

## HANDOUT – Lesson 209 – THE DAY OF THE LORD, ARMAGEDDON AND THE SECOND COMING

This day has many names. Here it is called the “Day of Reckoning”.

### **Isa 2:10 - Isa 2:19 (NASB)**

<sup>10</sup> Enter the rock and hide in the dust From the terror of the LORD and from the splendor of His majesty.

...

<sup>12</sup> For the LORD of hosts will have a day of *reckoning* Against everyone who is proud and lofty And against everyone who is lifted up, That he may be abased.

...

And the LORD alone will be exalted in that day, <sup>18</sup> But the idols will completely vanish. <sup>19</sup> Men will go into caves of the rocks And into holes of the ground Before the terror of the LORD And the splendor of His majesty, When He arises to make the earth tremble.

It will be a day of wrath in which the earth is desolated, the sun, moon and stars will not shine, death and violence will fall on the wicked.

### **Isa 13:6 - Isa 13:16 (NASB)**

<sup>6</sup> Wail, for the day of the LORD is near! It will come as destruction from the Almighty. <sup>7</sup> Therefore all hands will fall limp, And every man's heart will melt.

...

<sup>9</sup> Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, Cruel, with fury and burning anger, To make the land a desolation; And He will exterminate its sinners from it. <sup>10</sup> For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not flash forth their light; The sun will be dark when it rises And the moon will not shed its light. <sup>11</sup> Thus I will punish the world for its evil And the wicked for their iniquity; I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless.

<sup>12</sup> **I will make mortal man scarcer than pure gold** And mankind than the gold of Ophir. <sup>13</sup> Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, And the earth will be shaken from its place At the fury of the LORD of hosts In the day of His burning anger.

...

<sup>15</sup> Anyone who is found will be thrust through, And anyone who is captured will fall by the sword. <sup>16</sup> Their little ones also will be dashed to pieces Before their eyes; Their houses will be plundered And their wives ravished.

There are many prophecies of the Day of the Lord in Scripture. See also Joel 1:15-20. Here it is called a “Day of Vengeance” and “Year of Recompense”.

### **Isa 34:1 - Isa 34:10 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup> Draw near, O nations, to hear; and listen, O peoples! Let the earth and all it contains hear, and the world and all that springs from it. <sup>2</sup> For the LORD'S indignation is against all the nations, And *His* wrath against all their armies;

The body count will be horrific

He has utterly destroyed them, He has given them over to slaughter. <sup>3</sup> So their slain will be thrown out, And their corpses will give off their stench, And the mountains will be drenched with their blood.

The sun, moon and stars will pass away, physically and spiritually

<sup>4</sup> And all the host of heaven will wear away, And the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; All their hosts will also wither away As a leaf withers from the vine, Or as *one* withers from the fig tree. <sup>5</sup> For My sword is **satiated in heaven**, (*are fallen spirits also punished?*)

Edom becomes a burning ruin forever

Behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom (*The land around the south of the Dead Sea. It is the land of Esau, the twin brother of Jacob (Israel). It has a long history of strife and enmity with Israel.*)

And upon the people whom I have devoted to destruction...their land [Edom] will be soaked with blood, And their dust become greasy with fat. <sup>8</sup> For the LORD has a **day of vengeance, A year of recompense** for the cause of Zion.

<sup>9</sup> Its streams [Edom's] will be turned into pitch, And its loose earth into brimstone, And its land will become burning

pitch.<sup>10</sup> It will not be quenched night or day; Its smoke will go up forever. From generation to generation it will be desolate; None will pass through it forever and ever.

The reference to the unquenched fire on the Day of the Lord is found throughout Old Testament prophecy.

**Isa 66:15 - Isa 66:16, 24 (NASB)**

<sup>15</sup> For behold, the LORD will come in fire And His chariots like the whirlwind, To render His anger with fury, And His rebuke with flames of fire. <sup>16</sup> For the LORD will execute judgment by fire And by His sword on all flesh, And those slain by the LORD will be many.

<sup>24</sup> “Then they will go forth and look On the corpses of the men Who have transgressed against Me. For their worm will not die And their fire will not be quenched; And they will be an abhorrence to all mankind.”

The Day of the Lord is consistently referred to as a day of darkness, even though it is a day of fire. These characteristics make it a foreshadowing of the final judgment and the Lake of Fire.

**Joel 2:1 - Joel 2:20 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup> Blow a trumpet in **Zion**, And sound an alarm on My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, For the day of the LORD is coming; Surely it is near, <sup>2</sup> A day of darkness and gloom, A day of clouds and thick darkness.

The Lord will empower a massive army that will attack Israel ruthlessly.

