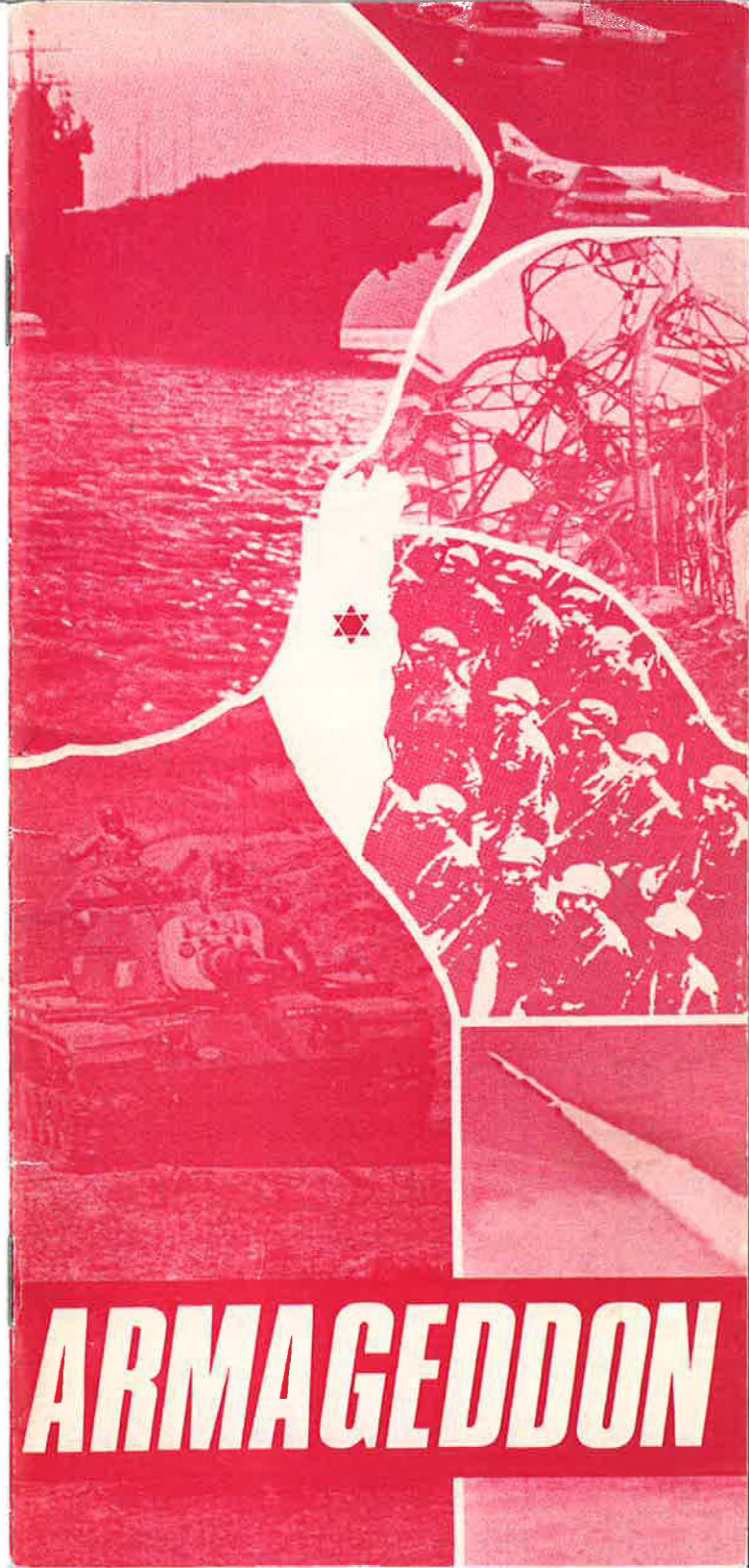


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# ARMAGEDDON

# **ARMAGEDDON**

*by Robert Hooley*

The message contained in this booklet was delivered to a church audience by Robert Hooley. It has now been made available to you in printed form in order to share the truth of God's Word with hungry hearts everywhere.

