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# THE 50 FINAL EVENTS IN WORLD HISTORY

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



A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

*The 50 Final Events in World History*

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## Example of How to Mark Your Bible

REVELATION 3:13

mouth. <sup>17</sup>You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. <sup>18</sup>I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

<sup>19</sup>Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. <sup>20</sup>Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

<sup>21</sup>To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup>Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

*Worship in Heaven*

### **The Throne in Heaven**

① **4** After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this."

② <sup>2</sup>At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. <sup>3</sup>And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne. <sup>4</sup>Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. <sup>5</sup>From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. In front of the throne, seven lamps were

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blazing. These are the seven spirits<sup>a</sup> of God. <sup>6</sup>Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal.

In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. <sup>7</sup>The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. <sup>8</sup>Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying:

"'Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord God Almighty,'<sup>b</sup>  
who was, and is, and is to come."

<sup>9</sup>Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, <sup>10</sup>the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

<sup>11</sup>"You are worthy, our Lord  
and God,  
to receive glory and honor  
and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they were  
created  
and have their being."

### **The Scroll and the Lamb**

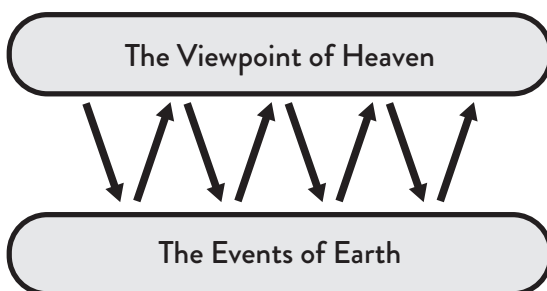
**5** Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup>And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open

<sup>a</sup> 5 That is, the sevenfold Spirit

<sup>b</sup> 8 Isaiah 6:3

## The Hidden Code for Understanding Revelation

### The Oscillating Pattern of Revelation

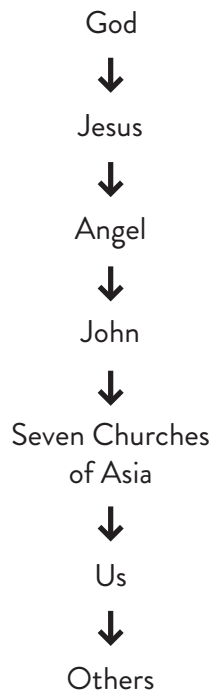


## Next Stop: Patmos

### The Location of Patmos



# The Chain of Transmission for the Book of Revelation



## Christ's Final Messages to the Churches

### The Seven Churches



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## Revelation 2–3

### Miniature Epistles to the Seven Churches of Asia

<b>Ephesus</b> A Historic Church with a Fading Spirit
<b>Smyrna</b> A Faithful Church in a Hostile Environment
<b>Pergamum</b> A Strategic Church with an Ungodly Faction
<b>Thyatira</b> A Thriving Church with a Cancerous Spot
<b>Sardis</b> A Dead Church with a Godly Remnant
<b>Philadelphia</b> A Feeble Church with an Open Door
<b>Laodicea</b> An Affluent Church with a Lukewarm Faith

#### Notes

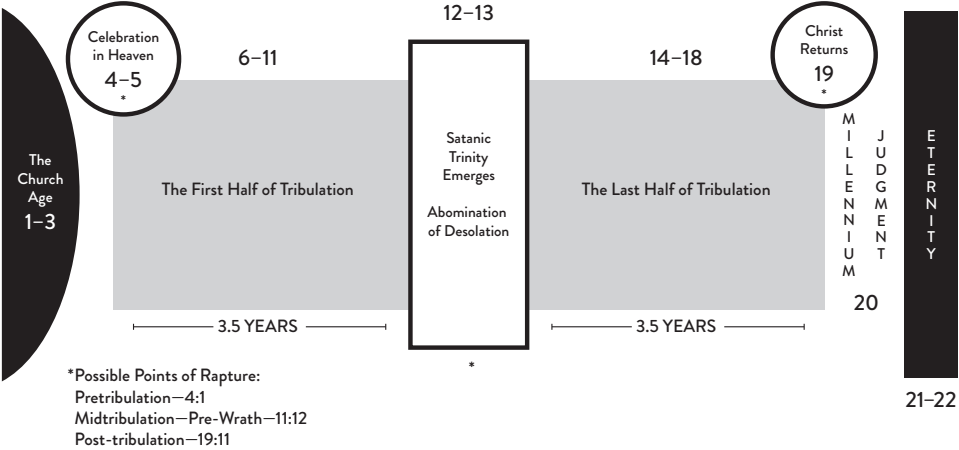
These messages represent how the Lord Jesus sees our churches and their members—you and me. The important thing is not how we appear to ourselves or others but how we appear to Him.

