

# REVELATION 19:17-21

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# REVELATION 19:17-21



## OPENING PRAYER

*We will take a few moments in silent prayer, then I will pray out loud.*

*Dear Heavenly Father, watch over us as we study Your Word. We know how important it is for us to grow as Your children and Your Word is the food necessary for our Spiritual growth. Your Word lives and abides forever and we pray that we might take that eternal Word and make it part of our souls. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## REVIEW

### Vocabulary

#### The Land of Israel.

*The most valuable piece of real estate in the world, the Land of Israel, was given by our Creator God to the descendants of Abraham through his son Isaac, his grandson Jacob and his twelve great grandsons: the twelve tribes of Israel.*



#### The land surrounding the Land of Israel.

*Israel belongs to the Jews. From God's perspective, the Land He promised Israel is the center of the world. All other nations are described in Scripture depending upon their geographic relationship to Israel.*

## I. ARMAGEDDON II

*Class Activity poses the familiar questions we ask from time to time (Who ?, Where?, What?, When?, How?, Why? and What For?). "Hand out" papers (to copy) follow this lesson. They may be distributed now and students may take notes during class to help with their final answers.*

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### A. WHAT ARMAGEDDON IS

You'll recognize the helpful questions we often ask. They are posed in a different order in this session but they are the same questions. The first one is "What?" What is Armageddon? There are two answers to this question.

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#### 1. TECHNICALLY, A LOCATION

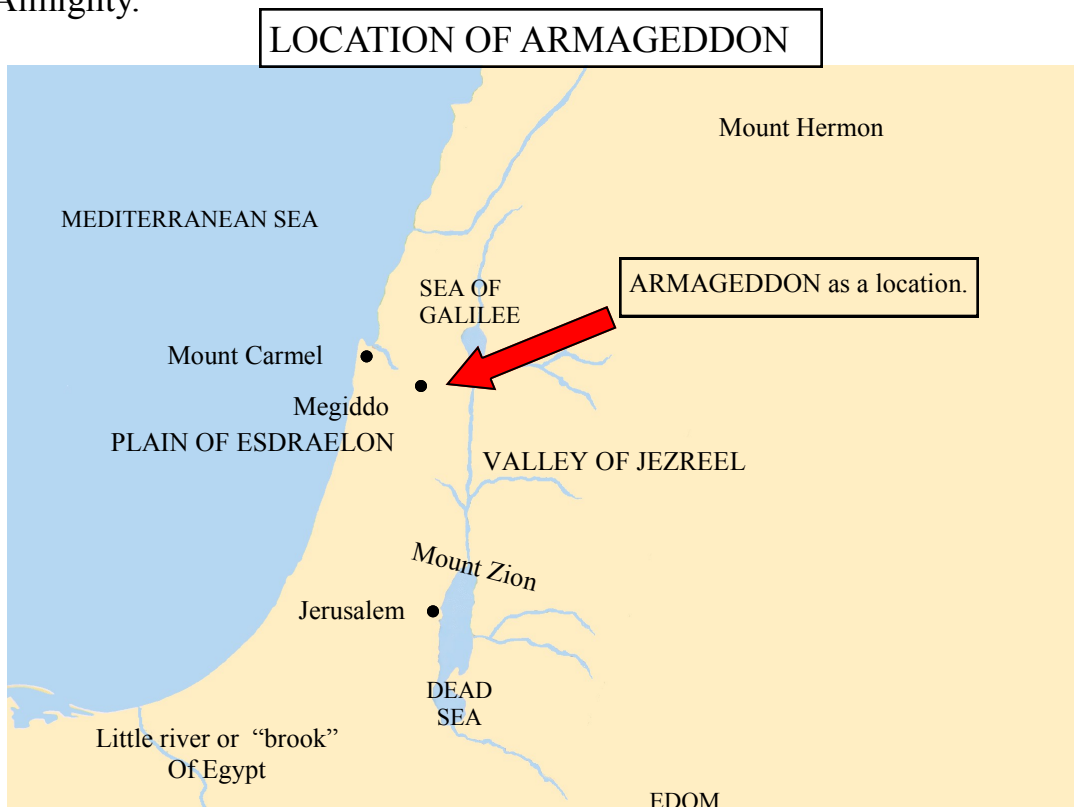


**REVELATION 16:16** **And they gathered them together in the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon (meaning hill or city of Megiddo). NASB**



Ask a student who has NIV or KJV to read the verse from their translation.

- a. The word, “Armageddon” comes from Har-Magedon, It means, “the hill or city of Megiddo” and refers to a location where the kings of the earth gather for the final battle in the Campaign of the Great day of God Almighty.



*Ryrie Study Bible, footnotes p. 524 “Megiddo. An important fortification controlling a pass between the plains of Esdraelon and Sharon and the site of the future battle of Armageddon.”*

- b. The hill of Megiddo lies east of Mount Carmel. It is near the city of Megiddo at the head of the Valley of Esdraelon, near the valley of Jezreel (about forty miles North West of Jerusalem), a great plain stretching from the Mediterranean sea eastward across the northern part of Palestine.

*Point to these locations on large map. Students should have them marked on the Student Workbook map along with Jerusalem, Mt. Carmel and Armageddon.*



## 2. ALSO A MILITARY CAMPAIGN

- a. **A campaign is a series of military actions fought in succession or a cluster of battles fought in one particular location.** Armageddon is a

series of battles fought in Israel named after the site of its final struggle. It is properly called “The Campaign of Armageddon”.



