

## *The Israel of God Bible Study Class*

2515 E. 75<sup>th</sup> Street

Chicago, IL 60649

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### **Armageddon**

Armageddon is a battlefield described in the Bible (Revelation 16:16), as the scene of a prophetic battle between the kings of the east (which are Russia and her allies) and the kings of the west (which is the European Economic Community). When these armies arrive in this battlefield, they will be taught what war is all about. They will finally realize that they were brought there to fight the Lord and His army and not an alien invasion (which the powers that be want the general public to believe). Those that are unlearned in the scripture think that, this battle can take place at anytime. But those that believe and know the truth are well aware that several events must take place before this war is fought.

The first event will be a temple being built in Jerusalem. This structure cannot be placed on its original locations for the simple fact that, the Arabs (Ishmaelites) have the dome of the rock in the exact location of the previous temple. The Gentiles (which are the Europeans that call themselves Jews) will build this temple. The Edomites (Idumeans that are also in the land and also claim that they are from the Tribe of Judah) will have a hand in this. Once the temple is built (by these self proclaimed Jews) animal scarifies will be re-instituted. These scarifies will be done a total of one thousand ten days. The so-called Vicar of Christ (abomination of desolation) will stop the daily sacrifices. His army will take thirty days to stop the daily sacrifices. They will place this so-called king in the temple that will be built in Jerusalem. Once he is in place, the church will flee into the wilderness. The abomination that make it desolate will rule one thousand two hundred and sixty days (3 ½ years). While his regime is in power, the Lord's church will remain in the wilderness forty-two months. Toward the end of his reign, the battle (Armageddon) will be fought. With that being said, let's prove the above statements in the Word of God, and then look at the battle itself.

We will begin in St. Matthew the 24th chapter at the first verse.

And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. (St. Matthew 24: 1-2)

The Lord gave the apostles a prophecy that took place forty-one years after His ascension into the third heaven. In 70 A.D. the Roman general Titus sacked Jerusalem and brought this prophecy to past. Approximately 617 years later the sons of Ishmael (Arabs) built the Dome of the Rock on the exact location of the temple that was restored in Ezra and Nehemiah's days and later by Herod. A third temple will be built in the near future. Take a look at these verses in Revelation the eleventh chapter. These verses will give us an idea where the temple will be built.

And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without

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the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months. (Revelation 11: 1-2)

In the first verse the fourth temple is being measured (that's another study within itself). In the second verse, the court way will not be measured. Why? It is given to the Gentiles and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months (3 ½ years). The Gentiles along with sons of Esau will build a temple in the court way of the previous temple. (Picture from temple mount Website)



Why? The Dome of the Rock is in the same location as the previous temple. It might look something like the above picture. Therefore the temple will be in the court way. Let's return to St. Matthew the 24th chapter and pick up where we left off. In the next set of verses the apostles ask Jesus to tell them the sign of His second coming; take note.

And as he sat upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. (St. Matthew 24: 3-5)

After the Apostles asked Jesus the sign of His coming and the end of the world (as we know it), He warns them of false prophets that will come in His name. These wolves in sheep's clothing run rampant throughout the earth, giving the un-learned a false sense of security. They have their blind flocks thinking that, faith only will get them life eternal. One must realize that, this life is an exercise and what we do in it will echo in eternity. After the Lord admonished His apostles, He gave them signs that will come to pass in our generation. Take a look at the 15th verse!

When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand;) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: (St. Matthew 24: 15-16)

When the abomination of desolation is seen, the Lord states "flee into the mountains." Why?

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For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. (St. Matthew 24: 21-22)

This time that is called the "Great Tribulation" by the Lord, will be so dreadful and vile, that no past event can be liken unto it. In addition, the Lord wants the people in Judea to flee. I have news for whomever the reader of this article maybe. Those that have foreknowledge of God will not only flee from Judea but, from all over the world into a place called the wilderness. The flight of the Lord's elect will be discussed in a separate study. Let's back up to the statements made in the 15th verse of this chapter. The Lord states in the 15th verse "when we see the abomination of desolation flee". Where do we need to look for this guy, so that we'll know when to flee into the mountains? Take a look at this verse in the 13th chapter of St. Mark. It will give us a little more information.

