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# TAKING THE **WHOLE WORD** TO THE **WHOLE WORLD**

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**THE ENTIRE BIBLE  
IS ABOUT THE LORD**

*Jesus Christ.*

**HE IS THE ONE WHO FILLS  
THE HORIZON OF THE TOTAL**

*Word of God.*

J. VERNON MCGEE



**THRU**the**BIBLE**



# WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD



## GOD'S GRAND FINALE AN INTRODUCTION TO REVELATION

Dr. J. Vernon McGee



I have always loved to read a good mystery, detective story.

When I was a young man in ministry, on Sunday evenings after the church service, I would go home and relax by reading a good mystery. About one o'clock in the morning I'd get to the place where the villain has tied the heroine to the railroad tracks and the train is coming along down the tracks. She is in a desperate situation.

Where's the hero? Will he rescue her in time? But wait—he's in that old warehouse down by the pier, tied to a chair under which is a stick of dynamite with the fuse already lit.

You know I can't leave the hero and heroine in that kind of position even if it's one o'clock in the morning. But, since it is time for me to go to sleep, I peek over at the final page. A different scene greets me there. The hero and the heroine sit out on the porch of a lovely cottage with a white picket fence.

Then I would turn back to the place where I stopped reading, and say to the hero and heroine, "I don't know how you are going to get out of it, but I tell you this: It's going to work out all right."

We look around at a dark world today and wonder how it's all going to end. Well, all we need to do is turn to the last book of the Bible, the Revelation. What we read there tells us it's going to work out all right.

It doesn't look that way. In fact, it looks like the devil is having a high holiday in the world. But God is going to work it out. God Himself will gain control—in fact, He has never lost control—and He is moving to the time when He is going to place His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, upon the throne of His universe down here.



### ARE YOU READY TO DIVE INTO REVELATION?



Download the full digital booklet, "God's Grand Finale: An Introduction to Revelation."

Anyone who takes an optimistic view of the world situation isn't thinking clearly. The world is in a desperate condition. However, I'm no pessimist, because I have the book of Revelation, and I can say to every person who has trusts Christ, "Don't you worry. It's going to work out all right." God is coming out on top and you want to be with *Him*. You're on the side that looks to be losing now, but we're not on the last page yet.

It doesn't take much to see a great crisis is coming. People talk about it all the time. As a result of this foreboding, there has been a growing interest in the book of Revelation.

Revelation is the 66<sup>th</sup> book of the Bible—the last one. This means we need to know 65 other books before we get to this place. Having a working knowledge of all the background of the Bible will give Revelation context. If you know the facts and the feel of Scripture, that will help, too. Revelation does not originate or begin anything, but it brings to complete conclusion what began somewhere else in Scripture. It's critical to a right understanding of the book

to be able to trace each great subject of prophecy from the first reference to the terminal. At least ten great subjects of prophecy find their fulfillment here. This is why you need to know the rest of the Bible to understand Revelation. More than 500 times, it alludes to or references the Old Testament. In its 404 verses, 278 contain references to the Old Testament. In other words, over half of this book depends on your understanding of the Old Testament.

Revelation is like an airport with ten great airlines coming into it. We need to understand where each began and how it was developed as it arrives in Revelation.

For more, see [Why Study Revelation?](#), page 11.

## MY TURN

### Get to know Jesus in Revelation

**If you've read the Gospels, you've met the earthly Jesus. Revelation shows us the heavenly Jesus who was, and is, and is to come. (The two pictures are very different.)**

Read the following verses in your Bible and begin a list in your journal or in the back of your Bible of all the names for Jesus in Revelation. (We found 20; see below.)

#### READ:

- 1:5
- 1:8-13
- 3:14
- 5:5-9
- 17:14
- 19:11
- 22:13, 16

ANSWERS: 1:5—Faithful witness, First born of the dead, Ruler over the kings of the earth; 1:8—Alpha and Omega, First and last, Son of Man, The Almighty; 3:14—The Amen, The faithful and true witness, The beginning of the creation of God; 5:5-9—Lion of the tribe of Judah, The Root of David, The Lamb that was slain; 17:14—Lord of lords, King of kings; 19:11—Faithful and true, The Word of God, Rider of the white horse; 22:13, 16—The beginning and the end, The bright and morning star.



## WHERE ARE WE HEADED IN 2021?



Gregg Harris, President

The ministry of *Thru the Bible* is not just an organization; it is a movement of God! He leads, we listen, and we obey. He brings the resources we need—wisdom, prayer support, finances, and ministry partners. Over 50 years of ministry, we have learned the truth of the old maxim: Where God guides, He provides.

So when people ask me where *Thru the Bible* is heading, my honest response is this: Wherever God tells us to go! Each day, we live out the truth of Proverbs 16:9—“A man’s heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps.” All of our plans for growth are grounded in a conviction that God has led us into these new ventures and has opened the doors for their fulfillment.

As we look ahead to 2021, here are some of the new initiatives the Lord is leading us into:

**THE BIBLE BUS WILL BEGIN ITS 11<sup>TH</sup> JOURNEY** from Genesis to Revelation in English. We do not take for granted that our station partners and listeners want to continue to hear Dr. McGee’s systematic teaching of every book of the Bible. In April, we start with the “Guidelines” programs and then dive into Genesis. Over 1300 radio stations across North America will air the programs, as will many digital outlets. By the grace and power of God, the Bible Bus continues to roll along, blessing millions for eternity.

**NEW LANGUAGES** | Last year we launched Slovak, Igbo, Baoulé, and Runyakitara. Each of these languages will grow in their impact as they complete their first full year on the air. We also hope to see Mien and Hmong broadcast in Southeast Asia.

