

STUDY GUIDE

HAS THE  
TRIBULATION

BEGUN?

AVOIDING CONFUSION AND  
REDEEMING THE TIME IN  
THESE LAST DAYS

---

AMIR TSARFATI

STUDY GUIDE

HAS THE  
TRIBULATION  
BEGUN?

AMIR TSARFATI



HARVEST PROPHECY  
AN IMPRINT OF HARVEST HOUSE PUBLISHERS

All Scripture quotations are taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.


Cover design by Bryce Williamson

Cover photo © 4khz, Elena\_Garder / Getty Images

Interior design by KUHN Design Group

For bulk, special sales, or ministry purchases, please call 1-800-547-8979.

Email: [Customerservice@hhpbooks.com](mailto:Customerservice@hhpbooks.com)

 This logo is a federally registered trademark of the Hawkins Children's LLC. Harvest House Publishers, Inc., is the exclusive licensee of this trademark.

### **Has the Tribulation Begun? Study Guide**

Copyright © 2023 by Amir Tsarfati

Published by Harvest House Publishers

Eugene, Oregon 97408

[www.harvesthousepublishers.com](http://www.harvesthousepublishers.com)

ISBN 978-0-7369-8728-8 (pbk)

ISBN 978-0-7369-8729-5 (eBook)

**All rights reserved.** No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, digital, photocopy, recording, or any other—except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior permission of the publisher.

**Printed in the United States of America**

23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 / BP / 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

# CONTENTS

1. Has the Tribulation Begun? . . . . .	5
2. The Trouble with Jacob . . . . .	19
3. A Question of Overkill . . . . .	29
4. Order and Mercy . . . . .	39
5. The Day of Departure . . . . .	49
6. A Matter of Timing . . . . .	59
7. Save the Date . . . . .	71
8. Everywhere a Sign . . . . .	79
9. The Emperor and the Politician . . . . .	89
10. A Place to Call Home . . . . .	101
11. Wrath on Display . . . . .	111
12. What's Most Important . . . . .	123





# HAS THE TRIBULATION BEGUN?

**T**he tribulation is no small event. In the grand panorama of human history, it will last a short seven years. But its impact will be unprecedented.

Revelation 3:10 tells us this “hour of trial...shall come upon the whole world.” Isaiah 24:1 says of this time, “Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, distorts its surface and scatters abroad its inhabitants.”

The tribulation will be cataclysmic to a degree we cannot even imagine. That alone makes some people reluctant to learn about it. Others ask, “If all believers are going to be raptured beforehand, there’s no real reason for us to be concerned about it, right?”

But because God gave us so much information about the tribulation in the Bible, we can be certain that He wants us

to understand what will happen, and why. The Old Testament prophets spoke about it. Shortly before His crucifixion, Jesus gave His disciples a lengthy preview of what would happen. Additional insights are given in some of the epistles. And the book of Revelation devotes a lot of attention to it. There are reasons God wants us to know this information.

Here's why: What the Bible says about the end times isn't meant to merely inform us, but to shape how we live. Look at what Hebrews 10:24-25 says about what we're to do as the end times draw nearer: "Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works...exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Our awareness of the coming tribulation is also meant to keep us focused on our mission. Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). We're here to point others to salvation in Christ while there is still time.

Yes, the tribulation will be horrific. But God has definite purposes for it, and we should know what they are. As 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable...that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." This includes what the Bible says about the tribulation.

With that in mind, let's learn what we can about the tribulation, and explore the ways it is relevant to both our present and our future.

“When you are done with this book, I want you to be able to do the exact same thing with your loved ones, your friends, your fellow church members—anyone who needs to be comforted with the truth. My goal is for you to be equipped to be able to explain to anyone why this cannot possibly be the tribulation, how they can know the signs that the actual tribulation has begun, and how they can ensure that they won’t be around to experience it.”

*Has the Tribulation Begun?*, page 9

### **IT’S NOT SO BAD**

Romans 8:18 says, “I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

What are some of the sufferings we encounter in life?

What are some of the glorious wonders we can look forward to in our heavenly future?



How do the joys that we anticipate in the future help give us perspective for the problems we face today?

### **THE SCRIPTURES AND THE POWER OF GOD**

When people are confused about an issue addressed in the Bible, often it's because of biblical illiteracy. This was demonstrated by Jesus when the Sadducees challenged Him, asking a question about the resurrection. Jesus gave them a simple answer that proved there is life after death.