*The Greek word translated “battle” in Revelation 16:14 is not, MACHE, meaning “individual combat or one single battle”. It is the Greek word, POLEMOS, referring to more than a single struggle. The use of this word further supports the descriptive term “Campaign of Armageddon” for the series of battles fought in Israel during the Tribulation.*

**b. All nations of the world gather against the nation of Israel during the Campaign of Armageddon.** Israel formally became a nation again in 1948 in partial fulfillment of **EZEKIEL 37** (the well known “dry bones” chapter describing lifeless bones restored to life by God’s power). Jews continue to return to Israel in great numbers, today, but they gather in unbelief. Israel, as a whole, is ignorant of a most important fact... her Messiah came to earth over 2,000 years ago.

**c. Israel’s re-gathering will continue until Jesus Christ’s Second Advent when the prophecy of political and spiritual revival in Israel is fulfilled (EZEKIEL 36 AND 37).** At that time True Israel recognizes Jesus Christ as Messiah and God’s promises are fulfilled in Christ’s Millennial Kingdom (**EZEKIEL 28:24-26**).



### 3. SUMMARY

**a. Armageddon, though not specifically named in our current text, is clearly described.** The campaign’s final battle is simultaneous with the Second Advent. These verses emphasize the triumph of the Lord Jesus Christ at Armageddon and take a frank look at the aftermath.

**b. The enemy is totally destroyed at Armageddon.** So great is the carnage that a holy angel calls vultures to prepare (in advance) to clean up the mess.

**c. The most probable sequence of events for Armageddon is uncovered only by linking REVELATION 19:17-21 to other verses of Scripture.**



**REVELATION 19:17-21** And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, “Come assemble for the great supper of God (*be ready ahead of time*); in order that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and



slaves, and small and great" (These categories cover every classification of humanity. Unbelievers come in all sizes). **And I saw the beast (Antichrist) and the kings of the earth (the beast's followers) and their armies, assembled to make war against Him who sat upon the horse (Jesus Christ), and against His army (Believers of the Church Age are in Christ's army).** **And the beast (Antichrist) was seized and with him the false prophet (Israel's high priest) who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast (666) and those who worshipped his image (a statue of himself in the temple); these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. And the rest were killed (unbelievers who followed them) with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat upon the horse (Jesus Christ destroys the rebellious army all by Himself), and all the birds (prepared and waiting) were filled with their flesh (birds accomplish swift removal of the carnage. They gorge themselves).**

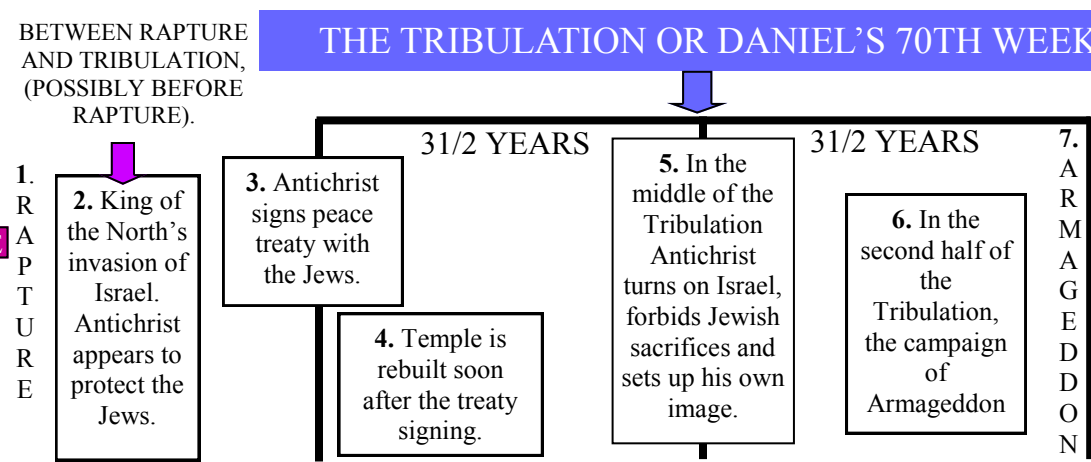


**Other Scripture: PSALM 2:2; DANIEL 9:26, 27; \*EZEKIEL 38 and 39; ISAIAH 34:1-17 and Chapter 63; JOEL 3:2, 13-14; \*ZECHARIAH 12:2-11; 14:2; REVELATION 6:12-14** and others in Revelation.



*(Assign to students for homework.)*

**d. The following order is consistent with our Scriptural knowledge.**





1) The Rapture is the next **scheduled** event on God's calendar (**I CORINTHIANS 15:51-58; I THESSALONIANS 4:13-18**). The king of the north's invasion could therefore fall between the Rapture of the Church and the signing of the treaty between Antichrist and Israel.



*Be very careful...**to be very sure** students **know** every Church Age believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is removed from earth **before** the Tribulation. Remember Christ's words to the church at Philadelphia?*



**REVELATION 3:10** Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, **I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world to test those who dwell upon the earth.**

2) Anyone who believes in Jesus Christ during the Church Age is removed from earth and given a resurrection body in the twinkling of an eye ... **before the Tribulation begins.**

3) The king of the north, referred to as "Gog of the land of Magog" by Ezekiel (38:2; 39:1) attacks Israel from the land and the sea (most probably) after the Rapture and before the Tribulation begins (**EZEKIEL 38:14-23; 39:1-40**).



