

THE 50 FINAL EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

THE BIBLE'S LAST WORDS
ON EARTH'S FINAL DAYS

A hand is shown from the bottom left, cupping the Earth. The Earth is partially illuminated by a bright light source, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a deep black space filled with stars and a faint nebula. The text 'DISCUSSION GUIDE' is centered within a light blue rectangular box that overlaps the hand and the Earth.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

I'm convinced a phenomenal pattern is about to unfold. World events aren't lurching into chaos; they are moving toward culmination and consummation. There's hope for tomorrow, and there's hope for you and yours. The cascading flow of crises is merging with the outlines of Bible prophecy, like two mighty rivers crashing into each other and coalescing into an unstoppable flood. For the children of God, this isn't a flood that will sweep us away. It will lift us up!

In these last days, when breaking news hits us at the speed of light, it's vital to understand scriptural prophecy and to have a firm grasp on the Bible's last words about earth's final days. We need to understand the contents of the book of Revelation, which opens with these words: The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place (1:1).

Nothing is more exciting than knowing tomorrow in advance, especially when tomorrow is hurtling toward us with unprecedented trouble. How exhilarating to stand on the precipice of prophecy, peering through the mist into the mysterious days predicted in the Bible's final book!

Since prophecy is a subject that interests God and occupies His Word, it should intrigue our minds and thrill our hearts, especially in these tense days. All the other books of the Bible lead to Revelation. It's how God chose to conclude Holy Scripture.

As you study the book of Revelation, don't be surprised by the myriad of views you'll find. It's the final course in God's curriculum of Scripture. It's graduate school in the classroom of His Word. Like no book ever written, it points to the future with visual and visceral language.

In *The 50 Final Events in World History*, I've sought to make the flow of material in Revelation simple enough for a middle schooler or a beginning Bible student. With the right approach, Revelation loses some of its perplexity but none of its marvel and mystery. I've read some complicated explanations of Revelation, packed with enigmatic insights from brilliant scholars. But I often find myself thinking, If this book is written for millions of everyday, sincere students of the Bible, isn't it best to embrace the most natural reading?

The most natural reading, it seems to me, simply takes each verse in turn, each scene as it comes, and each chapter, one after another, and follows the flow of events from the opening scene in heaven in **Revelation 4–5** to our eternal home in heaven in **Revelation 21–22**. The intervening chapters—**Revelation 8–20**—tell us what will happen in stages.

Revelation is a book for every believer. It may be the deep end of the pool, but those who study it develop a natural buoyancy.

I love the book of Revelation because it's about Jesus, and it's about tomorrow, which is right on schedule. Great blessings come into our lives when we devote our attention to the incredible 404 verses that make up Revelation.

Let's claim these blessings as we move through the pages of Revelation and discover God's prophetic road map for the coming days of adventure and apocalypse, which will soon engulf our world and usher in the endless ages of eternity.

-ROBERT J. MORGAN

PROLOGUE

- A. What is the significance of the title of the final book in the Bible, Revelation?
- B. As the author explains God's purpose for Revelation on page 11, how does it impact your perception of the book?
- C. Revelation 1:1 uses the word soon concerning the things that must take place. How does the author explain its meaning in this context?
- D. Describe the chain of transmission found in the first two verses of the book of Revelation.
- E. Discuss the blessings associated with reading and studying Revelation. How do they specifically apply to your life today?
- F. What does the author mean on page 14, when he refers to the Trinitarian nature of John's greeting?
- G. Why is the Holy Spirit referred to as the seven spirits before his throne?
- H. The book of Revelation is filled with praise and worship. Look at chapter 1 verse 7 for example, what can we learn about the Lord's return?
- I. Compare descriptions of John's visions in Revelation with Old Testament visions found in Daniel, Isaiah, and Ezekiel.
- J. How does Jesus want us to respond to the revelations found in this book?



