

The Meaning Of The Word Armagedon-Essay

Armagedon (ה' עֲרֻמָּה גֵיא דִין – Ha'Aremah Gei Don) and the Valley of Jehoshaphat
"The Heap Of Sheaves In A Valley For Judgment."

We are facing a critical time in the world. The world stands in unbelief and refuses to hear Yahweh's Word and voice which plainly warns of judgment for dividing the land of Israel and/or Jerusalem. War and destruction are decreed when this happens. Most of the Arab nations and the "Palestinians", Hezbollah-ites, and Hamas-ians are going to be destroyed. Armagedon and the Second Coming of Yeshua will follow thereafter. Yahweh is about to glorify his name above all other names.

Revelation 16:16 – "And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armagedon."

Throughout scripture a theme of final climactic battle is taught. As we approach the end of the age, more and more attention is being called to the prophecy written in Revelation. This battle is often referred to as the "Battle of Armagedon". Several themes are mentioned throughout scripture in relation to this battle: the sickle, a harvest, all nations, and a valley of judgment. Let's take a look at these themes, and a couple more that are relevant.

Traditional View



The traditional view of this battle is that it is fought at the Mount(ain), or Har [H2022 הַר], of Megiddo [מִגְדּוֹן Megiddo or מִגְדוֹן Megiddon H4023]. Unfortunately, there is no mountain (har הַר) at Megiddo – only a small hill, [Geba H1387 גִּבְעָה] often called a tell in scripture and other references. **2 Chronicles 35:22** only speaks of the Plain [biqah H1237 בִּקְעָה] of Megiddo, as does **Zechariah 12:11**. The word Plain is the Hebrew word biqah [H1237 בִּקְעָה], which means a wide, level valley. **Judges 5:19** speaks of the waters [mayim H4325 מַיִם] of Megiddo, but again, no mountain. **No scripture ever speaks of a hill or mount of Megiddo!**

Differences in the Scrolls

When interpreting prophecy it is imperative to do so according to the instructions written in the scriptures. **Revelation 16:16** states clearly that this word, Armagedon, **must** be **understood** in the "Hebrew tongue," not in the Greek tongue, not in the Latin tongue, and especially not in the English tongue!!

There are about 5000 scrolls that make up the Majority or Byzantine Text. Only between six and twelve of these scrolls (The Textus Receptus) were used to translate the Authorized King James version of the Bible. And it is only in the Textus Receptus scrolls that one finds the word, armagedon, [G717 Ἀρμαγεδδών] spelled with two "d"s. The vast majority of the other scrolls spell this word with only one "d" [Ἀρμαγεδών]. Other scrolls drop the "ar" – mageddon, or magedon. Also, the vowels of armagedon and of Megiddo do not match. Megiddo is spelled with an: e - - i, Armagedon is spelled with an: a - - e!

Textus Receptus – armageddōn Ἀρμαγεδδών
Alexandrus / Vaticanus – armagedōn Ἀρμαγεδών
Byzantine – armagedōn Ἀρμαγεδών

What is Armagedon in Greek?

Textus Receptus	Alexandrus Vaticanus	Byzantine Majority
Ἀρμαγεδδών	Ἀρμαγεδών	Ἀρμαγεδών
Armageddōn	Armagedōn	Armagedōn

Only the scrolls used by the King James Translators, the Textus Receptus, spell Armagedon with two "d"s.

The vowels of Armagedon and of Megiddo do not match.

Armagedon is spelled with an: a - - e
Megiddo is spelled with an: e - - i

Most translations follow the King James two “d” spelling: Armageddon. The CEV and Darby spell it correctly as Armagedon. The NASB, ASV, and NRSV add the “H” and spell it Harmagedon, or Har-Magedon. Some state that the apostrophe in front of the Greek Α is an “H”, thus making it a “har”. The Complete Jewish Bible changes the spelling of Ἀρμαγεδών even more profoundly. The CJB not only adds an “H” and a second “g”, but actually changes the vowels and spells it: Har Meggido!

However, in Hebrew the “H” or Hey, pronounced “ha”, simply means “the”, so again, not indicating a “har”, hill, mount, or mountain. Instead, it makes it Ha’ar . . . **The** heap. One must think in **Hebrew!**, not in **Greek!** to correctly translate this verse in **Revelation 16:16**.

Not only do other Bible verses mention no mountain, the vowels of armagedon and of Megiddo do not match. Megiddo is spelled with an: e - - i, not an: a - - e, and has no H in front! Furthermore, Megiddo is not mentioned once in the Newer Covenant.

The Word Armagedon (In Hebrew)

Luke 3:17 – “His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The word ‘Armagedon’ says Douglas Hamp, is made up of three Hebrew words presented below:

‘**Aremah** – [H6194 עֲרֵמָה]: a heap, a pile, a heap of sheaves. ‘Aremah comes from ‘âram [H6192 עָרַם]: to be heaped up. This word is taken from “Come against Babylon from every quarter; open her granaries; pile her up like heaps of grain, and destroy her utterly” (**Jeremiah 50:26**). Boaz slept on an ‘arem. During harvest time they would tie the grain stalks into bundles, and then heap (‘arem) them up into piles (**Ruth 3:7**). **Micah 4:12** says: “For He has gathered them like sheaves [‘amir H5995 עָמִיר] to the threshing floor.”