*"Gog-Magog: the name "Gog-Magog" in Ezekiel 38-39 refers to specific (Northern) locations, but becomes symbolic of another evil leader (Gog) and those who follow (Magog). The term is applied to Satan and his followers (world-wide enemies of Christ) at the end of the Millennium. The two conflicts are not to be confused with each other (REVELATION 20:8).*



*"Gog": the derivation of the word is uncertain. It probably refers to the ruler of the people who live in Magog. Magog was identified by Josephus as the land of the Scythians, the region N. and NE. of the Black Sea and E. of the Aral Sea (now occupied by Russia)." Ryrie Study Bible, Footnote for Ezk. 38:2, p.1286.*

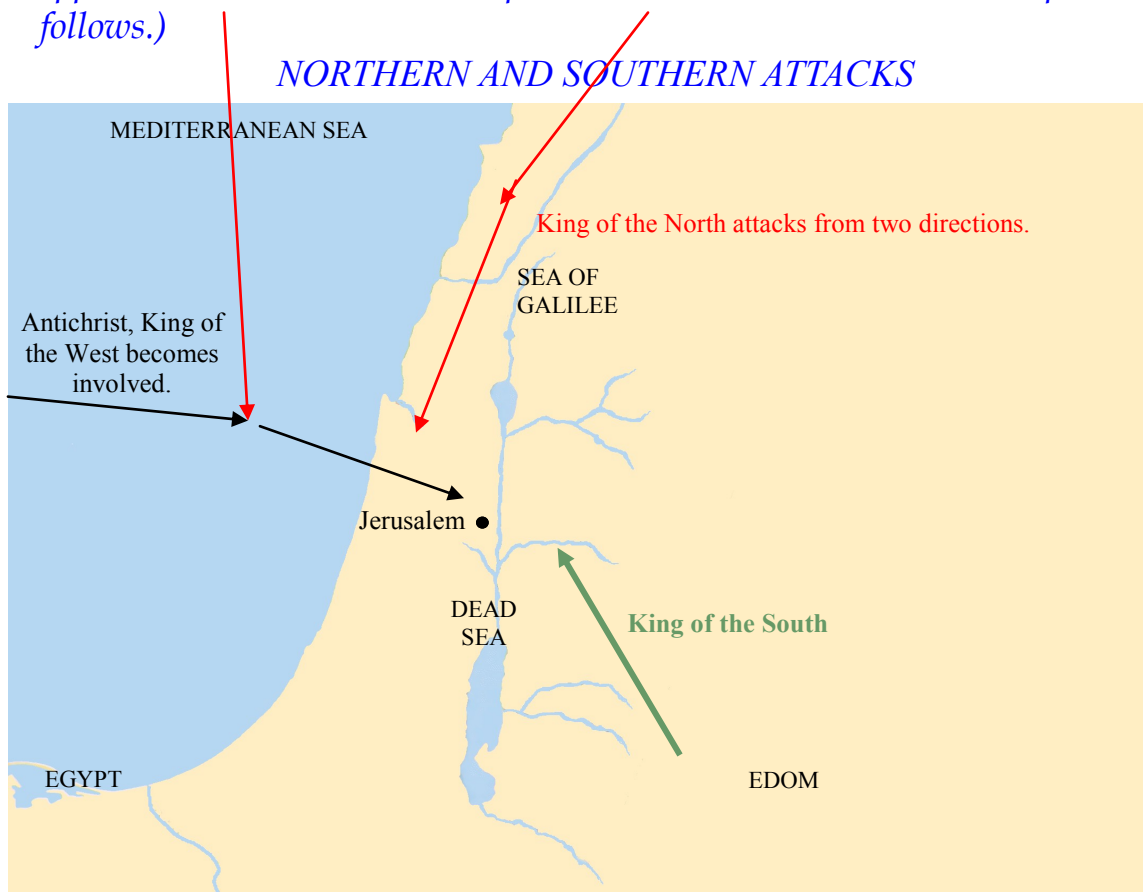
4) The spectacular ascent of a certain European leader: Antichrist or the little horn (**DANIEL 7:8**) begins insignificantly. Three nations willingly give Antichrist their loyalty (**DANIEL 11:2**), he rules 10 former Roman Empire nations and becomes undisputed Dictator of the Revived (and Revised) Roman Empire (**DANIEL 11:3**). His unprecedented rise to power takes place right after the Church's Rapture (**REVELATION 17:12-13**).



*Show on a large map the line of attack on Israel by the northern coalition and the southern coalition. Direct students to draw*



*approximate attack lines on map in the Student Workbook. (Example follows.)*



5) The Northern invasion stands by itself (Turkey, Russia, Iraq, Iran and other northern countries are excellent candidates at the present time - 2009).

The king of the North, because he hears the king of the South is making an aggressive move, seeks to invade Egypt, both from the land and (coming through the Black Sea) from the Mediterranean Sea (**DANIEL 11:41-43**). The Northern invasion reflects the world's attitude of hatred toward Israel and leads to Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation. Though God protects Israel, Antichrist takes credit for victory over the king of the north and strengthens his power as Israel's protector.



6) Antichrist signs a treaty with Israel at the beginning of the Tribulation.

**DANIEL 9:27a. And he (Antichrist) will make a firm covenant (a treaty) with the many (Israel) for one week (7 years, referring to the Tribulation).**



7) The Jewish temple is rebuilt soon after the treaty is signed.