MESSAGES TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES

A. Why did Jesus write the epistles (letters) to the seven churches?

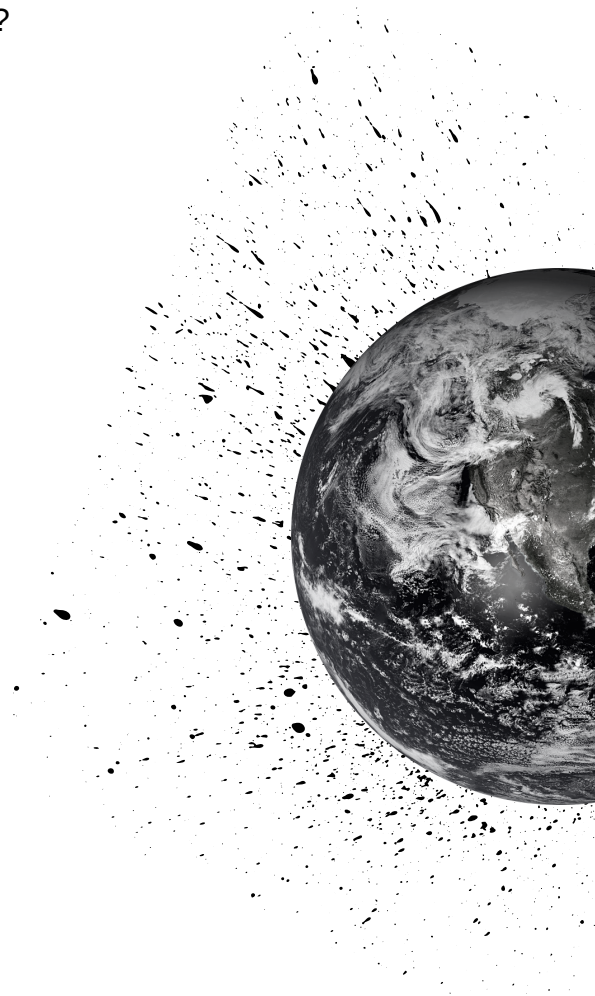
B. What was John's role related to the epistles?

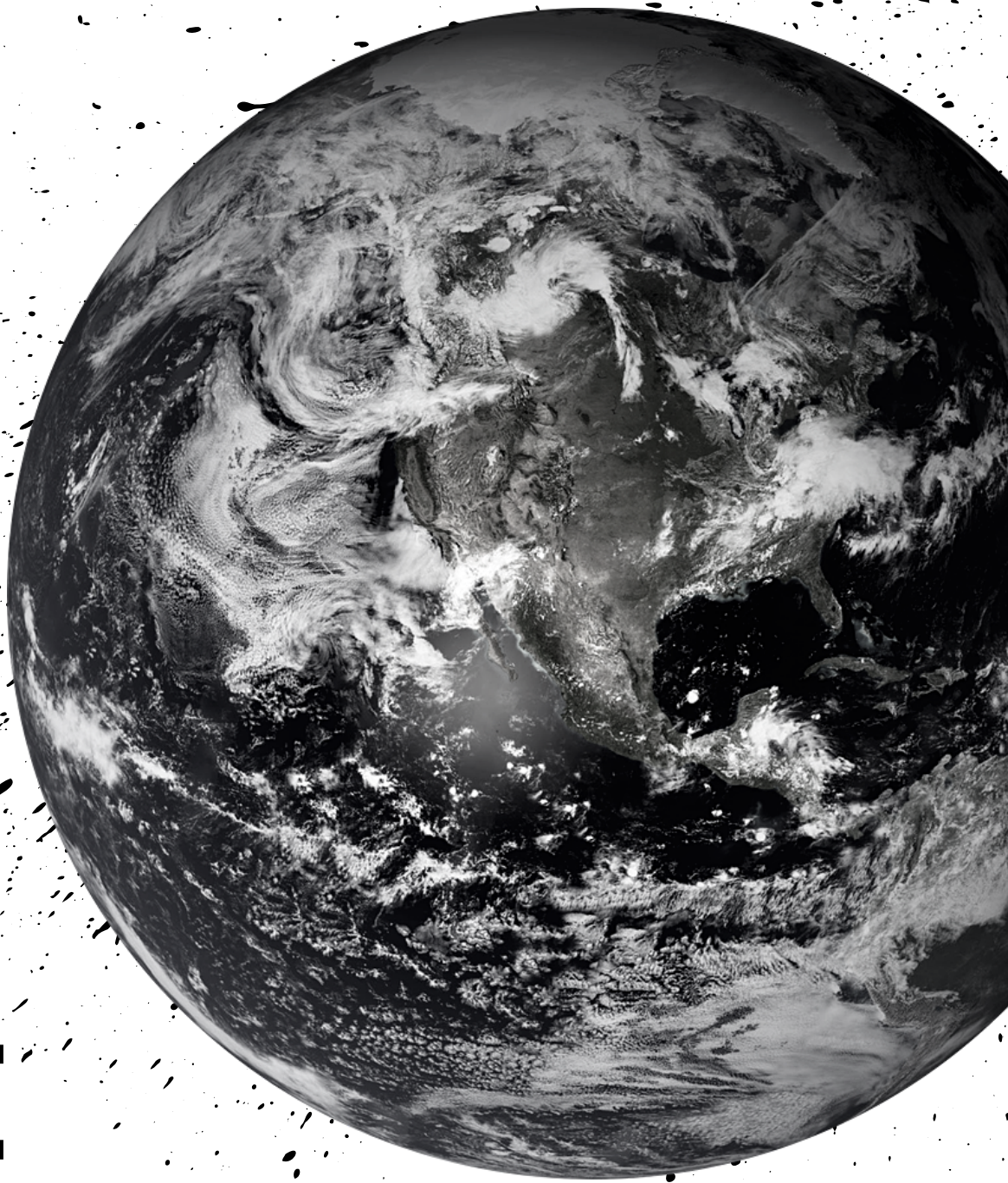
C. Who were the letters addressed to and why?

