

1 **A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

LESSON 47

2 **OPENING REMARKS**

- As we are progressing in our study we are getting close to the time when the vials are poured out
- We are still in the middle room in our floor plan chart which is the 4th room
- The portion of Revelation we are studying is showing what is happening on the earth as a result of what is taking place in heaven
- Homework was suggested last week to read and study Scriptures in Ezekiel and Zephaniah
- We are continuing in Revelation the 14th chapter
- World events are controlled by God and He does according to His plan

3 **OPENING REMARKS cont.**

- The world's problems are necessary to bring about the end times that will result in the redemption of the earth and mankind (See Daniel 8:23)
- This redemption will result in the earth and a people who have been perfected as God had created and intended them to be
- As we look at these Scriptures in Revelation keep in mind that John is looking ahead in time as he is called in the Spirit

4 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON**

Revelation 14:14-17

14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a

loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

5 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

Revelation 14:18-20

18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.

19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.

6 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- This is giving us the same picture we studied in the earlier chapters except these Scriptures provide more details of what is happening on earth
- Here we are seeing the messengers of God as they come out of the Temple in heaven
- These visions of Armageddon are part of the preaching by the supernatural messengers
- As they are preaching the gospel message to those left behind, warning them to fear God and not take the mark, they are portraying to the world what is about to take place
- This portraying ability is part of the power they've been given

7 ☐ **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- The battle of Armageddon is not here yet but the messengers are using visual aids as part of their preaching
- This is some very powerful preaching; like nothing we have ever seen or heard of
- This is a miraculous ability that is now given to the bride of Christ under His direction
- Because the Tribulation Saints' numbers are so great there would have to be a great amount of supernatural power used to bring about their salvation
- The powers of Satan as Antichrist are full strength at this time which results in an epic opposition of the supernatural superpowers

8 ☐ **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- Then, just as now, God has a lot more power, a lot more He can call on, and a lot more He can show them
- As the messages are preached from the air the inhabitants of the earth are given giant movies in the sky showing the calamities that are to come
- This showing is prophetic as well as visual as the Battle of Armageddon hasn't taken place yet
- They will know that this battle is going to come because of God's anger with the sin of this world and the total rejection of Him
- These calamities, the pouring out of the vials, will come after the 3-1/2 years of tribulation

9 ☐ **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- These events are hard for us to visualize because these events do not happen during our dispensation and nothing like this has ever happened before

- This powerful preaching is what might be expected when these preaching messengers have every means of heaven at their command
- They have unlimited means as the power of God will be in every portion of their preaching
- This is a mighty time and yet we are living in a better time as we do not have to be martyred for our salvation
- We will be caught out before these terrible times come upon the earth and mankind

10 ☐ **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- The raptured bride will be the ones doing this preaching
- The fulfillment of this prophecy that is being shown to the earth's inhabitants, is the pouring out of the vials that is to immediately follow this preaching of 3-1/2 years
- The pouring out of the vials culminates in what has become known as the battle of Armageddon
- The battle of Armageddon is likely the most well known of all biblical prophecy
- This is not just a natural battle but also a supernatural battle between the powers of God and Satan
- Most people do not understand what this battle is really all about

11 ☐ **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- Armageddon is only the place of mobilization for the battle; the Plain of Megiddo also known as the Jezreel Valley in current day Israel
- While there might be some fighting there, the decisive battle is outside the walls of the city of Jerusalem

Revelation 16:16

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

12 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- The 1600 furlongs in verse 20 is about 170 miles
- This is part of the moving picture in the sky, which is highly symbolic, which will be understood by the viewers
- The winepress is a time of judgement only, after the tribulation period, and not a mixture of mercy and judgement
- The battle shows the terrible anger of God at those who have taken the mark of the beast and are going against His holy city
- There is not in those times the Spirit of wisdom and understanding of prophecy that we have through the Holy Spirit today

13 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- This is prophecy they can actually see, the symbolic showing of Armageddon, and it will be understood by the viewers on earth
- They understand what they are seeing by studying the Word; going to and fro in the Word (Daniel 12:4)
- There will be uncountable numbers who do not take the mark of the beast
- At this time there will be no church services, no teachers, and no preachers
- The only place they can go is to the Word of God, the Holy Bible
- There are many Old Testament references to this climax of world history

14 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

Isaiah 63:1-4

1 Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from

Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, traveling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.

2 Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winevat?

3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.

4 For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

15 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- God had it in His mind and in His heart knowing that the earth would not continue just to daily grow worse, daily grow more full of sin
- The time was to come that in His anger He was going to wash it all away, even more so than at the flood when He told Noah that His anger was against the world

Isaiah 63:5-6

5 And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.

6 And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.

16 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- The term "God's arm" as used throughout the Bible is descriptive of God's own power
 - Ezekiel the entire 39th chapter is about this same time period
- Ezekiel 39:1- 3

1 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:

2 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:

3 and I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand.

17 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

Ezekiel 39:4-7

4 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.

5 Thou shalt fall upon the open field: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God.

6 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.

7 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.

18 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

Ezekiel 39:8-10

8 Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the Lord God; this is the day whereof I have spoken.

