Witness in the Sky"



God didn't just create the moon — He gave it a job. In one of the most remarkable passages in all of Scripture, God calls the moon a "witness" to His covenant with David. And that covenant points directly to Christ's eternal Kingdom. Let's look at it together.

Passages to Look Up and Read Aloud:

1. **2 Samuel 7:12-16** — God's covenant promise to David
2. **Psalms 89:34-37** — The moon established as a witness
3. **Jeremiah 33:20-26** — The covenant tied to day and night
4. **Luke 1:31-33** — Gabriel's announcement to Mary

Commentary & Study Helps

2 Samuel 7:12-16 — This is God's covenant with David — a descendant will sit on his throne, and that kingdom will be established *forever*. This is the Davidic covenant, one of the most important promises in all of Scripture. Everything that follows in the prophets, in the Psalms, and in the New Testament rests on these verses. God made David a promise, and God does not break His word.

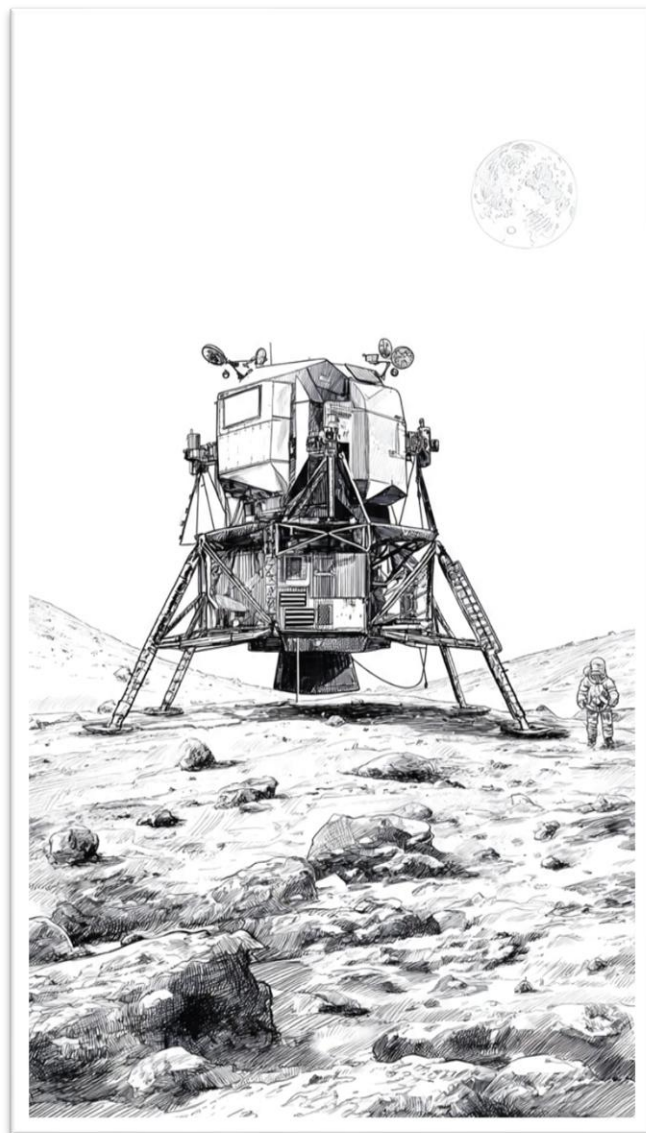
Psalms 89:34-37 — Now look at how God *guarantees* this promise. He swears by His holiness (v. 35). David's throne will endure "like the sun" and be "established forever like the moon" (v. 37). And then comes this stunning phrase: "*the faithful witness in the sky*." The Hebrew is **עֵד בַּשָּׁמַיִם** (*ed ba-shachaq*) — a legal witness in the heights. Think about that. Every night the moon rises, it is God's testimony that the Davidic covenant — fulfilled in Christ — still stands. The moon is not just a light. It is a witness on the stand.

Jeremiah 33:20-26 — God ties His covenant with David to His covenant with day and night. He says: if you can break the cycle of day and night, *then* — and only then — can God's promise to David be broken. Look outside tonight. The moon is still there. The covenant still stands.