## ARMAGEDDON

Let us pray together: *"Father, we do thank you and praise your name for your goodness to us and for your mercy. Lord, we realize that none of us are anything without you. We love you and we love one another. We want to serve you; and, Lord, we're just going to open our hearts unto the Word of God, because it holds thy Divine truth. We submit ourselves, humbly bowing before the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of the Holy Spirit, that we might be taught; and, God, I just pray today that the words you speak through these lips might be anointed of the Holy Spirit so that your people might have an understanding of what is going to take place at the end of this age. Father, I ask you in the name of Jesus to remove every bit of confusion so that we will understand clearly. We thank you for your presence, Lord, and we praise you in Jesus' mighty name. Amen!"*

Our subject is Armageddon. Even though the word "Armageddon" is used only once in the entire Bible, most people readily recall that it relates to prophetic events which are to occur at the close of this age. The kings of the earth are to be gathered to what the scripture terms in Revelation 16:14, ". . . the battle of that great day of God Almighty." We read in Revelation 16:16, "And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon."

Armageddon means the hill or mountain of Megiddo, and Megiddo is situated in the Valley of Esdraelon, which is also called the Valley of Jezreel. The valley is approximately 14 miles wide and 20 miles long, and it is located west of the Jordan River in the north central portion of Israel, about 10 miles south of the city of Nazareth and some 15 miles inland from the Mediterranean Sea.

This region is known historically as a gathering place for armies, and many great wars of Old

Testament times have been fought in this part of the Holy Land. Here Gideon defeated the Midianites, and in this area Saul, the first king of Israel, met his death. Even throughout the past two thousand years of comparatively recent history the surrounding hills have often resounded with the noise of battle. But nothing can compare with what lies in store, for this area holds a prominent place in the over-all picture of end-time events.

In order to better understand the events that are going to take place in and around this area in the days to come, we need to look at two facts set forth by the scriptures. These facts will help to expand and clarify our concept of what is often referred to as the battle of Armageddon.

First, in Revelation 16:14, where we read the term, *"the battle of that great day of God Almighty,"* the Greek word translated "battle" is "polemos," which is used to signify a war or a series of campaigns as well as just one single event. This is a small but significant fact, one which is essential to the establishment of the true picture of things to come.

The second fact helps to substantiate the first, in that the scripture tells us that the battle of Armageddon will not be limited to Megiddo and the Valley of Jezreel, but it will cover the entire width and breadth of Israel, even extending beyond the borders of the Holy Land.

In evidence of this fact, we read in Zechariah, Chapter 14, that Jerusalem will be the center of the battle; in Joel, Chapter 3, we read about the events to occur in the Valley of Jehospaphat; and in Revelation, Chapter 14, we are told that the blood will flow at that time for a distance of 1600 furlongs, and that covers the entire 200 mile length of the Holy Land. In Isaiah, Chapters 34 and 63, we are told of our Lord coming from Edom with His garments covered with blood, and Edom is southeast of the Holy Land.

It becomes clear, then, that Armageddon will involve a series of military campaigns to be fought in several areas of the Holy Land, even including some

adjacent lands. These campaigns will involve different opposing forces and will be climaxed suddenly by the second advent of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, who will fight for Israel and will utterly destroy the forces of evil, bringing to an end the Times of the Gentiles.

In this message we want to study that portion of the Word of God which, we believe, most clearly sets forth in chronological order this series of military campaigns of Armageddon. This is best accomplished in the book of Daniel in the latter portion of Chapter 11. Before examining this chronological order of the campaigns, however, we should establish the time of history in which these events of Armageddon will take place.

This future time was Divinely given in Daniel 12:1, where Daniel was told in a vision, *"And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."* Undoubtedly, the expression, "at that time" refers back to Chapter 11 of Daniel where the series of campaigns of Armageddon are chronologically set forth.

It shall be the time when the archangel, Michael, *"the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people (Israel),"* shall stand up. The picture I get is that of a boxer or fighter in the ring, sitting on his seat in the corner and waiting for the bell to start the bout. At the sound of the bell he stands up — ready to fight — and goes into action. Michael is one of the chief princes of heaven and is the particular archangel who is given responsibility over the nation of Israel — and he fights in her behalf.

