

The Book of Revelation
Chapter 16
“The Battle of Armageddon”

In our study of Revelation chapter 16, we looked at the most famous of all the battles that will be fought on planet earth.

- ⊕ **In this final battle**, all for the nations of the world will be joined together in a valley just 200 miles long, North of Jerusalem.
- ⊕ **In this valley**, more than 34 battles have already been fought.
- ⊕ **It is a strategic battleground**, the winner, having access to the entire middle east.

In every war, before the war begins, the “**Ambassadors**”, the ones who represent the governing authority, are called home, before the battle begins.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Now then, **we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God

Jesus has dispatched us who know Him and love Him, to be His Ambassadors.

- ⊕ **We are to tell the people of the earth** of His great love and the sacrifice that Jesus made for them.
- ⊕ **It is our job** to tell everyone that Jesus did come once before and He will come again.
- ⊕ **First He will come in the clouds and in the air**, as He will remove all those who love Him, from the earth at the Rapture as described in 1 Thessalonians chapter 4.
- ⊕ **Then, physically to the earth**, at the end of the 7 year Tribulation, Jesus will ascend out of heaven with all of us and come to the Mount of Olives.
- ⊕ **Then Jesus will go up**, just north of the mount of Olives to **the Valley of Megiddo**, to destroy the armies of the world, that are there waiting to try and destroy Jesus.

In chapter 16 of Revelation, as we went through this chapter verse by verse last Sunday morning, we watched as the angels poured out each of the 7 bowls upon the people of the earth who had taken the mark of the beast and the kingdom of the beast itself.

Revelation 16:12-14

12 Then the sixth angel **poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.**

13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14 For they are 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.**

The pouring out of the 6th Bowl, causes the River Euphrates to “**Dry Up**”.

Now, over the past several hundred years, there have been many who have written and scoffed at the fact that the mighty Euphrates River could be dried up.

- ⊕ **This river is** over 1,700 miles long.
- ⊕ **It is** 30 Feet Deep
- ⊕ **It is between** 300 and 1200 feet across.

The Euphrates is the TRUE West bank of Israel.

Genesis 15:18

On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: “To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt (Nile) to the great river, the River Euphrates—

There is a lot of talk today on the news about “The West Bank” of Israel.

- ⊕ **Israel just surrendered** “Gaza” to the Palestinian authority.
- ⊕ **The next goal** of the Palestinians is to get from Israel “**The west Bank**”.
- ⊕ **This is the territory** in Israel that includes the city of Jerusalem.
- ⊕ **The reason** that Israel surrendered “Gaza”, is in hopes of keeping the greater prize “*The West Bank*”.
- ⊕ **Israel will never surrender** the West Bank, because it contains their most cherished city: “*Jerusalem*”

Under King David, Israel’s kingdom extended to Damascus, as seen on this map.

- ⊕ **Under David’s son Solomon**, the kingdom extended all the way **to the Euphrates River**, that God had intended they have.
- ⊕ **Genesis 15**, God said that the land that he gave to Abraham and his descendents, extended all the way from the Nile river in Egypt to the ?South, to the Euphrates River in the North.

Since Solomon lost this land, Israel has only possessed the small portion they have now.

So how could the Euphrates River be dried up?

February 1994 – The Atlantic Monthly reported that the “*Ataturk Dam*” in Turkey can “Stop the flow of water into Syria and Iraq **for up to 8 Months...**”

The Coming Anarchy

How scarcity, crime, overpopulation, tribalism, and disease are rapidly destroying the social fabric of our planet

by **Robert D. Kaplan**

Unlike Egypt's Aswan High Dam, on the Nile, and Syria's Revolution Dam, on the Euphrates, both of which were built largely by Russians, **the Ataturk Dam** is a predominantly Turkish affair, with Turkish engineers and companies in charge.

Erduhan Bayindir, the site manager at the dam, told me that "while oil can be shipped abroad to enrich only elites, water has to be spread more evenly within the society. . . . **It is true, we can stop the flow of water into Syria and Iraq for up to eight months without the same water overflowing our dams, in order to regulate their political behavior.**"

This is a secular news article, the Euphrates can be dried up anytime they want to...