But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains. (St. Mark 13)

Here, Mark gives us a little more information about the statement, "the abomination of desolation standing where it ought not." Where will he be? Well, Matthew and Mark both stated that the Prophet Daniel spoke of the abomination of desolation who will bring about a time called "the great tribulation". Therefore, we must take a look at the book of Daniel. We will begin in the 11th chapter of Daniel at the 31st verse. In this verse we will see the location where this guy should not be standing.

And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. (Daniel 11: 31)

So, where shouldn't this abomination of desolation be standing? Daniel said "he will pollute the sanctuary of strength". Remember the books of Matthew and Mark mentions, when the people of Judea see the abomination of desolation, they should flee into the mountains. Therefore, the sanctuary of strength is Jerusalem! This assertion should bring to mind Revelation the 11th chapter and the 2nd verse, where it states, "the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months". This also should bring to mind Matthew the 24th chapter and the 21st verse, where it states "then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." Why? When we see the abomination of desolation (spoken of by Daniel the prophet) stand in the holy place, then shall be great tribulation. He shall pollute the sanctuary of strength. And shall tread holy city under foot forty and two months. We have thus far learned three things. One, a temple must be built in Jerusalem. Two, the abomination of desolation will be placed in the temple in Jerusalem and at that point the "Great Tribulation" will begin. In addition, the people of Judea will flee into the mountains when they see the

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abomination of desolation. Three, the city will be occupied by the Gentiles for 42 months, which is the same time of the tribulation period. In the verse above, Daniel has given us another piece of information. Daniel states, the daily sacrifice will be taken away when the abomination of desolation sets up. Therefore sacrificing of animals will be preformed before the abomination of desolation is placed. So, how long will it take the abomination of desolation to set up and also stop the sacrifices? Take note!

And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. (Daniel 12:11)

In Revelation the 11th chapter, the Holy city will be trodden under foot by the Gentiles 42 months (1,260 days = 3 ½ years). We have an extra month in the above verse. Daniel states, “the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up shall be 1,290 (43 months = 3 years and 7 months). Therefore it will take one month or 30 days for the abomination of desolation strength. Now we must find out how long the sacrifices will be preformed. Daniel the eighth chapter will to stop the daily sacrifice and be placed in the sanctuary of give us this information. Take note.

Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. (Daniel 8:13-14)

In the 12th chapter in the 11th verse, Daniel indicates, from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, will be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. Therefore by subtracting 1,290 days (which is the time allotted for the stopping of the sacrifices, the set up of the abomination of desolation and the tribulation period) from two thousand and three hundred days, means that the sacrifices will be preformed for 1,010 days (approximately 33 months 6 days or 2 years 9 months and 6 days.) Now that the opening statements have been covered, let’s see what will follow the tribulation period. Let’s return to the 24th chapter of Matthew and begin at the 29th verse.

Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. (Matthew 24: 29-30)

So, after the tribulation period the sun will be darkened, the stars will fall and the moon will not give her light. We have some note worthy information here. Why? First of all, several so-called churches teach that Jesus (or in this case the Son of Man) will arrive before the great tribulation and rapture His servants off the earth. If there were to be a rapture, it would have been mentioned

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in the above set of verses. These verses clearly show the sign (of the Son of Man) appearing after the tribulation. Correct? One other thing in the above set of verses that sound strange meaning, the tribes of the earth shall mourn. In those eminent places that sit at the head of every corner, would have the status quo to believe that Jesus loves everyone and would not hurt a fly. We will see in this study that, that is not the case. Jesus only loves those that love Him. So, what is the sign of the Son of Man? Let's find out.

And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. (Revelation 6:12-14)

The above set of verses should sound familiar. Why? The Book of Matthew states, "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken." In Revelation six, John states, "the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth." So, want do you think the Lord is trying to convey through Matthew and John? In Matthew the 18th chapter in the 16th verse, the Lord states, "in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established." In other words, "For the word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done in truth. (Psalms 33: 4) So, what is the sign of the Son of Man? Take a look at the 14th verses again.

And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. (Revelation 6:14)

Here we see John says, "And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together." Matthew stated, "They shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." Thus we have the sign of the Son of man meaning, the sky will be opened and every eye shall see Him. As we go further in this study we will see that the Lord will not come down right away. His sign will remain in the sky for approximately five months. Let's continue at the 15th verse.