D. Describe the general formula of each of the letters.

E. List the seven churches and identify the uniqueness of each one.

F. What is the significance of these letters today?





THE 50 FINAL EVENTS

FIRST HALF OF TRIBULATION

Event 1: The Potential Rapture of the Church

- In Revelation 4:1, John describes what he saw and heard when caught up to heaven. According to the author, where is the language of the rapture found in this verse?
- On pages 36 and 37, Robert Morgan discusses the three views of the tribulation timing. List them with a description of their placement in the sequence of events in Revelation.

Event 2: Celebration Erupts in Heaven

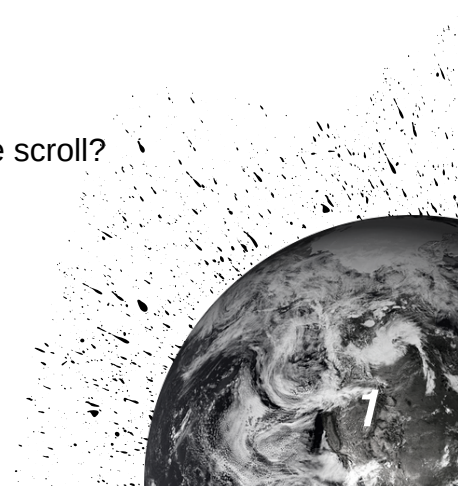
- What is the focus of chapters 4 and 5 of Revelation?
- Describe the appearance of God's seat of power and all that surrounds it. (Pages 36-41)
- At the beginning of Chapter 5, God holds out a scroll with seven seals. What are the possible purposes for the scroll?
- In Revelation 5:2, a mighty angel asks who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll. Who, alone, can break the seals and bring to complete fulfillment the saving of His people?
- Describe the celebration in heaven.

Event 3: The Lamb Inaugurates the Tribulation—Seal 1

- What is the significance of the first seal?

Event 4: A Powerful Political Leader Appears

- What happened when Jesus unfastened the first of the four seals on the scroll?
- Describe the white horse and his role during the tribulation.
- According to Ezekiel 38:15, where does he come from?



FIRST HALF OF TRIBULATION

Event 5: Global Conflict Rocks the World—Seal 2

- What is the significance and role of the fiery red horse?

Event 6: Famine Ravages the Earth—Seal 3

- Why does the rider of the black horse have scales?
- What does it mean?

Event 7: The Death Rate Soars—Seal 4

- When Jesus opened the fourth seal, a rider on a pale horse ran past. What was the rider's name?
- What does Revelation 6:8 tell us will happen?
- What occurrence involving the Jewish people will trigger the second half of the tribulation?

Event 8: Multitudes Die for Christ—Seal 5

- What is revealed when the fifth seal is opened? (Page 52)

Event 9: Natural Catastrophes Sweep the Planet—Seal 6

- Seal 6 reveals natural catastrophes that terrify the world. What is the purpose of these catastrophes and what does the Lord do?

FIRST HALF OF TRIBULATION

Event 10: 144,000 Jewish Evangelists Are Commissioned

- Describe the work of the 144,000.
- Who are the 144,000?

Event 11: More Martyrs Arrive in Heaven

- In Revelation 7:9-17, what do we learn about those persecuted and martyred for Christ?
- Do you see examples of persecution in your life?

Event 12: Dramatic Manifestation of Answered Prayer—Seal 7

- Why was heaven silent after the seventh seal was opened?
- What is about to happen?

