

Surviving the Battle of Armageddon

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Introduction

- **With events that are unfolding during our time; an interest has been awakened in the minds of many to know more about last day events, as such today's presentation seeks to address one of the Last Day events- and that is Armageddon**
- **There are many different ideas as to what Armageddon is all about, today I am going to present what I believe to be true to the text and in harmony with the church position.**

Main texts: Revelation 16:15, 16).

- **15 “Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed *is* he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.”**
- **16 And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.**

Key word:

- **Armageddon: (Ἄρμαγεδών, *Harmagedōn*, Ἄρμαγεδδσών, *Harmageddsōn*, Ἄρ Μαγεδών, *Har Magedōn*).**
- **Literally “Mountain of Megiddo.” (Coutras, A. J. (2016) *Armageddon The Lexham Bible Dictionary*)**
- **Noun, accusative (NASN)/nominative (NNSN), singular, neuter**
- **Armageddon occurs only in the account of the sixth plague in Rev. 16:16**

Meaning of the word

- **The noun Armageddon, written in Greek as *Harmagedon*, designates the place where the forces of evil gather to fight the Lord.**
- **The text states that it is a Hebrew name. Hence, most interpreters find in the name the combination of two Hebrew words.**
- **The first is *har*, which in Hebrew means "mountain, mount." it then translates to *Mount of Megiddo*:**
- **Armageddon is Satan's last attempt to become the sole object of worship on Planet Earth. (Angel Manuel Rodriguez)**

NURTURE OF THE BATTLE

- **The battle of Armageddon is spiritual... (Norman Gulley Preparation for the end page 327)**
- **Armageddon is the ultimate climax “not between squabbling nations, but between the two sides of cosmic controversy. It’s a religious struggle, not economic or political, however much economic and political factors might come to play” (Norman Gulley Preparation for the end page 330)**
- **It’s a worldwide conflict between the forces of Christ and Satan. (Norman Gulley Preparation for the end page 330)**
- **It is not a local battle in the area of Megiddo (Norman Gulley Preparation for the end page 330)**

NURTURE OF THE BATTLE

- **The battle of Armageddon is spiritual in nurture, “it involves” opposing two spiritual enemies – Babylon and the heavenly Jerusalem. (Norman Gulley Preparation for the end page 333)**
- **The camp of Babylon is represented by the three beasts: the dragon, the sea beast, and the land beast. (Norman Gulley Preparation for the end page 333)**
- **The intention of Revelation 16 is not to identify a geographical location but to indicate a decisive battle between good and evil. Andrews Study Bible (p. 1680).**

SYMBOLS OF BIBLE PROPHECY (Doug Batchelor Amazing Facts)

SYMBOL	MEANING
DRAGON	SATAN (Isaiah 27:1; 30:6; psalm 74:13,14; Revelation 12:7-9; Ezekiel 29:3; Jeremiah 51:34)
Beast	Kingdom/Government/political power (Daniel 7:17, 23)
Lamb	Jesus/sacrifice (John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7)
Lion	Jesus/ powerful king i.e. Babylon (Revelation 5:4-9; Jeremiah 50:43, 44, Daniel 7:4, 17, 23)
Bear	Destructive power/ Medo-Persia (Proverbs 28:15; 2 Kings 2:23, 24; Daniel 7:5)
Leopard	Greece (Daniel 7:6)
Ram	Medo-Persia (Daniel 8:20)
Goat	Greece (Daniel 8:21)
Horn	King or kingdom (Daniel 7:24; 8:5,21,22; Zechariah 1:18,19; Revelation 17:12)
Wings	Speed/protection/deliverance (Deuteronomy 28:49; Matthew 23:37)

Order of events

- **National Sunday Law decree is issued**
- **Followed by the persecution of the saints**
- **Then Close of probation**
- **The plagues then**
- **The coming of Jesus**

- Ellen G White shed more light
- **“We all fled from the cities and villages, but were pursued by the wicked, who entered the houses of the saints with a sword. They raised the sword to kill us, but it broke, and fell as powerless as a straw” (Early Writings, Page 34).**
- **“And at the commencement of the time of trouble, we were filled with the Holy Ghost as we went forth and proclaimed the Sabbath more fully. This enraged the churches. I saw the sword, famine, pestilence, and great confusion in the land. The wicked thought we had brought the judgments upon them, and they rose up and took counsel to rid the earth of us, thinking that then the evil would be stayed.” (Early Writings, Page 85)**

