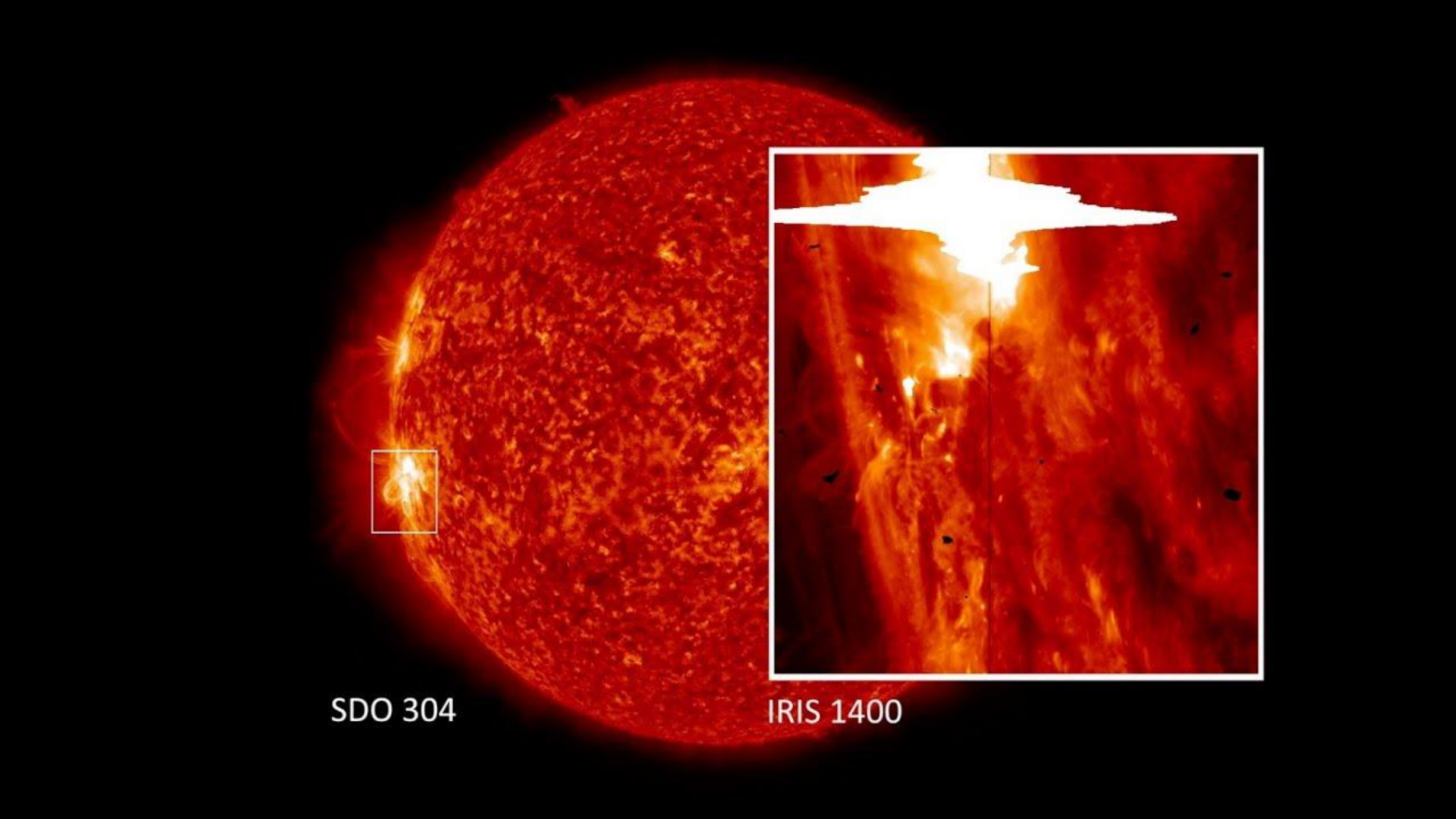
SDO 304
IRIS 1400

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,020
[music]

2
00:00:04,040 --> 00:00:08,050
NASA's new IRIS telescope keeps a close watch on small

3
00:00:08,070 --> 00:00:12,130
areas of the Sun at a time. On January 28th,

4
00:00:12,150 --> 00:00:16,210
2014, IRIS caught a huge burst of X-ray light,

5
00:00:16,230 --> 00:00:20,310
a solar flare. This is the largest flare IRIS has seen so far.

6
00:00:20,330 --> 00:00:24,370
IRIS peers into a dynamic region of the Sun called the chromosphere,

7
00:00:24,390 --> 00:00:28,390
better than has ever been done before. The moving vertical

8
00:00:28,410 --> 00:00:32,470
line on the images is part of an instrument that allows scientists to look

9
00:00:32,490 --> 00:00:36,530
at specific temperatures of solar material at a time. That kind of individualized

10
00:00:36,550 --> 00:00:40,580
temperature data is called spectra, and scientists can use it to map how the

11
00:00:40,600 --> 00:00:44,620
material in the flare is moving around in unprecedented detail.

12
00:00:44,640 --> 00:00:48,700
[beep beep... beep beep...]