There are some of the strengths and weaknesses of these churches in every congregation and in every one of us. These diagnostic evaluations help us make corrections and become the people Jesus wants us to be.

These two chapters represent the two thousand years of Christian history—not necessarily seven different stages of church history, but what the Lord wants His church to be between the ascension and the tribulation.



# The Tribulation



# Revelation

CHAPTER 1 What you have seen...	Prologue 1a		Opening Vision 1b		CHAPTERS 2-3 What is now...	Mini-epistles to 7 Churches		Key Verse	
	Title, Purpose, Transmission (1-2) Blessing (3) Greetings (4-5a) Doxology (5b-6) Hymn (7) Statement of Authenticity (8)		Setting (9-10) Trumpet Voice (11) The Glorified Christ (12-16) John's Reaction (17-18) Outline of Book (19) Interpretation of Symbols (20)			Ephesus Smyrna Pergamum Thyatira Sardis Philadelphia Laodicea		The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants what must soon take place.  Revelation 1:1	
CHAPTERS 4-22 What you have seen...	Rapture?	The Scene in Heaven		The Great Tribulation		Return		Eternity	
		God the Father Holy Spirit 24 Elders 4 Creatures God the Son Worship Scroll		Seven Seals (6-7) • 2 Groups (7) • 144,000 Evangelists on Earth (7) • Tribulation Martyrs in Heaven (7) Seven Trumpets (8-11) • 2 Witnesses (11) • Evil Trinity (12-14) Seven Bowls of Wrath (15-16) • World War (16) • Armageddon (16) • The Fall of Babylon (17-18)		Second Coming  Millennium & Judgment		The New Heaven & New Earth	
		4:1 Ch. 4-5		Ch. 6-18		Ch. 19-20		Ch. 21-22	

