

ARMAGEDDON

I. Vocabulary

hurricane
viral disease
earthquake

global warming
exhaustion
existential risk

total war
probability
nuclear warfare

II. Questions

1. What is Armageddon? Do you believe in Armageddon?
2. Do you think Armageddon could happen in our lifetime? Why/not?
3. What do you think Armageddon will look like? Do you think it will be manmade?
4. What do you think predictions of Armageddon and the Apocalypse (Nostradamus or anyone else)?
5. Many "End of the World" beliefs involve things from outer space or changes to the planet. NASA, perhaps the best-placed organization to comment on such things, consistently denies any knowledge of impending doom. Do you think that is more likely that NASA is telling the truth or lying? Why?
6. Imagine that you had been informed that a cataclysmic event such as a large meteor striking the earth was going to occur in the next 48 hours. What would you do? What would you expect other people to do?
7. Imagine that a cataclysmic event has occurred. You need to form a group of five people to oversee the reconstruction of civilisation. What five professions would you include in your group?
8. What will the Earth look like after Armageddon?

III. Bible Discussion

The Bible gives a very detailed description of Armageddon in *Revelation 9,11*:

Then the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, one saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."

And the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released, so that they would kill a third of mankind.

The number of the armies of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.

And this is how I saw in the vision the horses and those who sat on them: the riders had breastplates the color of fire and of hyacinth and of brimstone; and the heads of the horses are like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths proceed fire and smoke and brimstone.

A third of mankind was killed by these three plagues, by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which proceeded out of their mouths.

For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents and have heads, and with them they do harm.

The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk; and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

...

The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever."

And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God,

Saying: "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

The nations were angry, and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your people who revere your name, both great and small— and for destroying those who destroy the earth."

Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a severe hailstorm.

1. What is the key point of God's Judgement?
2. What two different types of people are mentioned in this passage?
3. Which type do you belong to now? Which type would you like to be?