Luke 1:31-33 — The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that her Son will receive "*the throne of His father David*" and "*of His kingdom there will be no end*." This is the direct fulfillment of 2 Samuel 7. The moon has been witnessing this promise for thousands of years — and it was fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Every word God spoke to David came true in a manger in Bethlehem.

Discussion Helps

- Why do you think God chose the moon — not a mountain, not a monument — as the witness to David's covenant?
- What does it mean to you personally that God swore by His own holiness?
- How does connecting Luke 1:31–33 back to 2 Samuel 7 strengthen your confidence in God's promises?



"Communion on the Moon"

On July 20, 1969, the Apollo 11 lunar module *Eagle* touched down on the Sea of Tranquility. Before Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin took their historic first steps on the surface, something remarkable happened inside that cramped cabin — something most people have never heard about.

Buzz Aldrin was an elder at Webster Presbyterian Church in Webster, Texas. Before the mission, he asked his pastor to consecrate a communion wafer and a small vial of wine. He carried them to the moon. In those first quiet minutes on the lunar surface, Aldrin radioed back to Earth:

"I'd like to take this opportunity to ask every person listening in, whoever and wherever they may be, to pause for a moment and contemplate the events of the past few hours and to give thanks in his or her own way."

— Buzz Aldrin, from the lunar surface, July 20, 1969

Then he ended radio communication. In the silence of the moon, 250,000 miles from home, he poured the wine into a small chalice his church had given him. In the one-sixth gravity, the wine curled slowly and gracefully up the side of the cup. He read from John 15:5 and took communion.

NASA had asked him not to broadcast it — but it happened. The Lord's Supper was observed on the very body God had appointed as His faithful witness in the sky.

Passages to Look Up and Read Aloud:

1. **John 15:5** — The verse Aldrin read on the moon
2. **1 Corinthians 11:23-26** — The institution of the Lord's Supper
3. **Psalms 19:1-4** — The heavens declare the glory of God

Commentary & Study Helps

John 15:5 — This is the verse Aldrin read on the moon: *"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."* On the most barren, lifeless surface humans had ever stood upon, a man proclaimed his utter dependence on Jesus Christ as the source of all life. Think about that. No atmosphere. No water. No soil. Nothing grows there. And a man read, *"Without Me you can do nothing."* He understood.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 — Paul says that every time we take communion, we *"proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."* Aldrin proclaimed the Lord's death on the very surface of God's covenant witness. The moon, the Lord's Supper, and the promise of Christ's return all converged in one extraordinary moment in July 1969. Communion always points backward

to the cross and forward to the coming Kingdom — and that night, it did so on the face of God's faithful witness.

Psalm 19:1-4 — *"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork."* The moon doesn't speak with words — but its testimony reaches the whole earth. And on that night in 1969, it witnessed something it had never witnessed before: a son of Adam breaking bread in remembrance of the Son of God, on its own silent surface.

🗨 Discussion Helps

- • Why do you think Aldrin felt compelled to take communion on the moon rather than simply pray?
- • What does it mean that communion proclaims the Lord's death *"till He comes"*? How does that connect to the moon as a witness?
- • Has there been a moment in your life where you felt you needed to mark something with worship, not just words?



"God's Prophetic Timekeeper"

The moon isn't just a witness — it's God's calendar. Every appointed time in Scripture, every feast, every prophetic marker was set by the lunar cycle. When God wanted to schedule an appointment with His people, He used the moon.

Passages to Look Up and Read Aloud:

1. **Leviticus 23:1-2, 4-5** — God's appointed feasts declared
2. **Psalms 104:19** — The moon appointed for seasons
3. **Colossians 2:16-17** — Shadows of things to come

Commentary & Study Helps

Leviticus 23:1-2, 4-5 — *"The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts."* Now notice something important — these are not "Jewish holidays." God calls them *"My feasts."* They belong to Him. And every one of them — Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, Atonement, Tabernacles — is set by the lunar calendar. The moon determines when God's appointed times occur. He wrote His schedule in the sky.