Event 13: A Global Firestorm Erupts—Trumpet 1

- Describe what takes place when the first trumpet sounds.

Event 14: The Sea Is Contaminated—Trumpet 2

- Trumpet 2 announces what occurrence?
- What will be the impact?

Event 15: Fresh Water Is Contaminated—Trumpet 3

- What happens, based on Revelation 8:10-11, with the sounding of the third trumpet?
- What is Wormwood and what does it do?

FIRST HALF OF TRIBULATION

Event 16: Sunlight Is Diminished—Trumpet 4

- Trumpet 4 signals a devastating loss of sunlight. What does that mean?
- What is the general inference behind this trumpet? (Page 65)

Event 17: Demons Are Released to Terrorize the Earth for Five Months—Trumpet 5

- What is the special announcement from heaven with trumpet five?
- Read Revelation 9:1. What or who is this star?
- What is the Abyss?

Event 18: High-Ranking Demons Are Released to Destroy a Third of Surviving Humanity—Trumpet 6

- Trumpet 6 releases demons to kill and destroy. What does the author tell us, according to Revelation 13:17, about the demon invasion?

Event 19: A Massive Angel Heralds, “There Will Be More Delay!” (10:1–7)

- The first half of the tribulation is nearly over, what does heaven tell us in Revelation 10:6?
- What is about to happen? (Page 73)

Event 20: John Receives a Message About the Second Half of the Tribulation (10:8–11)

- Describe the message John receives about the second half of the tribulation.
- What does Ezekiel 3:1-3 show us about the instructions John received?

FIRST HALF OF TRIBULATION

Event 21: Two Super Prophets Are Commissioned (11:1–14)

- In Revelation 11, God appoints two witnesses. What will they do?
- We don't know the identity of the two final witnesses. The author suggests some possibilities. Summarize them.
- What happens to these two men?

Event 22: Heaven Declares: “The Time Has Come!”—Trumpet 7 (11:15–19)

- Describe what John saw when he glimpsed the heavenly temple.
- John was reminded of something we should remember today, what is it?

REFLECT | What truths or verses in this section spoke to you in a personal way?

MIDDLE OF TRIBULATION

Event 23: Satan Is Expelled from Heaven and Attacks Earth with Vengeance (12:1–17)

- List the symbols we find in Revelation 12:1-2. What do they represent?
- Who is the dragon in verses 3 and 4?
- Using verse 5, summarize the earthly ministry of Jesus.
- In your own words, outline God's plan to redeem the world. (Page 87)
- After being cast out of heaven, what is Satan's goal? (Page 90)

Event 24: The Antichrist Arises (13:1–10)

- Read Revelation 13:1-10. Describe the Antichrist and what he represents.
- The apostle Paul, in 2 Thessalonians 2:4-10, tells us what the Antichrist will do. In your own words, summarize what Paul shares.

Event 25: The False Trinity Forms (13:11–13)

- What is the False Trinity?
- What does the False Prophet do?



MIDDLE OF TRIBULATION

Event 26: The Abomination of Desolation Is Set Up in the Temple (13:14–15)

- What is the Third Temple (look back to pages 74-75) and where is it located?
- What happens at the Third Temple in Revelation 13:14-15?

Event 27: The Mark of the Beast Is Issued (13:16–18)

- What is the mark of the Beast?
- How could this happen today?
- Do you believe it is happening?

REFLECT | What truths or verses in this section spoke to you in a personal way?

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LAST HALF OF TRIBULATION

Event 28: The 144,000 Arrive Safely in Zion (14:1–5)

- The author discusses two ways of looking at the arrival destination of the 144,000. Summarize them.
- What are firstfruits?

Event 29: Three Angels Deliver Final Messages to the Earth (14:6–13)

- Why does God send three angels?
- Summarize the message of each angel.
- Who is the intended audience of the messages?

Event 30: Christ's Declaration of War (14:14–16)

- Why did the Lord use the sickle when declaring war on the global kingdom of the Antichrist?
- Explain the symbolism.

Event 31: Warfare Erupts Around Israel (14:17–20)

- In Revelation 14:17-20, where is the warfare happening?
- How far is the battle from Jerusalem?



LAST HALF OF TRIBULATION

Event 32: The Seven Last Angels of the Last Plagues Appear (15:1–8)

- How are the last plagues delivered?
- Why is Revelation 15:3-4 called the song of Moses and of the Lamb?