8) The peace treaty results in a false sense of security for Israel (**EZEKIEL 38:8, 11, 14-16**). The Muslim mosque is thoroughly removed by the great earthquake that destroys the northern and southern armies. Antichrist helps Israel rebuild her temple and allows Jewish ritual to resume. Israel places her trust in Antichrist. How foolish Israel is!



9) Antichrist secretly promotes terrorism and underground activity, without revealing his true war-like character for the first half of the Tribulation (**DANIEL 11:16**). He packages all conflicts as efforts to protect Israel.



10) Antichrist, the king of the West, marches through Israel (**DANIEL 9:27**) to reach Egypt and Africa, defeats the king of the South (**DANIEL 11:41-43**) and in the process of returning, stops in Jerusalem and apparently never leaves (**DANIEL 11:44, 45**). He is the powerful dictator of the world (**REVELATION 13:3**).

11) In the middle of the Tribulation Antichrist breaks his treaty.

Other events occur at the Tribulation's mid-point, but three important events are connected with Armageddon and need to be noted here:



\* **It is important to note Antichrist's betrayal of the Jews** (**DANIEL 11:40; EZEKIEL 38-39; REVELATION 6:3-4**).

#### ANTICHRIST REVEALS HIS TRUE CHARACTER.



**DANIEL 9:27b** (*and following*) **...but in the middle of the week** (*the middle of the Tribulation*) **he** (*Antichrist*) **will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering** (*the worship Antichrist allowed Israel to resume*); **and on the wing of abominations** (*setting up the image of himself in the temple*) **will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed** (*this destruction is decreed by God*), **is poured out on the one** (*Antichrist*) **who makes desolate** (*Antichrist reveals his true evil character*).

\* **It is important to note Satan's confinement to earth.**

#### SATAN IS REMOVED FROM HEAVEN.



Michael and his angels make war with Satan and his demons in the middle of the Tribulation and Michael is victorious (**REVELATION**

**12:7-12).** Satan is cast out of heaven and indwells Antichrist. Satan cannot attend the marriage of the Lamb. **Hell now dwells on earth.**

**REVELATION 12:9-10** **And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth and his angels were thrown down with him.**



***\* It is important to note Antichrist's blasphemy against God.***

ANTICHRIST SETS UP HIS IMAGE IN THE TEMPLE.

Antichrist sets up an image of himself in the Jewish temple and declares himself to be God. (**DANIEL 9:27; MATTHEW 24:15; II THESSALONIANS 2:4; REVELATION 13:5, 15-18**).



6) In the second half of the Tribulation, the campaign of Armageddon begins.

12) At the end of the Tribulation, Christ returns and brings Armageddon to an end.

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## **B. THE ANATOMY OF ARMAGEDDON**

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### **1. THE WORLD'S ARMIES GATHER**

The world's armies (including whatever is left of the north and the south after their resounding defeat following the earlier attack) begin gathering at Armageddon intending to make war against Israel. In evil insolence, the world prepares to hurl its collective force against their Creator and His golden city, Jerusalem (**JOEL 3:9-11; REVELATION 16:12-16**). This part of the Armageddon campaign begins and ends in the last three and a half years of the Tribulation. Three and a half years is a very short time in the light of world history.




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### **2. THE ORIENTAL BLOCK: THE LAST TO JOIN**

The final group to gather at Armageddon is an eastern block of nations referred to as "the kings from the east" (**REVELATION 16:12**). When the Euphrates River, dries up, the way is open for Oriental armies to cross over (**DANIEL 11:44**). Possible candidates are India, Afghanistan and Pakistan along with China, Japan and Korea.




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### **3. UNCLEAR BIRDS ARE PREPARED**

God has always known the outcome of the final battle and He is prepared. So great is the slaughter that an angel calls flesh eating vultures to organize (before the battle begins) for the clean up (**REVELATION 19:17-18**).



*An argument frequently used against the first northern attack being separate from Armageddon is that vultures are said to clean up the carnage connected with both conflicts so the two battles must be one and the same. However, descriptions of the clean up differ. At Armageddon the birds are called **before** the battles begin. In the early invasion, birds are involved, but not called beforehand. Vultures are always attracted by death and bloodshed.*

#### 4. JESUS CHRIST DESTROYS THE ARMIES

##### a. Destruction of the armies.

The combined forces of those ready to wipe out Israel at Armageddon are annihilated supernaturally by the Lord Jesus Christ at His Second Advent. The reference to the sword from His mouth (**REVELATION 19:15**) tells us the armies are destroyed by one word from the Lord's mouth.



##### b. God's people live in Israel in eternity.

Think about it and you can relate to God's perspective concerning Israel. The center of your world is where you live. Everything revolves around your home town. Its surrounding areas make up the rest of your world.

*For younger children, adapt to their location. Use a large, local map, with their hometown circled to illustrate. Distribute local maps to the students. Point to your city on the large, local map. Direct students to mark out four geographic directions on their individual maps, using their own city as the center.*



*Thomasville, Georgia is to the north of Tallahassee. Atlanta, Georgia is not too far away, also to the north. Jacksonville is to the east and Panama City is to the west, Tampa south of Tallahassee, with Gainesville and Ocala also to the south. If kings ruled the areas surrounding Tallahassee, the king of Georgia would be the king of the north, the king of Tampa would be the king of the south, the king of the west would be king of Panama City and the king of the east would be the king of Jacksonville. Compare to the map with Israel in the center.*

##### c. Summary.

1) There are indications that the nations surrounding Israel in the Tribulation (North, South, East and West) are busy fighting and bickering for their own interests at Armageddon until all four unite in rebellion against Jesus Christ as He returns to earth.

