

ENDGAME

A Study On Revelation (Week #191)

Pastor Jason Goss

Revelation 19 _____

- Crowd In Heaven
- Destruction of Babylon
- Wedding Feast and Celebration
- Angelic Interaction
- Fifth horseman
- Banquet of the Beasts
- Beast and False Prophet captured

Revelation 19 _____

- Fiery lake of burning sulfur

Revelation 19:19 Then I saw the beast and the kings of the world and their armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army. **20** And the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who did mighty miracles on behalf of the beast—miracles that deceived all who had accepted the mark of the beast and who worshiped his statue. Both the beast and his false prophet were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. **21** Their entire army was killed by the sharp sword that came from the mouth of the one riding the white horse. And the vultures all gorged themselves on the dead bodies. (NLT)

Revelation 19:19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse, and against His army. **20** And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire, which burns with brimstone [*burning sulfur*]. **21** And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh. (NASB)

Revelation 19:19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. **20** Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. **21** And the rest were killed with the sword which

proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh. (NKJV)

Old Testament _____

- Why the Old Testament Still Speaks
 - What John witnesses is not an isolated event.
 - God had already sketched this climactic confrontation through earlier prophets.
 - By letting _____ interpret _____, the pieces lock together—showing one continuous story, one ultimate victory.
- Prophecies that Mirror the Scene
 - Psalm 2:1-2, 9

Psalm 2:1 Why are the nations so angry? Why do they waste their time with futile plans? **2** The kings of the earth prepare for battle; the rulers plot together against the Lord and against his anointed one. (NLT)

Psalm 2:19 You will break [rule] them with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots." (NLT)

- Psalm 110:5-6

Psalm 110:5 The Lord stands at your right hand to protect you. He will strike down many kings when his anger erupts. **6** He will punish the nations and fill their lands with corpses; he will shatter heads over the whole earth. (NLT)

- Isaiah 13:4-5

Isaiah 13:4 Hear the noise on the mountains! Listen, as the vast armies march! It is the noise and shouting of many nations. The Lord of Heaven's Armies has called this army together. **5** They come from distant countries, from beyond the farthest horizons. They are the Lord's weapons to carry out his anger. With them he will destroy the whole land. (NLT)

- Isaiah 34:2
 - The Hebrew term used here refers to the complete consecration of things or people to the Lord, either by destroying them or by giving them as an offering.

Isaiah 34:2 For the Lord is enraged against the nations. His fury is against all their armies. He will completely destroy them, dooming them to slaughter. (NLT)

- Isaiah 63:1-4

Isaiah 63:1 Who is this who comes from Edom, from the city of Bozrah, with his clothing stained red? Who is this in royal robes, marching in his great strength? "It is I, the Lord, announcing your salvation! It is I, the Lord, who has the power to save!" **2** Why are your clothes so red, as if you have been treading out grapes? **3** "I have been treading the winepress alone; no one was there to help me. In my anger I have trampled my enemies as if they were grapes. In my fury I have trampled my foes. Their blood has stained my clothes. **4** For the time has come for me to avenge my people, to ransom them from their oppressors. (NLT)

- Ezekiel 38-39

Ezekiel 38:8 A long time from now you will be called into action. In the distant future you will swoop down on the land of Israel, which will be enjoying peace after recovering from war and after its people have returned from many lands to the mountains of Israel. **9** You and all your allies—a vast and awesome army—will roll down on them like a storm and cover the land like a cloud. (NLT)

Ezekiel 39:22 And from that time on the people of Israel will know that I am the Lord their God. **23** The nations will then know why Israel was sent away to exile—it was punishment for sin, for they were unfaithful to their God. Therefore, I turned away from them and let their enemies destroy them. (NLT)

- Daniel 2:44-45

Daniel 2:44 "During the reigns of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed or conquered. It will crush all these kingdoms into nothingness, and it will stand forever. **45** That is the meaning of the rock cut from the mountain, though not by human hands, that crushed to pieces the statue of iron, bronze, clay, silver, and gold. The great God was showing the king what will happen in the future. The dream is true, and its meaning is certain." (NLT)

- Daniel 7:21-22, 26-27

Daniel 7:21 As I watched, this horn was waging war against God's holy people and was defeating them, **22** until the Ancient One—the Most High—came and judged in favor of his holy people. Then the time arrived for the holy people to take over the kingdom. (NLT)

