



Revelation 17

Randy

Duke 12/08/24 **The Harlot of Babylon**

randyduke@protonmail.com

Class notes, info & Directory posted to www.SJCalvaryBerean.com or scan the QR code



- i. Remember to continue to pray for America & 2 Chron. 7:14
- ii. **Understanding The Times:** "Business as Usual?" Today at 1:00PM on 88.1 FM or at OliveTreeViews: <https://bit.ly/31WMM0s> YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/bdz6sm2z>
- iii. **Agenda Weekly:** "Great is Thy Faithfulness" <https://tinyurl.com/5y8rwpv6>
- iv. **Amir Tsarfati's Weekly Newsletter:** <https://tinyurl.com/ycky5mp4>
- v. **Bible Sales Surge:** <https://tinyurl.com/2p98wscb>
- vi. **Persecution of the Modern Day Church (Iraq):** <https://tinyurl.com/38jpy7fi>
- vii. **"US to play 'hardball' with CCP under Trump:** <https://tinyurl.com/2tuba8vi>
- viii. **House Select Subcommittee releases 525 page Covid-19 report:** <https://tinyurl.com/bdedxb2x>

II. **Armageddon: When, Why & Where**

- i. Even among those holding to the same pre/mid/post views, there are differences regarding the timing & details of the Battle of Armageddon (here are several of them)
- ii. There appears to be 1 place (Har-Magedon) & 2 battles (Rev 16:16 & Rev 19:11-21). Notice Rev 16:16 states "And they GATHERED at the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Megedo", but do they fight there?
- iii. **Bottom line, the "Battle of Armageddon" will happen WHEN GOD WANTS IT TO!**
- iv. **End Times Timeline**
 1. **The rapture of the church:** Christ comes in the clouds to "snatch away" all those who trust in Him (1 Cor 15:52, Rev 4:1). At this same time, the "dead in Christ" will be resurrected and taken to heaven, too. From our perspective today, this is the next event in the eschatological timeline. The [rapture](#) is imminent; no other biblical prophecy needs to be fulfilled before the rapture happens.
 2. **The rise of the Antichrist:** After the church is taken out of the way (2 Thess 2:7-8, Rev 13-14), a satanically empowered man will gain worldwide control with promises of peace ([Rev 13:1](#); [Dan 9:27](#)). He will be aided by another man, the false prophet, who heads up a religious system requiring worship of the [Antichrist](#) ([Rev 19:20](#)).
 3. **The tribulation:** A period of seven years in which God's judgment is poured out on sinful humanity ([Rev 6-16](#)). The Antichrist's rise to power is associated with this time period. During the [tribulation](#) on earth, the Church will be in heaven according to Pre-Trib hermeneutics. Most scholars think at this time the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb will occur in heaven ([2 Cor 5:10](#); [Rev 19:6-10](#)).
 4. **The Battle of Gog and Magog:** In the first part of the tribulation, a great [army from the north](#), in alliance with several other countries from the Middle East and Africa, attacks Israel and is defeated by God's supernatural intervention ([Ezekiel 38-39](#) & Rev 20:7-8). (Some commentators place this battle just before the start of the tribulation.)
 5. **The tribulation:** A period of seven years in which God's judgment is poured out on sinful humanity ([Revelation 6-16](#)). The Antichrist's rise to power is associated with this time period. During the [tribulation](#) on earth, the Church will be in heaven. It is thought that at this time the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb will occur in heaven ([2 Corinthians 5:10](#); [Revelation 19:6-10](#)).
 6. **The Battle of Gog and Magog:** In the first part of the tribulation, a great [army from the north](#), in alliance with several other countries from the Middle East & Africa, attacks Israel & is defeated by God's supernatural intervention ([Ezekiel 38-39](#)) & mentioned again in Rev 20:7-8, but these are separate people and events. (see <https://tinyurl.com/4xca6c8x>)
 7. **The abomination of desolation:** At the midway point of the seven-year tribulation, the Antichrist breaks his covenant with Israel and shows his true colors. The Jews are scattered, and many of them turn to the Lord, realizing that Jesus is their Savior. A great persecution breaks out against all those who believe in Christ ([Daniel 12:11](#); [Mark 13:14](#); [Rev 12:17](#)).
 8. **The Battle of Armageddon:** At the end of the tribulation, Jesus returns with the armies of heaven ([Mark 14:62](#)). He saves Jerusalem from annihilation and defeats the armies of the nations fighting under the banner of the Antichrist ([Rev 19:11-21](#)). The Antichrist and the false prophet are captured and thrown alive into the lake of fire ([Rev 19:20](#)).
 9. **The judgment of the nations:** Christ will judge the survivors of the tribulation, separating the righteous from the wicked as "sheep" and "goats" ([Matthew 25:31-46](#)). (It is thought that at this time the Old Testament saints will be raised from the dead.) The righteous will enter the Millennial Kingdom; the wicked will be cast into hell.
 10. **The binding of Satan:** Satan will be bound & held in a bottomless pit for the next 1,000 yrs ([Rev 20:1-3](#)).