*“There is some evidence that a struggle is going on between various segments of the world empire at the time of the second coming of Christ; but with the appearance of the Lord in glory and the procession of the armies of heaven accompanying Him, these armies of earth forget their differences and join in battle against the King of kings and Lord of lords.” Walvoord, John F., The Revelation of Jesus Christ, Moody Press, Chicago, c. 1966, p.279.*



2) The valley of Esdraelon, referred to as “the valley of decision” is not where men make decisions about God. God carries out His decisions concerning the final destiny of men who, by their previous, individual free will, have placed themselves under the judgment of God and will not change their minds,

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## B. WHAT ARMAGEDDON IS NOT

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### 1. NOT THE NORTHERN INVASION

THE EARLY INVASION BY THE KING OF THE NORTH EXHIBITS THE SAME ATTITUDE, BUT IS NOT ARMAGEDDON.

**a. The early, northern attack could be seven years, or more, before the gathering at Armageddon.** Though it is part of the attitude that leads to the final battle (**EZEKIEL 38:16-20; 39:1-8**), **it is not Armageddon.** The northern coalition is clearly identified (**EZEKIEL 39:1**). That army never gathers with other armies at Armageddon and God intervenes with an earthquake, hailstones and fire (**EZEKIEL 38:19-22**). *(Note verse 3 where God confirms His control).*



1) Thick books have been written claiming Russia is the northern nation. We tend to agree, but changes in names occur so quickly we continue to call him the king of the north. One of the best arguments for identifying Russia as king of the north (because of its Scriptural basis in Ezekiel 38:2-3) follows.

*The “Prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal,” to whom God addresses Himself, is, the leader of a united Russia, with Moscow representing the west and Tobolsk representing the east...Internal evidence makes absolutely*





*conclusive the fact that no other land than Russia could possibly be meant."Lindberg, Milton B., **Russia in Prophecy, Faithful Words Publishing Company, St. Louis, c. 1938, p. 5. (NOTE publishing year.)***

1) With the exception of the concluding battle, the time of each of Armageddon's several struggles is difficult to establish with certainty. Books (based on geopolitical conditions at the time of writing are mostly out-dated). Our schedule fits the information we have and does not contradict established Scriptural chronology.

2) The following justifications for a pre-Tribulation northern aggression against Israel are based on Scripture and Geography) and contribute to a better understanding of the book of Revelation.



**\*The Jewish temple.** The Jewish temple is rebuilt during the first half of the Tribulation. A pre-Tribulation invasion by the north and God's subsequent earthquake destroying the northern coalition, causes "every wall in Jerusalem to fall to the ground" (**EZEKIEL 38:15-20**). This is important, because it destroys the Muslim mosque standing partially on the temple site, opening the way for the Jewish temple to be constructed.

**\*Antichrist's appearance following northern destruction.** Because Antichrist seems to come to Israel's rescue, Israel sees him as their Messiah. Antichrist further courts Jewish favor by helping rebuild their temple and reinstating orthodox Jewish worship. It all fits, nicely, into the period of time between the Rapture and the peace treaty.



**\*Clean-up time following the carnage.** Scripture predicts seven years of clean up after the earthquake and destruction of the northern armies (**Ezekiel 39:9-10**). Northern invasion before the Tribulation allows time for complete clean up before the Millennium (**EZEKIEL 39:12-17**). It is unlikely cleaning up after war and destruction would continue into the perfection of the Kingdom Age, but it is an accepted and necessary activity during temple construction. ( Remember vultures are prepared ahead of time at Armageddon.)

AS CHURCH AGE BELIEVERS, WE DO NOT LOOK FOR THE  
NORTHERN INVASION, BUT FOR THE SOON  
RETURN OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.  
(LUKE 21:28; II TIMOTHY 4:8; JAMES 5:8)



**\*Timing of the treaty between Antichrist and Israel.** At the beginning of the Tribulation, Antichrist promises to protect Israel. (It

follows that Israel trusts Antichrist—they believe he protected them against the king of the north.) In the middle of the Tribulation, Antichrist (indwelt by Satan) betrays the Jews he promised to protect (**DANIEL 9:27**). Satan does not keep his promises.

GOD PROMISES TO PROTECT HIS CHILDREN  
AND REMOVES THEM BEFORE THE TRIBULATION BEGINS  
(**REVELATION 3:10**).  
GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES.



**TITUS 1:2** ...in the hope (*confidence*) of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago...



## 2. NOT ANY CONFLICT GOING ON TODAY

ARMAGEDDON IS NOT ANY WAR OR BATTLE  
GOING ON TODAY.

### a. Class Activities.

*Two separate maps may be used for Class Activity.*

*The first for drawing direction arrows for Israel as the center of God's world. Instruct students to show God's geographic divisions on the first map. Explain that each area is bound together under a leader during the Tribulation. Teacher may use this activity wherever it best fits in class time.*

*The second map is for tracing the line of attack on Israel by the nations of the world in the campaign of Armageddon.*

*Directions for the second map are given as the lesson is taught. An unmarked map is in Student Workbook. Map in Teacher's Guide is correctly marked.*



### b. Song: Battle Hymn of the Republic.

#### IMPORTANT TEACHER'S NOTES

*Prophecy, as part of God's Word, should never be feared or ignored. Notice, however, though God knows everything, He tells His children only what they need to know. God wants his children to be well rounded in their studies, not fanatically occupied with one aspect while neglecting another. Spending excessive time and attention on details not covered in Scripture is an unhealthy focus on future events and inconsistent with God's complete will, purpose and plan. God gives enough information to provide confidence that He is in control and His plan will prevail.*





*IMPORTANT NOTE #2: If time is available, teacher might introduce “Operation Footstool Chart” (Page 22) to older students or send copies home for study. The subject comes up again in REVELATION 22:12-15.*

In view of the fact that God controls history and His plan will prevail, how should we live our lives? We should live within His plan.

