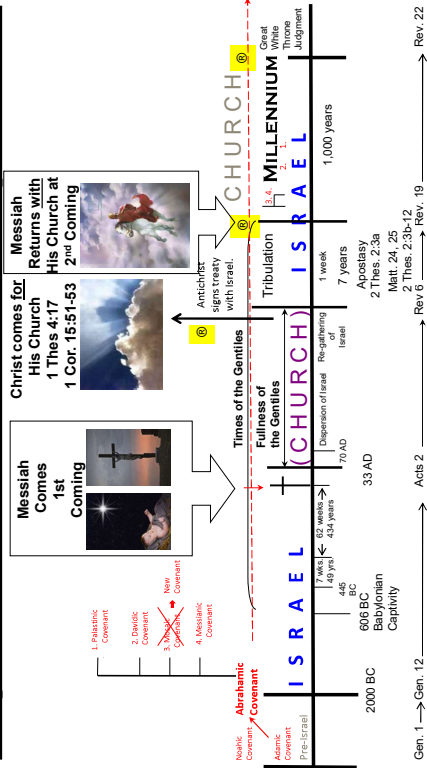


**"Introduction to Armageddon"**

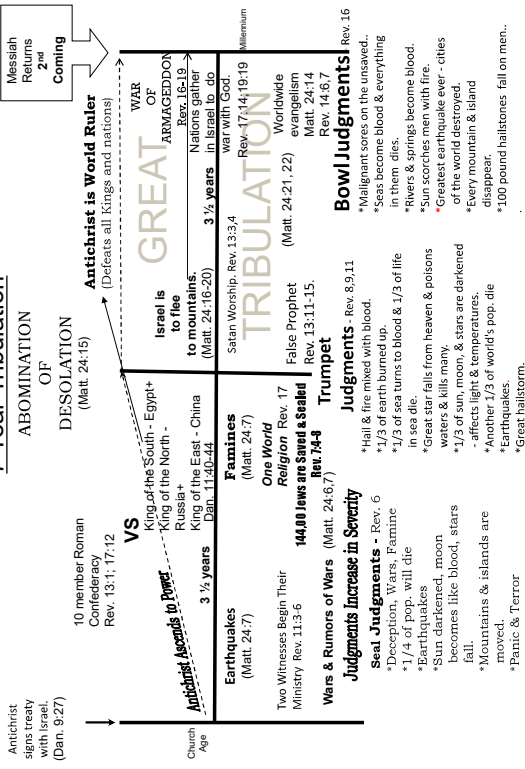
**Rev. 16:12-16**

Oct. 7, 2018

**Comprehensive Biblical View of Future Prophetic Events**



**7 Year Tribulation**



**Rev 16:12-16**

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**15 ("Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.")**

