

THE RETURN OF THE BRIDEGROOM KING – PART 2

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I. REVIEW

- a. Jesus will come back to the earth as the King of the Jewish people and deliver them from their greatest oppressor. His return will be in context to Israel's spiritual salvation, physical deliverance and the fulfillment of Israel's covenants with God. He will establish the throne of David in Jerusalem and restore the promise land of Israel forever.
- b. His return to the earth will be glorious for those that love Him and terrible for those that resist Him. He will come to bring full vindication for the Church and for Israel. The culmination of His judgments and fury will be released while He is on the earth. He will come back as a jealous husband with great anger against those that have broken Israel and the Church.

II. JESUS' MILITARY MARCH TO JERUSALEM

“Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect.” (Matthew 24:30-31)

- a. Jesus' appearing will be a magnificent sign of the times to the earth. His return will be the most powerful scene ever experienced in human history. Three million people in one location saw God's manifest presence at Mt. Sinai but billions will see God's manifestation at Jesus' 2nd coming.
- b. He will come with great power and manifest glory all around Him. Ezekiel experienced this realm of glory and power when the Lord came to Him (Ezekiel 1). The realm of glory will include a large host of warring angels and fire (2 Thessalonians 1:8).
- c. The Lord will shout and send His angels all over the earth to gather believers. This is the timing of the rapture and the resurrection of the dead. The bodies of every dead believer will hear His voice and rise out of the graves. There could be a few billion bodies raised from the dead at one time (1 Corinthians 15, John 5:28).
- d. Jesus will come as the Greater Moses to deliver Israel and to make a military march through the Middle-east. The greatest military slaughter in human history will happen through the hands of Jesus and His army. He will release the fullness of His fury during His military march. He will redeem His people by releasing vengeance on His enemies.
- e. He will come through the land of Edom (Sinia Peninsula, Southern Jordan) on His way to Jerusalem. The Lord will walk through the land of Edom and bring great destruction. Jesus' military march will be compared to a man stomping a great winepress and staining His robes with juice. He will trample the nations and stain His robes with their blood (Isaiah 34:5-7, 63:1-3, Habakkuk 3, Joel 3:19, Jeremiah 49:13).

III. ISRAEL DELIVERED FROM THE NATIONS

“And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.” (Revelation 19:19)

“For they are the spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty...And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.” (Revelation 16:14, 16)

- a. The Antichrist will be so threatened by Jesus that He will gather the kings and armies of the earth to fight against Jesus’ army. The Antichrist will deceive the nations into believing they can stop Jesus from taking His place as King over the earth.
- b. The armies of the earth will be based in part in a region 60 miles north of Jerusalem called Megiddo. Armageddon literally means mount of Megiddo. The plains of Megiddo are about 14 miles by 20 miles in area and are surrounded by hills and mountains. Megiddo was a major trade route between the southern nations and the northern nations that went through the mountain range. The Hebrew word is used here to refer its Jewish history. Megiddo has been the site of many important battles: Deborah and Barak defeated the Caananites (Joshua 4-5), Gideon defeated the Midianites (Judges 7) and Saul was killed by the Philistines (1 Samuel 31).
- c. Jerusalem will be completely surrounded and much of the city will be taken over by the Antichrist. A remnant of Jewish resistors will be sovereignly protected in the city and will be strengthened by Jesus at His return. Jesus will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is just east of Jerusalem, and split the hill into two parts so that the surviving Jews can escape the city. The Jews will receive Jesus as Messiah as He comes to deliver them from the nations (Zechariah 14:3-5, 12:4-14).

“And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses’ bridles (4 feet), for one thousand six hundred furlongs (200 miles).” (Revelation 14:20)

“This shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths...such also shall be the plague on the horses...and on all the cattle that will be in those camps.” (Zechariah 14:12, 15)

- d. Jesus will bring His final judgments on the armies of the nations from Jerusalem. The winepress analogy continues after Jesus enters Jerusalem and wages war on the rest of the armies. The entire nation of Israel will be filled with the blood of the Antichrist armies. It would take the blood of one billion people to create a stream of blood four feet high and 200 miles long. The birds of the earth will be gathered to Jerusalem to eat the flesh of the dead armies (Joel 3:1-16, Zechariah 12:9, 14:12-15, Revelation 16:18-21, 14:18-20).

“Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, “Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, “that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses...”” (Revelation 19:17-18)

- e. The Antichrist and the False Prophet will be captured by the Lord and thrown into the lake of fire. Satan will be bound by a mighty angel and thrown into the bottomless pit (Revelation 19:20-20:3).