Daniel 7: 26 "But then the court will pass judgment, and all his power will be taken away and completely destroyed. **27** Then the sovereignty, power, and greatness of

all the kingdoms under heaven will be given to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will last forever, and all rulers will serve and obey him." (NLT)

- Daniel 11:40

Daniel 11:40 "Then at the time of the end, the king of the south will attack the king of the north. The king of the north will storm out with chariots, charioteers, and a vast navy. He will invade various lands and sweep through them like a flood. (NLT)

- Joel 3:2, 12-14

Joel 3:2 I will gather the armies of the world into the valley of Jehoshaphat [*means "the Lord judges."*]. There I will judge them for harming my people, my special possession, for scattering my people among the nations, and for dividing up my land. (NLT)

Joel 3:12-14 "Let the nations be called to arms. Let them march to the valley of Jehoshaphat. There I, the Lord, will sit to pronounce judgment on them all. **13** Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. [*for the harvest time has come*] Come, tread the grapes, for the winepress is full. The storage vats are overflowing with the wickedness of these people." **14** Thousands upon thousands are waiting in the valley of decision. There the day of the Lord will soon arrive. (NLT)

Mark 4:29 "And as soon as the grain is ready, the farmer comes and harvests it with a sickle, for the harvest time has come." (NLT)

Revelation 14:15 Then another angel came from the Temple and shouted to the one sitting on the cloud, "Swing the sickle, for the time of harvest has come; the crop on earth is ripe." (NLT)

Revelation 14:18 Then another angel, who had power to destroy with fire, came from the altar. He shouted to the angel with the sharp sickle, "Swing your sickle now to gather the clusters of grapes from the vines of the earth, for they are ripe for judgment." (NLT)

- Zephaniah 3:8

Zephaniah 3:8 Therefore, be patient," says the Lord. "Soon I will stand and accuse these evil nations. For I have decided to gather the kingdoms of the earth and pour out my fiercest anger and fury on them. All the earth will be devoured by the fire of my jealousy. (NLT)

- Zechariah 12:3, 9

Zechariah 12:3 On that day I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock. All the nations will gather against it to try to move it, but they will only hurt themselves. (NLT)

Zechariah 12:9 For on that day I will begin to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. (NLT)

- Zechariah 14:2-3, 12

Zechariah 14:2 I will gather all the nations to fight against Jerusalem. The city will be taken, the houses looted, and the women raped. Half the population will be taken into captivity, and the rest will be left among the ruins of the city. **3** Then the Lord will go out to fight against those nations, as he has fought in times past. (NLT)

Zechariah 14:12 And the Lord will send a plague on all the nations that fought against Jerusalem. Their people will become like walking corpses, their flesh rotting away. Their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths. (NLT)

- Threads That Tie the Passages Together
 - A universal coalition of kings and armies rises in defiance of God.
 - The LORD Himself (or His Messiah) rides forth as Warrior-King.
 - The confrontation happens on “the day of the LORD,” a fixed point in prophetic history.
 - Judgment is swift, complete, and often pictured as a winepress or crushing stone.
 - The victory ushers in an everlasting, righteous kingdom.
- Living in the Light of Prophecy
 - The prophecies above confirm that Revelation 19:19 is the long-promised climax of world history.
 - God’s Word, spoken centuries apart through multiple writers, converges on one reality: every earthly power that resists the rightful King will fall, and Christ will reign forever.

Of Armageddon

- Definition of Armageddon
 - Armageddon derives from the Hebrew *Ἀρμαγεδών* (Har-Megiddo, “mountain of Megiddo”). Scripture names it only once—Revelation 16:16—yet the term has become shorthand for the climactic campaign in which

God's Messiah crushes all rebellious human and demonic forces at His return.

- Immediate _____ Context
 - Revelation 19:11-21 records the visible, bodily return of Christ.
 - ▶ Verses 11-16 present the Warrior-King on a white horse.
 - ▶ Verses 17-18 feature the angelic summons inviting carrion birds to feast on the defeated.
 - ▶ Verses 19-21 narrate the clash itself, ending with the beast and false prophet thrown alive into the lake of fire and the remainder of the armies slain.
- Canonical Cross-Reference to Armageddon
 - Revelation 16 describes the sixth bowl judgment, in which demonic spirits gather "the kings of the whole world... to the battle on the great day of God the Almighty" (v. 14).
 - Revelation 19:19 reports the same assembled forces moments before their annihilation, making 19:19 the narrative fulfillment of the gathering foretold in 16:16.