**16 And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon.**

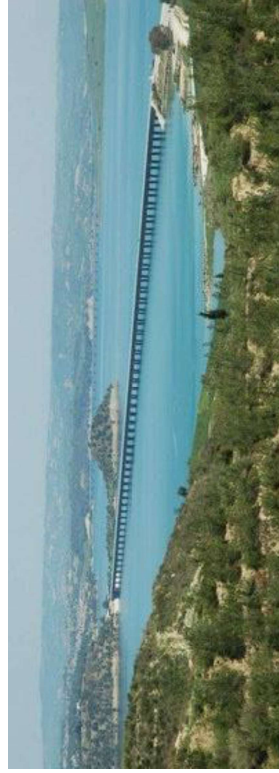
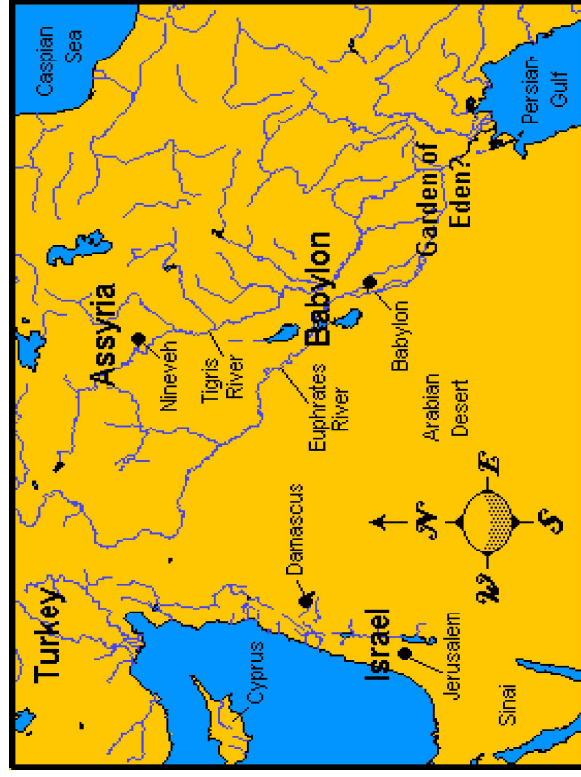
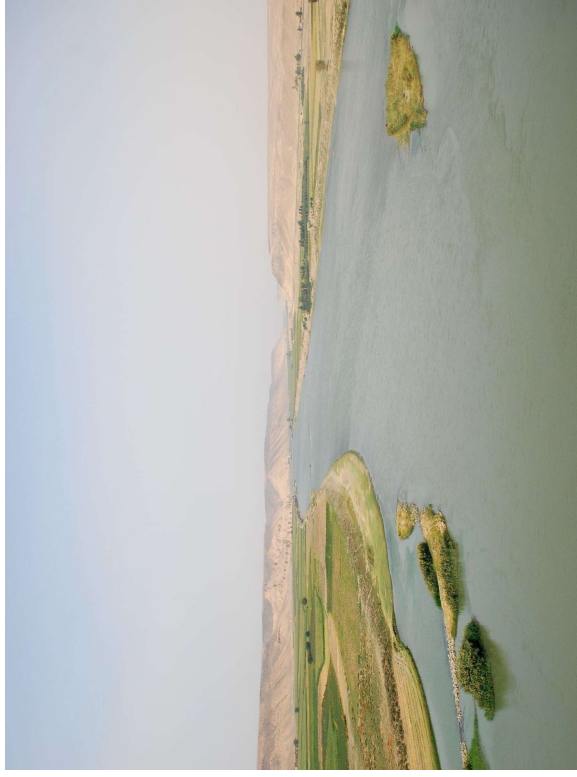
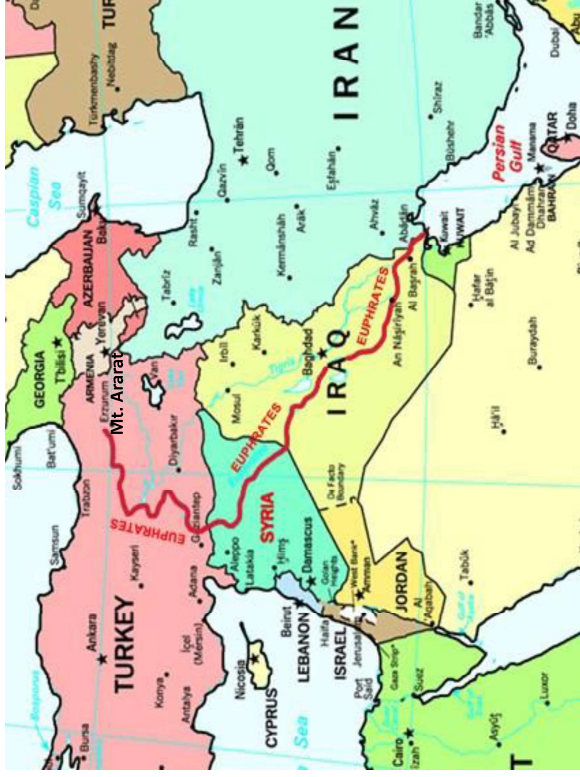
**Quiz**

