The Last World War And **ARMAGEDDON** The Decisive Battle

Throughout all ages, wars have been experienced since the beginning of nations, and especially during the Christian age have they been multiplied, even as our Savior foretold in his wonderful prophecy in Matthew 24th Chapter, in which he said, "Ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that ye be not troubled; for all these must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall arise against nation and kingdom against kingdom." [Verses 6-7.]

At the end of this present dispensation, after a period of peace, as many look forward to, Yahshua foretold that there would be a time of distress, followed by the coming of the Messiah, in these words: "There shall be signs in the sun, and the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity: the sea and the waves roaring, men's hearts failing them for fear and looking after those things which are coming upon the earth for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." [Luke 21:25-27.]

However, before the horrors of the age's end falls upon sinful mankind, the world will be in a period of political peace, manmade, temporal, but an epoch of which worldly leaders will think is permanent. Of that false, manmade peace, the apostle has warned us, saying: "But of the times and season, *brethren*, ye have no need that I write unto you; for yourselves know perfectly that the day of Yahweh so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." [I Thes. 5:1-3.]

The age end tribulation upon all nations will bring to a sudden end this period of peace, and as Yahshua foretold, "There shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. Except those days shall be shortened, there should be no flesh saved. But [Halleluyah!] for the elects sake those days shall be shortened." [Matt. 24:21. See also Dan. 12:1; Isa. 66:15.]

In the concluding prophecy of the Scriptures, the Revelation, Yahweh revealed unto the Apostle John, that, at the end, there would be war among the nations, saying, "And the nations were angry, and they wrath is come, and the time of the dead that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the

saints...and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth." [Rev. 11:18.]

Just as the Scriptures are explicit as to the end of the age being with war, so is also stated that of Armageddon. In the Revelation it is recorded that John saw "three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go froth unto the kings of the earth, and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of Yahweh Almighty. And he gathered them into a place called, in the Hebrew tongue, Armageddon." [Rev. 16:13-16.]

The location of the last battle has been here named as "Armageddon." The only place in the kodesh land, by this name, is that located in the plains of Esdralon, overlooked by the hills of Megeddo, about fifty miles northwest of the city of Jerusalem. Armageddon in Bible History is noted as the scene of many decisive battles, and a small stream, as well as a village, bear the name. The name dates far back into the annals of history, and it is thought that the name originated from the famous battle fought by Gideon and the 300 faithful, who overcame the thousands of their enemies by the power of Yahweh.

From various scriptural texts, as well as by the fact that the word "Gideon" carries the meaning of "the sword of Yah", the name "Armageddon", as the site of the last world battle, brings to our minds the promised presence of the power of Yahweh, who with all his kodesh angels, shall fight for his chosen people once again, and for all time. In this battle His honor and righteousness shall prevail over sin, and the agents of sin, by the power of the Almighty. Armageddon will be the decisive battle for right, and the end for the powers of this world, which have been, and are, against the power of the Almighty.

Some have often questioned concerning the nations which shall engage in the battle of Armageddon, wondering if our United States shall be a participant in this struggle. We need not wonder, for the Bible prophecy foretells that our nation shall be in that engagement. Listen! "Behold, the day of Yahweh cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle." [Zech. 14:1-2.]

As we read above, John gave us the revelation of the end time in which demonical propaganda would issue forth from the spokesman of the three world powers, deceiving men, and leading nations, all of them without any exception, to the battlefield of Armageddon. Please read it again in Rev. 16:13, so that you may understand perfectly, and not be deceived.

Since all nations have never been gathered at Armageddon, against Jerusalem in battle, in all past history, and since Scripture prophecy foretells that such be the case, and no prophecy ever fails, then our nation must be among those who go against the Kodesh City in battle, and shall be in the great and decisive battle at Armageddon, wherein Yahweh shall take an active part, and shall "go forth and fight against those nations as when he fought in the days of battle." [Verse 3.] At that day Yahshua, who ascended into heaven, shall return, of whom the angels prophesied, saying, "This same Yahshua which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen him go." He ascended from the mount of Olives, and the Word says that, at the time when all nations are gathered against Jerusalem to battle, "His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives." [Verse 4.]