And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? (Revelation 6:15-17)

Remember, Matthew stated, "When we see the sign of the Son of Man, the tribes of the earth shall mourn." Above in Revelations we see why, meaning the wrath of the lamb. Keep in mind that the heavens have rolled together as a scroll, the sun has been put out, and the stars have

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fallen. We will see the significance of that statement in a moment. Let's continue into the seventh chapter.

And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. (Revelation 7: 1-3)

Note John states, "And after these things." After what things? The sun being darkened, the moon not giving her light, the stars falling and the heaven rolled together as a scroll; four angels will be holding the four winds. The four winds represent the Gentile dynasty or nations. In other words, these angels are stopping the nations from fighting. We will see this in a moment. Let's continue this thought into the 9th chapter of Revelation, take note.

And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. (Revelation 9:2-3)

What is John trying to tell us? Locusts having the power of a scorpion? What type of power does a scorpion have? Well, let's read the next three verses and see if we can figure this out.

And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. (Revelation 9:4-6)

John states in the 7th chapter of Revelation, "I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." In the above verses he gives a little more information. He not only state they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only the men that have not the seal of God in their foreheads. What type of weapon could this be that will not destroy vegetation of the earth? John gives us a clue, which is, "Locusts having the power of a scorpion.

Let's take a look at the attributes of a locust and a scorpion.

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Locust (insect), common name applied to a number of jumping insects and especially to the true locusts, which are migratory grasshoppers (see Grasshopper). The true locusts cause great damage to crops wherever they swarm. The true locust is one of over 5000 species of grasshopper in the family Acrididae. Locusts travel in huge numbers capable of feeding on and destroying entire fields of cultivated plants and any nearby vegetation. Approaching swarms create an ominous hum and sometimes are large enough to block out sunlight.

This excerpt was taken from the Encarta Encyclopedia. The highlight portion of this article should sound familiar. Take note! John states, “The sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth. In the above article states, “Approaching swarms create an ominous hum and sometimes are large enough to block out sunlight. Let’s look at the scorpion.

This species of a scorpion is one of approximately 40 species of scorpions, native to the southwestern United States. A jointed, external exoskeleton provides the scorpion with a protective outer shell. Defense and prey capture involves grasping of the prey or potential predator with the large powerful claws while the jointed tail delivers a disabling sting. Although the sting of most scorpions is not fatal to humans, the sting of this particular species has proven to be fatal to younger children. Other areas of the world have more dangerous scorpion species; the poison involved is a neurotoxin, attacking the nervous system. Encarta® Encyclopedia

Take note of the above article! The sting of most scorpions is not fatal to humans. Note what John says in Revelation nine and verse six, “And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion. What does this sound like to you? Take note!

Chemical warfare agents can be grouped into two general types: those that affect the body surfaces they contact, and those that damage the general nervous system. Nerve agents act by blocking the transmission of nerve messages throughout the body. These agents include sarin, soman, tabun, and VX. Encarta® Encyclopedia.

Remember, John was on the isle of Patmos, a few thousand years ago. What he saw in his vision were war machines that are in existence in our generation. Think about it; approaching locust swarms create an ominous hum? John states in the revelation nine and nine the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. Scorpion’s stings are not always fatal, correct? But scorpions do not fly. The verse states the Locust had power as a scorpion. What looks like a locust in flight that could deliver a nerve agent that would torment men? Military aircraft, in particular a helicopter.

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Helicopters fly in swarms or for a better word in formations, and are capable of delivering some type of nerve agent. The chemical agents will not hurt any vegetation or for that matter will not destroy any buildings, but will only affect men. Therefore the insects were used as a descriptive tool. Let's return to the 9th chapter of Revelation and begin at the 13th verse.

And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. (Revelation 9:13-15)

This set of verse should bring to mind revelation the 7th chapter and verse one. In that chapter the four angels are holding the four winds. In this set of verses the angels are being loosed. In addition, we are given a geographical location where these four angels are standing. Where is the Euphrates River? The Euphrates river is in southwest Asia, rising in Turkey and flowing through Syria and Iraq, before joining the Tigris to form the Shatt al Arab. The angel that had the sixth trumpet gave the command to loose the four angels that were bound in the Euphrates River. This scene is also a descriptive tool. Why? In the seventh chapter of Revelation the angels are holding the four winds, which represent the Gentile nations or dynasty. The angels are not bound in the sense of being physically tied, but are simply waiting for a command to be given for them to act. Once the command is given a third part of men will be killed. Not by the angels themselves, but men that are in ranks of the armies east of the Euphrates River. We will see this in the next two verses. But first take look at the size of the army that will come across the Euphrates.