**1. Put the following in chronological order:**

- Trumpet Judgments
- Church Age
- Rapture of the Church
- Signing of treaty with Israel
- Seal Judgments
- Sealing of 144,000
- Trumpet Judgments
- Abomination of Desolation
- 2 witnesses
- Israel flees to mountains
- False Prophet comes on the scene
- Angel proclaims the eternal gospel
- Bowl Judgments
- Abomination of Desolation
- 2 witnesses
- Israel flees to mountains
- False Prophet comes on the scene
- Angel proclaims the eternal gospel
- Bowl Judgments
- 2nd Coming of Christ
- Israel flees to the mountains
- Angel proclaims the eternal gospel
- Millennium
- Seal Judgments
- Israel flees to the mountains
- 2nd Coming of Christ
- Angel proclaims the eternal gospel
- Millennium

***“The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates;”***

- (1) It formed the Eastern boundary of ancient Rome and its conquests.
- (2) It forms the Eastern boundary of the land as promised to Abraham (Gen. 15:18; Deut. 1:7; 11:24; Josh. 1:4).
- (3) For a brief season David and Solomon extended their authority to the Euphrates (1 Kings 4:21; 1 Chron. 18:3; 2 Chron. 9:26).
- (4) The river is nearly 1,900 miles long and has always stood as a natural barrier separating the east from the west.
- (5) The river forms in Armenia and 1,900 miles later empties into the Persian Gulf. About 90 miles from the Persian Gulf, it is joined by the Tigris.





### “great river Euphrates”

#### Why the river Euphrates?

- It is the longest and most important river of western Asia.
- It begins in Turkey and ends in the Persian Gulf, extending nearly 1900 miles.
- At some points it is as wide as thirty-six hundred feet, and as deep as thirty-plus feet.
- **The Euphrates was a landmark of firsts:**
  1. The first sin. (Gen 2:10-14)
  2. The first of Satan’s assault on man. (Gen. 3)
  3. The first murder. (Gen. 4:16)
  4. The first organized revolt. (Gen. 11:1-9)
  5. The first apostasies before and after the flood. (Gen.6-10)

#### 6. The origin of:

- The tower of Babel – was the source of an entire complex of false religions that spread across the world.
  - “The loss of a unified language led to the loss of unified religion ; every people and nation now deviated to worship its own national god” - Simon Turpin
  - When the languages were scattered, they took the false religion of Babel (Humanism) and populated the world with it.
  - Out of Babel came astrology, pantheism, polytheism, idolatry, spiritism, naturalistic philosophy, humanism, atheism, Satanism.
  - Satanic fable of “the queen of heaven.”
7. The Euphrates River was the scene of the rise of Israel's greatest and most oppressive enemies – Assyria, Babylon, and Medo-Persia.
8. The area around the Euphrates River was the scene of the long years in which Israel spent some horrible days of captivity.
9. In Revelation 17 and Revelation 18 both the one world religion and the one world government are called Babylon.
10. This part of the world today is utterly pagan. Anti-Christian. Without Christian influence.

**“and its water was dried up, so that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east.”**

- This is not the first time God has dried up the water of a river.

### Ex 14:21-22

21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord swept the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, so the waters were divided.

22 The sons of Israel went through the midst of the sea on the dry land,

### Jer 51:36

36 Therefore thus says the Lord,

"Behold, I am going to plead your case

And exact full vengeance for you;

And I will dry up her sea

And make her fountain dry.

### Josh 3:16-17

16 the waters which were flowing down from above stood and rose up in one heap, a great distance away at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan; and those which were flowing down toward the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. So the people crossed opposite Jericho.

17 And the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan while all Israel crossed on dry ground, until all the nation had finished crossing the Jordan.

