

## V. The Battle Of Armageddon

### A. The Preparation For The Battle (The Sixth Vial)

#### 1. The River Euphrates is Dried Up

“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 Euphrates river is called “the great river”. It starts in Armenia (Turkey) and runs through Iraq, Babylon and into the Persian Gulf. It is one of the great rivers of the world.

#### 2. The Way is Prepared for the Kings of the East

“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).

These “kings of the east” are probably the Russian States, Iran, Turkey, Iraq, Red China, etc. They will be prepared for conventional warfare.

#### 3. Unclean Spirits (Devils) Come from the World’s Leaders

“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.” (Revelation 16:13).

The devils come out of the mouth of the Dragon (the Devil - Revelation 20:2), the Beast (the world’s political ruler), and the False Prophet (the one-world religious leader). This may mean that the demons inhabit the words and instruction that this unholy trinity gives.

#### 4. These Devils Gather an Army

“For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.” (Revelation 16:14).

Using man’s gullibility, the devils do miracles, go into every nation of the world and begin gathering the largest army in history – from every nation in the whole world.

#### 5. God’s Mercy is Still Extended

“Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.” (Revelation 16:15).

Despite God’s wrath being poured out on the world, His mercy is still extended, and the saved on earth are encouraged to watch and be ready. (See Matthew 25:13 and 1 Thesalonians 5:5-10).

#### 6. The Nations are Gathered Together into a Place Called Armageddon

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

Armageddon means “the mountain of Megiddo.” Megiddo means “the place of troops.”

This is a historical battlefield:

**a. Sisera**

The captain of the host of Canaan was defeated by Barak and Deborah by the Waters of Megiddo (Judges 5:19-20).

**b. Ahaziah**

The King of Judah died at Megiddo after being pursued by the zealous Jehu (2 Kings 9:27).

**c. Josiah**

The righteous king of Judah was killed while fighting against the army of Pharaoh-necho (2 Kings 23:29).

Note: Between the preparation for the Battle of Armageddon and the battle itself is the destruction of the Great Whore (ecumenical religion) in Revelation 17, and the destruction of Babylon (the material system) in Revelation 18.

## **B. The Battle Itself**

### **1. The Participants**

**a. The Lord Jesus Christ**

With all of His glorious names, Jesus Christ rides on a white horse in power and splendor. Revelation 19:11-13,16,19.

**b. The armies of Heaven**

These follow Jesus on white horses and in fine, white linen. Revelation 19:14,19.

**c. The lost nations and armies of this world**

This includes the beast, the kings of the earth, and all their armies. Revelation 19:15,18,19.

### **2. The Battle**

**a. The enemies of the Lord are smitten by the power of His Word**

Revelation 19:15. (Compare with Hebrews 4:12). Notice the reference to the wine press in Revelation 14:19-20. Sixteen hundred furlongs equals about 200 miles.

**b. The Beast is captured**

Revelation 19:20.

**c. The false prophet is captured**

Revelation 19:20.

**d. They are cast into a Lake of Fire**

Revelation 19:20.

**e. All the rest of the armies are slain**

Revelation 19:21. These are slain by the power of the Lord's Sword, which is His Word.

**f. The flesh of all of these armies is devoured by vultures**

Revelation 19:17-18, 21.

## **VI. The Judgment Of Nations**

We will study this subject in 2 parts:

- A. The judgment of the nations before the Millennium
- B. The judgment of the nations after the Millennium

### **A. The Judgment Of The Nations Before The Millennium**

It is Prophesied that ...

#### **1. Christ will Rule the Nations of the World Someday**

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.” (Isaiah 9:6,7).

Read also Psalms 2; Revelation 11:15; Revelation 12:5; Revelation 19:5-6; and Revelation 19:15.

#### **2. Christ will Share His Reign**

“Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.” (Matthew 24:46-48).

See also Matthew 25:14-23 and 2 Timothy 2:12. We must be found faithful, wise, and suffering for His sake. See 2 Timothy 3:12.

Christ will be the Head, but we will share this reign:

##### **a. We shall reign over the nations with a rod of iron**

Revelation 2:26,27 .

##### **b. We shall reign *on* the earth**

Revelation 5:9,10.

##### **c. We may be placed in authority over cities or perhaps a nation**

Luke 19:11-19.

##### **d. We shall reign for 1000 years**

Revelation 20:4-6.

### **B. The Judgment Of The Nations After The Millennium**

#### **1. The Nations Shall be Judged**

“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and

he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:” (Matthew 25:31-32). See also Psalms 9:17 and Romans 11:26.

## **2. Individual Cities Shall be Judged**

“And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence... And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrhah in the day of judgment, than for that city.” (Matthew 10:11, 14-15). Read also Matthew 11:21-24.

This judgment of cities could take place during the tribulation period. Christians should strive to be the salt of the earth where we live.

## **VII. The Millennial Kingdom**

The Kingdom of Christ on earth. Read Revelation 2 and Isaiah 9:6,7. “Millennium” means “one thousand years.” It is mentioned six times in the first seven verses of Revelation 20.

Let us study the details of these thousand years:

### **A. Satan Will Be Bound**

“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.” (Revelation 20:1-3).

The tempter of the saved and unsaved, the accuser of the brethren will be bound 1000 years in a bottomless pit. He will not be able to deceive the nations (people) during this time.

### **B. Christians Will Rule And Reign**

“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.” (Revelation 20:4).

God’s promise to let believers rule and reign with Christ will come to pass.

### **C. Believers Will Be Resurrected**

“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.” (Revelation 20:6).

Those who died in Christ during the tribulation are resurrected to be with and reign with Him.

### **D. Christians Will Also Be Priests**

“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death

hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." (Revelation 20:6).

We will not only rule and reign, but we will also be priests of God and Christ. See also Revelation 1:6, 5:10.

A priest is one who makes intercession; a go-between; one who prays for another. Why will we need to be priests during Christ's Kingdom? Because ...

## **E. Lost People Will Still Be Living On Earth**

"And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is **as the sand of the sea.**" (Revelation 20:7,8).

Remember, about half of the world's population survives the tribulation and makes it into the millennium. By today's account that would be over 3 billion.

## **F. Man Will Procreate During the Millennium**

"There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed." (Isaiah 65:20)

What could the world's population explode to in 1,000 years if death were very limited?

## **G. There Will Be Death**

"There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed." (Isaiah 65:20).

Because there will still be sin and sinners, there will still be death. See Romans 6:23a.

## **H. Life Will Go On**

"And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them." (Isaiah 65:21).

## **I. We Will Not Lose What We Worked For**

"They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them." (Isaiah 65:22-23).

Neither the government nor anyone else will take what we have worked for, for God is a giver, not a taker.

## **J. We Will Receive An Answer Before We Pray**

"And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." (Isaiah 65:24).

## **K. The Nature Of Animals Shall Change**

“The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent’s meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.” (Isaiah 65:25). See also Isaiah 11:6-8.

## **L. There Will Only Be Peace**

“For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: ...” Isaiah 66:12a). See also Isaiah 11:9.

## **M. The Whole Earth Shall Be Full Of The Knowledge Of The Lord**

“They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.” (Isaiah 11:9).

## **N. God’s People Will Have Rest**

“And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.” (Isaiah 11:10).