Psalms 104:19 — *"He appointed the moon for seasons."* And there it is again — the same word from Genesis 1:14: *moedim*. Divine appointments. The moon marks God's calendar with a faithfulness that has never wavered.

Colossians 2:16-17 — Paul calls the festivals, new moons, and Sabbaths *"a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ."* Now, a shadow proves the real thing exists. You don't have a shadow without a body casting it. The feasts aren't empty rituals — they are prophetic previews. And the moon scheduled every one of them.

Additional Teaching Note — The Feasts Fulfilled on Schedule

Here's what's remarkable — the spring feasts were **all fulfilled by Christ precisely on their lunar-appointed dates:**

- **Passover** — Jesus was crucified on Passover.
- **Unleavened Bread** — He was buried on the Feast of Unleavened Bread.
- **Firstfruits** — He rose from the dead on the Feast of Firstfruits.
- **Pentecost** — The Holy Spirit was poured out on the Feast of Pentecost.

The moon kept perfect time. Not one appointment was missed.

The fall feasts — **Trumpets, Atonement, and Tabernacles** — remain unfulfilled. Many believe they will be fulfilled at Christ's return, again on their exact lunar-appointed dates. The moon is still keeping time.

🗨 Discussion Helps

- • What does it mean to you that God calls these "*My feasts*" and not simply Israel's feasts?
- • If the spring feasts were fulfilled on their exact dates, what does that suggest about the fall feasts?
- • How does the moon as God's "timekeeper" affect how you view prophetic events still to come?



"The Moon Turned to Blood"

Now we come to the passages that have captured imaginations for centuries. The prophets speak of a day when the moon will be *"turned to blood"* — and they tie it directly to the coming Day of the Lord. Let's look at these together carefully.

Passages to Look Up and Read Aloud:

1. **Joel 2:28-32** — The Day of the Lord foretold
2. **Acts 2:16-21** — Peter quotes Joel at Pentecost
3. **Matthew 24:29-30** — Jesus describes the signs of His coming
4. **Revelation 6:12-14** — The opening of the sixth seal

Commentary & Study Helps

Joel 2:28-32 — Joel prophesies that before *"the great and awesome day of the LORD,"* God will show *"wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood."* This is cosmic-scale prophecy. The whole creation will bear witness. But notice how Joel *ends*: *"Whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."* Even in the midst of fearsome signs, there is an invitation of grace. That's our God.

Acts 2:16-21 — Peter, on the Day of Pentecost, quotes Joel's prophecy directly. The Spirit had just fallen, tongues of fire had appeared, and Peter declares: *"This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel."* The outpouring of the Spirit was the *beginning* of Joel's prophecy — but the blood moons and the Day of the Lord are still ahead. Joel's prophecy stretches across the entire church age. We are living inside it right now.

Matthew 24:29-30 — Jesus Himself says: *"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light... Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven."* The darkened moon is a herald — Christ is about to appear. The faithful witness signals one final time.

Revelation 6:12-14 — The sixth seal: *"The sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood."* John's vision echoes Joel, echoes Jesus, echoes the prophets — they are all describing the same climactic moment. The prophets saw it from afar. Jesus confirmed it. John saw it in vision. The testimony is unified and certain.

Additional Teaching Note — The Blood Moon Tetrad of 2014-2015

In 2014 and 2015, a tetrad of four total lunar eclipses — blood moons — occurred on Jewish feast days:

Date	Feast Day	Note
April 15, 2014	Passover	First blood moon of the tetrad
October 8, 2014	Feast of Tabernacles	Second blood moon
April 4, 2015	Passover	Third blood moon
September 28, 2015	Feast of Tabernacles	Fourth blood moon — also a Super Moon

Two solar eclipses also fell during this period — one on the day before the Hebrew new year (March 20, 2015) and one the day before the Feast of Trumpets (September 13, 2015).