11. **The Millennial Kingdom:** Jesus Himself will rule the world, and Jerusalem will be the capital. This will be a 1,000-year period of peace and prosperity on earth ([Revelation 20](#); [Isaiah 60-62](#)). Memorial sacrifices will be offered in a [rebuilt temple](#) in Jerusalem ([Ezekiel 40-48](#)).
12. **The new creation:** God completely remakes the heavens and the earth. It is at this time that God wipes away all tears and there will be no more pain, death, or sorrow. The [New Jerusalem](#) descends from heaven, and the children of God will enjoy eternity with Him ([Revelation 21-22](#)).

Other views of eschatology such as [midtribulationism](#), [amillennialism](#), and [partial preterism](#), will have different timelines of the end time events but minimal change of event sequencing, an obvious one being the rapture of the church.

Video: GotQuestions.org What is the Battle of Armageddon <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PeqXIDBk6RY>

III. Revelation 16:17-21

- i. **"It is done"**: This announcement, coming from the throne itself (God), tells us that there will be no more delay. In mercy, God has stretched out this scene as much as He possibly could. The seals were followed by trumpets; the trumpets were followed by bowls; but there will be no more judgments upon the earth after this – "it is done".
- ii. **"Poured out his bowl into the air"**: The fact that the bowl is poured into the air may show judgment against the *prince of the power of the air* ([Ephesians 2:2](#)) and his allies.
- iii. **"There was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth"**: In these final judgments, God shakes the earth with a tremendous earthquake.
- iv. **"Great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath"**: The fall of Babylon (*"the great city"*) is more explicitly described in [Rev 17](#) & [18](#). God gives her "the cup of the wine of the fierceness" (the ancient Greek word *thymos*, describing a passionate outburst of anger) of His **wrath** (the ancient Greek word *orge*, describing a standing state of anger).
- v. "The combination of **thymos** and **orge** connotes the strongest kind of outpouring of divine judgment." (Walvoord: *"The Rapture Question"*)
- vi. **"Great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent"**: Giant hailstones fall, weighing up to 100 pounds. Men responded in utter, unrepentant depravity (*"men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great."*)
- vii. **Hail** is frequently a tool of judgment against God's enemies, as seen against **Egypt** ([Ex 9:24](#)), the **Canaanites** ([Josh10:11](#)), **apostate Israel** ([Isaiah 28:2](#)), and **Gog and Magog** ([Ezekiel 38:22](#)).
- viii. In each of these instances, **hail** rained down from heaven as a tool of **judgment**, not as a corrective chastisement of God's own children.
- ix. Despite all their suffering, many still will not repent. "I have known people say, 'Well, if I were afflicted I might be converted. If I lay sick I might be saved.' Oh, do not think so. He that was filthy here is filthy there. He that was unjust in this life is unjust in the life to come. There is nothing in pain and suffering that, by their own natural operation, will tend to purification." (Spurgeon)
- x. **Conclusion: Revelation 16 can be described as a GREAT CHAPTER**
 - a. It describes **GREAT EVIL**: a *great city*, *great Babylon* ([Rev 16:19](#)).
 - b. It describes **GREAT TOOLS OF JUDGMENT**: *great heat* ([Rev 16:9](#)), a *great river* dried up ([Rev 16:12](#)), a *great earthquake* ([Rev 16:18](#)), *great hail* and *great plagues* ([Rev 16:21](#)).
 - c. It describes a **GREAT GOD**: His great voice (*loud* is the same Greek word for *great*; verses 1; 17), and His *great day* of victory ([Rev 16:14](#)).