

V-DAY-- The ROAD to VICTORY!!!

Revelation 19:11-21

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- World War II was a global conflict that lasted from 1939 to 1945
 - Fought on two fronts: Europe and Asia
 - War between the Allied Powers (Britain, France, United States, Russia) and the Axis Powers (Germany, Japan, Italy)
 - The course of the two war fronts
 - Germany surrendered May 8, 1945; Japan surrendered on September 2, 1945
 - V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) celebrated on May 8th; V-J Day (Victory over Japan) celebrated August 15th in Europe; September 2nd in the United States.
 - Celebration and jubilation in the United States on the first V-J Day!
- The Battle of Armageddon is often referred to as World War III. Like World War II, it consists of many battles.
- The Course of World War III
 - The Antichrist begins as a man of peace, brokering a peace covenant with Israel to provide protection at the beginning of the Tribulation period.
 - In the middle of the Tribulation, the Antichrist is transformed from a man of peace to a raging beast. He stops temple worship, sets up an image of himself in the temple, declares himself to be God, and demands that everyone worship him. He institutes economic sanctions requiring everyone to receive his mark if they want to buy or sell. He also is transformed into a man of war, worshiping the god of military might.
 - When the Antichrist desecrates the temple, the Jews in Jerusalem flee to the wilderness where they are supernaturally protected by God for 3 ½ years.
 - Other nations in the world rebel against the Antichrist's rule and will confront him in battle.
 - The kings of the South, Egypt and North African allies, will attack first.
 - The kings of the North, on their way to attack the Antichrist at the Valley of Megiddo, will destroy Babylon, the center of the Antichrist's religious and commercial empire.
 - Daniel 11:44-- *"news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many."*
 - The news from the east is that of the approaching armies from the east who will join the Antichrist in battle.
 - All of the armies of the world will be consolidated under the leadership of the Antichrist as directed by demons.
 - Revelation 16:13-14-- *"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. 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."*
 - Armageddon will be the staging area for the armies of the world to gather for the final battles. NO battle will actually be fought at Armageddon!
 - Revelation 16:16-- *"And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon."*

- From Armageddon, the Antichrist and his army will move south to attack Jerusalem, and to ultimately take the city.
 - Zechariah 14:2-- *"For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city."*
- God will use the defeat at Jerusalem to bring about national repentance in Israel and acceptance of Jesus as their Messiah. In their humble distress they will cry out for God to deliver them.
- In response to their prayers, Jesus Christ returns as the Warrior-King! His second coming!
 - Zechariah 14:3-- *"Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle."*
 - Revelation 19:11-16-- *"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."*

V-DAY: The ROAD to VICTORY!

A. The Battle at Bozrah

- 1. The Antichrist turns his attention to the remnant of Jews who had fled Jerusalem.**
 - Revelation 12:6--*"Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days."*
 - Matthew 24:15-16-- *"Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains."*
- 2. The remnant of Jews will be gathered together in Bozrah.**
 - Micah 2:12-- *"I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men."*
 - a. Two possible locations for "Bozrah"
 - 1) The present day Arab city of Buseira, located in the northern part of Edom or Jordan
 - 2) The city of Petra, located 30 miles south of Buseira, also in Edom or Jordan
 - b. Edom or Jordan is the only part of the world that the Antichrist was unable to conquer.
 - Daniel 11:41-- *"He (that is the Antichrist) shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon."*
- 3. Jesus Christ engages the Antichrist and his army in battle at Bozrah.**
 - Isaiah 34:1-7-- *"Come near, you nations, to hear; And heed, you people! Let the earth hear, and all that is in it, The world and all things that come forth from it. For the indignation of the LORD is against all nations, and His fury against all their armies; He has utterly destroyed them, He has given them over to the slaughter. Also their slain shall be thrown out; Their stench shall rise from their corpses, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood. All the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled up like a scroll; All their host shall fall down as the leaf falls from the vine, and as fruit falling from a fig tree. For My sword shall be bathed in heaven; Indeed it shall come down on Edom, and on the people of My curse, for*

judgment. The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made overflowing with fatness, with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Edom. The wild oxen shall come down with them, And the young bulls with the mighty bulls; Their land shall be soaked with blood, And their dust saturated with fatness."

4. **A blood-bath ensues. A great slaughter of the Antichrist's forces.**

- Isaiah 63:1-6-- *"Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah, this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength? — "I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress? "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. For the day of vengeance is in My heart, and the year of My redeemed has come. I looked, but there was no one to help, and I wondered that there was no one to uphold; Therefore My own arm brought salvation for Me; And My own fury, it sustained Me. I have trodden down the peoples in My anger, made them drunk in My fury, and brought down their strength to the earth."*

B. The Battle at the Valley of Jehoshaphat.

- Joel 3:9-16-- *"Proclaim this among the nations: "Prepare for war! Wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near, let them come up. Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears; Let the weak say, "I am strong.'" Assemble and come, all you nations, and gather together all around. Cause Your mighty ones to go down there, O LORD. "Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; For there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, the vats overflow — For their wickedness is great." Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; But the LORD will be a shelter for His people, and the strength of the children of Israel."*
1. Today, the Valley of Jehoshaphat is known as the Kidron Valley, just outside of Jerusalem
 2. **The battle may be the shortest in world history.**
 - Revelation 19:19-21-- *"And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh."*
 - a. **The Antichrist and false prophet are captured and then cast alive into the lake of fire.**
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:8-- *"And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming."*
 - b. **The remainder of the Antichrist's army will be killed by the sword that proceeds from Jesus' mouth.**
 - 1) **A horrific bloodbath will follow.**
 - Revelation 14:18-20-- *"And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe." So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs."*

2) **A deadly plague, similar to an atomic explosion**

- Zechariah 14:12-16-- *“And 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. It shall come to pass in that day that a great panic from the LORD will be among them. Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbor, and raise his hand against his neighbor’s hand; Judah also will fight at Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations shall be gathered together: Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance. Such also shall be the plague on the horse and the mule, on the camel and the donkey, and on all the cattle that will be in those camps. So shall this plague be.”*

3) **Their dead bodies will be a banquet for the birds and animals.**

- Revelation 19:17-18-- *“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 and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great.”*
- Matthew 24:27-28-- *“For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together”*

C. V-DAY: Jesus Christ standing alone on the Mount of Olives .

- Zechariah 14:4-- *“And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south.”*

1. **The earth and creation marks His victory with some cataclysmic events**

- Revelation 16:17-20-- *“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!” 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. 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. Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. “*
- a. Great earthquake dividing Jerusalem into three parts and the Mount of Olives into two.
- b. The world will experience its fifth blackout
 - Joel 3:15-16-- *“The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; But the LORD will be a shelter for His people, and the strength of the children of Israel.”*

2. **While Jesus Christ is the victorious Warrior-King, He is not quite ready to set up His kingdom.** Daniel 12 reveals a 75 day intermission between the end of the Tribulation and the beginning of the Kingdom.

3. **Bottom line; Jesus Christ WINS!**

4. **Application:** If you know Jesus Christ as Savior, you are on the winning side! And we can experience incredible peace and comfort in uncertain times for we know Jesus is victorious over all.

- John 16:33-- *“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*