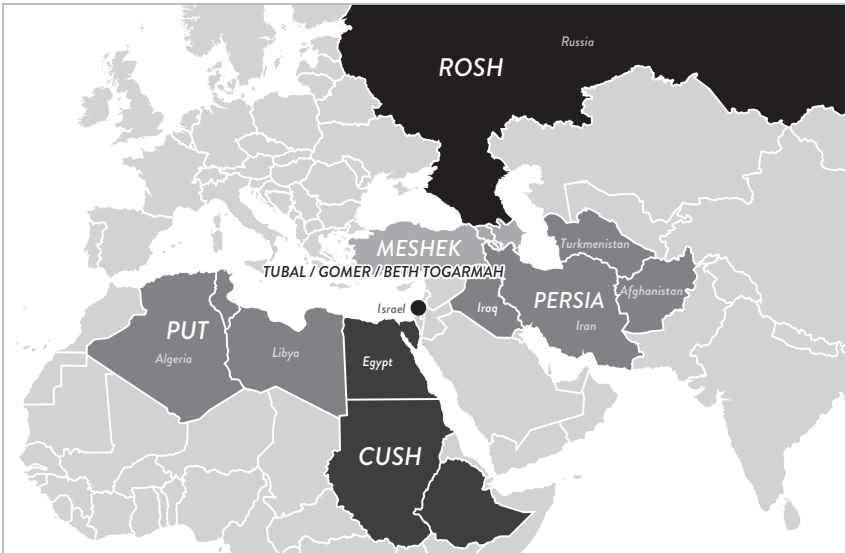
## **Celebration Erupts in Heaven**

### **Example of a Scroll with Seven Seals**



## A Powerful Political Leader Appears

### The Surrounding Nations of Israel



## **High-Ranking Demons Are Released to Destroy a Third of Surviving Humanity—Trumpet 6**

### **Map of the Euphrates River**



## **Satan Is Expelled from Heaven and Attacks Earth with Vengeance**

### **Edom, Moab, and Ammon**



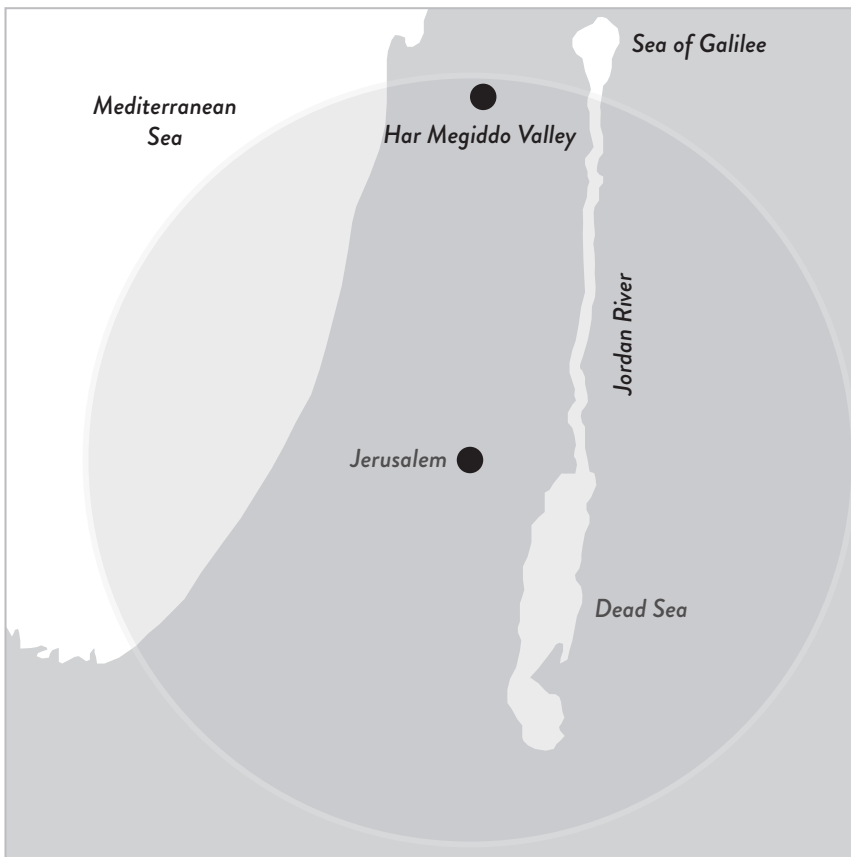
## Three Angels Deliver Final Messages to the Earth

### The Antichrist's Potential Neo-Roman Empire



## Warfare Erupts Around Israel

### Potential Area for the Antichrist's Field Headquarters





## **The World's Armies Converge at Armageddon**

### **Jerusalem and the Valley of Armageddon**



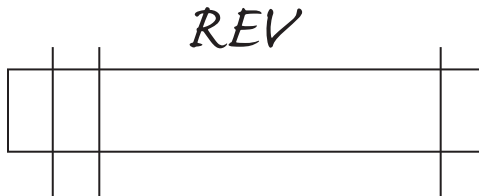
## Revelation on a Napkin

My thesis in *The 50 Final Events in World History* is that Revelation is understandable, that God wants us to anticipate the reality of His coming victory and the broad outlines of earth's final days and the Glory to follow. More than a few times, I've pulled out an ink pen and sketched the outline of Revelation on a napkin while meeting someone for coffee. You can do the same!

First, I draw a rectangle and label it *REV*.



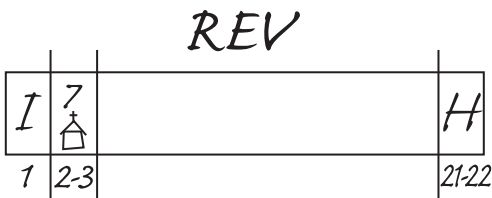
Next, I draw three vertical lines like this:



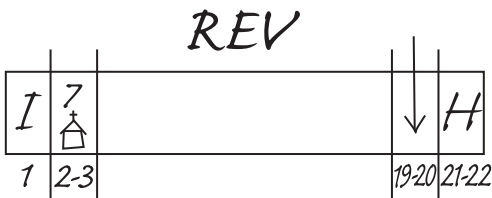
I use abbreviations to designate these as introduction (I), seven

churches (7 and a sketch of a church building), and heaven (H). I also add the chapter numbers below.