As the dawn is spread over the mountains, So there is a great and mighty people; There has never been *anything* like it, Nor will there be again after it To the years of many generations. <sup>3</sup> A fire consumes before them And behind them a flame burns. The land is like the garden of Eden before them But a desolate wilderness behind them, And nothing at all escapes them. <sup>4</sup> Their appearance is like the appearance of horses; And like war horses, so they run. <sup>5</sup> With a noise as of chariots They leap on the tops of the mountains, Like the crackling of a flame of fire consuming the stubble, Like a mighty people arranged for battle. <sup>6</sup> Before them the people are in anguish; All faces turn pale. <sup>7</sup> They run like mighty men, They climb the wall like soldiers; And they each march in line, Nor do they deviate from their paths. <sup>8</sup> They do not crowd each other, They march everyone in his path; When they burst through the defenses, They do not break ranks. <sup>9</sup> They rush on the city, They run on the wall; They climb into the houses, They enter through the windows like a thief.

<sup>10</sup> Before them the earth quakes, The heavens tremble, The sun and the moon grow dark And the stars lose their brightness. <sup>11</sup> The LORD utters His voice before **His army**; Surely His camp is very great, For strong is he who carries out His word. The day of the LORD is indeed great and very awesome, And who can endure it?

But even in the midst of His wrath, the Lord desires that His people should repent and turn to Him.

<sup>12</sup> “Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “Return to Me with all your heart, And with fasting, weeping and mourning; <sup>13</sup> And rend your heart and not your garments.”... <sup>18</sup> Then the LORD will be zealous for His land And will have pity on His people. <sup>19</sup> The LORD will answer and say to His people, “Behold, I am going to send you grain, new wine and oil, And you will be satisfied *in full* with them; And I will never again make you a reproach among the nations. <sup>20</sup> “But I will remove the **northern army** far from you, And I will drive it into a parched and desolate land, And its vanguard into the eastern sea, And its rear guard into the western sea. And its stench will arise and its foul smell will come up,...

**Joel 2:30 - Joel 2:32 (NASB)**

<sup>30</sup> “I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, Blood, fire and columns of smoke. <sup>31</sup> “The sun will be turned into darkness And the moon into blood Before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. <sup>32</sup> “And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of the LORD Will be delivered; For on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem There will be those who escape,

Jesus comes in the middle of this battle – at Israel's most desperate moment.

**Zech 14:1 - Zech 14:17 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>Behold, a day is coming for the LORD when the spoil taken from you [Israel] will be divided among you. <sup>2</sup>For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be captured, the houses plundered, the women ravished and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city. <sup>3</sup>Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. <sup>4</sup>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 half toward the south. <sup>5</sup>You will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD, my God, will come, *and* all the holy ones with Him!

<sup>6</sup>In that day there will be no light; the luminaries will dwindle. <sup>7</sup>For it will be a unique day which is known to the LORD, neither day nor night, but it will come about that at evening time there will be light. <sup>8</sup>And in that day living waters will flow out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and the other half toward the western sea; it will be in summer as well as in winter.

<sup>9</sup>And the LORD will be king over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be *the only* one, and His name *the only* one. <sup>10</sup>All the land will be changed into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; but Jerusalem will rise and remain on its site from Benjamin's Gate as far as the place of the First Gate to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's wine presses. <sup>11</sup>People will live in it, and there will no longer be a curse, for Jerusalem will dwell in security.

<sup>12</sup>Now this will be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the peoples who have gone to war against Jerusalem; their flesh will rot while they stand on their feet, and their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongue will rot in their mouth. <sup>13</sup>It will come about in that day that a great panic from the LORD will fall on them; and they will seize one another's hand, and the hand of one will be lifted against the hand of another. <sup>14</sup>Judah also will fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the surrounding nations will be gathered, gold and silver and garments in great abundance. <sup>15</sup>So also like this plague will be the plague on the horse, the mule, the camel, the donkey and all the cattle that will be in those camps.

<sup>16</sup>Then it will come about that any who are left of all the nations that went against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths. <sup>17</sup>And it will be that whichever of the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain on them.

Let's go back and read the account of this battle in Revelation.

**Rev 19:11 - Rev 19:13 (NASB)**

<sup>11</sup>And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness **He judges and wages war**. <sup>12</sup>His eyes *are* a flame of fire, and on His head *are* many diadems; and He has a name written *on Him* which no one knows except Himself. <sup>13</sup>*He is* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

The armies of heaven are with him.

**Rev 19:14 – Rev 19:16 (NASB)**

<sup>14</sup>And the **armies which are in heaven**, clothed in fine linen, white *and* clean, **were following Him on white horses**. <sup>15</sup>From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. <sup>16</sup>And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

**Rev 17:14 - Rev 17:14 (NASB)**

<sup>14</sup>"These [earthly kings, the AC, and others] will wage war against the Lamb, and **the Lamb will overcome them**, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and **those who are with Him *are the* called and chosen and faithful**."