‘Amir, ‘âram, and ‘âremah all mean to heap up, and all use essentially the same Hebrew letters, ayin resh mem, as the first three letters in the Greek armagedon, just in differing order. This is very typical of Hebrew writing, which regularly transposes letters in like meaning words.

Gayê – [H1516 גַּיַּת]: a valley, a steep valley, a narrow gorge. This word can be found in Joshua 15:8 & 18:16, 2 Kings 23:10, Nehemiah 11:30, and Jeremiah 7:31-32 – speaking of the valley of Ben-Hinnom.

Don – from diyn [H1777 or den H1778 דִּין]: meaning to judge, contend, plead, judgment. It is essentially the same word as shâphat [H8199 שָׁפַט], as in Jeho-shaphat (Yahweh Judges).

When all these elements are combined, the word is found to mean: “**The heap of sheaves in a valley for judgment.**”

That Pesky Apostrophe

Again, **Revelation 16:16** states clearly that this word, Armagedon, must be understood in the “Hebrew tongue.” One must think in **Hebrew!**, not in **Greek!** to correctly translate this verse in **Revelation 16:16**.

- A lot of scholars state that the apostrophe in front of the Greek Α is an “H”, thus connecting it to the “ar”, making it “har”.
- The apostle John was a Jew, thought like a Jew, wrote like a Jew, and very likely translated Hebrew letters into Greek equivalents.
- So, when he translated עֲרֵמָה גֵּי דִּין (Ha’Aremah Gei Don) into Greek, he simply substituted an apostrophe for the Hebrew letter “Hey”.
- In Hebrew the “H” or “Hey”, pronounced “ha”, simply means “the”.
- So, the apostrophe is not indicating an “H” connected to the “ar”, making it a “har”, i.e. a hill, mount, or mountain.
- Instead, it makes it “Ha’ar . . .”, which translated makes it “the heap . . .”

Here is a graphic showing that pesky apostrophe in Hebrew, Greek, and English.



The Sickle And The Heap of Sheaves



Joel 3:13 – “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 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision!”

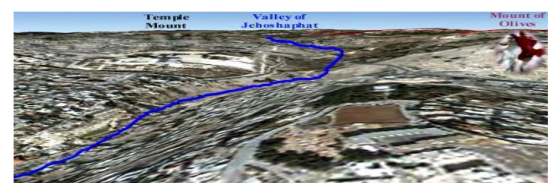
Micah 4:12 – “He has gathered them like sheaves to the threshing floor.”

Zechariah 12:9 – “In that day I will make the clans of Judah like a firepot among pieces of wood and a flaming torch among sheaves, so they will consume on the right hand and on the left all the surrounding peoples . . .”

Revelation 14:14-20 – “Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud was one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head and a sharp sickle in His hand. And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, ‘Put in your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe.’ Then He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle. Then another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, ‘Put in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe.’ 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. 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.”

The harvest theme during which the sickle is used to harvest the ripe grains and the wine press is trodden are common themes regarding the last days, the time of the battle of Armagedon. Each of these themes also has in common that they take place outside the city of Jerusalem within the surrounding peoples. This place is the Valley of Ben Hinnom or Valley of Jehoshaphat, also known as the Valley of Judgment or Valley of Decision.

All Nations At The Valley of Judgment



Micah 4:11 – “And now many nations have been assembled against [Zion], who say ‘Let her be defiled’.”

Zechariah 12:2-3 – “Behold, I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes reeling to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah. It will come about in that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it will be severely injured.”

Zechariah 12:9 – “I will destroy all nations that come against Jerusalem.”

Zechariah 14:2 – “I will gather all the nations to fight against Jerusalem.”

Joel 3:2 – “Let the nations be called to arms. Let them march to the valley of Jehoshaphat. There I, Yahweh, will sit to pronounce judgment on them all.”

Joel 3:12 – “Let the nations be aroused and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat, For there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations.”

Joel 3:14 – “For the day of Yahweh is near in the valley of decision.”



All the action takes place outside the city of Jerusalem, **not** sixty miles north near Megiddo. In **Joel 3:11-17**, details of a major conflict in the Valley of Jehoshaphat are given. This account runs parallel to that battle of Armagedon recorded in Revelation 16:14-18. The Middle East will be the focal point of the battle of Armagedon in the southern part of Israel, in the Valley of Jehoshaphat. The Valley of Jehoshaphat is also known as the Kidron Valley. Armagedon, therefore, takes place in the Kidron Valley.