Revelation 16:12-14

12 Then the sixth angel **poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared**

The term "Kings of The East", in the literal Greek, means "The kings of the Rising sons".

- ☞ **The Bible translators** knew that these were the "*Kings of the East*", so they changed the term from **Rising Sons** to **Kings of the East**.
- ☞ **The kings of the east**, "*The Kings of the Rising Sons*", is China and Japan.

The 6th angel will pour out his bowl on the river Euphrates and its waters will be dried up at the Ataturk dam, then the Kings of the East, China and Japan will be able to bring their massive armies West into the Valley of Megiddo...

Revelation 9:14-16

14 saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."

15 So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind.

16 **Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million**; I heard the number of them.

Can you imagine John as he is writing this line here in verse 16: "Now the number of the army of the horsemen was 200 million".

- ☞ **In our previous study**, I had laid out the possibility that these are 200 million demonic beings.
- ☞ **The second possibility** is that they are a literal **200 million man army** coming from the east.
- ☞ **Now, There were not even** 200 million people **on the entire earth** when John wrote the Book of Revelation!
- ☞ **You see** this is the beauty of Prophecy.
- ☞ **Did you get this?** When John wrote this **2,000 years ago**, and at that time, this was an absolute impossibility.

- ☞ **And yet today**, China says today that they have a standing army of just **2.5 million**, but they recently boasted that they could raise an army of over **200 million** in just a short period of time.

By John Pomfret

Washington Post Foreign Service

Tuesday, May 29, 2001; Page A01

In China's Countryside, 'It's a Boy!' Too Often

XICUN VILLAGE, China -- Not much seems to have changed in Xicun, a cliff-side village deep in the mountains of southern Guangxi province. Except when you scan the birth records.

Last year, 20 children were born to the women of Xicun. **Sixteen were boys**. The year before, **24 were born and 19 were boys**. There is a reason for the preponderance of males: In 1999, the medical center that serves Xicun bought a cheap, Chinese-made ultrasound machine that allowed doctors to determine the sex of a fetus. **Sex-selective abortions followed. And now the town, like hundreds of others in China, is facing a boom in boys**

Chinese researchers say, there are 41 million more males than females among China's 1.3 billion people,

You see, back in the 70's, China adopted a plan to control their skyrocketing population.

- ☞ **Each family** was limited to just **1 child**, in hopes of curbing their already gigantic population.
- ☞ **Any couple** that has more than one child is subject to a **15 year prison sentence**.
- ☞ **As a result**, there are massive abortions of female fetuses happening in China since the 70's.
- ☞ **9 out of 10** people born today in China are boys, that is **9 boys for ever 1 girl**.
- ☞ **As a result**, Their entire culture is a total mess today.
- ☞ **However**, the rule has been estimated to have reduced population growth in the country of 1.25 billion by as much as 300 million people over the past twenty years.

Out of the 1.3 Billion people in China, there are today more than **650 million men**.

- ☞ **0-14** years of age: **153,401,051**
- ☞ **15-64** years of age: **469,328, 664**
- ☞ **65** and older: **46, 308,923**

So, to raise a standing army from its current 2.5 million to 200 million, is completely within reason, being that they have almost 650 Million men to chose from.

- ⊕ **The late Chinese dictator, Mao TseTung**. Boasted in his diary that China could field an army of 200 million, **the exact number stated here in the prophecy of Revelation 9**.
- ⊕ **The Government of China** later announced on their government radio, that **in just 3 months they could raise this army of 200 million men**.

John was told that there was going to come an army from the east or 200 million...

Revelation 9

16 **Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million**; I heard the number of them.

- ⊕ **This possibility** of such a huge army, scares to death, the military generals around the world.
- ⊕ **That Japan** with all of her technology and **China** with all of her numbers of men, could be an impossible army to overcome.