Revelation 16:12 Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great Euphrates River, and it dried up so that the kings from the east could march their armies toward the west without hindrance. **13** And I saw three evil spirits that looked like frogs leap from the mouths of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet. **14** They are demonic spirits who work miracles and go out to all the rulers of the world to gather them for battle against the Lord on that great judgment day of God the Almighty. **15** "Look, I will come as unexpectedly as a thief! Blessed are all who are watching for me, who keep their clothing ready so they will not have to walk around naked and ashamed." **16** And the demonic spirits gathered all the rulers and their armies to a place with the Hebrew name Armageddon. (NLT)

- Harmonizing the Two _____
 - Location:
 - ▶ While Revelation 19 focuses more on the Person of Christ than on geographic details, the armies that 16:16 locates at Megiddo are the very kings and cohorts John sees in 19:19.
 - Combatants:
 - ▶ Both passages list "the kings of the earth" and their armies under the beast's leadership.
 - Objective:
 - ▶ Both texts state the intent to "wage war" against God (16:14; 19:19).
 - Outcome:
 - ▶ Revelation 16 anticipates divine wrath; Revelation 19 delivers it.
- Chronological Placement in the Apocalypse

- The book's structure repeatedly cycles through judgments terminating in the Parousia (Greek - Second Coming of Christ).
 - ▶ The seals preview the end (6:12-17)
 - ▶ The trumpets anticipate it (11:15-18)
 - ▶ The bowls carry events up to the brink (16:17-21).
 - ▶ Chapter 19 shifts from anticipation to execution.
 - ▶ Armageddon's assembly (16) precedes Armageddon's battle (19), harmonizing perfectly without contradiction.
- Old Testament _____
 - All three passages depict a massive, end-time convergence of enemy nations against God's people, answered by direct divine intervention—motifs that Revelation 16 and 19 inherit and complete.
 - Zechariah 12:2-11 and 14:1-5
 - ▶ Jerusalem besieged, nations gathered, Yahweh intervening on the Mount of Olives.
 - Joel 3:1-16
 - ▶ Nations in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, "multitudes in the valley of decision."
 - Ezekiel 38-39
 - ▶ Gog's coalition invades Israel and is supernaturally destroyed.
- Geographical and Archaeological Considerations of Megiddo
 - Tel-Megiddo's commanding view over the Jezreel Valley made it the choke-point of the Via Maris, inviting more than 20 documented ancient battles (e.g., Thutmose III ca. 1457 BC; Josiah vs. Pharaoh Necho 609 BC, 2 Kings 23:29).
 - Excavations headed by the University of Chicago (1925-1939) and the Tel Aviv/George Washington consortium (ongoing) have uncovered 26 strata of occupation, confirming Megiddo's continuous strategic importance.
 - The term "mountain" likely references the tell itself or the adjoining Carmel range. Thus Scripture's choice of Armageddon fittingly symbolizes worldwide hostilities converging at history's most storied battlefield.
 - Napoleon referred to the Jezreel Valley, also known as the Valley of Armageddon, as the perfect battlefield due to its strategic location and historical significance, where many battles have been fought throughout history.
- _____ Significance
 - Ultimate Rebellion:
 - ▶ Revelation 19:19 exposes humanity's final, unified revolt under the beast, echoing Psalm 2:2-3.
 - Sovereign Victory:
 - ▶ Christ's mere presence ("from His mouth comes a sharp sword," v. 15) ends the conflict; there is no protracted struggle.