And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. (Revelation 9:16)

A total of two hundred million soldiers will come across the Euphrates and they will kill a third part of men in that region. How do we know this? Take a look at the 18th verse.

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By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. (Revelation 9:18)

Remember John is in the isle of Patmos, he uses insects or some type of animal to describe present day war machines. This is an extremely large army. No single nation can produce an army this size. Consider this; what nations are east of the Euphrates River? Remember, this river runs through Turkey. Take note of the next verse.

And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. (Revelation 16:12)

The verses states, "That the way of the kings of the east might be prepared." Not the king, but kings as of many. Let's take a look at the nations east of Turkey and see if they are capable of producing a two hundred million-man army.



Turkey is located below Europe on the above map. Note all the nations east of Turkey. An Alliance of these nations could easily produce a two hundred million-man army. Russians or the Medes as they are called in the scripture will head up this conglomerate of nations, which will come against the European Economic Community. Why are these nations coming through Turkey due west, across the Euphrates? These nations are not aware that they have been

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persuaded by the Lords angels to bring them to a slaughterhouse. Yes, that statement is correct! Remember the four angels bound in the river. This let's us know that the angels bring the Lord's word to past. So, where are the eastern armies headed?

And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.  
(Revelation 16:16)

He Who? The Lord, He's the one that gather them, by the use of His ministering spirits (angels). Let's locate on a map the place called Armageddon.



Armageddon is a battlefield. The name was taken from that of the battlefield Megiddo in the Plain of Esdraelon, which was well known because of the many battles that were fought there between the Israelites and their enemies. Plain of Esdraelon, also Plain of Jezreel, northern Israel, between the Sea of Galilee (Lake Tiberias) and the Jordan River on the east and the Mediterranean Sea on the west. The triangular-shaped plain is marked roughly by Mount Tabor on the northeast, Mount Gilboa on the south, and Mount Carmel on the northwest. Let's take a look at some scriptures that will show the kings of the east in route to this battlefield and the damage that they will cause. We will begin in the 2nd chapter of Joel and at the first verse.

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Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand; (Joel 2:1)

This time period is called the day of the Lord. Remember the tribulation period is over.

A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like; neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. (Joel 2:2-3)

This is the two hundred million man army (kings of the East) in route to the battlefield in northern Israel. As you can see in the above scriptures they are causing some serious damage. In the next set of scriptures we will see that Joel also used horses as John did in Revelation as a descriptive tool.

The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: (Joel 2:4-10)

The final verse in this set of scriptures let us know that this is the day of the Lord. In Matthew the 24th and Revelation the 6th chapters this same sign is given. Matthew also states "then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven". John states "the heavens will roll together as a scroll", enabling us to see the Lord in the heavens. Thus we have the beginning of the day of the Lord, and the end of the great tribulation. What type of day will it be? Matthew and John states it will be a day of mourning when the Son of Man revels Himself. As we can see in the above set of scriptures Matthew and John quoted the prophet Joel.

Now that we see the kings of the east (Russia and her allies) in route to Megiddo. Let's see the western armies led by the abomination that make it desolate (European Economic Community), head south to Ethiopia. Once the western kings see the eastern kings in route to Megiddo they will turn to fight them. We must return to Daniel the 11th chapter to see this. We have seen earlier in this study that the abomination of desolation's army will occupy Jerusalem, which is also in Daniel the 11th chapter. Let's start in Daniel 11 and verse 40.

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And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

At the time of the end? End of what? The great tribulation period.

He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy and utterly to make away many. (Daniel 11:40-44)

As the abomination of desolations army heads south to Ethiopia, he will turn to the armies that are in route to Megiddo, which is in northern Israel. Note what the verses state, “But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many”. The tidings out of the north and the east should bring to mind Revelation the 16th chapter and the 12th verse where it states, “And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. Once these armies arrive in the valley of Megiddo let’s see what will take place. They will have a rude awakening. Let’s see whom they will meet there.