This pattern has historical parallels: blood moon tetrads fell on Jewish feasts in **1949-50** (Israel's rebirth as a nation) and **1967-68** (the Six-Day War and the recapture of Jerusalem). Whether these are direct fulfillments or foreshadowings, they demonstrate that the moon continues to mark God's calendar with precision.

 **Discussion Helps**

- • Joel's prophecy spans from Pentecost to the Day of the Lord. What does that tell us about the age we're living in right now?
- • Why do you think God uses the moon — specifically turning it to blood — as a sign of the end?
- • How does Joel's invitation ("*whoever calls on the name of the LORD*") sit alongside the fearsome imagery? What does that balance tell us about God?
- • What is your response to the blood moon tetrads falling on Jewish feast days? Coincidence, foreshadowing, or fulfillment?



"When the Moon Is No More"



We've traced the moon from creation to covenant to communion to calendar to crisis. Now we come to the end of the story — and it's the most glorious part. There is a day coming when the moon will no longer be needed. Not because it failed, but because something greater has arrived.

Passages to Look Up and Read Aloud:

1. **Isaiah 24:23** — The moon disgraced by greater glory
2. **Isaiah 60:19-20** — The Lord as everlasting light
3. **Revelation 21:22-25** — The city that needs no moon
4. **Revelation 22:5** — No night there

Commentary & Study Helps

Isaiah 24:23 — *"The moon will be disgraced and the sun ashamed; for the LORD of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem and before His elders, gloriously."* The moon won't be *destroyed* — it will be *outshone*. The glory of God's visible, personal reign will make every created light pale by comparison. Imagine a candle next to the sun. That's what every star, every moon, every light in the universe will be next to the unveiled glory of the living God.

Isaiah 60:19-20 — *"The sun shall no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you; but the LORD will be to you an everlasting light, and your God your glory."* This is the Kingdom fully realized. No more shadows. No more types. No more signs pointing forward — because what they pointed to has finally, fully arrived.

Revelation 21:22-25 — *"The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light."* The faithful witness in the sky has completed its testimony. The moon witnessed the covenant, kept the calendar, signaled the end — and now the Lamb Himself is the light. The witness can rest. The One it testified about has taken His throne.

Revelation 22:5 — *"There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever."* The final word. No night. No moon needed. God's people reigning in His light forever. This is where the whole story has been heading since Genesis 1:14.

Discussion Helps

- What does it mean that the moon will be "disgraced" — not destroyed, but outshone?
- How does tracing the moon's role from Genesis to Revelation change how you see God's plan?
- Tonight, when you see the moon, what will you think about?



Look Up



*"Now when these things begin to happen,
look up and lift up your heads,
because your redemption draws near."*

— Luke 21:28 (NKJV)

The moon has been faithful. From the first night it rose over Eden to this very evening, it has kept God's time, witnessed God's covenant, and signaled God's plan. It watched communion served on its surface. It has turned to blood on God's appointed feast days. And one day, it will yield its light to the glory of the Lamb.

Until then — look up. Your redemption draws near.

The next time the moon rises over Summerville, over your back porch, over the trees in your yard — remember what it is. It is not just a light in the sky. It is a faithful witness. It has been testifying about Jesus Christ since the day God hung it in the heavens. And it will keep testifying until the day He comes.



Maranatha — Come, Lord Jesus.

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A Closing Prayer

Father, we thank You. We thank You for the moon — for setting it in the sky not just to light the night, but to testify. To keep Your time. To witness Your covenant. To remind us, every single night, that Your promises have not failed and never will.

Thank You for the covenant You made with David, fulfilled in Your Son Jesus Christ. Thank You that His Kingdom will have no end. Thank You that the same faithfulness that keeps the moon in its course keeps every promise You have ever spoken.

Lord, we look up. We lift our heads. We watch and we wait. Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Until You do, help us to be faithful witnesses, too — just like the moon You set in the sky.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.



Notes

*"The heavens declare the glory of God;
and the firmament shows His handiwork."*

— Psalm 19:1 (NKJV)

Notes

*"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge
of the glory of the LORD,
as the waters cover the sea."*

— Habakkuk 2:14 (NKJV)



“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.”

Psalms 19:1