### Zech 10:11

11 "And they will pass through the sea of distress

And He will strike the waves in the sea,

So that all the depths of the Nile will dry up;

And the pride of Assyria will be brought down

And the scepter of Egypt will depart.

***“and its water was dried up, so that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east.”***

- This is not the first time God has dried up the water of a river.
- To the kings of the east, this looks like good news.



***“and its water was dried up, so that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east.”***

- This is not the first time God has dried up the water of a river.
- To the kings of the east, this looks like good news.
- They may think the Antichrist did it.
- But it's a trap. A deadly trap.
- Just as the parting of the Red Sea was a deadly trap for the Egyptian army.
- They are being led like sheep led to the slaughter. The world is coming to be executed.
- Why are they not flying in?
- Perhaps because great judgments have fallen upon the earth, the seals, the trumpets and now the bowl judgments. That may make it impossible for our modern technology to be useful at that time. Heat, darkness, pain and suffering.



### **Rev 16:12-16**

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- 15 ("Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.")
- 16 And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon.

### **Frogs were unclean under the Mosaic Law**

#### **Lev 11:9-12**

- 9 "These you may eat, whatever is in the water: all that have fins and scales, those in the water, in the seas or in the rivers, you may eat.
- 10 "But whatever is in the seas and in the rivers that does not have fins and scales among all the teeming life of the water, and among all the living creatures that are in the water, they are detestable things to you,
- 11 and they shall be abhorrent to you; you may not eat of their flesh, and their carcasses you shall detest.
- 12 "Whatever in the water does not have fins and scales is abhorrent to you.

### **Frogs were used for judgment on the land of Egypt**

#### **Ex 8:1-4**

- 1 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord, "Let My people go, that they may serve Me.
- 2 "But if you refuse to let them go, behold, I will smite your whole territory with frogs.
- 3 "The Nile will swarm with frogs, which will come up and go into your house and into your bedroom and on your bed, and into the houses of your servants and on your people, and into your ovens and into your kneading bowls.

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## Matt 24:24

24 "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.

## 2 Thess 2:8-12

8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,

10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false,

## Signs

## Rev 13:11-15

11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon.

12 He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose **fatal wound was healed**.

13 He performs **great signs**, so that he even **makes fire come down out of heaven** to the earth in the presence of men.

14 And he **deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform** in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life.

15 And it was given to him to **give breath to the image of the beast**, so that **the image of the beast would even speak** and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

## Gods Use of Evil

## Prov 16:4

4 The Lord has made everything for its own purpose, Even the wicked for the day of evil.

## 1 Kings 22:20-23

- 20 "The Lord said, 'Who will entice Ahab to go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' And one said this while another said that.
- 21 "Then a spirit came forward and stood before the Lord and said, 'I will entice him.'
- 22 "The Lord said to him, 'How?' And he said, 'I will go out and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' Then He said, 'You are to entice him and also prevail. Go and do so.'
- 23 "Now therefore, behold, the Lord has put a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; and the Lord has proclaimed disaster against you."

### Note:

"God, who is not the author of evil, *utilizes evil*, turning and manipulating it so that in its rebellion it ultimately brings about that which is sovereignly His will."

The impact of the signs by the frog-demons will be so great that it will deceive the kings of the east to make the journey to Israel in spite of their sores, the intense heat, drought, and darkness."

## Rev 16:12-16

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- Now the impact of the signs reaches all of the nations of the world resulting in them gathering to fight against God at Armageddon.
- The nations are not fighting each other, but are waiting for the return of Christ to fight Him.