In Revelation 12:7-9, John gives a more detailed account of the heavenly battle to be led by Michael at that time: *"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven."*

*And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."*

Revelation 12:13 continues, "*And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.*" The nation (Israel) that brought forth the Messiah is the one against which he wants to take out his anger and venomous hatred. Revelation 12:17 tells us, "*And the dragon was wroth with the woman (Israel), and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*"

Considering the results of this future heavenly battle, it is no wonder that Daniel was told that, as we have already read in Daniel 12:1, "*at that time . . . there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation (of Israel).*" Furthermore, it is obvious that it is specifically a time of trouble for the Jews, because Daniel was a Jew, and the vision pertained to his people, the Jews.

This time of Israel's trouble is further explained in Matthew 24:15-22, where Jesus said, "*When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.*

*"And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 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."*

The last thing that Daniel was told in Daniel 12:1 was, "*at that time thy people shall be delivered,*

*every one that shall be found written in the book."* In spite of the greatest persecution and tribulation that Israel will have ever suffered, God, in His faithfulness, will intervene — He will see to it that a portion of Daniel's people, the Jews, will be delivered from destruction.

In Jeremiah 30:4-7, God tells the prophet Jeremiah about this time of great trouble and of the final deliverance of Israel: "*And these are the words that the Lord spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah. For thus saith the Lord; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it."*

Now, the phrase which we read in Daniel 12:1, "at that time," is clearly shown to be the great time of trouble, even Jacob's trouble, around which the events of Armageddon take place. This verse quite naturally directs us back to the closing ten verses of Chapter 11, where Daniel is given a description of the end-time world ruler and the chronological listing of the series of military campaigns to be fought at that time.

Chapter 11 of the book of Daniel deals entirely with a vision he received concerning what would befall his people in the latter days, beginning with the time of Darius the Mede — Daniel's time — and extending to the end-time, yet in our future. The first 35 verses of this chapter are already clearly fulfilled in history, and it is generally agreed that verses 21-35 speak of Antiochus Epiphanes, the wicked Syrian king who was so cruel in his dealings with the Jewish people about 165 years before Christ. He was so cruel, in fact, that he became the foreshadow of the coming man of sin, the world ruler of the end-time — antichrist — who will be even more cruel to the Jewish people.

In verse 36 of Daniel 11, the Word of God suddenly seems to leap across the centuries of time and

into the end-time events referred to in Daniel 12:1. It is my understanding that from verse 36 through 45 we are reading about events to occur yet in the future, specifically, a chronology of events beginning with the revealing of the last world ruler of the Times of the Gentiles — often referred to as the antichrist — and continuing until the literal return of Christ back to this earth. These are ten very important verses, so let us now read them — Daniel 11:36-45.

*“And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.*

*“But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.*

*“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. 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. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.”*

In the ten verses we have just read, we see that verses 36 through 39 speak about a king whom we have very little difficulty in identifying. He is called the “beast” in Revelation 13:4, “antichrist” in I John 2:18, and “that man of sin...the son of perdition” in II Thessalonians 2:3. He is given quite a list of titles in the Bible. This king will head up the final form of Gentile world power, and this Gentile world power will be in existence at the time of the personal return of Jesus Christ back to this earth.

Now, note the things that are said about this man: He shall do according to his own will — he shall exalt himself — he shall magnify himself above every god — he shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods — he shall prosper till the indignation or the tribulation is over, until that which God has determined shall be done, he shall not regard the God of his fathers — he shall not regard the desire of women — he shall magnify himself above all — he shall honour the God of forces.

Verses 38 and 39 point to the fact that this man will honour the devil and that he will be filled with the power of the devil so that he might prosper greatly for a season. We are also told that he will divide the Holy Land (finally the world will have a powerful man who can settle the terrible Arab-Israeli dispute — temporarily.)

Scripture reveals to us that this great leader will be given total authority over an alliance of ten nations, and that this alliance will constitute a revival of the old Roman empire. In Daniel 2:40-44, Daniel 7:7, and Revelation 17:12-14, we read of these ten nations coming together. Undoubtedly we are seeing the ground work of this ten-nation empire being formed in Europe at this very hour. Now, this man’s authority and power, although short-lived, will be greater than that of any other earthly king prior to this time — ever.

