

Armageddon: A summary before the end.

(Rev 19:11 NASB) And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

Armageddon literally means “Mount of Megiddo.” This location is the valley of Jezreel and it is surrounded by three mountains (or mountain ranges): Mount Carmel, Mount Tabor, and Mount Gilboa.

Many “would be” conquerors and military leaders have waged war here: Titus, Pompey, Richard the Lionhearted, Nebuchadnezzar, and Rameses.

Napoleon said that this location was, *“the world’s greatest natural battlefield.”*

The valley of Jezreel is soaked and drenched with blood because it is an ancient crossroads where trade caravans traveled back and forth.

Whoever controlled this valley controlled the land, the trade, and the commerce of that day.

This battle of har-megiddon will be the last great war will be fought—and this war will end all wars.

Let’s read and see the panoramic view of this battle.

1. Prophecy’s Proclamation of Armageddon

We’ve already heard of Armageddon. In Revelation 16:16 says, “And they gathered them to the place which, in the Hebrew, is called har-magedon.”

- **First**, after 18 centuries without a homeland, on May 14, 1948 the Republic of Israel was formed and the Hebrews reoccupied their land.
- **Second**, Europe is now unified in certain ways. Unlike 30 years ago you can now travel throughout all of Europe without a passport and most nations (with one obvious exception) use a single currency—the euro.

These two events are fulfillment of Bible prophecy concerning Israel and the reconstituted Roman Empire from which the antichrist will come.

Everywhere you look there is a clamoring, a rumbling for a single “one world” economy, money, and empire.

The demands for a singular social, political, cultural, and financial world will only increase as time passes.

In many ways the near likely hood of a world-wide financial recession, as well as the unchecked terrorism are two strong forces that is moving us toward globalism.

- **Thirdly:** The Former Soviet Republic and Arab Nations are Coalescing against Israel. Ezekiel 37-39 prophesies that the kings of the East will gather strength.

In the Book of Revelation, the apostle John saw an army of two hundred million coming across the Euphrates River.

The signs will intensify as the Lord Jesus Christ readies for His return and when you see these events this means, not only that Armageddon is near but also the rapture, and the return of Jesus Christ.

2. Satan's Sinister Plan for Armageddon

(Rev 19:11-16 NASB) ¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. ¹³ He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. ¹⁵ From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. ¹⁶ And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

Satan is itching for a fight with God? Satan is not wise. If nothing else proves the stupidity of Satan—this does.

Satan does have a wisdom but it is warped and corrupted. Somehow he is thinking that he will have a showdown with the Son of God and that he has a chance of winning.

Through the false prophet Satan has been sending out his envoys to get the nations ready, mesmerize the monarchs, manipulate the kings, and bring them to the battle of Armageddon.

There are powerful, dark, devilish, demonic, and malevolent powers working in the world today and behind them, standing in the shadows is Satan.

There is a devilish conspiracy that goes beyond anything you or I could have imagined. Let me cite some scriptures.

- *(Mat 24:24 NASB) "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. Satan has such unbelievable persuasive power he will make people think up is down, good is bad, and white is black.*
- *(2Peter 2:1 NASB) But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies,*

even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. Peter is talking about Armageddon.

- *(1Tim. 4:1 NASB) But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.* Satan will have a heyday in the last days deceiving people.
- *(Mark 13:22 NASB) "...for false Christs and false prophets will arise, and will show signs and wonders, in order to lead astray, if possible, the elect."* One day Satan may perform a miracle before your eyes and you may say, "I saw with my own eyes a glorious sign and wonder. No one could do this but God." But that is not true.
- *(2Thess. 2:11 NASB) For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false.* The demon forces of this world will work with Satan's new religion of neo-paganism, the amalgamation of all counterfeit truth and they will come together with demonic power to deceive the nations of the world.

3. Hell's Helpers at Armageddon

(Rev 17:12-14 NASB) ¹² "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. ¹³ "These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ "These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful."

Who is going to wage war against Jesus? These 10 horns, or kings, are kingdoms that have been seduced by the antichrist to join with him and go against Christ. They have one mind and will give their power and strength to the beast. And why do they do that? because they will be drunk with the pride and power.

4. Satan's Ambition that Causes Armageddon

(Rev 13:4-6 NASB)⁴ they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?" ⁵ There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him. ⁶ And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven.

In the Book of Revelation the devil is called the dragon, and his ambition has always been to be like, or be, God. We see here in this text that during the Great Tribulation Satan gets this worship.