- Vindication of the Saints:
 - ▶ Christ's robe is "dipped in blood" (19:13), anticipating judgment for persecutors and reward for believers (Revelation 6:10-11).
- Inauguration of the Millennium:
 - ▶ The beast's defeat clears the stage for Christ's 1,000-year reign (20:1-6), affirming a premillennial sequence.
- Historical _____ Witness
 - Irenaeus (Against Heresies 5.35.1) links Revelation 19 to "the gathering of the immeasurable multitude" prophesied in Ezekiel.
 - Hippolytus (On Christ and Antichrist § 60-64) interprets the beast's armies as nations deceived by Satan, destroyed at Christ's appearing.
 - Medieval commentators (e.g., Andrew of Caesarea) and Reformers (e.g., Bullinger's Decades 4.9) maintain the same battle sequence, demonstrating interpretive continuity across eras.
- _____ Models
 - Although some amillennial and preterist readings symbolically merge Armageddon with general spiritual struggle, the grammar of 19:19 ("assembled," "armies," "wage war") and the concreteness of the beast and kings argue strongly for a literal, global military confrontation culminating in Christ's corporal return—consistent with futurist, premillennial exegesis.
- _____ Implications
 - Confidence:
 - ▶ Believers need not fear the world's rage; the Rider's victory is certain.
 - Urgency:
 - ▶ The assembled armies reveal hardened rebellion; evangelism remains vital while grace is extended.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent. (NLT)

- Worship:
 - ▶ The hallelujah chorus of 19:1-10 precedes the battle narrative, inviting readers to join heaven's praise even before the final victory is visible on earth.
- Armageddon: _____ Thoughts
 - Revelation 19:19 is the narrative apex of Armageddon.
 - ▶ Revelation 16:16 describes the mobilization; Revelation 19:19-21 narrates the clash and the Messiah's decisive triumph.
 - ▶ Armageddon is therefore not a mythic abstraction but the climactic, literal defeat of evil powers gathered in open defiance of God—an event

secured by the risen Christ, consistently witnessed across Scripture, and anticipated in prophetic history and geography alike.

Kings Of _____

- Immediate Literary Context
 - Verses 11-21 depict Christ's climactic return.
 - Verses 17-18 summon "all the birds" to a feast on the flesh of rebels.
 - Verse 19 introduces the final coalition standing against Christ immediately before their defeat.
 - Verse 20 records the beast and the false prophet seized.
- Terminology: "Kings of the Earth"
 - John's phrase οἱ βασιλεῖς τῆς γῆς ("the kings of the land/earth") appears repeatedly.
 - ▶ In every occurrence, they operate in conscious opposition to God and His Messiah.

Revelation 1:5 ...and from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world. All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. (NLT)

Revelation 6:15 Then everyone—the kings of the earth, the rulers, the generals, the wealthy, the powerful, and every slave and free person—all hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains. (NLT)

Revelation 17:2 The kings of the world have committed adultery with her, and the people who belong to this world have been made drunk by the wine of her immorality." (NLT)

Revelation 17:18 And this woman you saw in your vision represents the great city that rules over the kings of the world." (NLT)

Revelation 18:3 For all the nations have fallen because of the wine of her passionate immorality. The kings of the world have committed adultery with her. Because of her desires for extravagant luxury, the merchants of the world have grown rich." (NLT)

Revelation 18:9 And the kings of the world who committed adultery with her and enjoyed her great luxury will mourn for her as they see the smoke rising from her charred remains. (NLT)

Revelation 19:18 Come and eat the flesh of kings, generals, and strong warriors; of horses and their riders; and of all humanity, both free and slave, small and great." (NLT)

Revelation 19:19 Then I saw the beast and the kings of the world and their armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army. (NLT)

Revelation 21:24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. (NLT)

- The Kings: Old Testament _____
 - Psalm 2:2 - Kings stand against God and against His Anointed One.
 - John alludes deliberately to this psalm.

Acts 4:25 ...you spoke long ago by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor David, your servant, saying, 'Why were the nations so angry? Why did they waste their time with futile plans? **26** The kings of the earth prepared for battle; the rulers gathered together against the Lord and against his Messiah.' **27** "In fact, this has happened here in this very city! For Herod Antipas, Pontius Pilate the governor, the Gentiles, and the people of Israel were all united against Jesus, your holy servant, whom you anointed. (NLT)