We will go to Joel the third chapter verses nine through twelve, then directly to Revelation the 19th chapter at the 11 verse. Take notice of the similarities of the two sets of verses.

Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong. Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O Lord. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about. (Joel 3:9-12)

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. (Revelation 19:11)

The book of Joel states, “For there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.” Note the verse states, I sit to judge. John states in Revelation, “him that was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. So, the one who will judge and make war is none other than Jesus. There’s something very note worthy in the first part of the above verse were it is states, “I saw heaven opened.” Remember in Revelation the sixth chapter the heavens were rolled together as a scroll.

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We have seen the kings of the east en-route to the valley of decision. We have also seen the abomination of desolations army turn to fight them. We see above in Revelation the Lord will judge and make war. War with whom? Who is foolish enough to make war with the Lord Jesus? Let's skip to the 19th verse and find out.

And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. (Revelation 19:19)

The kings of the earth and their armies will fight against the Lord and His army. Now we should understand why Joel stated, "Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near." They will draw near and be slaughtered by the millions. Let's bring the Lord into the picture, take note!

For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the slain of the Lord shall be many. They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord. (Isaiah 66:15-17)

Isaiah states, "The Lord will come with fire to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire." Yes, even those that think the Lord's dietary law was nailed to the cross will reap His fury. Just in case one might think this isn't the Lord Jesus, let's go to New Testament and see this same scene.

Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; (2 Thessalonians 1:6-9)

Remember in Isaiah 66 were it was stated, "The Lord will come with fire to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire"? Above Paul states, "the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." Here we see that Paul quoted Isaiah. So, we see the Lord will take vengeance on all those that are not obeying His commandments therefore the slain of the Lord shall be many. So much for the Law is no more! Keep His law or you will number with these that are disobedient. Let's go to Jeremiah the 25th chapter and continue this thought.

Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The Lord shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the

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earth. A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the Lord hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the Lord. Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth. And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground. (Jeremiah25:30-33)

We can see in the above set of set of scripture Lord means business. Not only will the armies that arrived in Megiddo will be destroyed but the Lord will also take the battle to every nation on the planet. Those that have not the seal of God will be among the slain that will be scattered throughout the earth. Let's continue;

Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? This that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. (Isaiah 63:1)

Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? It is the Lord Jesus! Why does he mention Edom? Because of what Esau did to His brother Jacob. Edom took on the identity of Israel in 70 A.D. among other things.

Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth. (Isaiah 63:2-6)

Here we see in the above set of scriptures grapes are used as a descriptive tool. The Lord will not be treading grapes. He will be treading upon the people. He will bring down the strength of the earth. In Habakkuk the 3rd chapter it is stated, "Thou didst march through the land in indignation, thou didst thresh the heathen in anger. When He cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops."

His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. (Revelation 19: 12-14)

In 2nd Thessalonians the 1st chapter Paul gives us one division of the Lord's army, meaning the angels. He has another division of troops that will also be in the ranks of His army. That is the

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Saints. Let's see what the Saints will do when they meet the Lord in the air at the first resurrection.

Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand; to execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people; to bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron; to execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the Lord. (Psalms 149:5-9)

The above scripture states, "The saints will execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people to execute upon them the judgment written." And what is the Judgment written?

For I say unto you, that unto every one which hath shall be given; and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him. But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay them before me. (Luke 19:26-27)

Thus said the Lord, even Jesus!

As we can see there are several events must take place before the war that will be fought in the valley of Megiddo (Armageddon). So, the gathering of the American and British armies around Iraq is simply wars and rumors of wars. This is the beginning of sorrows, but the end is not yet. Let's take one more look at the events that will take place before this war is fought.

1. Temple being built in Jerusalem
2. Animal sacrifices being re-instituted (1010 days or 2 years 9 months and 6 days.)
3. Stoppage of the daily sacrifices by the abomination of desolation and his army. (30 days-1 month)
4. Abomination of desolation in the temple. Fleeing into the wilderness. Great tribulation (1260 days or 3 ½ years)
5. Sun being darkened, the moon not giving her light and the stars falling.
6. The first resurrection.

These six events must take place before Armageddon. In conclusion sisters and brothers, fear God and keep His commandments.