God’s plan for His children in the Church Age is clear: listen for the trumpet, watch for the Bridegroom’s return and study and grow to maturity in Christ Jesus until then.

*(I Corinthians 14:20; James 4:4; Romans 12:2 ) Read all three verses.*

From these verses we learn that having humility and responding to what we learn from God’s Word enables us to advance to maturity in the Spiritual life and to think with the mind of Christ. Thus our lives will glorify God and count in His plan.

## CLOSING PRAYER



*Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word is a gracious gift to us and we are so thankful. First, we are grateful for Your Son and the provision of salvation. When Jesus Christ hung on that cross, between heaven and earth, He had each one of us in mind. He took our place and received the punishment we deserve. He never sinned, but He became sin for us. The moment we believe He did that for us, personally, is the moment of our salvation. When we trust Jesus Christ as Savior we become God’s child and we will live in heaven forever. We pray, Father, that if any one here has never trusted Christ, they might do so right now. They can simply tell You, in the privacy of their own soul (while we are praying) that they are trusting Christ and at that moment they are saved. They might seal that decision by saying “Thank You, God, for saving me.” Now, unto Him who is able to keep us spotless, the only wise Savior, Jesus Christ, be glory, power and honor, forever and ever. Amen.*

## TEACHER'S COPY OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

*Questions and answers may be used as a Class Activity for this lesson or review in the following lesson. Connect Scriptural passages with the following questions. Direct students to look up verses and answer from Scripture.*

### WHO?

#### WHO IS INVOLVED IN ARMAGEDDON?

**ZECHARIAH 14:2** For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be captured...

**JOEL 3:2** I will gather all the nations, And bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. Then I will enter into judgment with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel.

Jesus Christ with His armies from heaven and all nations on earth are involved in the final battle of Armageddon. In evil insolence toward Almighty God, the world's armies prepare to hurl themselves against God's chosen people in God's favorite city.

*Who is involved in Armageddon?*

*Answer: Jesus Christ with His armies from heaven. The armies of all nations on earth.*

### WHERE?

#### WHERE DOES ARMAGEDDON OCCUR?

1. The final battle is located in the large valley of Jehoshaphat connected with the hill of Megiddo.

*(POINT TO THIS LOCATION ON A MAP. Be sure students recognize the location) Be very precise: the final battle is connected with the hill of Megiddo and the valley of Jehoshaphat or Esdraelon (Revelation 16:16).*

2. The valley of Esdraelon or the Plain of Jehoshaphat is so extensive that Napoleon Bonaparte of France once remarked "All of the armies of the world could do battle here" and that is exactly what happens at the end of the Tribulation.

**JOEL 3:2** I will gather all nations, And bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat...

**JOEL 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! (the valley of Jehoshaphat) For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.**

3. The title, “valley of decision” speaks of God executing His decisions about men, not men deciding about God. Men’s final decisions have been set by the time of Armageddon’s final battle.

Where does Armageddon occur?

*Answer: In the large valley of Esdraelon (also called the plain of Jehoshaphat) near the city or hill of Megiddo.*

## WHAT?

### WHAT IS ARMAGEDDON?

1. Armageddon is a military conflict in addition to being a location.

*Be sure students do not confuse Armageddon with the Gog/Magog Revolution at the end of the Millennium when Satan is released from the abyss. They are two different events. The Gog/Magog revolution must be considered in its sequential time slot.*

*Point to the end of the Millennium on a Timeline. Armageddon is a series of battles involving all the nations of the world and is terminated by Jesus Christ at His second advent.*

*Since this subject was given so much attention at the beginning of the lesson, allow students to fill in their answers.*

What is Armageddon?

*Answer: A location in the world and a military campaign named after its closing and most prominent battle. Because there is no organized confrontation at Satan’s Gog/Magog revolt, Armageddon is history’s final worldwide conflict.*

## WHEN?

### WHEN DOES ARMAGEDDON OCCUR?

The campaign of Armageddon takes place during the Great Tribulation. Although the initial attack leading to Armageddon occurs after the Rapture and before the Tribulation, the gathering of forces for the Armageddon campaign begins during the Tribulation’s last three and a half years and terminates with the final battle right before Jesus Christ’s Second Advent.

*Remind students by pointing to these times on a time line.*

When does Armageddon occur?

*Answer: At the end of the last three and a half years of the Tribulation,*

## WHY?

### WHY DOES ARMAGEDDON OCCUR?

1. Armageddon occurs because the world hates Israel and is jealous and covetous of the treasures she possesses. The unholy trinity (Satan, Antichrist and the False Prophet) conspires against the Jews and tells lies about God's chosen people encouraging the world's hatred of Israel and their desire to wage war against her.

*Display the symbol of the unholy trinity and the croaking frogs.*

2. We studied the conspiracy behind the public lie and compared the unholy trinity to croaking frogs. Satan has always desired the destruction of Israel. If Satan can destroy Israel, he will win his rebellious conflict against God. Three frog-like demons go forth to stir up the world's leaders to destroy the Jews (**REVELATION 16:13-16**).