Revelation 13:5-9 tells us, *“And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. If any man have an ear, let him hear.”*

In the remainder of this message we will be referring to this man quite often — calling him the mighty king, the beast, antichrist, that man of sin, son of perdition — but you’ll know who we’re talking about. Now, this brings us up to verse 40 in Daniel 11. Verses 40 through 45 contain 194 precious and invaluable words which constitute, I believe, six of the most significant verses in the entire Bible related to end-time prophecy. These are the verses which speak of the great events comprising Armageddon, bringing to a close the Times of the Gentiles. As we established earlier, Armageddon involves a series of military campaigns, not just one single event, and we will now study these campaigns in detail, numbering them chronologically as we go through each one.

CAMPAIGN NO. 1: Our study <sup>Egypt</sup> begins with the first part of verse 40, which says, *“And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him. . .”* Let’s be aware that the one being pushed at is the king described in verses 36 through 39. This is the great king who is the head of the revived Roman Empire, the ten nations that come basically out of western Europe. According to Daniel 9:27, he will have signed a seven-year covenant with Israel guaranteeing to the Jews the God-given right to dwell in the Holy Land.

Revelation 6:2 pictures this man as coming on the world scene riding upon a great white horse. He begins as a man of peace, conquering by peaceful

means, but II Thessalonians 2:9-10 says that he will be a great liar, full of deceit. The Jewish people will put their confidence in this world leader, feeling that they have found a friend, because finally someone will have taken their side and proclaimed their right to be in the Holy Land under the Abrahamic covenant — finally someone will have stepped forth who can settle the Arab-Israeli dispute.

But, we all know that there can be no lasting peace between the Jews and Arabs until Jesus comes back to this earth. Verse 40 of our text bears this out, for reference is now made to the king of the south, on Israel’s southern flank. (These locations always relate to their direction from the Holy Land.) The king of the south will push both at Israel and the king with whom she is aligned, and there is little doubt that the king of the south is Egypt.

Since this portion of scripture in Daniel 11 is just a basic outline of the several military campaigns of Armageddon, we must rely on other scripture texts to supply us with additional details about what is going to happen in this first campaign. The prophet Ezekiel gives us a clearer account in Ezekiel 30:1-8, which we shall now read.

*“The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying, Son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord God; How ye, Woe worth the day! For the day is near, even the day of the Lord is near, a cloudy day; it shall be the time of the heathen. And the sword shall come upon Egypt, and great pain shall be in Ethiopia, when the slain shall fall in Egypt, and they shall take away her multitude, and her foundations shall be broken down.*

*“Ethiopia, and Libya, and Lydia, and all the mingled people, and Chub, and the men of the land that is in league, shall fall with them by the sword. Thus saith the Lord; They also that uphold Egypt shall fall; and the pride of her power shall come down: from the tower of Syene shall they fall in it by the sword, saith the Lord God. And they shall be desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate, and her cities shall be in the midst of the cities that*

*are wasted. And they shall know that I am the Lord, when I have set a fire in Egypt, and when all her helpers shall be destroyed."*

This destruction of Egypt, along with several of her confederates, has never been fulfilled in past history, but Ezekiel says it will take place in the day of the Lord, in the great day of God Almighty, as a result of one of the campaigns of Armageddon. Israel's victory over Egypt in 1967 was tremendous, but there's a greater victory coming.

Ezekiel summarizes this first campaign in Ezekiel 32:15-16, *"When I shall make the land of Egypt desolate, and the country shall be destitute of that whereof it was full, when I shall smite all them that dwell therein, then shall they know that I am the Lord. This is the lamentation wherewith they shall lament her: the daughters of the nations shall lament her: they shall lament for her, even for Egypt, and for all her multitude, saith the Lord God."*

CAMPAIGN NO. 2: And now, let's look at the second campaign in this outline given unto Daniel the prophet. Daniel 11:40 continues by saying, *"...and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships. . ."* By just looking at our newspapers and listening to the newscasts we can see that this event is soon upcoming, because today directly north of Israel we find the king of the north, Russia, preparing an arsenal of deadly weapons — and notice that Daniel takes time to mention this nation's many ships, its great navy. Who but God could have known that Russia would be a naval power in these last days? I'll tell you, the Bible is the most accurate book in all the world.

Chapters 38 and 39 of Ezekiel establish the fact of this upcoming attack of the Russian bear against Israel, despite her protective ally, the great leader of the ten-nation confederation, the man of sin. For the results of this second campaign of Armageddon, one needs to read all of these two chapters in Ezekiel, but we'll just read Ezekiel 39:1-8.