Forbes Magazine

“Russia And China Play Army”

Alex Storzynski, 08.18.05, 12:00 PM ET

NEW YORK - While some world leaders are concerned that China and Russia are conducting their first-ever joint military exercises this week; the real story is what happened last week. The trade ministers of Russia and China met in Beijing to discuss joint economic strategies between these former Communist giants

That was 2 days ago, on Friday, next it will be China and Japan teaming up together doing military exercises.

- ⊕ **The Book of Revelation here in chapter 16**, says that China and Japan are going to team up together at the end of the 7 year Tribulation, the Euphrates river is going to be dried up, so that they can cross over, and they will come down into the Valley of Megiddo, north of Israel to fight the final battle of the planet **“The Battle of Armageddon”**

I have a 54 page report from our Military from 2000 called : **FY04 REPORT TO CONGRESS ON PRC MILITARY POWER**

- ⊕ **The United States** is very concerned about the increasing military **strength of China**.
- ⊕ **And, We have been trying to team up with Japan**, who has taken a vow to never again go to war, to reconsider their vow, and join with the U.S to protect each other against China.

Asia Times Online

China 'threat' strengthens US-Japan military ties

By Kosuke Takahashi

TOKYO - This is just the beginning of a war of nerves of military strategy among the world's three most powerful countries, based on real hardball politics, military hardware and spyware. The theater is the East China Sea, surrounding Taiwan and Okinawa. The actors are Japan, its ally the United States, and an increasingly powerful China that already is an economic powerhouse and is expanding and upgrading its military on the sea, on land and in the air.

This perceived Chinese "threat" - vehemently denied by Beijing - is a factor in the gradual transformation of Japan from a pacifist nation, with pacifism enshrined in the US-imposed constitution, to one that assumes a more powerful role on the world stage..."

As this army of 200 million comes across Asia, Revelation chapter 9 says that 1/3 of the population of the earth is going to be killed by them

Revelation 9:17-18

17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone.

18 By **these three plagues a third of mankind was killed**—by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths

Then, after the Euphrates river has been dried up, and the 200 million man army marches across Asia, notice what John saw next:

Revelation 16:13-14

13 And I saw **three unclean spirits like frogs** coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14 For they are 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.

Demonic spirits that come out of the mouth of satan, his son the beast, and the false prophet.

- ☞ **These demonic spirits** have been released by satan for the purpose of deceiving the military leaders of the world, into coming into the Valley of Megiddo, to fight the Battle of Armageddon.

The Holy Spirit descends like a dove, here the demonic spirit descend like a frog

- ☞ **Frogs** are cold blooded.
- ☞ **They can change** their colors at will.
- ☞ **They are denizens** of two worlds, water and land.
- ☞ **They live** an average of 18 years.
- ☞ **They stay young looking** by every year, taking their skin and pulling it off their bodies by their back legs and then eating it.
- ☞ **They then grow** an entirely new skin.

These frogs from hell whispering into the ears of the military leaders of the world, to “*Come to the Valley of Megiddo.*”

They will come across the newly completed **Pan-Asian Highway**, finished in the early 80’s.

The frog Demons are calling them to come to Megiddo...

Then, as all of this is happening, Jesus steps into the story and says:

Revelation 16:15-16

12 “Behold, **I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches**, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.”

16 And **they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.**

Jesus injects a word of encouragement here to those who have given their lives to Jesus during the Great Tribulation to not lose hope yet, because He is about to come back to earth.

- ☞ **This word of encouragement is not us**, we were taken out in revelation chapter 4, long before the tribulation begins in chapter 6.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-5

1 But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you.

2 For you yourselves know perfectly **that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.**

3 For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

4 But **you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.**

5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day

Jesus said that when He comes for us at the Rapture, it will be “**Suddenly**”, like when a thief breaks into your house, **you don’t know when he is going to come.**

- ☞ **Now think carefully about this:** We know that at the moment that the antichrist sets up his statue in the temple at Jerusalem, **Jesus will come exactly 1,260 days later.**
- ☞ **So if 1 Thessalonians Chapter 5** here says that When Jesus come, **it will be at a time no one knows**, this must be a different time.
- ☞ **We do know the exact day** Jesus will come at the end of Tribulation, that cannot be what Jesus is talking about here in 1 Thessalonians chapter 5, because Jesus says that this time when He comes it will be at a time that no one knows, it will be like when a thief comes, no one knows.