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**All nations will be involved –**

### Ps 2:1-2

- 1 Why are the nations in an uproar  
And the peoples devising a vain thing?  
2 The kings of the earth take their stand  
And the rulers take counsel together  
Against the Lord and against His Anointed,

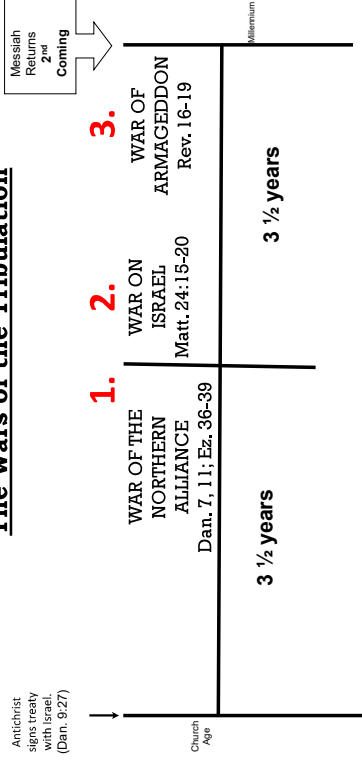
### Rev 19:19

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.

**Note:** this is '**the great day of God, the Almighty**'.

- This is the day that God has chosen to show the greatness of his power.
- This is the day when God will defeat every evil force, both in this world and in the spirit world.
- On this day, God will show that he really is the God of heaven and earth, and the judge of everyone.

## The Wars of the Tribulation



### Joel 3:9-13

- 9 Proclaim this among the nations:  
Prepare a war; rouse the mighty men!  
Let all the soldiers draw near, let them come up!  
10 Beat your plowshares into swords  
And your pruning hooks into spears;  
Let the weak say, "I am a mighty man."  
11 Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations,  
And gather yourselves there.  
Bring down, O Lord, Your mighty ones.  
12 Let the nations be aroused  
And come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat,  
For there I will sit to judge  
All the surrounding nations.  
13 Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe.  
Come, tread, for the wine press is full;  
The vats overflow, for their wickedness is great.

### Rev 16:12-16

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## 1 Thess 5:2-6

2 For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.

3 While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief;

5 for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

6 so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober.

## 2 Peter 3:10

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief,

## Rev 16:12-16

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## Matt 24:42-44

42 "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.

43 "But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into.

44 "For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.

## How does a thief come?

- suddenly
- quickly
- unexpectedly
- rapidly
- speedily
- dangerously

## Matt 25:1-13

1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

2 "Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent.

3 "For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps.

4 "Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep.

5 "But at midnight there was a shout, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'

6 "Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.

7 "The foolish said to the prudent, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

8 "But the prudent answered, 'No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

9 "And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut.

10 "Later the other virgins also came, saying, 'Lord, lord, open up for us.'

11 "But he answered, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.'

12 "Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.