9 And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the handstaves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years:

10 so that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons

with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord God.

19 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

Ezekiel 39:11, 21-22

11 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea; and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it, The valley of Hamon-gog [the multitude of Gog].

21 And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them.

22 So the house of Israel shall know that I am the Lord their God from that day and forward.

20 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- Israel will know from that time on that Jerusalem will be the earthly city of God
- Gog stands for the power of the Antichrist (Satan) and Magog stands for his empire
- It is the Antichrist that is going to be destroyed at the battle of Armageddon
- Gog and Magog mean the same, Antichrist and his empire, whenever mentioned in the Scriptures
- This 14th chapter in Revelation is not jumping ahead from tribulation to Armageddon, it is just showing the battle of Armageddon is to come as part of the everlasting gospel being preached from the sky

21 **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- What we have just studied, this preaching, is enough for untold numbers not to take the mark and be martyred
- The USA and Russia are not important countries in the battle of Armageddon
- Russia will part of the multitudes that go against God but not as a superpower
- The power of the Catholic church will be the downfall of Russia's power because she is anti-God
- The understanding of these events was shut up until the "time of the end" (Daniel 12:9)
- The greatest power in the end days will be those countries that make up the old Roman Empire

22 ☐ **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- Daniel is given much of the same prophecy of Revelation accept his is from the point of view of the Jews
- Daniel' prophecy is just part of the many Scriptures that show this time period so clearly
- The Bible says they will go to and fro in the Scriptures for understanding in the last days as they will have no other place to turn
- Most likely after the first 3-1/2 year period of tribulation, grace and judgment mixed, they will no longer have the Word of God
- The prophecies of Revelation are on a need-to-know basis: the understanding available to those who seek and study

23 ☐ **VISIONS OF ARMAGEDDON cont.**

- Revelation is the only book in the entire Bible that we are told that we must study as these are times in which we live
- The current political boundaries of the old Roman Empire are not significant and may change however the geographical area as identified by Biblical prophecy will not change

24 **THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES**

Revelation 15:1-3

1 And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.

2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

25 **THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES cont.**

Revelation 15:4

4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? For thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.

- This time period is just before the vials are poured out at the end of the Great Tribulation
- Here is another worship service, the giving back to God
- As we studied earlier, each new phase of this program of redemption is preceded by a worship service
- It is the resurrected Tribulation Saints who are bringing about this worship service

26 **THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES cont.**

- The Tribulation Saints are singing the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb
- The translation of "King of saints" should be translated as "King

of nations"

- Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords, not just King of saints
- The Tribulation Saints have made it through untold great sufferings
- Our time is the period of God's grace where Jesus' blood is our atonement
- The Tribulation Saints are having their worship service just like the raptured saints did after the Rapture

27 **FLOOR PLAN GRAPHIC**

28 **THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES cont.**

- In studying the same events but from different viewpoints, heaven's view and earth's view, we will notice that if details are supplied in one view, they are omitted in the other view
- The combination of details from both viewpoints gives us a complete picture
- This is much like the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke where each one adds information about the same event or dialog
- The worship service we are seeing here provides much more detail than in the parallel section in chapter 8

29 **THE SEVENTH SEAL**

Revelation 8:1-4

1 And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.

2 And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.

3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

4 And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

30 **THE SEVENTH SEAL cont.**

Revelation 8:5-6

5 And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

- The seven vials contain all of the fulfillment of the wrath of God
- We have also seen in those Scriptures we have studied in Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Joel, Zephaniah, etc. showing God's anger and wrath against Antichrist and those who took his mark

31 **THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES cont.**

- When the last plagues of the trumpets/vials are over the millennium has arrived
- The plagues are over at the battle of Armageddon
- The millennium is so called as it is the 1,000 years of peace on the earth when Satan is locked up

Revelation 10:7

7 but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

- As we study these events of the trumpets and the vials we find it is another proof that it is the same time period and the interpretation of the structure of Revelation holds true

32 **THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES cont.**

- In verse 2 of chapter 15 we are seeing the Tribulation Saints in

worship in heaven

- Recall they are also recorded in chapter 7 under the heaven's viewpoint
- It is unfortunate that many teachings and publications on Revelation proclaim there is only a 7-year tribulation period that starts with Daniel's 70th week
- This had lead to much confusion and misunderstanding
- There is not 7 years of tribulation; this is mixing up Daniel's Jewish time
- There are three 3-1/2 year time periods, not just two as seen in Daniel

33 ☐ **THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES cont.**

- Before Daniel's two 3-1/2 year periods comes the first 3-1/2 year period of tribulation
- Daniel's time periods are those of judgement only
- The omission of the first 3-1/2 years of tribulation would have the Tribulation Saints of chapter 15 verse 2 in heaven before they are even saved
- They are all in heaven at the end of the first 3-1/2 years
- We saw in order these Tribulation Saints; first as they are saved, then how they were saved
- Then we saw how they were killed, then we saw them raised from the dead, and now we see them worshipping in heaven

34 ☐ **RAPTURE TO ARMAGEDDON TIME CHART**

35 ☐ **END GRAPHIC**