- Additional precursors include Ezekiel 38-39 (Gog and a multinational host)
- Daniel 2:44-45; 7:23-27; 11:36-45, and Zechariah 12-14—prophecies of end-time rulers opposing divine rule and being crushed by Yahweh's intervention.
- _____ Within Revelation
 - Consistency shows a single, continuing group: the world's political elites gathered into a final confederacy led by the beast.
 - ▶ 6:15—kings hide from the Lamb's wrath.
 - ▶ 17:12-14—ten kings receive authority "one hour with the beast... These will wage war against the Lamb."
 - ▶ 18:9—their lament over Babylon's fall proves their complicity.
 - ▶ 19:18—they supply the "flesh of kings" for the carrion feast.
- Identification: Global Rulers
 - Nothing in the text restricts "kings" to symbolic forces; they possess armies, territories, and political power.
 - ▶ In first-century parlance, "kings" covered client rulers and emperors alike (Josephus, Antiquities 14.8.5).
 - ▶ Revelation extends the term to any sovereign authority on earth's stage at the time of Christ's appearing.
 - ▶ subpoint

- Historic _____ and Future _____
 - John wrote under Domitian (A.D. 81-96). Roman persecution prefigured the ultimate anti-Christian state, yet Revelation 19 anticipates an eschatological event still future:
 - ▶ Armies assemble "at the place called Armageddon" (16:16).
 - ▶ The sun and moon darken (6:12-14; Matthew 24:29).
 - ▶ Christ visibly returns (19:11; Acts 1:11).
 - ▶ subpoint
 - Therefore, the kings of the earth are the literal, end-time heads of state who join the Antichrist (the beast) in the last global rebellion.

Revelation 19:1 "Immediately after the anguish of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will give no light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken." (NLT)

Acts 1:11 "Men of Galilee," they said, "why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!" (NLT)

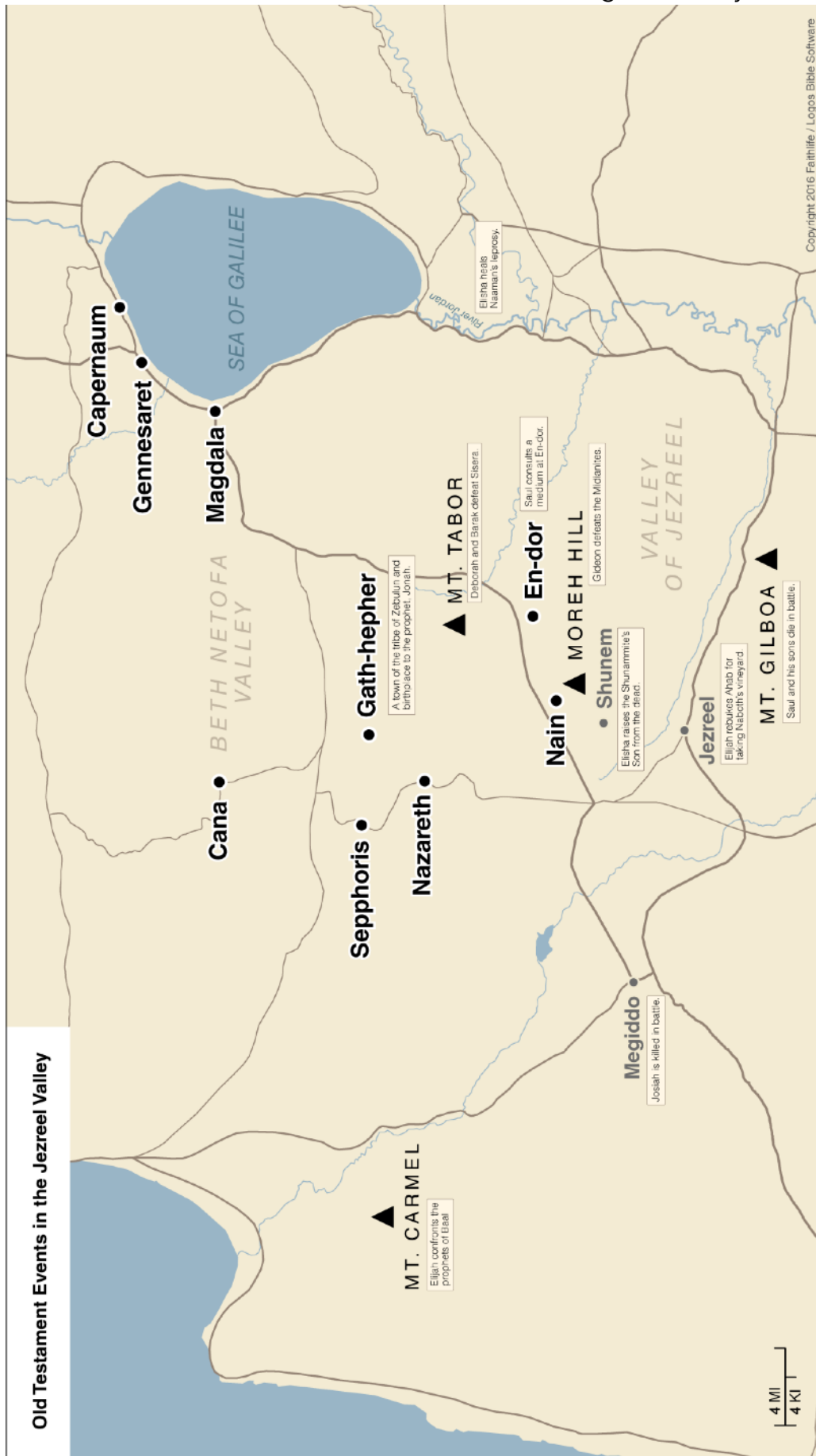
- Geographical Scope
 - Ezekiel's list (38:3-6) spans Africa, Asia, and Europe.
 - Daniel's fourth beast "devours the whole earth" (Daniel 7:23).
 - Revelation echoes: "authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation" (13:7).
 - Hence the coalition is worldwide, not confined to the Middle East, though the battlefield converges in Israel.
- Coalition _____
 - Revelation 17:12-13: ten contemporaneous rulers "receive authority for one hour."
 - ▶ Daniel's parallel (7:24) = ten horns.
 - ▶ These ten act as regional heads under the beast, but 19:19 adds "the kings of the earth" in total: subordinate monarchs, presidents, premiers, dictators—every power bloc under the beast's dominion.
- _____ Significance
 - The kings illustrate humanity's ultimate attempt at autonomy, fulfilling Psalm 2's prophecy and underscoring total depravity.
 - Their doom validates God's justice and Christ's kingship: "He will rule them with an iron scepter" (Revelation 19:15).
- _____ to Armageddon
 - Revelation 16:14-16 shows demonic spirits gathering "the kings of the whole world."