In essence, the dragon (devil) says to the Antichrist, "I will pour my power into you if you get the world to worship me." Do you see how arrogant he is? The AntiChrist and False prophet will be such incredible orators. They will have such persuasion that little children will speak his name with reverence, men will gladly die for him, and women will worship at his shrine.

The forty and two months are 3 and a half years, which form the second half of the Great Tribulation. At this point, the beast will give the ultimate blasphemy.

During the first part of the tribulation, he will be carefully gathering strength and unifying the world.

When the temple is rebuilt in Jerusalem, his golden moment will arrive and the AntiChrist will stride into the temple saying, "You build this temple in anticipation of worshiping God. Do you want to see God? I am God." He will declare himself to be God.

At that moment the scales will be removed from the eyes of the Jews, and their eyes will be opened. They will see the arrogant pride that made Lucifer the devil. Notice what **Revelation 13:7** says:

(Rev 13:7 NASB) It was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him.

Why make war with the saints? because they refuse to worship the antichrist. Those who love Jesus can worship no other. So, they are a threat to exposing his false claim and he is afraid their unwillingness to worship him will become contagious.

Daniel prophesied it and Jesus in **Matthew 24:15-21** declared it:

(Mat 24:15-21 NASB) ¹⁵ "Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶ then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ "Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. ¹⁸ "Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. ¹⁹ "But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ²⁰ "But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. ²¹ "For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.

The hellish honeymoon will be over when this happens. No longer will the Jews be deceived. Satan's pride will be wounded and his rage will intensify. Armageddon will be Satan's attempt at vengeance on those who have refused to bow and worship him.

5. Divine Power Will Prevail at Armageddon

(Rev. 19:15-16 NASB) ¹⁵ From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. ¹⁶ And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

Here is the scene that will prevail at the battle of Armageddon. The Antichrist will be gnawing his tongue and blaspheming God because his pride has been wounded and his power challenged.

The demonic spirits will organize a confederacy of ten nations that will move against God and once and for all to solve what Adolf Hitler called, the "Jewish problem."

If this battle occurs in the great valley of Jezreel, it will be between these three mountains, and this confederacy will get ready to move against God.

- Suddenly there will be an invasion from outer space.
- Here comes Jesus riding a snow-white horse—the symbol of a conquering general.
- He is followed by wave after wave of armies—not dressed in battle fatigues or carrying weapons, but robed in white—the righteousness of the saints.
- In His mouth will be a sharp two-edged sword—the Word of God) to strike the nations.
- The Antichrist may have the most powerful and advanced weapons for physical war, but **II Corinthians 10:4** says *For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.*

All Jesus has to do is speak, and the battle is won.

Have you ever thought of the power of the voice of our Lord. He spoke, and the universe came into existence. ³ *By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible. (Heb. 11:3 NASB)* He spoke everything into existence. What power resides in God's Word!

The disciples were with Jesus in a boat when a storm arose on the Sea of Galilee. What was Jesus doing? He was asleep! **Matthew 8:25-27** tells us what happened.

And they came to Him and woke Him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing!" ²⁶ He said to them, "Why are you afraid, you men of little faith?" Then He got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and it became perfectly calm. ²⁷ The men were amazed, and said, "What kind of a man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?" (NASB)

Jesus spoke and that raging sea became calm. Those waves lay down at his feet. The night before Jesus was crucified, He went to the Garden of Gethesmane with his disciples to pray. Within a few hours Judas arrived with a band of chief priests, officers, and Pharisees. Here is what happened next, according to **John 18:4-6**

⁴ *So Jesus, knowing all the things that were coming upon Him, went forth and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" ⁵ They answered Him, "Jesus the Nazarene." He said to them, "I am He." And Judas also, who was betraying Him, was standing with them. ⁶ So when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. (NASB)*

Jesus literally used the word "I AM" which is one of the most holy names for God in the Bible. This band of men collapsed at the sound of his voice. **Would they have stayed on the ground?** Absolutely. But Jesus allowed them to get up, because He knew His capture by these men was part of His father's plan.

When Jesus comes in power and great glory to the battle of Armageddon, how will the battle be won? **Not by guns or weapons, but by the sword that goes out of His mouth.** The One who spoke this army into existence will speak them into oblivion.

What is the lesson today? Never be at war with God. As one preacher said, *"Your arms are too short to box with God."*