WORD OF THE WEEK

The Subject: Armageddon

Revelation 16:16-- And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

<u>Armageddon</u> - Hebrew: <u>bar</u> - mountain or range of hills and <u>megiddow</u> - rendezvous (from gadad - crowd; press into); assemble troops

Joel 3:2, 12 — I will gather all nations and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat (Jehovah's judgment) and will plead (judge and sentence) with them for my people — whom they have scattered among the nations — Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley — for there will sit to judge — put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe — the press is full— their wickedness is great — multitudes in the valley of decision: For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

Revelation 14:19,20 — The angel gathered the vine of the earth (people of the nations) and cast it into the winepress of the wrath of God (Armageddon, the valley between the mountains where God renders judgment on the wicked nations of the earth). — The winepress was trodden without the city and the blood came out of the winepress even unto the horse bridles.

Revelation 9:11 — And I saw heaven opened and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True (Jesus), and in righteousness he doth judge and make war (at the end) — His eyes were as a flame of fire (II Thess. 1:7,8) — He was clothed with a vesture (garment) dipped in blood: and his name is called the Word of God (Jesus in John 1:1,14) — out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword (Heb. 4:12), that with it he should smite the nations: — he (Jesus) treadeth the winepress (in the valley between the mountains) 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 (Jesus the Lamb - Rev. 17:14)

God will call the wicked nations against Israel into the Valley of Jehoshaphat like a vine keeper gathers grapes in a winepress. Jesus, the Lamb, will tread the winepress crushing the perennial enemies of Israel. For over 4000 years these enemies have not changed. Throughout scripture these peoples not only persecuted and carried Israel captive, but they caused Israel to worship idol gods. The empires are Babylon, Assyria, Medes/Persia, Greece and. Rome. Within these empires that oppressed Israel are the current enemies of the Jews:

Iraq (Babylon and Erech), Iran (the Persians), Jordan (Moab and Ammon), Syria and Gaza (Syria - Haran, the Philistines and Canaanites), Saudi Arabia (descendants of Ishmael- the Amalekites, Midianites), Turkey (Hittites), Lebanon (Phoenicia, Tyre and Sidon), etc.

The world leader (man of sin) will confirm God's covenant with Israel (spiritual) by persecuting Israel through the entire 70th week (Dan. 9:27). They will break this treaty and will assemble to attack Israel in the "battle of all battles". The Middle East is heating up. God is preparing the world for this last confrontation. Armageddon is near.

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