*"Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel: And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured.*

*"Thou shalt fall upon the open field: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God. And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the Lord. So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the Lord, the Holy One in Israel. Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the Lord God; this is the day whereof I have spoken."*

I would like to draw your attention to one important fact in connection with the second campaign. Let's read Ezekiel 38:5-7, where Russia's confederates are listed, *"Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: Gomer (Germany), and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee. Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them."*

We see that Russia is accompanied by some of her eastern European confederates and a representative number of Arab states at the time it attacks Israel, but there is one nation that is conspicuously absent from the list of Russia's confederates (and she would be with Russia if she were able) — and that's Egypt. She's not listed. Why? — simply because she was already destroyed in the first campaign of Armageddon. This only confirms the fact that the scripture is completely accurate in listing the sequence of end-



time events in Daniel 11:40-45 — the military campaigns of Armageddon.

CAMPAIGN NO. 3: The third campaign is revealed in the last part of Daniel 11:40, “. . .and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.” Let's picture for just a moment the situation existing in the aftermath of the second great campaign of Armageddon. Russia has been dealt a crushing defeat in its attempt to invade Israel, and its eastern European friends have likewise been defeated. Now this area of the world is wide open for the king of the western federation of nations to move into eastern Europe and Russia.

This is exactly what the Bible says will constitute the third campaign. He will just overflow from western Europe into eastern Europe and into Russia. He will overflow and pass over — no Berlin wall anymore — no iron curtain. Europe will be united under the control of one man. The Bible says, in Revelation 13:7, that he (the beast) shall be given power over all nations. So, in the third campaign he shall enter into the countries; he shall overflow and pass over; he shall consolidate all of Europe and Russia. In this campaign there probably will be little resistance. *into Asia etc.*

CAMPAIGN NO. 4: The fourth campaign of Armageddon could well be called the mighty king's Middle East campaign. With Egypt destroyed in the first campaign, Russia defeated in the second, and Europe overrun in the third, along with many of the Arab states also dealt with in the course of these campaigns, nothing is able to stop him from now moving into the Middle East — gaining control of the riches of silver, gold and oil of that area. Let's read verses 41-43, which explain the fourth campaign.

*“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.”*

It seems quite clear that this is the time when the mighty king's previously signed seven-year covenant with Israel will be broken. I believe this to be the hour that Jesus and the prophets of Israel warned the Jewish people about. Isaiah 28:18-19 says, *“And your covenant with death shall be disannulled (broken), and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it. From the time that it goeth forth it shall take you: for morning by morning shall it pass over, by day and by night: and it shall be a vexation only to understand the report.”*

Daniel 9:27 tells us that when this king — the world ruler, the beast, the son of perdition — moves into the Holy Land he will put a stop to the renewed Jewish worship to God. Obviously, their temple has been rebuilt; they are offering sacrifices to God. This is the time of which Jesus spoke in Matthew 24:15, and Paul in II Thessalonians 2:3-4, and Daniel in Daniel 9:27 — the time when the antichrist would enter into the temple to stop their worship and institute his own form of worship, calling himself God and putting up a statue, even entering in himself; and Jesus and Daniel both referred to this act as the abomination of desolation. Daniel 9:27 says that this event will occur right in the middle of the tribulation period, just three and one half years prior to the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ back to the earth.

Now, with Russia out of the way and Egypt out of the way and many other countries already dealt with, this king is no longer a man of peace, he's no longer riding upon a white horse. He is now seen in Revelation 6:4 as being seated upon a red horse — the blood is going to begin to flow. The Bible says in that verse, “. . .power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth...and there was given unto him a great sword.” Yes, this is the time of Jacob's trouble — this is the darkest hour of Israel's history.

Daniel is told that this king shall overflow many countries as this Middle East campaign continues, but the scripture also says that Edom, Moab, and the children of Ammon will escape out of his hands. This is amazing! — because it is into this area, southeast of Jerusalem, that Jesus warned the Jews to flee, since there would be no other place to which they could escape. And Isaiah 63:1 reveals that this is the same area to which Jesus will come to get a remnant of His own Jewish people when He returns to earth again.