- Revelation 19:19 narrates the same moment from John's subsequent vantage: they stand arrayed when Christ descends.
 - ▶ Verse 19 is Armageddon's battlefield cameo.
 - ▶ subpoint
- Contrast with Redeemed _____
 - Revelation 1:5-6 announces that Jesus "has made us to be a kingdom, priests" and 5:10 promises the saints "will reign on the earth."
 - ▶ The defeated kings are supplanted by resurrected believers who reign with Christ (20:4).
- Archaeological Corroboration
 - Patmos:
 - ▶ First-century quarry inscriptions and the 2nd-century basilica affirm John's exile locale, corroborating the book's authenticity.
 - Megiddo:
 - ▶ Egyptian reliefs (Thutmose III, 15th century BC) and Roman VI Legion camp remains confirm its strategic value, supporting the plausibility of a vast final muster there.
- Christ's _____
 - Hermeneutical Key
 - ▶ The kings' defeat is certain because Christ is already the risen King (Revelation 1:18).
 - ▶ Multiple lines—empty tomb, post-mortem appearances (1 Corinthians 15:3-8), the conversion of hostile witnesses like Paul and James—demonstrate His authority to execute the judgment described.
- Practical Implications
 - Political power cannot shield one from divine judgment.
 - Allegiance to Christ now averts participation in the kings' rebellion.
 - Believers should pray for current leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-4) yet place ultimate hope in Christ's monarchy.
- The Kings: _____
 - The "kings of the earth" in Revelation 19:19 are the collective, literal heads of state across the globe who, under satanic deception and the leadership of the final Antichrist, marshal their armies in Israel to wage a hopeless war against the returning, glorified Christ.
 - ▶ Their annihilation fulfills the prophetic unity of Scripture, vindicates God's righteousness, and ushers in Jesus' millennial reign.