The army that fights against Christ is led by the AntiChrist

**Rev 19:17 - Rev 19:21 (NASB)**

<sup>17</sup>Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, “Come, assemble for the great supper of God, <sup>18</sup>so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great.”

<sup>19</sup>And I saw the beast (*the AntiChrist*) and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.

<sup>20</sup>And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. (*the Lake of Fire – eternal, Second Death*) <sup>21</sup>And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

We know this is the battle of Armageddon, because it is linked explicitly in Revelation with the Second Coming of Christ.

**Rev 16:13 - Rev 16:16 (NASB)**

<sup>13</sup>And I saw *coming* out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; <sup>14</sup>for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. <sup>15</sup>(“Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.”) <sup>16</sup>And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon.

This battle is also prophesied in detail in Ezekiel.

**Ezek 39:2 - Ezek 39:29 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup>“Son of man, prophesy against Gog and say: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. <sup>2</sup>I will turn you around and drag you along. I will bring you from the far north and send you against the mountains of Israel.

The Lord is showing here that He is in control – even of the wicked kings of the earth. They can do nothing except that He allows them. He will cause them to march arrogantly directly into the jaws of destruction.

<sup>4</sup>On the mountains of Israel you will fall, you and all your troops and the nations with you. I will give you as food to all kinds of carrion birds and to the wild animals. <sup>5</sup>You will fall in the open field, for I have spoken, declares the Sovereign LORD. <sup>6</sup>I will send fire on Magog and on those who live in safety in the coastlands, and they will know that I am the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>“I will make known my holy name among my people Israel. I will no longer let my holy name be profaned, and the nations will know that I the LORD am the Holy One in Israel. <sup>8</sup>It is coming! It will surely take place, declares the Sovereign LORD. This is the day I have spoken of.

The mass of weapons heaped on the mountains of Israel after the battle will provide fuel to Israel for seven years into the Millennial Kingdom.

<sup>9</sup>“Then those who live in the towns of Israel will go out and use the weapons for fuel and burn them up—the small and large shields, the bows and arrows, the war clubs and spears. For seven years they will use them for fuel. <sup>10</sup>They will not need to gather wood from the fields or cut it from the forests, because they will use the weapons for fuel. And they will plunder those who plundered them and loot those who looted them, declares the Sovereign LORD.

<sup>11</sup>“On that day I will give Gog a burial place in Israel, in the valley of those who travel east toward the Sea. It will block the way of travelers, because Gog and all his hordes will be buried there. So it will be called the Valley of Hamon Gog.

It will take seven months to bury the dead of Gog and Magog.

<sup>12</sup>“For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them in order to cleanse the land. <sup>13</sup>All the people of the land will bury them, and the day I am glorified will be a memorable day for them, declares the Sovereign LORD.

<sup>14</sup>“Men will be regularly employed to cleanse the land. Some will go throughout the land and, in addition to them, others will bury those that remain on the ground. At the end of the seven months they will begin their search. <sup>15</sup>As they go through the land and one of them sees a human bone, he will set up a marker beside it until the gravediggers have buried it in the Valley of Hamon Gog. ...

<sup>17</sup>“Son of man, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: Call out to every kind of bird and all the wild animals: ‘Assemble and come together from all around to the sacrifice I am preparing for you, the great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel... <sup>20</sup>At my table you will eat your fill of horses and riders, mighty men and soldiers of every kind,’ declares the Sovereign LORD.

<sup>21</sup>“I will display my glory among the nations, and all the nations will see the punishment I inflict and the hand I lay upon them. <sup>22</sup>From that day forward the house of Israel will know that I am the LORD their God. <sup>23</sup>And the nations will know that the people of Israel went into exile for their sin, because they were unfaithful to me...

<sup>25</sup>“Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will now bring Jacob back from captivity and will have compassion on all the people of Israel, and I will be zealous for my holy name. <sup>26</sup>They will forget their shame and all the unfaithfulness they showed toward me when they lived in safety in their land with no one to make them afraid. *(throughout their history in the Promised Land before they were dispersed)* <sup>27</sup>When I have brought them back from the nations and have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, I will show myself holy through them in the sight of many nations. <sup>28</sup>Then they will know that I am the LORD their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind. <sup>29</sup>I will no longer hide my face from them, for I will pour out my Spirit on the house of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD.”

This matches exactly with the many, many prophecies concerning the fate of Israel.

One of the purposes and outcomes of the Day of the Lord is a judgment of all the nations for their treatment of Israel. Joel explains this perspective.