God promised to preserve a remnant of the Jewish people through that last terrible three and one half years of tribulation. In Revelation 12:6, John reveals this, *“And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.”* Yes, there will be a remnant of Jewish people preserved for 1,260 days, or three and one half years, in and around that great mountainous hideout of Petra (Edom).

The mighty king already has all of Europe under his control, and Daniel 11:41-43 reveals that he now controls the countries of the Middle East, except those areas reserved by God as a refuge for the Jewish remnant. The fourth campaign is now complete.

**CAMPAIGN NO. 5:** The fifth campaign of Armageddon is revealed in Daniel 11:44, *“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.”* Suddenly, during or after the great king’s Middle East campaign, we read that tidings come to him — first out of the east, and then out of the north — and they trouble him.

Let’s look first at the tidings out of the east that trouble him, for this announces the fifth campaign. Up to this point we have heard nothing about the kings of the east. We’ve already heard about Russia, Egypt, the Arab states, but nothing yet in Daniel’s outline about the kings of the east — and this seems to be their hour. In Revelation 16:12, we gain a key as to what troubles the beast, *“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.”*

In the latter days of the tribulation, God will draw all nations to war against Israel, and this is confirmed in Zechariah 12:3, *“And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.”* The kings of the east now take their turn, evidently, and they move across the Euphrates river, which has been dried up by a mighty miracle. Think of the millions in India, China and Japan who will be moving toward the Middle East! No wonder this king in western Europe is troubled, because he controls Israel and must defend the land.

Now, when the kings of the east come westward, we are told that the mighty king will go forth with great fury to destroy them and utterly make them waste. That’s what the Bible says in Daniel 11:44. Also, Zechariah 12:9 tells us, *“And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.”*

In the book of Revelation, John speaks of an army of two hundred million which will be loosed to come across the Euphrates river towards the land of Israel in those days. Revelation 9:13-17 says, *“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. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplate of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.”*

To me, Revelation 9:17 is a descriptive illustration of modern warfare if I ever heard it — spoken from the lips of John. It was revealed to John that one third of all mankind shall be slain at this time, and these people will come from the great population centers of the world — India, Red China and Japan. I'm glad that we don't have to be here on earth when the fifth campaign takes place, but we Christians will be with the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords in preparation for coming back to this earth with Him.

We are told in Revelation 13:5-7, that the king described in Daniel 11 — the head of Gentile world power in the last days, the beast of western Europe — will be given power over all nations for three and one half years. And Daniel leaves us with absolutely no doubt as to who wins the fifth campaign, because the kings of the east are not mentioned again and the beast is mentioned in the very next verse, Daniel 11:45.

CAMPAIGN NO. 6: The sixth campaign is announced in Daniel 11:44, just as was the fifth, because we find that tidings out of the north also trouble the mighty king. Remember, at this time he is now in control of all of Europe — even Russia, Egypt, Israel, the Middle East, and the Far East nations are in subjection to him. What, then, could be the tidings out of the north that trouble him? That's north of the Holy Land, that's back in Europe, that's back home!

I believe that Revelation 17 gives us the detail of that which now troubles him. We have very little difficulty in identifying who the scripture describes in the early verses of this chapter. It is the powerful apostate church, the one world church, which will have its center in Europe and will be in control of multitudes in the last days — what power! — but she is a harlot and an abomination in God's sight.

Revelation 17:4-5 says, *"And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name*

*written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."*

And we also note in verse three of this chapter that this apostate church is seen riding upon the beast — upon this king — holding some sort of influence or authority over him and his kingdom. Then, in the last three verses of this chapter, we read that the ten kings which are aligned with the beast — the ten political leaders who have given their consent to the leadership of the beast — rise up together against this great apostate church and make her desolate.

Revelation 17:16-18 says, *"And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore (harlot), and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth."*

That great church power and the city of her location shall be torn apart — utterly laid waste and destroyed. The mighty king, the beast, will be so full of pride that he will not allow any ecclesiastical power to rule over him in any way; he is so full of the devil that he's going to stand up and make the entire world worship him as God. And so, in the sixth campaign, we see that the mighty king utterly destroys the harlot church.

CAMPAIGN NO. 7: The seventh campaign is announced in Daniel 11:45, *"And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."* Notice in this verse that the king boldly moves his palace, his place of residence, to the Holy Land — to God's land — to the place where God said He would dwell.