- **Order of events: The death decree on all who refuse to bow to the image to the beast will go forth just before probation closes.**
- **Sunday-Law Enforcement Precedes the *Close of probation***
- **Before Jesus comes, the Mark of the Beast will be enforced upon men and women throughout this world. They will be pressured to worship the Beast. Revelation 13:16, 17.**
- **After the mark of the beast is enforced, there will be two classes, those who receive the Mark of the Beast and those who receive the Seal of God; those who are disloyal and those who are loyal.**
- **After each person has made his final, irrevocable decision, God's wrath unmingled with mercy will be poured out.**

- **He himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. Revelation 14:10.**
- **The unmingled fury of God, His wrath poured out, untempered with mercy.**
- **What is the wrath of God poured out without mercy? Revelation 15:1 again mentions it**

- **Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete. Rev. 15:1**
- **Upon whom is the wrath of God poured out?**
- **Upon those who receive the Mark of the Beast. So those who receive the Mark of the Beast and yield to human traditions and human laws, selling out their devotion to Christ, will ultimately receive the seven last plagues.**

- **After the Mark of the Beast is enforced, the plagues will be poured out. Then Christ will come at the end of the plagues to deliver His people.**
- **After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened**
- **And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands. Revelation 15:5, 6**
- **And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power,...and no man was able to enter into the temple,... till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled. Revelation 15:7, 8.**

- **What does the Bible say? “No man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.”**
- **If God’s people are raptured or taken to heaven before the plagues are poured out, they obviously enter the heavenly temple. But the Bible clearly says that nobody, no man can enter the temple in heaven until the seven last plagues are fulfilled.**
- **And the solemn announcement is made:**
- **He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still;... ..he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still. Revelation 22:11. (END-TIME MESSAGES FROM JESUS)**

- **NB*** Christ's work as our High Priest in heaven has ended. Every case has been decided for eternal life or eternal death. The door of God's mercy is shut! Now it is that earth's inhabitants experience the "time of trouble" spoken of by the prophet Daniel.**
- **And listen. Friend, God isn't going to snatch away His people until the plagues are over.**
- **They will be right here on earth until the end! They will be protected during the plagues just as were the children of Israel... (END-TIME MESSAGES FROM JESUS)**

- **Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth. Revelation 16:1.**
- **“But,” you say, “what are these terrible plagues that are to be poured out by the seven angels upon the wicked?” That’s a good question.**
- **As we read about the plagues, you will notice a striking similarity to the ones that fell upon Egypt. Let’s read what John has to say about the first angel. (END-TIME MESSAGES FROM JESUS)**

THE EXODUS PLAGUES (EXODUS 7-12)	THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES (REVELATION 16)
<p>“Bring out the people of Israel from the land of Egypt” (Ex. 6:26)</p>	<p>“Come out of her (Babylon), my people... lest you share in her plagues” (Revelation 18:4)</p>
1. River Nile: blood	1. Earth sores (boils)
2. River Nile: frogs	2. Sea: blood
3. Earth: gnats	3. Rivers: blood
4. Flies	4. Sun: scorching heat
5. Cattle: fatal disease	5. Beast’s throne: painful darkness
6. Ashes: boils	6. River Euphrates: dried up, God battles nations
7. Heaven: hailstones	7. Air: hailstones, etc.
8. Egypt: locusts	
9. Heaven: palpable darkness	
10. Firstborn: death	
Red sea dried up, God battles Egypt	

First Angel: FIRST PLAGUE: MALIGNANT SORES

- **So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth**
- **...and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the Mark of the Beast and those who worshiped his image. Revelation 16:2**
- **The NIV says they are “ugly and painful sores.” Perhaps they are similar to the boils and blains suffered by the Egyptians during their seventh plague.**
- **Or, maybe they could be somewhat the same as the suppurating boils Job endured.**
- **Many scholars believe them to be some type of cancerous lesion.**
- **But whatever the diagnosis, we do know that the sores will be painful and they will fall on all those who have chosen to follow the dictates of man instead of the commands of God. (24 Sermons)**

2nd Angel: SECOND PLAGUE: THE SEA TURNS TO BLOOD

- **Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died. Revelation 16:3.**

