

~HAR–MAGEDON (415)

(Har–Ma–ged'on) [from Hebrew, meaning Mountain of Megiddo]

- This name is directly associated with **the war of the great day of God the Almighty**. The term applies specifically to the condition, or situation, to which the kings of the entire inhabited earth are gathered in opposition to Yehowah and his Kingdom by Jesus Christ. In a number of versions it is rendered **Armageddon**. **AT, KJ, JB, RS, TEV**
- They are, in fact, expressions inspired by demons and perform signs, and they go forth to the kings of the entire inhabited earth, to gather them together to the war of the great day of God the Almighty. (**Revelation 16:14**)
- And they gathered them together to the place that is called in Hebrew **Har–Magedon**. (**Revelation 16:16**)
- The name **Har–Magedon**, taken from Hebrew, means simply **Mountain of Megiddo**.
- There does not appear to have been a literal place called **Mountain of Megiddo**, either inside or outside the Promised Land, before or during the days of the apostle John, who recorded the vision. Hence, **Har–Magedon** evidently draws its significance from the events associated with the ancient city of Megiddo.
- Megiddo was situated a few miles Southeast of Mount Carmel, overlooking and dominating the Plain of Esdraelon or Jezreel and controlling major North-South and East-West trade and military routes. Joshua first conquered this Canaanite city.
- And these are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the sons of Israel defeated on the side of the Jordan toward the west, from Baal-gad in the valley plain of Lebanon and as far as Mount Halak, which goes up to Seir, after which Joshua gave it to the tribes of Israel as a holding by their shares. (**Joshua 12:7**)
- In the mountainous region and in the Shephelah and in the Arabah and on the slopes and in the wilderness and in the Negeb, the Hittites, the Amorites and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites. (**Joshua 12:8**)

- **The king of Taanach, one. The king of Megiddo, one. ([Joshua 12:21](#))**
- **Near this site Jabin's army under command of Sisera was later destroyed. Yehowah there employed natural forces to assist the Israelite army under Barak.**
- **The account reads. Barak went descending from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men behind him. And Yehowah began to throw Sisera and all his war chariots and all the camp into confusion by the edge of the sword before Barak.**
- **Finally Sisera got down off the chariot and took to flight on foot. And Barak chased after the war chariots and the camp as far as Harosheth of the nations, so that all the camp of Sisera fell by the edge of the sword. Not as much as one remained.**
- **Deborah now said to Barak; Get up, for this is the day that Yehowah will certainly give Sisera into your hand. Is it not Yehowah that has gone out before you? And Barak went descending from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men behind him. ([Judges 4:14](#))**
- **And Yehowah began to throw Sisera and all his war chariots and all the camp into confusion by the edge of the sword before Barak. Finally Sisera got down off the chariot and took to flight on foot. ([Judges 4:15](#))**
- **And Barak chased after the war chariots and the camp as far as Harosheth of the nations, so that all the camp of Sisera fell by the edge of the sword. Not as much as one remained. ([Judges 4:16](#))**
- **After the victory, Barak and the prophetess Deborah broke out in song, which went, in part. Kings came, they fought, it was then that the kings of Canaan fought in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo. No gain of silver did they take.**
- **From heaven did the stars fight, from their orbits they fought against Sisera. The torrent of Kishon washed them away, the torrent of ancient days, the torrent of Kishon.**
- **You went treading down strength, O my soul. It was then that the hoofs of horses pawed because of dashings upon dashings of his stallions.**

- **Kings came, they fought. It was then that the kings of Canaan fought in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo. No gain of silver did they take. (Judges 5:19)**
- **From heaven did the stars fight, from their orbits they fought against Sisera. (Judges 5:20)**
- **The torrent of Kishon washed them away, the torrent of ancient days, the torrent of Kishon. You went treading down strength, O my soul. (Judges 5:21)**
- **It was then that the hoofs of horses pawed because of dashings upon dashings of his stallions. (Judges 5:22)**
- **It was at Megiddo that King Ahaziah of Judah died after he was mortally wounded on orders of Jehu.**
- **And Ahaziah the king of Judah himself saw it and took to flight by the way of the garden house. Later Jehu went in pursuit of him and said; Him also! Strike him down! So they struck him down while in the chariot on the way up to Gur, which is by Ibleam. And he continued his flight to Megiddo and got to die there. (2 Kings 9:27)**
- **There King Josiah of Judah was killed in an encounter with Pharaoh Nechoh.**
- **In his days Pharaoh Nechoh the king of Egypt came up to the king of Assyria by the river Euphrates, and King Josiah proceeded to go to meet him, but he put him to death at Megiddo as soon as he saw him. (2 Kings 23:29)**
- **So his servants conveyed him dead in a chariot from Megiddo and brought him to Jerusalem and buried him in his grave. Then the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah and anointed him and made him king in place of his father. (2 Kings 23:30)**
- **Because of its commanding position, many other nations, according to secular history, warred around Megiddo. Jews, Gentiles, Saracens, crusaders, Egyptians, Persians, Druses, Turks, and Arabs have all pitched their tents on the plain of Esdraelon. [Word Studies in the New Testament, by M. R. Vincent, 1957, Vol. II, p. 542]**