Ezekiel 28:2 speaks of this man being so lifted up with pride that he declares himself to be God. He

is free from all resistance now, even the ecclesiastical power is put under his feet, so he sits in the seat of God — in Jerusalem. In the closing words of Daniel 11:45 we are told that he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. This will constitute the seventh campaign of Armageddon.

Catch the setting, if you can! Here we see the beast moving his headquarters into the Holy Land — the holy mountain of God — right into Jerusalem. This is the place where God Almighty says His feet are going to stand, the place where He's going to reign. And all resistance from the nations of the world has been put down. What else could this man possibly want?

When we consider that this man is under the total grip and control of Satan, we know that he must think as Satan thinks. One thing I'm sure that he'll have is an utter hatred of the Jewish people. Haman and Antiochus Epiphanes and Hitler were all just fore-shadows of this terrible man of sin. He now has the Holy Land under his control, and the Jewish people that are still living there are subject to him, but that's not enough. That's not enough for the devil.

Remember, this is in the latter part of the great tribulation, called the time of Jacob's trouble; and concerning those days, Jesus said in Matthew 24:22, *"And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."* Yes, for Israel's sake, for the sake of the Jewish people that are still alive at that time, those terrible days shall be shortened.

The prophet Zechariah, speaking about those final days just prior to the coming of Jesus Christ, tells us in Zechariah 13:8-9, *"And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God."*

The persecution of the Jewish people at the end-time must be something beyond description, because two out of every three Jews will be slaughtered. Jesus let us know that this would be the greatest hour of persecution that ever has taken place in the world, more than the gas chambers in Europe, more than the six million Jews that died then.

We are told that the beast will gather his forces. His goal is to wipe out every Jew alive. Jesus made it clear, Zechariah made it clear — that if those days weren't shortened there wouldn't be any Jews left alive. The devil's purpose has always been to wipe every Jew off the face of the earth. Having them under his rule is not enough, he has to completely destroy them.

The armies of the beast come. They know that there's a remnant of Israel hidden in the mountains of Edom, and they go towards them. They also move through the Holy Land, village after village, even into Jerusalem — killing, looting. Zechariah 14:2 tells us that when they attack Jerusalem that day, *"the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled"* — these soldiers going from house to house killing Jews — *"and the women ravished."* Zechariah says that at that time one half of the city will be taken. Think of the deaths of the Jews on that day! Death! Death!

But this is also the day when the heavens open up like a scroll and Jesus Christ comes back to earth. Zechariah 14:3 says, *"Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle."* There's no way — if the Bible is true (and it is) — that God Almighty is going to let anybody totally destroy the Jews!

Malachi 3:6 declares, *"For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed."* Zechariah 2:8 says, *". . .for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye."* Jeremiah 31:35-37 proclaims, *"Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is his name:"*

*"If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord."*

We have some brilliant scientists today, but they cannot begin to enter into this realm. Nobody can measure the heavens — and God is not going to forget the Jewish people. In that day the armies in heaven will be ready, Michael will be ready, Gabriel will be ready, the great patriarchs of the Old Testament will be ready, the Lamb of God — Lion of the tribe of Judah — will be ready. And the Father will be looking down upon this earth. The Bible tells us in Psalms 121:4, *"Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."*

Finally, in the midst of the wicked slaughter of the Jewish people, God says, **"IT IS ENOUGH."** Matthew 24:29-30 says, *"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."*

In contrast to His first coming — when He came and laid as a Babe in the manger in Bethlehem, when He gave His life as a Lamb to the slaughter — this second advent will be different. He will come as a Warrior, as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Joel 3:16 declares, *"The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel."*

One of the most beautiful passages in the Bible describing Christ's second coming to earth is Revelation 19:11-16, which says, *"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. 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. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."*

We have the simple concluding words of Daniel in relation to the end of the seventh and final campaign of Armageddon: *"... he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."* The antichrist will be dealt with by the Christ, and there will be none to help him. Revelation 19:19-20 pictures it for us, *"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."*

*"And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone."*

These seven campaigns of Armageddon signal the end of the times of the Gentiles, but they usher in a new and glorious day, as described in Zechariah 14:9, *"And the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and his name one."*

**AMEN!**

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