*Why does Armageddon occur?*

*Answer: Satan hates Israel and stirs up the world to wage war against her so she will be destroyed.*

## WHAT FOR?

### WHAT ARE THE REASONS FOR ARMAGEDDON?

*Scripture gives two distinct reasons. Since these have been taught in previous lessons, lead students to the following conclusions:*

**1. First**, Satan (using his puppet and his pawn) stirs up and encourages unbelieving nations of the world to hate Israel because it is his desire to destroy the Jews.

**2. Second**, Armageddon is also part of the great day of God Almighty when God disciplines Israel by allowing Satan to scheme and wage war against her (**JOEL 3:12**). God uses the evil of the world to pour out His wrath upon God rejecters and discipline Israel for disobedience and for rejecting her King (**ISAIAH 34:1-4; REVELATION 19:21**).

*(Remind students that God always breaks the rod He uses to discipline His children. GENESIS 12:3) The nations gathered to wage war against Israel turn their combined anger against the King of kings and are ultimately, destroyed supernaturally by the Lord Jesus Christ at His Second Advent.*

*What are the reasons for Armageddon?*

*Answer: Satan's hatred and persecution is allowed by God as His discipline upon Israel.*

*The final question on students' questionnaire asks, "What is Armageddon NOT?" Leave no doubt in the minds of students - Armageddon is not a conflict going on between any nations today, in this present age, the Church Age. Armageddon will not occur until after the bride of Christ, believers of the Church Age, are removed at the Rapture (before the Tribulation begins). Armageddon is at the end of the Tribulation and Church Age believers will not be here.*

ARMAGEDDON IS NOT ANY CONFLICT  
GOING ON TODAY!

AND...FINALLY

HOW DO WE KNOW THIS?

**We know it because the Bible tells us so!**

**Teacher, please note student's list of questions on final page. Page should be copied, distributed to students and filled out in class.**

**CLASS ACTIVITY**  
**QUESTIONS ON ARMAGEDDON**

1. What is Armageddon?

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2. Who is involved in Armageddon?

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3. Where does Armageddon occur?

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4. When does Armageddon occur?

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5. Why does Armageddon occur?

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6. What are the reasons for Armageddon?

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7. What is Armageddon NOT? (Unique question for this particular subject.) How do we know this?

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## IMPORTANT TEACHER'S NOTE

*A study devoted to the prophetic book of Revelation is guaranteed to prompt the question "Is America in prophecy?" Teacher needs to answer the question. Simply put, The United States of America is not mentioned in prophecy. American citizens find that hard to believe.*

*Technically, Scripture names only one modern nation (Russia is called ROSH in EZEKIEL 38 and 39). The United States of America is not referred to anywhere. No reference can be proven.*

*Here are the reasons:*

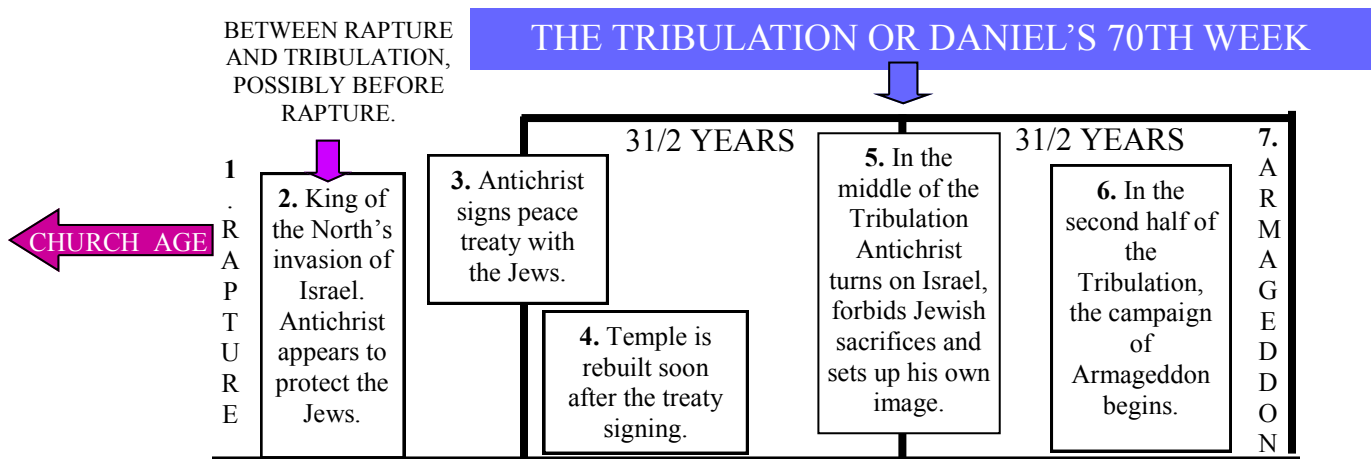
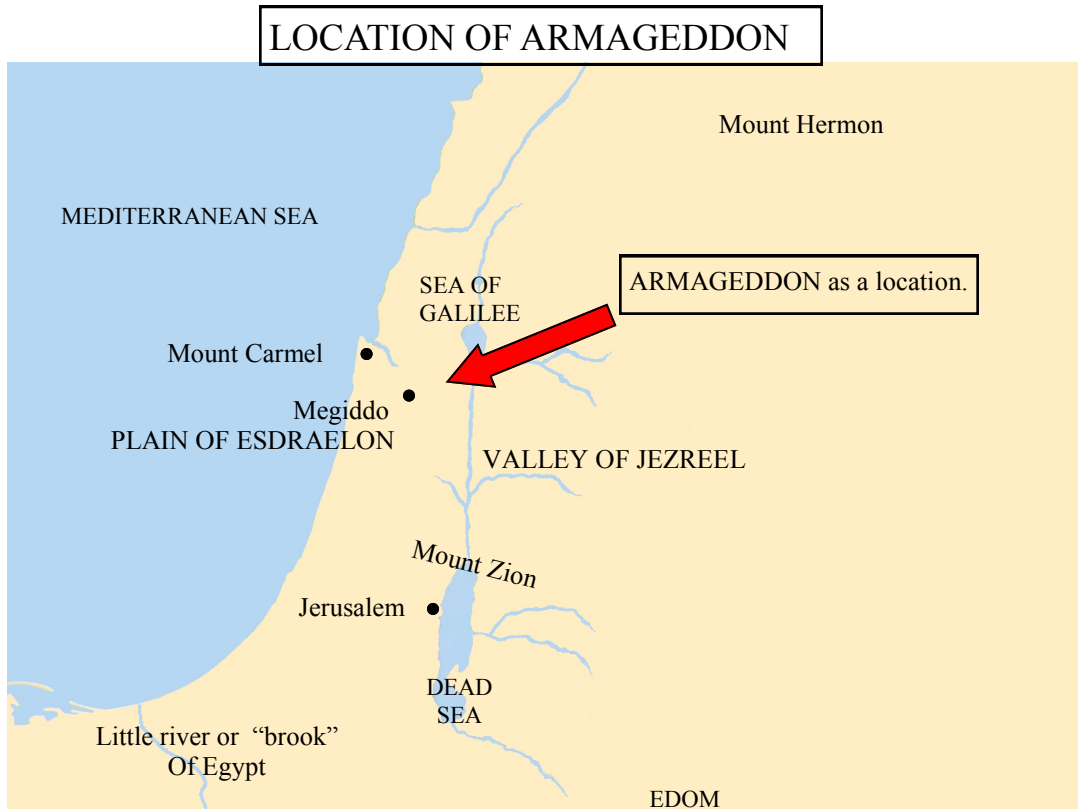
*First, America is a new country compared to nations like Egypt and Israel. She was not there in the beginning. She is not there in the end.*