## Rev 16:12-16

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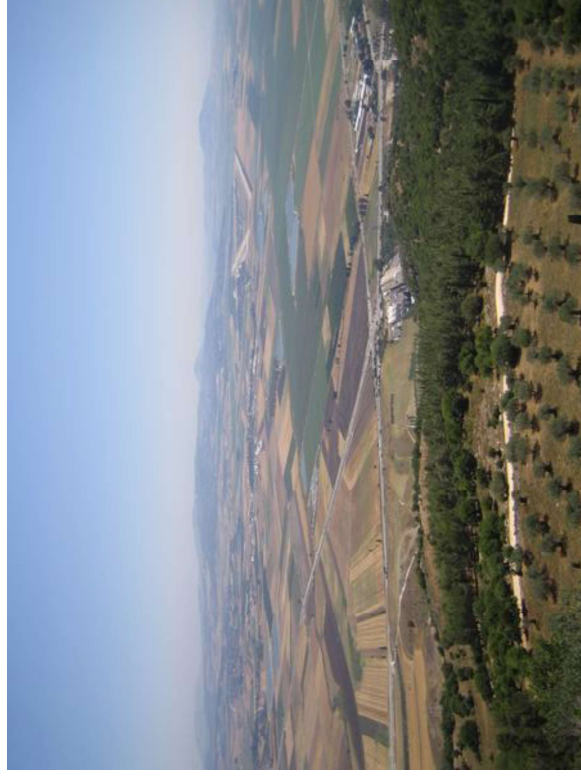
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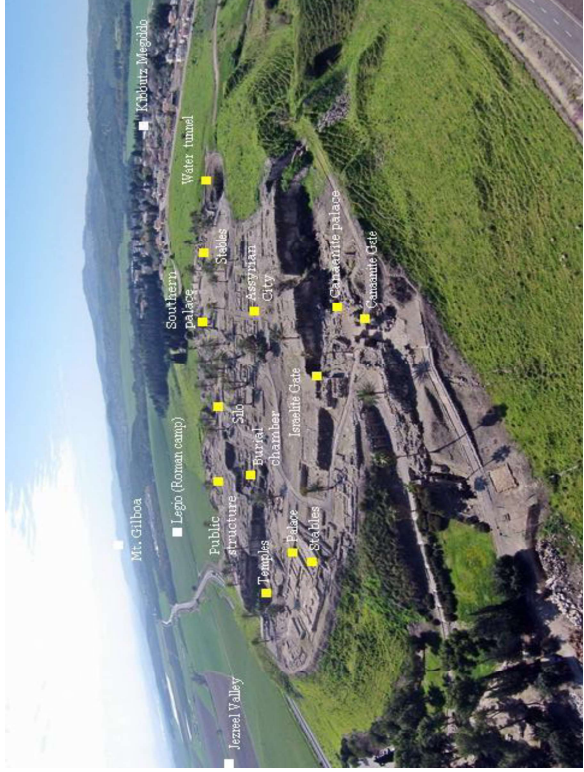
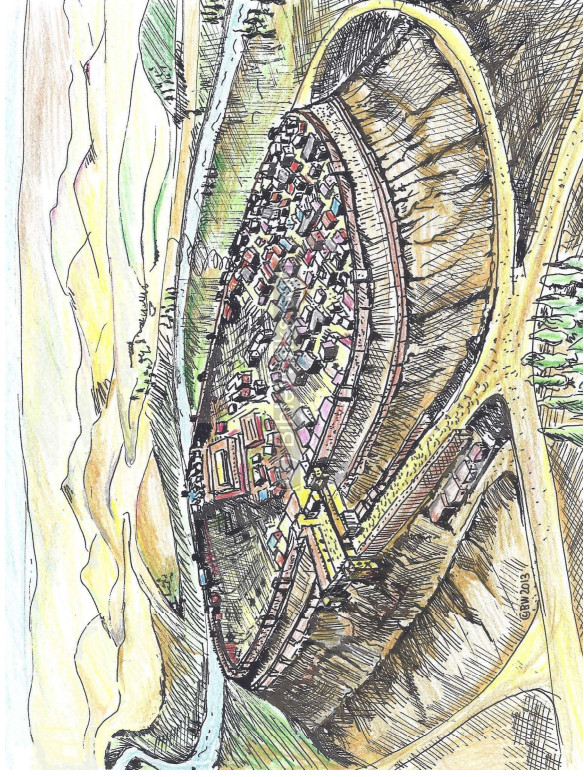
Alfred Edershiem, in his book, "Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah", comments upon the fact that it was customary in the temple for guards to guard the temple at night, and it was also customary for someone to go around during the night and check and see if the guards were still awake and were maintaining their watch properly, and so the captain of the temple during the night would make his rounds, and when he came to guards who were asleep, the judgment that was pronounced was that their garments were taken off, and they were set on fire, and that individual had to make his way home through the back ways in order to keep others from seeing him naked.

### Ἀρμαγεδών - Har-magedōn - Mount or Hill of Megiddo

Over two hundred battles have been fought here.

- Barak fought the Canaanites in Judges 4.
- Gideon fought here, Judges 7.
- Samson triumphed over the Philistines and slew Goliath.
- Saul and Josiah's death occurred as the result of wars fought here.
- Ironically, the first battle in the history of military warfare took place at Megiddo, and the last one will take place there as well.
- When Napoleon saw this plain, he said, "All the armies of the world could maneuver their forces on this vast plain... There is no place in the whole world more suited for war than this... It is the most natural battleground of the whole earth."
- Those who believe the Book of Revelation is all fulfilled in history have a hard time with this battle.