- The Revelation account depicts the combined forces of the kings of the earth as being gathered to the place, Greek, form of *to'pos* that is called in Hebrew **Har–Magedon**.
- And they gathered them together to the **place** that is called in Hebrew **Har–Magedon**. (**Revelation 16:16**)
- In the Bible *to'pos* may refer to a literal location,
- At hearing this Jesus withdrew from there by boat into a lonely place for isolation, but the crowds, getting to hear of it, followed him on foot from the cities. (**Matthew 14:13**)
- But when evening fell his disciples came to him and said; The **place** is lonely and the hour is already far advanced, send the crowds away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves things to eat. (**Matthew 14:15**)
- Upon recognizing him the men of that place sent forth into all that surrounding country, and people brought him all those who were ill. (**Matthew 14:35**)
- To ones opportunity, or chance.
- But I replied to them that it is not Roman procedure to hand any man over as a favor before the accused man meets his accusers face to face and gets a **chance** to speak in his defense concerning the complaint. (**Acts of Apostles 25:16**)
- Or to a figurative realm, condition, or situation.
- And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a **place** prepared by God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and sixty days. (**Revelation 12:6**)
- But the two wings of the great eagle were given the woman, that she might fly into the wilderness to her **place**, there is where she is fed for a time and times and half a time away from the face of the serpent. (**Revelation 12:14**)
- In view of the context, it is to a **place** in the last-mentioned sense that earth's combined military powers are marching.

- The war of the great day of God the Almighty at **Har–Magedon** was not some past event but is depicted in Revelation as future from the time of John’s vision.
- The gathering of the kings to **Har–Magedon** is described as being a result of the pouring out of the sixth of the seven bowls containing the last plagues that will bring to a finish the anger of God.
- And I saw in heaven another sign, great and wonderful, seven angels with seven plagues. These are the last ones, because by means of them the anger of God is brought to a finish. **(Revelation 15:1)**
- And I heard a loud voice out of the sanctuary say to the seven angels; Go and pour out the seven bowls of the anger of God into the earth. **(Revelation 16:1)**
- And the sixth one poured out his bowl upon the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, that the way might be prepared for the kings from the rising of the sun. **(Revelation 16:12)**
- Also, indicating that the war at **Har–Magedon** is closely associated with Christ’s presence is the warning of his coming as a thief, which is placed between verses 14 and 16;
- They are, in fact, expressions inspired by demons and perform signs, and they go forth to the kings of the entire inhabited earth, to gather them together to the war of the great day of God the Almighty. **(Revelation 16:14)**
- Look! I am coming as a thief. Happy is the one that stays awake and keeps his outer garments, that he may not walk naked and people look upon his shamefulness. **(Revelation 16:15)**
- And they gathered them together to the place that is called in Hebrew **Har–Magedon**. **(Revelation 16:16)**
- The global aspect of the war is emphasized in the context. There the opponents of Yehowah are identified as the kings of the entire inhabited earth, who are mobilized by expressions inspired by demons.
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- earth, to gather them together to the war of the great day of God the Almighty. ([Revelation 16:14](#))
- **Farther on, John says,**
 - **And I saw the wild beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to wage the war with the one seated on the horse and with his army. ([Revelation 19:19](#))**
 - **This chapter identifies the leader of the heavenly armies, seated on a white horse, as one who is called Faithful and True and The Word of God.**
 - **And I saw the heaven opened, and, look! A white horse. And the one seated upon it is called Faithful and True, and he judges and carries on war in righteousness. ([Revelation 19:11](#))**
 - **His eyes are a fiery flame, and upon his head are many diadems. He has a name written that no one knows but he himself. ([Revelation 19:12](#))**
 - **And he is arrayed with an outer garment sprinkled with blood, and the name he is called is The Word of God. ([Revelation 19:13](#))**
 - **Therefore, it is Jesus Christ, The Word, who acts as the commander of God's heavenly armies.**
 - **In the beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god. ([John 1:1](#))**
 - **And to the angel of the congregation in Laodicea write. These are the things that the Amen says, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation by God. ([Revelation 3:14](#))**
 - **Further showing that Christ leads the heavenly forces is the statement that the earthly forces battle with the Lamb, who is Jesus Christ.**
 - **The next day he beheld Jesus coming toward him, and he said; See, the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world! ([John 1:29](#))**