Although Zechariah has foretold plainly that "all nations" shall come against Jerusalem, yet the prophet Ezekiel also foretells the battle of Armageddon, and, in addition, names many nations which will participate in that engagement. In his prophecy, Yahweh hath said. "I am against thee, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal...I will bring thee forth, and all thine army...Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them...Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands; and many people with thee...In the Latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel...to the land of unwalled villages...to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, and are dwelling without walls, having neither bars nor gates, to take a spoil, and to take a prey...[but, note this]...Sheba and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? Hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? To carry away silver and gold, to take away the cattle and goods, to take a great spoil? [Ezek. 38:1-13. See Rotherham's version.]

At this point we consider the identity of those opposing forces which shall face one another at Armageddon. First, Gog, that power from the "north parts", "out of the north" [from Palestine]. "Chief Prince" is in many versions translated as Rosh, or Rush, from the Hebrew word RS, and without taking prohibitive liberty could be RUSsia. With this northern Gog are associated nations now well within the sphere of Russia's influence, and destined to become more so--such as, Persia [Iran] Ethiopia, Gomer [eastern Germany?], and "many peoples", such as the Mongolian [Japhetic] people making up the U.S.S.R. This power comes southward into Palestine from "the north quarters" like a "cloud to cover the land" [great fleets of warplanes to shadow the ground] and with "many horsemen." It is said today that the Russian airpower and cavalry are unsurpassed. Today Russia is retaining her formidable cavalry while other nations are discarding cavalry for their motorized armored infantry. Also, if the reader will look at an old Bible map showing the locations of the people after Noah's flood, it will be seen that Magog, Meschech and Tubal, grandsons of Noah by Japheth, settled in that region now occupied by Russia. Thus, all earmarks of this prophecy point to Russia as the Armageddon invader.

In the opposing camp are to be found those called "the merchants of

Tarshish and the young lions thereof." Great Britain from old time has been pictured by word and pen as the "mother lion", and here associate nations as "lion cubs." The writer has before him two cartoons from daily papers thus picturing England and her commonwealth of nations.

As late as June 16, 1941, Winston Churchill, in a broadcast to America, referred to England in these words: "And now the Old Lion, with her Cubs at her side, stands alone against hunters who are armed with deadly weapons." Thus today moderns refer to Britain by these figures of speech, just as Ezekiel depicted the opposing power against Gog as the old lions with the young lions. Then, too, England is indicated by the term "Merchants of Tarshish." Tarshish was the merchant nation of ancient times, and the "Merchants of Tarshish" sailed the "ships of Tarshish" over the "Sea of Tarshish" [now the Mediterranean] to gather wares for sale in the port of Palestine. Ezekiel refers to this merchandizing power in these words: "Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of all kinds of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead they traded in thy fairs." It is a historical fact easily verified, that these commodities were produced in ancient times in the British Isles, and that only in Cornwall, England, was tin to be found in the Bible times. So the "Merchants of Tarshish" carried tin, in their ships, over their sea from Cornwall to their port [now Haifi], and sold it to Israel.

Thus, at Armageddon, will the Japhetic invaders from the north come face to face with the Semitic peoples, comprised in great part by descendants of the Lost Ten Tribes of Israel, the merchant nations of Europe, under the leadership of Britain and the English peoples.

At that time "all nations" shall see Yahweh defend His land, and protect His people. And it will not be the navies, armies, or air forces, of Britain, the U.S.A., or any allied nation, which will bring to naught that mighty power from the north; but Yahweh of Hosts shall descend Himself and intervene in behalf of Israel. He shall use, as in old time, His powers of nature, pestilences, and His Kodesh Angels, that His people may be delivered; and that they may give Him the glory due to His matchless Name. And, dear reader, that time called "the latter days" is at hand.