Matthew 24:36

“But of that day and hour **no one knows**, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.

So, Jesus is trying to encourage those who are going through the horrors of the Last 3 ½ years, when these final 7 bowls are being poured out: **“Don’t give up, I am coming 1260 days from the time the image was set up in the temple by antichrist...”**

Revelation 16

16 And they gathered them (**This massive army**) together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

This is the “*Valley of Megiddo*” “**Megiddo**” means “*Rendezvous*”

There is going to be a Rendezvous, 60 miles north of Jerusalem in the Valley of Megiddo

This has been the Rendezvous of over 34 past Battles:

- ☞ **Gideon took 300 men** and overcame the Midianites, here at the Valley of Megiddo.
- ☞ **Samson** took on the Philistines here at Megiddo
- ☞ **Pharaoh Necho** killed King Josiah here at Megiddo
- ☞ **Debora** killed Sisera here at Megiddo
- ☞ **Turks**
- ☞ **Muslims**
- ☞ **Syrians**
- ☞ **Egyptians**

Napoleon, on his way to conquer Syria came through Megiddo

Napoleon said “*If ever there is a place on earth where the last war must be fought it is here.*”

Here the armies of the World will gather together, having been deceived by the 3 demonic spirits

Why are they gathered?

1. To devour Israel
2. To Destroy believers
3. To Determine who will rule the world

Jude, wrote that “*The Lord comes with 10 thousands of his saints...*”

Jude 1:14-15

14 Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,
15 to execute judgment on all,

Enoch 1:9

9 And behold! He cometh with ten thousands of His holy ones To execute judgment

In Revelation chapter 19, John wrote that the army coming with Jesus, is us, these 10 thousands that Jude and Enoch wrote of...

Revelation 19:14

And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

Now these are two great proofs that we have already been with Jesus in heaven, having been "**Raptured**" before the Tribulation began.

☞ **How can we come** "*With Jesus*" unless we had already been "*With Jesus*".

The strategy of this final battle of Armageddon is laid out in Daniel chapter 11

Daniel 11:40-47

40 "At the time of the end the king of the South (**EGYPT**) shall attack him; (**ANTICHRIST**) and the king of the North (**RUSSIA**) shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through.

41 He (**ANTICHRIST**) shall also enter the Glorious Land, (**ISRAEL**) and many countries shall be overthrown; but **these shall escape from his hand**: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon. (**JORDAN**)

42 He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

43 He shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver, and over all the precious things of **Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians shall follow at his heels.**

44 But **news from the east and the north shall trouble him**; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many.

45 And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him.

The Antichrist is headquartered in Babylon

☞ **The king of the south**, (Egypt), along with north African nations of Libya and Ethiopia launch a rebellion against antichrist troops that are in Israel.

☞ **They are hoping to knock out** antichrist's troops that are at in Jerusalem

While the antichrist is in Babylon he hears of this report that Egypt, Ethiopia and Libya are rebelling

☞ **The king of the North**, Russia also come to assist the Egyptians and the north Africans in their attack of antichrist's troops

☞ **The Russians will fool the king of the south**, As they are coming to help antichrist, they will keep coming down into Egypt and carry away Egypt's treasures.

Remember that the alliance between Russia and China is increasingly rapidly

☞ **King of the South** Egypt, Libya, Ethiopia coming up from the **South** to Israel.

- ⊕ **King of the north**, Russia coming down from the **North** to Israel.
- ⊕ **China, Japan, India** and others coming **East** to Israel.
- ⊕ **Antichrist** comes from **Babylon** to stop the rebellion

He sets up his tents between the Mediterranean sea and the temple in the Jezreel valley of Megiddo

- ⊕ **Suddenly as he moves to the south** he hears a report that **200 million** troops are coming
- ⊕ **It causes him** a great deal of unease by this report.
- ⊕ **Coming back to Israel** antichrist trying to hang on to his territory...
- ⊕ **Russia coming down, Egypt coming up.** All converging on the valley of Megiddo.