Event 33: Global Contagion Spreads—Bowl 1 (16:2)

- Revelation 16:1 announces the seven bowls of God's wrath. What do you believe about God's wrath?
- The author shares his thoughts on page 118, does this change your understanding?
- Who is affected by bowl 1?

Event 34: The Seas Are Destroyed—Bowl 2 (16:3)

- Where have we seen this plague before?

Event 35: The Fresh Water Is Polluted—Bowl 3 (16:4–7)

- How is the impact of this bowl different from the impact of bowl 2?

LAST HALF OF TRIBULATION

Event 36: Intense Heat Scorches the Planet—Bowl 4 (16:8–9)

- What is the intended goal for the intense heat poured out on the earth with bowl 4?

Event 37: Darkness Covers the World—Bowl 5 (16:10–11)

- What/who is the target when the fifth angel pours out bowl 5?
- Why darkness?

Event 38: The Euphrates Dries Up—Bowl 6 (16:12)

- Bowl 6 dried up the Euphrates River—why, for what purpose?

Event 39: The World's Armies Converge at Armageddon (16:13–16)

- What is Armageddon?
- Where is Armageddon?
- What happens at Armageddon?

Event 40: Earthquakes and Extreme Weather Devastate What's Left of Earth—Bowl 7 (16:17–21)

- Describe the impact of bowl 7 on the world.

LAST HALF OF TRIBULATION

Event 41: The Antichrist's Religiopolitical System Is Destroyed (17:1–18)

- According to Robert Morgan (page 133), what does Revelation 17 describe?
- What does Revelation 18 describe?
- What is the main point of Revelation 17? (Page 138)

Event 42: The Antichrist's Capital City Implodes (18:1–24)

- As Babylon begins to collapse, three groups of mourners watch. Describe their reactions.
- The three groups have one thing in common, what is it?

REFLECT | What truths or verses in this section spoke to you in a personal way?

THE RETURN OF CHRIST

Event 43: Hallelujahs Ring Out in Heaven (19:1–10)

- As the dying earth groans and wails, what happens in heaven?
- List the four times in Revelation when the word hallelujah is used?

Event 44: The Lord Jesus Christ Returns! (19:11–6)

- What specific event is announced in Revelation 19:1–7?

Event 45: The Rebels Are Defeated (19:17–21)

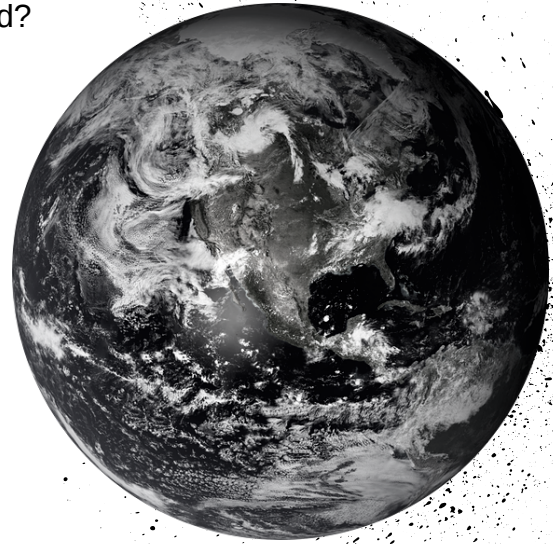
- Paraphrase the events when Jesus descends from heaven.

Event 46: The Millennium Breaks Forth (20:1–3)

- During the millennium (the thousand-year reign of Jesus), what will happen? (Page 157)

Event 47: The Tribulation Saints Are Resurrected to Reign with Christ (20:4–6)

- Who will populate the earth during the millennium?
- Read Isaiah 65:18–25. How does Isaiah describe the millennium?
- Will those in heaven be separated from Jesus during the millennium? Summarize the author's thoughts on page 161.



THE RETURN OF CHRIST

Event 48: The Final Battle (20:7–10)

- Revisit page 115, what do the words Gog and Magog represent?

Event 49: The Wicked Are Judged at the Great White Throne (20:11–15)

- What is the last thing that will happen before the universe becomes nonexistent? (Page 163)

Event 50: The New Heaven, the New Earth, the New Jerusalem— and Eternity! (21:1–22:21)

- Robert Morgan refers to the final two chapters of Revelation as God's Travel Guide to Eternity. How does the Lord describe the new heaven, the new earth, and His everlasting capital of New Jerusalem?

REFLECT | What truths or verses in this section spoke to you in a personal way?