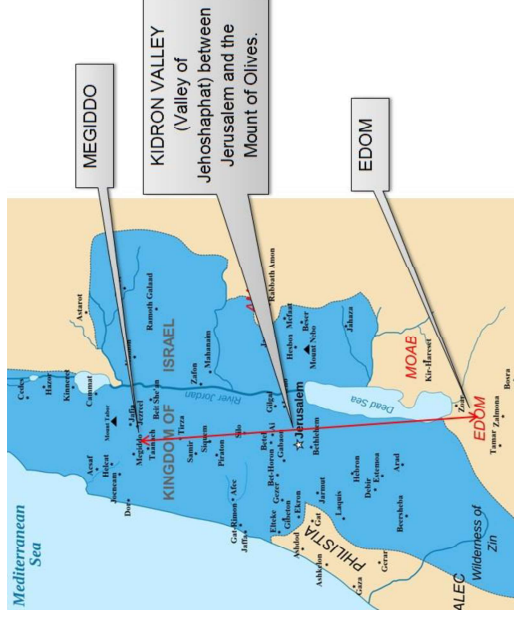




## Rev 14:19-20

19 So the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

20 And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.



### James L. Nicholson

1828 - 1876

James Nicholson was born in Ireland, and came to America some time in the 1850's. He lived for years in Philadelphia, then moved to Washington, D.C., where he worked as a clerk in the Post Office. As a Christian layman, he taught Sunday School, led the singing in church, and assisted in evangelistic work. While in Philadelphia, Nicholson attended the Wharton Street Methodist Church, of which gospel musician William Kirkpatrick was also a member. Whether James Nicholson was encouraged to write hymns by Kirkpatrick, we do not know, but he wrote a number of them. However, only one seems to be in general use today. It was written by James in 1871 and set to music in 1872. It was after the publishing of this hymn that James Nicholson became the pastor of the church. It should also be mentioned that William Fischer was perhaps as instrumental in the rise of popularity of this hymn as James Nicholson.

### WHITER THAN SNOW

1. Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole;  
I want Thee forever to live in my soul;  
Break down every idol, cast out every foe;  
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

3. Lord Jesus, for this I most humbly entreat;  
I wait, blessed Lord, at Thy crucified feet,  
By faith, for my cleansing; I see Thy blood flow;  
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

#### Refrain

**Whiter than snow, yes, whiter than snow;  
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

#### Refrain

2. Lord Jesus, look down from Thy throne in the skies,  
And help me to make a complete sacrifice;  
I give up myself, and whatever I know;  
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

4. Lord Jesus, Thou seest I patiently wait;  
Come now, and within me a new heart create;  
To those who have sought Thee,  
Thou never saidst No;  
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

#### Refrain

#### Refrain



William G. Fischer  
(1835–1912)

The music to this hymn was composed by William Fischer, who had learned to read music while attending vocal classes at a German-speaking church in Philadelphia. William Fischer was a German immigrant, who showed musical ability at an early age. When he was eight years old, he began singing in a German church in Baltimore. He learned to read music in a church singing class, and afterwards studied piano and organ. He worked as a bookbinder, but spent his evenings pursuing his interest in music. Later, he taught music at a Philadelphia college, and eventually went into the piano business. Fischer also led singing at evangelistic meetings, including the 1000-voice choir at the D.L. Moody/Ira Sankey Campaign in Philadelphia in 1875. During his lifetime he composed over two hundred hymn tunes.

This hymn has been a favorite of Christians around the world, offering comfort and hope for forgiveness of past sins.

It is based on Ps. 51:7, "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." and Is. 1:18, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow." The name of the hymn is . . .