Judges 6, 7 And 8 – Gideon Fighting The Midianites: A Picture Of Armagedon

Israel served the Midianites for seven years, God sent a prophet to them, fire fell on the sacrifice – **6:1-27**

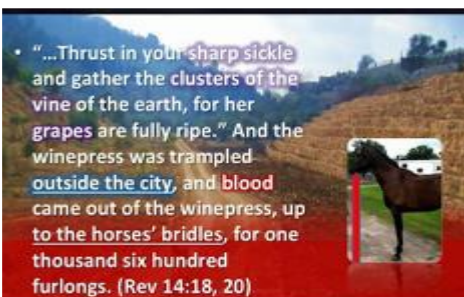
- They took ten men at night – **6:27**
- It was a time of the threshing of the wheat – **6:11**
- The children of the East come across the Jordan River and come into the Valley of Jezreel – **6:33**
- There they gathered together, pitched their tents, and blew the trumpet – **6:34**
- There were two princes slain, they were slain at the wine press, and they cross the Jordan and meet at Succoth – **7:25**
- Israel destroyed the Ishmaelites – **8:24**
- They beat the enemy with thorns – **8:16-17**

The Armagedon Parallels:

All the end time events happen at the end time harvest.

- The tribulation will be 7 years – **Daniel 9:27**
- Elijah will come to restore all things – **Matthew 17:11; Mark 9:12**
- The Two Witnesses have fire come out of their mouths and consumes their enemies – **Revelation 11:5**
- There will be 10 kings that arise during this time – **Revelation 17:12**
- Kings of the East will come across the Euphrates to the valley of Jezreel – **Revelation 16:12**
- All nations will be gathered together in the Valley of Jezreel – **Zechariah 14:2**
- When Messiah returns, there will be a blowing of the trumpet – **Matthew 24:31**
- Two beasts (Antichrist and false prophet) arrive – **Revelation 13:1-2, 11**
- Many are slain in the wine press of the wrath of God – **Revelation 14:20, 19:15**
- The Lord comes with a rod of iron to tread down his enemies – **Psalms 2:9, Revelation 19:15**

Blood Up To The Bridal



Isaiah 34:2-3 – “For Yeshua is enraged against the nations. His fury is against all their armies. He will completely destroy them, dooming them to slaughter. Their dead will be left unburied, and the stench of rotting bodies will fill the land. The mountains will flow with their blood.”

Isaiah 63:3 – “I have trodden the winepress alone, And from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, And trampled them in My fury; Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, And I have stained all My robes.”

Revelation 14:20 – “*And the wine press was trodden outside the city [of Jerusalem], and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses’ bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.*”

Normally, only in a tight, deep gorge, could the blood rise to the level of a horse’s bridle. Blood, like water, will seek its own level, and on the plains of Megiddo this would be virtually impossible. However, it would be very possible in the Kidron Valley, in the Valley of Jehoshaphat – a valley that sits just outside the city of Jerusalem to the east and just west of Edom! Here it could easily reach a height of around five feet, and here is exactly where Revelation 14:20 states the wine press is trodden and the blood is shed.

Traditionally it is thought that the blood will be a river of blood, thus only able to reach a horse’s bridle in some sort of gorge, not on a flat plain. However, **if the blood is still contained in the bodies of the slain**, it could then easily reach the level of the horses’ bridles in either place, if it weren’t for that qualifying description in **Revelation 14:20**.

The Mount of Olives



Once again, we see Yahweh’s people hemmed in – this time with Jerusalem and Mount Moriah to the west, the Mount of Olives to the east, and the armies of Satan to the north and south in a pincer movement determined to destroy Yahweh’s people, just as Pharaoh had determined to do at the Sea of Suph. And once again, Yahweh, in the person of Yeshua, forms a corridor through which the Jews are able to escape. The Mount of Olives parts to the north and to the south, walls of stone and dirt forming a corridor through which the Jews are able to escape, while Yeshua stands in the gap between them and their enemies, whom he destroys (**Revelation 14-20**). It’s a repeat of the Sea of Suph! (**Exodus 14:19**).

Zechariah 14:4 – “*In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other*

Conclusions

Revelation 16:16 – “*And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armagedon.*”

This verse states clearly that this word, Armagedon, must be **understood in the “Hebrew tongue.”** It is made up of three Hebrew words: ‘Aremah, Gayê, and Don. When all these elements are combined, the word is found to mean: “**The heap of sheaves in a valley for judgment.**”

All nations are gathered together in a valley and the sickle is brought out to harvest the fields and heap up the sheaves. That valley is clearly described in scripture as the Valley of Jehoshaphat, another name for the Kidron Valley – a valley that sits just outside the city of Jerusalem to the east and just west of Edom!

Armagedon, therefore, takes place in the Kidron Valley, just outside the city of Jerusalem, exactly as prophesied in the Bible scriptures.

Prophecy continues to unfold as foretold by the Hebrew prophets. The stage is being set. History is moving extremely quickly towards the prophesied one world government, the one world financial system, and the rise of both the Antichrist and the False Prophet. The birth pangs are just over the horizon. Yeshua Ha’Mashiach is coming soon – get busy reaching the lost.