Verse 17, the 7th angel

Revelation 16:17

Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "**It is done**

Does that sound familiar, "**It is done**" as the armies gather together in the valley of Megiddo...

Revelation 16:18-21

18 And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth.

19 Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.

20 Then **every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.**

21 And **great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent.** Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great

Last Sunday, we talked about the possibility of a large Meteor or Comet hitting the earth at this point, causing the tectonic plates of the earth to move violently, mountains collapsing, Islands disappearing.

- ⊕ **There is another possibility**, that also sound reasonable.
- ⊕ **As antichrist is coming** to fight all of these nations with 200 million men just from China, he may unleash Nuclear weapons, that could also cause these kinds of events to happen...

Revelation 16

21 And **great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent.** Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great

Hail stones close to 100 pounds in weight...

In the 1950's as we were conducting nuclear experiments in the Pacific ocean.

In the Bikini Islands, during our nuclear tests in the 50's, we took ships, out of mothballs.

- ☞ These were ships no longer being used, and we put them at certain distances away from the explosions in the Bikini Islands to see what kind of damage would happen to them in the open sea.
- ☞ The ships that were further away from the blast were found after the blast to have huge dents all over the decks of the ships like somebody with a huge ball-peen hammer had worked them over
- ☞ They realized that when that mushroom went up to the stratosphere, that it produced hailstones over a hundred pounds of what they call "space ice", fell on those ships.

One of those recruits from WW2 was a fresh-faced 17-year-old kid named Glenn Holmgren. *"I was only 15 when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor," Holmgren, now a Crosby resident, said. "My brother was already in the Navy and I wanted to join too!" "So as soon as I was old enough, I enlisted in the Navy.*

Holmgren said. *"We were part of Operations Crossroads, the atomic bomb test at Bikini Atoll in July of 1946."*

"We had the scientists on our ship that controlled the bomb," Holmgren said. "We sent in a radio-controlled speed boat from our ship to ignite the bomb underwater. When it was in position, the scientists detonated the bomb from our ship. "When the bomb went off under water, it raised the water so high up in the air that the water froze into 100 pound pieces of hail that fell on the decks of the ships

You know, in 21 days, exactly 3 weeks, is the 4th anniversary of September 11th

- ☞ **It is a date** that not one of us will ever forget.
- ☞ **Most people can tell you exactly where they were** when they heard the news that the twin towers in New York had been hit by 2 airplanes.

But did you know that this horrible event was perhaps the worlds "Wake Up call" that Jesus is about to come, the Rapture is about to happen, the 7 year Tribulation is about to begin, the Battle of Armageddon will soon follow.

Luke 24:44

Then Jesus said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that **all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.**"

All these things that we have been studying in the Book of Revelation are going to happen, and happen very soon.

As we finish this morning, I want to ask you a question: “Are you ready?”

If Jesus were to come for us today, do you know for certain that you are going with Him at the Rapture?

If your life were to end today, are you ready to meet the Lord?

This is the most important issue that needs to be settled in your life...

You can settle it right now by surrendering your life to Jesus as your Lord and Savior...

If you know Jesus but you are not walking with Him or living for Him, you can settle this issue right now by just telling Him you want to start walking with Him and living for Him...

I want to play a little soundtrack for you, as we finish this morning, that I think illustrates this point best:

The Bombs that we have now, are 100 times the destructive power that the one that was detonated on bikini Atoll.

- ☞ Their cursing the Lord, they do not repent from these judgments.
- ☞ This justifies their eternal punishment, because men are eternally unrepentant.
- ☞ There will be no repentance in hell.
- ☞ The Rich man in hell in Luke 16 asks for relief, asks for someone to go to his family and warn them, but did you notice that he does not repent of his sin that got him there.

Luke 16:19-31

19 “There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day.

20 But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried.

23 And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24 “Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’

25 But Abraham said, “Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented.

26 And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.’

27 “Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house,

28 for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.'

29 Abraham said to him, "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.'

30 And he said, "No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'

31 But he said to him, "If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'

What was the penalty in the Old Testament for Blaspheming the Lord?

John 10:33

The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."