- **But, because he is Lord of lords and King of kings, the Lamb will conquer them. Also, those called and chosen and faithful with him will do so.**
- **These have one thought, and so they give their power and authority to the wild beast. (Revelation 17:13)**
- **These will battle with the Lamb, but, because he is Lord of lords and King of kings, the Lamb will conquer them. Also, those called and chosen and faithful with him will do so. (Revelation 17:14)**
- **Since the vision in (Revelation Chapter 19) reveals only armies in heaven as participating in the warfare as supporters of Jesus Christ, The Word of God, it indicates that none of Yehowah's Christian servants on earth will participate in the fighting. This is in harmony with the words of Jesus Christ at**
- **Then Jesus said to him; Return your sword to its place, for all those who take the sword will perish by the sword. (Matthew 26:52)**
- **That his disciples not resort to weapons of physical warfare.**
- **Then Moses said to the people; Do not be afraid. Stand firm and see the salvation of Yehowah, which he will perform for you today. For the Egyptians whom you do see today you will not see again, no, never again. (Exodus 14:13)**
- **Yehowah will himself fight for you, and you yourselves will be silent. (Exodus 14:14)**
- **Consequently he said; Pay attention, all Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat! Here is what Yehowah has said to you; Do not you be afraid or be terrified because of this large crowd, for the battle is not yours, but God's. (2 Chronicles 20:15)**
- **You will not need to fight in this instance. Take your position, stand still and see the salvation of Yehowah in your behalf. O Judah and Jerusalem, do not be afraid or be terrified. Tomorrow go out against them, and Yehowah will be with you. (2 Chronicles 20:17)**

- **And at the time that they started off with the joyful cry and praise, Yehowah set men in ambush against the sons of Ammon, Moab and the mountainous region of Seir who were coming into Judah, and they went smiting one another. (2 Chronicles 20:22)**
- **And the sons of Ammon and Moab proceeded to stand up against the inhabitants of the mountainous region of Seir to devote them to destruction and annihilate them, and as soon as they finished with the inhabitants of Seir, they helped each one to bring his own fellow to ruin. (2 Chronicles 20:23)**
- **The very One sitting in the heavens will laugh. Yehowah himself will hold them in derision. (Psalms 2:4)**
- **At that time he will speak to them in his anger and in his hot displeasure he will disturb them. (Psalms 2:5)**
- **Saying; I, even I, have installed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain. (Psalms 2:6)**
- **Let me refer to the decree of Yehowah. He has said to me; You are my son. I, today, I have become your father. (Psalms 2:7)**
- **Ask of me, that I may give nations as your inheritance and the ends of the earth as your own possession. (Psalms 2:8)**
- **You will break them with an iron scepter, as though a potters vessel you will dash them to pieces. (Psalms 2:9)**
- **The birds that fly in midheaven will dispose of the bodies of those slaughtered.**
- **And I saw the heaven opened, and, look! A white horse. And the one seated upon it is called Faithful and True, and he judges and carries on war in righteousness. (Revelation 19:11)**
- **His eyes are a fiery flame, and upon his head are many diadems. He has a name written that no one knows but he himself. (Revelation 19:12)**
- **And he is arrayed with an outer garment sprinkled with blood, and the name he is called is The Word of God. (Revelation 19:13)**
- **Also, the armies that were in heaven were following him on**

white horses, and they were clothed in white, clean, fine linen.
([Revelation 19:14](#))

- And out of his mouth there protrudes a sharp long sword, that he may strike the nations with it, and he will shepherd them with a rod of iron. He treads too the winepress of the anger of the wrath of God the Almighty. ([Revelation 19:15](#))
- And upon his outer garment, even upon his thigh, he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. ([Revelation 19:16](#))
- I saw also an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice and said to all the birds that fly in midheaven. Come here, be gathered together to the great evening meal of God. ([Revelation 19:17](#))
- That you may eat the fleshy parts of kings and the fleshy parts of military commanders and the fleshy parts of strong men and the fleshy parts of horses and of those seated upon them, and the fleshy parts of all, of freemen as well as of slaves and of small ones and great. ([Revelation 19:18](#))
- And I saw the wild beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to wage the war with the one seated on the horse and with his army. ([Revelation 19:19](#))
- And the wild beast was caught, and along with it the false prophet that performed in front of it the signs with which he misled those who received the mark of the wild beast and those who render worship to its image. While still alive, they both were hurled into the fiery lake that burns with sulphur. ([Revelation 19:20](#))
- But the rest were killed off with the long sword of the one seated on the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth. And all the birds were filled from the fleshy parts of them. ([Revelation 19:21](#))
- **Har–Magedon** is thus seen to be a fight, not merely among men, but one in which God’s invisible armies take part. Its coming is certain and it will take place at the time set by Yehowah God, who is doing according to his own will among the army of the heavens and the inhabitants of the earth.

- **And all the inhabitants of the earth are being considered as merely nothing, and he is doing according to his own will among the army of the heavens and the inhabitants of the earth. And there exists no one that can check his hand or that can say to him, What have you been doing? ([Daniel 4:35](#))**
- **Concerning that day and hour nobody knows, neither the angels of the heavens nor the Son, but only the Father. ([Matthew 24:36](#))**