**Joel 3:1 - Joel 3:21 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup> “For behold, in those days and at that time, When I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> I will gather all the nations And bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. *(This literally means “Yahweh shall judge”)*

Then I will enter into judgment with them there On behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, Whom they have scattered among the nations; And they have divided up My land. <sup>3</sup> “They have also cast lots for My people, Traded a boy for a harlot And sold a girl for wine that they may drink... <sup>5</sup> “Since you have taken My silver and My gold, brought My precious treasures to your temples, <sup>6</sup> and sold the sons of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks in order to remove them far from their territory, <sup>7</sup> behold, I am going to arouse them from the place where you have sold them, and return your recompense on your head. <sup>8</sup> “Also I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the sons of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a distant nation,” for the LORD has spoken. *(The Sabeans occupied the region we now know as Yemen.)*

The Lord’s call to the Gentile nations He plans to use for His purpose. This is a recap of the events surrounding the Battle of Armageddon.

<sup>9</sup> Proclaim this among the nations: Prepare a war; rouse the mighty men! Let all the soldiers draw near, let them come up! <sup>10</sup> Beat your plowshares into swords And your pruning hooks into spears; Let the weak say, “I am a mighty man.” <sup>11</sup> Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations, And gather yourselves there. Bring down, O LORD, Your mighty ones.

Little did they know they would ultimately meet with defeat and judgment.

<sup>12</sup> Let the nations be aroused And come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat, For there I will sit to judge All the surrounding nations. <sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. *(Another name for the Valley of Jehoshaphat)*

<sup>15</sup> The sun and moon grow dark And the stars lose their brightness. <sup>16</sup> The LORD roars from Zion And utters His voice from Jerusalem, And the heavens and the earth tremble. But the LORD is a refuge for His people And a

stronghold to the sons of Israel. <sup>17</sup> Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, Dwelling in Zion, My holy mountain. So Jerusalem will be holy, And strangers will pass through it no more.

<sup>19</sup> Egypt will become a waste, And Edom will become a desolate wilderness, Because of the violence done to the sons of Judah, In whose land they have shed innocent blood. <sup>20</sup> But Judah will be inhabited forever And Jerusalem for all generations. <sup>21</sup> And I will avenge their blood which I have not avenged, For the LORD dwells in Zion.

In addition to referring to a single day, the Day of the Lord is also a term used to refer to the entire period from the beginning of the 70<sup>th</sup> week to the Second Coming of Christ, including the time of the Great Tribulation. The New Testament, especially, telescopes this period and refers to it as a single event.

**Luke 17:26 - Luke 17:37 (NASB) (Jesus is speaking)**

<sup>26</sup>“And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also **in the days of the Son of Man**: <sup>27</sup>they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. <sup>28</sup>“It was the same as happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; <sup>29</sup>but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. <sup>30</sup>“**It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.** <sup>31</sup>“**On that day, the one who is on the housetop and whose goods are in the house must not go down to take them out; and likewise the one who is in the field must not turn back.** <sup>32</sup>“Remember Lot’s wife. <sup>33</sup>“Whoever seeks to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses *his life* will preserve it. <sup>34</sup>“I tell you, on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left. <sup>35</sup>“There will be two women grinding at the same place; one will be taken and the other will be left. <sup>36</sup>“*Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left.*” <sup>37</sup>And answering they said\* to Him, “Where, Lord?” And He said to them, “Where the body *is*, there also the vultures will be gathered.”

**Matt 24:15 - Matt 24:28 (NASB) (Jesus is speaking)**

<sup>15</sup>“**Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet,** standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), <sup>16</sup>then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains; <sup>17</sup>**Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. <sup>18</sup>Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak.** <sup>19</sup>“But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! <sup>20</sup>“But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. <sup>21</sup>**For then there will be a great tribulation,** such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. <sup>22</sup>“Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. <sup>23</sup>“Then if anyone says to you, ‘Behold, here is the Christ,’ or ‘There *He is*,’ do not believe *him*. <sup>24</sup>“For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. <sup>25</sup>“**Behold, I have told you in advance.** <sup>26</sup>“So if they say to you, ‘Behold, He is in the wilderness,’ do not go out, *or*, ‘Behold, He is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe *them*. <sup>27</sup>“**For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.** <sup>28</sup>“Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

**2 Thess 2:1 - 2 Thess 2:4 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>Now we request you, brethren, **with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,** <sup>2</sup>that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that **the day of the Lord** has come. <sup>3</sup>Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, <sup>4</sup>who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

**1 Thess 5:2 - 1 Thess 5:11 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup>Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, <sup>2</sup>for you know very well **that the day of the Lord** will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.