Notice the prophecy by Ezekiel, wherein it states that these nations shall come against the Israel people, gathered from all nations into the land which was once desolate, but now inhabited. Notice the invaders from the north come to take a prey from those who are now at peace and increased with cattle, goods, gold, silver, the riches of this world. This could not have happened while the Jewish people of Israel were scattered into all nations, but it must be in a day when they have been gathered from all nations into their own land [Palestine] and dwelling safely in villages without walls, in the "last days" of the age.

In past ages the people of Israel dwelt in towns, or cities, with high walls and strong iron gates, but now it is not so. The Jewish people who have returned

to Palestine are dwelling in unwalled villages, towns, and cities, similar to our own. The new cities are modern in every particular. The Jewish people in time will wax rich, in cattle, goods, gold and silver, and in "oil" for the Kodesh Land is potentially one of the richest oil fields of the world, and all nations covet its possession. The banks of Palestine will be full of money taken there by the Jews driven from other nations and Jews of all nations who will invest in the new nation. The land will prosper and unemployment is destined to disappear. Yah's favor is upon it, and it is, even now, rapidly preparing for the conditions wherein it must be found when "all nations" come against it to battle. All prophetical students should watch Palestine, and the movements of all the nations in regard to this prophetic land. The day that Yahshua stands with his feet once more upon the mount of Olives will be that day when all nations gather against His people Israel, regathered from among all nations where in past ages Yah had scattered them. Prophecy cannot be understood without watching Israel and the Kodesh Land.

The prophet Zechariah states that in the battle of Armageddon, when the nations come against Jerusalem, "Then Yahweh will go forth and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle." [Ch. 14:3.] As we consider the ways Yah has fought in past ages for His chosen people,

and against the enemies of Israel, we learn that He cause them to fight against one another, sent pestilences among them, rained fire down from heave upon him, and used His angels to fight against them. In this battle He will fight in the same manner. Zechariah prophesied that "They shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor." "And this shall be the plague wherewith Yahweh will smite all the people who fight against Jerusalem; their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongues shall consume away in their mouth." [Ch. 14:13.] Ezekiel says that in this battle Yahweh will take an active part, and states that there will be a great earthquake at that time, "a great shaking in the land of Israel; so that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heavens, and the beast of the filed, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at My presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep place shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground." [Ezek. 38:19, 20.] The Revelation says that "The cities of the nations fell." [Rev. 16:10.] Ezekiel continues saying that in the battle, "I will call for a sword against him [the Northern Invader] throughout all my mountains, saith Yahweh, every man's sword shall be against his brother. And I will plead against him [the Invaders from the North] with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire and brimstone." [Ezek. 38:21, 22.]

For seven months after this battle of Armageddon the people of Israel shall be burying the multitudes of slain ones in the valley, which shall then be called "Hamongog", or the multitude of Gog. [Ezek. 39:12-15.] For seven years the people of Israel shall burn the implements and weapons of war which were left upon the battlefield when the armies of Gog were destroyed. [Ezek. 39:9-10.]

After the battle is over, the slain buried, the weapons burned, shall come peace, a real peace which the world has long looked for but never seen. A peace that only the "Prince of Peace" can give, a peace wherein Yahweh shall "judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people, and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." [Isa. 2:4.]

In that day Yahshua shall be the King of all kings and Ruler of all rulers, and "Yahshua shall be King over all the earth", the twelve apostles "shall sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel", [Matt. 19:28.] and the saints who have been faithful unto death shall live and reign with the Messiah a thousand years "on the earth." [Rev. 20:6; 5:10.]

My dear friends, even though the war clouds are gathering now, and all nations are feverishly preparing for the great world conflict which is just before us, and through which we are destined to go, remember that it shall not always be so. The Prince of Peace is coming and the many nations of this world will become the one kingdom of Yahweh. A world filled with peace, joy, love, happiness, health and everlasting life will then result from the righteous reign of the righteous King. The Jews are looking for their Messiah, and we are looking for the return of Yahshua; and He shall come, and all expectations shall be realized in the person of this King of kings, the Prince of Peace. May Yahweh bless you, my dear friends, so that in that Kingdom of righteousness you may have a part.

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