*Second, since Israel is the center of God's interest, only nations surrounding Israel are mentioned in prophecy. America is too far removed geographically to be important in the end times. If America retains her client-nation status until the Rapture, America's fall as a great nation will be the most sudden in world history. When believers are removed, there remains in America only "the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars". In other words, "unbelievers".*

*The reason for America's greatness is gone.*

*There will be no slow decline. America's power will end suddenly, completely and finally... "in the twinkling of an eye". There are many speculations, but no way to predict her final alliances.*

*America's historical greatness is undeniable, but she needs not be accounted for in the end.*



## THREE PHASES OF OPERATION FOOTSTOOL

When Jesus Christ puts all enemies under His feet  
Psalm 110:1; I Corinthians 15:24-28

### PHASE I

- A. BEGINS WITH THE SECOND ADVENT AND THE FINAL BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON (Rev. 14:20; 16:16; 19:11-14).
- B. ENDS WITH CHRIST TREADING THE WINEPRESS OF GOD'S WRATH (Rev. 19:15).

### PHASE II

- A. BEGINS WITH THE SEPARATION OF THE SHEEP AND GOATS AND THE SETTING UP OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM (Matt. 25:31-34; 41; 46).
- B. ENDS WITH GOG/MAGOG REVOLUTION: SATAN RELEASED FROM ABYSS, FIRE FROM HEAVEN DESTROYS SATAN'S ARMY (Rev. 20:7-10).

### PHASE III

- A. BEGINS WITH THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT (Rev. 20:11-15).
- B. ENDS WITH THE TERMINATION OF THE ANGELIC CONFLICT AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PERFECT ETERNAL STATE (I Cor. 15:27-28; Rev. 21:1-3).

### ENEMIES PLACED UNDER CHRIST'S FEET

1. UNBELIEVERS OF TRIBULATION KILLED BY ONE WORD FROM CHRIST'S MOUTH, SENT TO TORMENTS IN HADES TO WAIT FOR THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT (Rev. 19:21).
2. BEAST AND FALSE PROPHET SENT TO THE LAKE OF FIRE (Rev. 19:20).
3. SATAN IMPRISONED IN ABYSS (Rev. 20:1-3).

### ENEMIES PLACED UNDER CHRIST'S FEET

1. UNBELIEVERS BORN DURING MILLENNIUM WHO JOINED SATAN'S ARMY DESTROYED BY FIRE FROM HEAVEN, SENT TO TORMENTS (Rev. 20:9).
2. SATAN AND HIS DEMONS SENT TO LAKE OF FIRE (Rev. 20:10).

### ENEMIES PLACED UNDER CHRIST'S FEET

1. ALL UNBELIEVERS OF ALL TIME SENT TO LAKE OF FIRE (Rev. 20:13-15).
  2. DEATH, THE LAST ENEMY, ABOLISHED (I Cor. 15:26).
- ALL ENEMIES PERMANENTLY ABOLISHED AND IN SUBMISSION TO THE THREE IN ONE GOD**  
(Psalm 110:1; Mat. 22:44; I Cor. 15:24-25; 27-28).