

## REVELATION 16:12-16 Notes – WHAT IS ARMAGEDDON?

1. This is the only passage in which the word *Armageddon* is mentioned.
2. A study of the content of these verses specifies certain events, personalities, nations and geographical localities, which are identified with the “*BATTLE... (Greek “POLEMOS”) ...of the great day of God Almighty*”.
3. The Greek word *polemos* (πολεμός) of [Rev. 16:14](#) (instead of *MACHE* [μαχή] which is usually used), denotes that the events described are a part of a war or campaign.  
*NOTE: A campaign involves a military invasion into unfriendly territory in an effort to locate enemy forces and peoples for the purpose of annihilation, subjugation or enslavement.*
4. A campaign then, is composed of a series of battles in a specific, geographical location, fought in chronological succession or simultaneously. This struggle is to occur in one country, Palestine, thus *POLEMOS* would be better translated “campaign” rather than “war” or “battle’.
5. The Scripture describing the location of the campaign leads us to the conclusion that the “Campaign” of the Great Day of God Almighty is fought in at least 4 specific geographical areas:
  - (1) Jerusalem ([Zech. 12:2-11; 14:2](#))
  - (2) Armageddon ([Rev. 16:16](#))
  - (3) Jehoshaphat Valley, east of Jerusalem ([Ezek. 39:11; Joel 3:2, 12](#))
  - (4) Edom ([Isa. 34:1-6; 63:1-6](#))
  - (5) Note that the word *Mache* (μαχή) is used in [James 4:1](#) – *fighting*, in [2 Tim. 2:23](#) – *quarrel*, and in [Titus 3:9](#) – *strife, dispute*.
6. Notice that the conflict will rage throughout the entire land of Palestine and this is confirmed in the phrase “*cover the land*” in [Ezek. 38:9, 16](#), which alludes to the fact that the armies of the northern confederation will sweep over the land of Palestine.
7. The Greek word *Armageddon* is derived from the Hebrew *HAR MEGIDDO*-meaning the hill or city of Megiddo, which occupied a prominent position on the southern rim of the Plain of Esdraelon. It was famous for two great victories of Barah and Deborah over the Canaanites in [Judges 4:15](#) and Gideon over the Midianites in [Judges 7](#).

## REVELATION 16:12-16 Notes – WHAT IS ARMAGEDDON? (Continued)

8. While [Revelation 16](#) lacks details of the campaign, it verifies the fact that a mighty conflict involving all the nations in the world will take place in Palestine.
9. There will be satanically inspired forces assembled in defiance against God for the purpose of destroying His People, Israel.
10. But remember, those elements and personalities under the domination of Satan and in opposition to God, will themselves be destroyed at the climax of this final warfare, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent of the Lord Jesus Christ.
11. Armageddon is not just the decisive defeat of vast military forces-but it is also the closing campaign of the Tribulation and the predicted Plan of God.
12. Are we on the verge of the Armageddon campaign today? According to Divine revelation, the Armageddon Campaign cannot occur as long as the Church is on the earth.
13. How close is the Tribulation? According to Scripture, there is no prophecy yet to be fulfilled before the Rapture and the Tribulation can take place, It could occur at any moment or many years from now.
14. What should we do? Collectively? As a Nation we must be prepared by a strong military establishment! A nation cannot be strong without military protection.
15. What must we do individually?
  - (1) As a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, we must know that no matter what happens in life, the Lord has a purpose and plan for us.
  - (2) Our first responsibility is to have an insatiable hunger for the Word of God and determination to reside and function inside the divine power sphere.
  - (3) The only way to have a life of happiness is to fulfill God's specific design for us.
  - (4) There is no catastrophe, no disaster, or no pressure too great for the Word of God and the Plan of God.