**NEW TTB HOME GROUPS** | We are thrilled that God has opened a door for our Home Group ministry in the countries of Nepal and Bhutan. We also expect to see continued progress toward our goal of having TTB Home Groups in 150 languages for India. Tens of thousands of souls are deeply touched by the study of God’s Word.

**EXPANDED AUDIO-VISUAL MINISTRY** | Our recently-launched Farsi and Turkish satellite TV programs are continuing to grow in their impact around the world. We are thrilled that Urdu satellite TV will launch this year. Audio-visual programs in Vietnam are being developed and distributed through an “undercover” network of in-home broadcast systems.

**DIGITAL MINISTRY EXPANSION** | Two out of every three people on planet earth have a mobile phone. We have been working hard to strengthen our ability to effectively reach people on digital platforms. One example: Our partnership with  YouVersion has yielded the completion of more than a quarter of a million TTB reading plans (the user reads a book of the Bible and then reads or listens to TTB’s teaching). Based on current trends, we anticipate more than 400,000 new plan subscriptions in 2021! We will also see millions of streams, downloads, and engagements on a variety of digital platforms.



God has repeatedly promised to honor His Word. As we look to a fresh year on the calendar, we join the pioneer missionary William Carey in boldly proclaiming “the future is as bright as the promises of God.” We are so immensely grateful for your love and support to *Thru the Bible* as, together, we take the whole Word to the whole world!





THRU the BIBLE

A WORD FROM GREGG HARRIS

## “May God richly bless you, my beloved.”

For decades, we’ve heard Dr. McGee end nearly every daily study with these words. He really loved teaching you God’s Word and wanted you to be blessed by it. He called you, *Beloved*. What a great word.

Many New Testament writers addressed their letters to “beloved” people (for example, Philippians 4:1; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Peter 2:11). Most of the time, the Greek word translated as “beloved” is *agapētoi* and is related to the word *agape*.

*Beloved* means “friends very loved by God.” But in the New Testament, the word means even more than human affection. It tells of an esteem we hold for others that comes from recognizing their value as children of God. Those called *beloved* are more than friends; they are brothers and sisters in Christ. You are highly valued and loved.

Remember that from now on when you hear Dr. McGee say those closing words.

God bless you, my beloved,

Gregg Harris  
Thru the Bible, President



# WHY STUDY REVELATION?

Join in the studies on *Thru the Bible* DECEMBER 31, 2020 — APRIL 1, 2021 or anytime online, by podcast, or by mobile app.

*“My friend, the book of the Revelation tells me how this world scene is going to end. When I turn there, I find it’s going to work out all right. Sure, it looks like the devil is on a high holiday, but God has never lost control. He is moving to the time when He will place His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, upon the throne of His universe down here. I know this because I have been reading Revelation, and I hope you are going to read it with me.”* –J. Vernon McGee

To understand Revelation, you need to know the rest of the Bible. More than 500 times, half the book, Revelation alludes to or references the Old Testament.

The subject of Revelation is not beasts and bowls of wrath—**the real subject is the Lord Jesus Christ**. He is the Sin-bearer, first mentioned all the way back in Genesis 3, now bringing creation to its rightful place.

### KEYVERSE

*God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.* –Revelation 21: 4

### Revelation teaches the fulfillment of prophecy about:

- **The Lord Jesus Christ**—the focus and subject of the book
- **The church** in the New Testament and beyond
- **The resurrection** of those who have died in Christ when He comes back
- **The Great Tribulation**
- **Satan and evil**
- Who is the “**man of sin**”
- The course and end of **false Christianity**
- The beginning, course, and end of the “**times of the Gentiles**”
- **God’s covenants** with Israel
- **The second coming** of Christ



WHY DO YOU

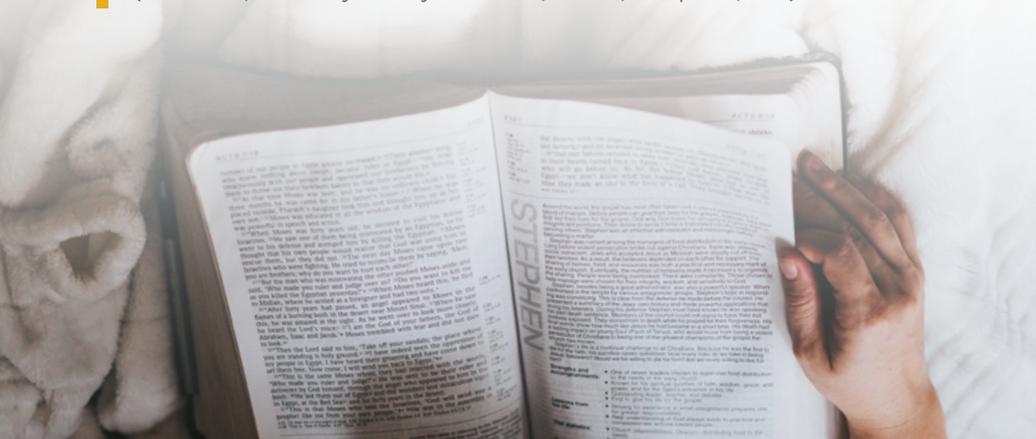


**You show up every day with the Word open, asking God to speak to you, to teach you, to encourage you—what is it that keeps you coming back over a lifetime?**

**We invite you to share in celebrating the kick-off of a new 5-year journey through the whole Word of God this April.** We're putting together a special video to celebrate and would love to include your response to the question, "Why Do You Love the Bible?"

**In 30 seconds or less, share a specific reason you love the Bible. Capture it on video**—on your smart phone will be just fine. Then upload it at [TTB.org/love](http://TTB.org/love) by March 1. **Let it be a worshipful experience as you thank God for the gift of His Word.**

(Of course, we always love your letters, emails, and posts, too.)



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