Based on your own experience, what are two or three examples of confusion you've seen caused by people not knowing what the Bible says?

What example or two can you give of deception that can easily occur when people don't know their Bibles very well?

Why do you think people are highly vulnerable to deception when it comes to matters that relate to the end times?

As mentioned on page 13 in *Has the Tribulation Begun?*, what is the danger of going from “What does the Bible say?” to “What does the Bible really say?”

### **TRUTHS BEING TARGETED BY SATAN**

Satan’s goal has always been to mislead and deceive people about the truth. If he can get them to believe falsehoods, then he can keep them from God, salvation, and a clear understanding of what’s really happening in this world. Let’s look at some of the truths that Satan attacks.

*Targeted Truth 1: Jesus alone is the Life, the Truth, and the Way to God.*

In John 14:6, Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” Does Jesus leave any room for exceptions in this statement?

Why is it dangerous for us to diminish, in any way, what Jesus said about the sole means of access to God?

Some people characterize Jesus' words in John 14:6 as being strict and unloving. But why are His words actually the most compassionate statement He could possibly make about salvation and getting to heaven?

*Targeted Truth 2: All people are born sinners.*

What important fact does Romans 5:12 teach about the origin of sin?

What reality does Romans 3:10-11 communicate about all people?

There are some who believe that if their good works outweigh their bad works, then God will let them into heaven. What Scripture passages would you share with them to help correct their thinking?

***Targeted Truth 3: Israel is still God's chosen people and can't be replaced.***

Some people believe that because of Israel's frequent rejection of God over such a long period of time, they are no longer His chosen people and have been replaced by the church. But what did the apostle Paul say about God and the Jewish people in Romans 11:1?

When will the partial blindness of Israel end, according to Romans 11:25?

What does Romans 11:26 say will happen after that? Would this serve as evidence that Israel still has a place in God's plans?

What very clear statement does Paul make about God's promises in Romans 11:29?

***Targeted Truth 4: In order to be prepared, we must know the times and the seasons.***

Bible prophecy reveals how everything will turn out in the end. With that in mind, why do you think Satan would want to discourage people from studying prophecy?

Prophecy encourages us to redeem the time, live holy lives, make every day count, and be eager to share the gospel with the lost. In contrast, what effects might a *lack* of interest in prophecy have on a believer's life?

***Targeted Truth 5: When Jesus returns, we need to be found doing the Father's business.***

In Luke 12:37, Jesus said, "Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching."

Scripture does not reveal when the rapture will take place, nor do we know when the tribulation will begin. Why do you think the Lord intentionally chose *not* to provide this information?

In the parable of the minas, before a nobleman departed for a far land, he “called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Do business till I come’” (Luke 19:13). Through this parable, Jesus was teaching that we are to stay busy doing His work while we await His coming. In light of His teaching, what are some ways we can be faithful servants and occupy till He comes?

What are some ways that Satan works in the church or in the lives of believers to distract them from carrying out this command?

***Targeted Truth 6: Believers will be raptured before the tribulation.***

There are some who say that the word *rapture* doesn't appear in the Bible, but they're incorrect. Where do we get the word *rapture* from? (See page 25 in *Has the Tribulation Begun?*)

What promise do the following verses make to believers about the coming time of wrath, or the tribulation?

1 Thessalonians 1:10—

1 Thessalonians 5:9—

Revelation 3:10—

Why do you think a denial of the rapture will naturally have a negative impact on the church?

### **DEEP-SEATED DECEPTION**

What do the following verses say about the way Satan carries out his works of deception?

Genesis 3:1, 13—

2 Corinthians 4:4—

2 Corinthians 11:14—

What instructions are we given about protecting ourselves?

2 Corinthians 10:4-5—

James 4:7—

1 Peter 5:8-9—

“Truth is under assault. Satan has already garnered a tremendous victory in the world through his lies. Sadly, he also has a foothold in the church, which continues to strengthen. Will his deceptions ever



end? Thankfully, they will... There will come a time when the devil will be shut up so that he can't deceive anymore."

*Has the Tribulation Begun?*, pages 26-27

## **TURNING OUR KNOWLEDGE INTO ACTION**

In this lesson, we've seen how an ignorance of what the Bible says about the end times can hurt the church and individual believers. In the space below, write a list of the benefits we can gain from being well informed about God's plans for the future. Think of as many as you can.