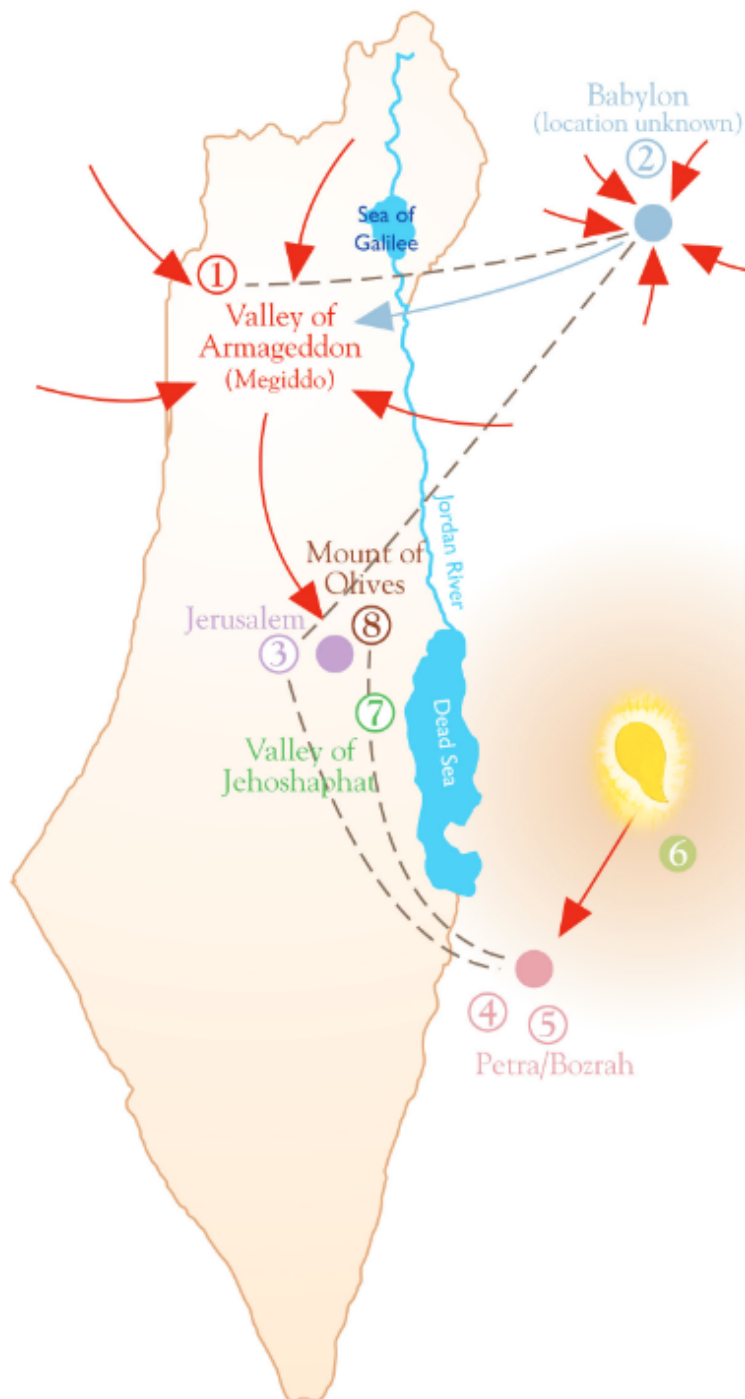
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- ☒ For what is the horse a symbol?
 - ☒ In what way is the white horse in verse 11 different from the white horse in Revelation 6:2?
 - ☒ Who is the Word of God?

- ☑ Where else in Revelation is the appearance of our resurrected Lord described?
- ☑ What insights can we gain from these descriptions?
- ☑ Who makes up the armies of heaven?
- ☑ Who is the animal or the beast?
- ☑ Who is the false prophet?
- ☑ Who is in the lake of fire when the beast and the prophet are sent there?
 - What is the lake of fire?
 - How can we disprove the doctrine of annihilation from this chapter?
 - Who are the "rest" in verse 21?









The Campaign of Armageddon

The Eight Stages

1. Gathering of the Armies of the Antichrist
2. Destruction of Babylon
3. The Fall of Jerusalem
4. The Armies of the Antichrist at Bozrah
5. Israel's Regeneration
6. Second Coming of Christ
7. End of Fighting at the Valley of Jehoshaphat
8. Victory Ascent upon the Mount of Olives

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