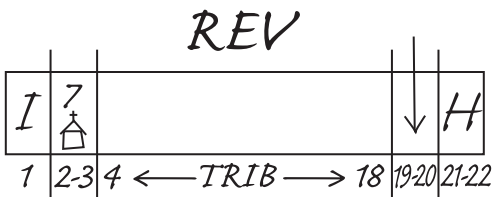
I explain that the first chapter of Revelation is the book’s introduction, giving its author, recipients, purpose, and opening vision—the enthroned Christ, who appeared to John. The next two chapters are individual messages to seven churches, and we can learn how to follow Christ better by the counsel they contain. The last two chapters describe our heavenly home.



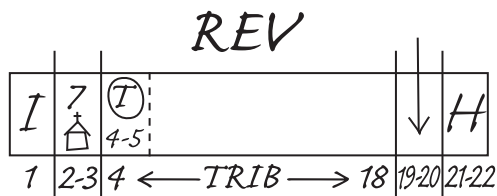
I then draw another line with an added arrow and explain that chapters 19–20 describe the second coming of Christ and what He’ll do when He returns.



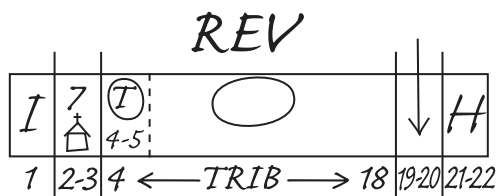
That leaves the middle part of the book—chapters 4–18. These chapters describe seven years of tribulation, when evil is judged and earth is prepared for its reunion with Jesus. I use the abbreviation *TRIB* for the tribulation.



Using a dotted line, I box off chapters 4–5, saying those chapters describe the scene at the throne of God at the beginning of the tribulation. I use a *T* for throne, with a circle around it, because the throne was encircled by the heavenly host.

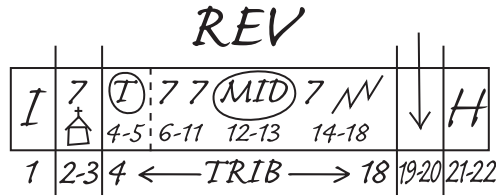


Now we have chapters 6–18, which describe what will happen on earth during these seven years. In the middle of the remaining space I draw a circle and say that is the midpoint in the tribulation.



The rest is easy. Chapters 6–11 describe the first half of the tribulation, which is marked by the opening of the seven seals and the blowing of seven trumpets, all representing judgments that will fall on the earth. I put two sevens in this space and indicate this is chapters 6–11.

The middle of the tribulation is described in chapters 12–13. And the last half of the tribulation is in chapters 14–18, which describe the final judgments—seven bowls of wrath poured out on the earth. It ends with the battle of Armageddon, which I illustrate using a bolt of lightning.



Having drawn this sketch, I review it all simply.

The book of Revelation has twenty-two chapters. The first is introductory. The next two are messages to the churches of the last days.

The unfolding events of the tribulation begin with the throne scene in chapters 4–5. The events on earth will unfold over seven years.

The first three and a half years will be marked by seven seals and seven trumpets, described in chapters 6–11. The terrible events of the middle of the tribulation are described in chapters 12–13, and the last three and a half years of tribulation unfold in chapters 14–18, ending in the battle of Armageddon and the return of Christ in chapters 19–20.

The final two chapters tell us of God’s perfect eternal kingdom, where we will see Jesus, serve Him, and be with His people forever.

I often tell the person, “While the details and images of Revelation may seem overwhelming, the overall structure and message of the book is as simple as saying, ‘God is working now in His church, and one day soon a cataclysm of some sort will trigger the final seven years of history preceding His return.’”

“Here is the outline of Revelation. By understanding this, your further study of the details will make more sense. Don’t be afraid of Revelation. It’s as exciting as the Lord’s return and will help prepare us for that glorious day.”