3rd Angel: THIRD PLAGUE: THE WATERS TURN TO BLOOD

- Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. Revelation 16:4.**
- You are righteous, O Lord... because You have judged these things. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets... and You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due. Revelation 16:5, 6**
- At this time, when the wicked are perishing of thirst and have nothing to drink but blood, the promise is made to him who walks righteously:**
- Bread will be given him, his water will be sure. Isaiah 33:16**

4th Angel: FOURTH PLAGUE: MEN ARE SCORCHED

- **Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire.**
- **And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God... who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.**

Revelation 16:8, 9

5th Angel: FIFTH PLAGUE: DARKNESS AND PAIN

- **Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast ... and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.
Revelation 16:10, 11**

6th Angel: SIXTH PLAGUE: EUPHRATES DRIED UP

- **Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Revelation 16:12-14**
- **And Revelation 16:16 says: And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon**

- **The whole world is to be involved in this final conflict.**
- **The Battle of Armageddon has to do with the forces of hell mobilizing against God's people to completely destroy them. All of us will be involved in the Battle of Armageddon**
- **In the last moment of time, when it looks as though God's people will be annihilated, the last phase of the battle occurs. Christ, the King of the East, returns with His armies from the sky, the wicked are finally destroyed, and the artillery from heaven falls. This is Armageddon**

7th Angel: SEVENTH PLAGUE: THE EARTH IS SHAKEN

- Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, it is done! Revelation 16:17**
- a mighty and great earthquake every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. Revelation 16:18, 20**
- This catastrophic convulsion of the earth levels the cities as well as the mountains**
- Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great. Revelation 16:21**
- Most scholars place the weight of a talent at 57 pounds (25 kg.). No one can imagine the devastation such a hailstorm would accomplish.**
(END-TIME MESSAGES FROM JESUS)

- **But the Bible says that the Lord Himself will interrupt the conflict as He rides forth with the armies of heaven to deliver His people from a Planet in rebellion**
- **We can learn a lesson for the future from the past. Israel had been in captivity in Egypt for many years and the time had come for God to fulfill His promise to deliver them from bondage. God sent Moses and Aaron to tell Pharaoh to let His people go. But Pharaoh's response was, "Who is God that I should listen to Him?" In the ten plagues that fell on Egypt just before God's people were delivered, God showed Pharaoh who He was (END-TIME MESSAGES FROM JESUS)**

- **The final plague was the death of all the first born in Egypt. Moses and Aaron had warned Pharaoh for the last time**
- **They had also instructed those who chose to follow the God of Heaven that they should take a lamb on the fourteenth day of the first month and kill the lamb and sprinkle its blood on the doorpost of their house so the destroying angel would pass over their homes.**
- **At midnight the angel of destruction passed through the land and just as God had said, all that did not have the blood on their doorpost had death in their house. But those who had sprinkled the blood on their doorpost were delivered. And that night they left for the promised land. (END-TIME MESSAGES FROM JESUS)**

- **Just so in earth's last hours, the final plagues fell on those who rejected or neglected God's deliverance and salvation. But, those who have chosen the blood of the Lamb to cleanse them from their sins, will be delivered. The prophet Daniel wrote**
- **At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book. Daniel 12:1. (END-TIME MESSAGES FROM JESUS)**

- **The plagues have fallen, and as the last one comes to its conclusion, Christ rides forth at the head of the armies of heaven to deliver His people, for He says**
- **Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame. Revelation 16:15**
- **Someone is going to ask, “What will happen to God’s people during the plagues?” God’s people will be spared when the plagues fall if they have accepted the Lamb of God as their sacrifice and allowed His blood to cleanse them from sin. (END-TIME MESSAGES FROM JESUS)**

- **By our lives we are choosing today which side we will be on, God's side or the side of a rebel angel.**
- **And Friend, when the destroying angels begin their work, it will be too late to change sides!**
- **Probation's door will have already closed forever**
- **Won't you place yourself on God's side, under the protection of the blood of Jesus now? The saddest words men will ever utter are found in**
- **Jeremiah 8:20: The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved**

How do you Surviving the Battle of Armageddon

- **Place yourself on God's side under the protection of the blood of Jesus now**
- **Come out of Babylon: refuse to be part of "those who receive the Mark of the Beast and yield to human traditions and human laws"**
- **Refuse to sell out your devotion to Christ,**
- **Any unconfessed sins should be confessed now**
- **Confess sins one to another**
- **Make things right with fellow man and with your God**
- **Be reconciled with fellow man and with your God now.**