

Armageddon—Preparations For Fighting A Part Of.

Question (1932): Why do you claim that the conspiracy, and following that, the preparations for fighting in Armageddon, are parts of Armageddon?

Answer:

We make this claim because they are such parts. An illustration will clarify this: Historians in giving their accounts of the American Revolution do not begin these with the first fighting of that revolution, i.e., with the battles of Lexington and Concord. On consulting any American History we find that its writer begins the history of the American Revolution sometime before its fighting began, i.e., with setting forth the facts of the colonists' grievances, of their peaceable efforts at redress, of their resistances at various places, of their electing a Continental Congress to legislate for them against British oppressive acts, of its counteractive measures, of the colonists' gathering munitions of war, of Britain sending more troops to America, of the colonists' raising an army of 20,000 minute men for fighting purposes, of the sending of a British force to Concord to destroy the colonists' military stores, etc. Then after these things they begin to describe the fighting part of the American Revolution along with other pertinent matters belonging to its history. All of the above things are mentioned in histories of the revolution, because they are parts of it. Just so it is with Armageddon. Its type did not begin with the fighting part of Jehu's revolution but with its conspiracy, as is recorded in 2 Kings 9: 11-15. This conspiracy was a secret thing, so far as nonparticipants therein and the constituted authorities were concerned. (2 Kings 9: 15.) Next comes the record of Jehu's ride to Jezreel, which types the preparation for Armageddon's fighting. (2 Kings 9: 16.) Then came two rejected attempts to make peace. (2 Kings 9: 17-19.) The story also gives a report of the failure of the two peace efforts, and then followed a third attempt — that made by the two kings. (2 Kings 9: 21-23.) Then came the attempted fight of the kings, which was followed by the start of the fighting. (2 Kings 9: 23, 24.) All these things must have their antitypes before the fighting of Armageddon begins. We believe that we are now in Armageddon's conspiracy part, whose beginning and the completion of the anointing of antitypical Jehu's last members legally end the hour of authority (Rev. 17: 12); because God Himself has commanded this series of events as the end of the beast's and ten kings' hour of authority. Are these still exercising power? Yes, but without the authority of the conspirators, whom God has invested with the authority at the end of the hour, to destroy the beast, etc., just as the Gentile powers are now exercising power without authority from God, their lease having expired in 1914. The Greek word *exousia*, authority, not *dynamis*, power, is used in Rev. 17: 12. We believe that the last part of the anointing — qualification and authorization — came to the last members of antitypical Jehu at the end of the hour. Before its completion in all his members, in some of them, it being completed in them, he was making his way to the captains outside the inner chamber, and in some of these he began the conspiracy by the time the anointing was being completed in the others, i.e., at the end of the hour of Rev. 17: 12. These many types coming before the fighting make us rather think that the 3 1/3 years from the time of the exchange of ratifications for the Vatican treaty and Concordat very likely mark some other phase of Armageddon than its fighting phase, though we suggested in our last issue that this might mark

the beginning of its fighting phase. We are writing this answer the afternoon of August 25 and will take this issue of the Truth to the printer August 31, four weeks before September 27, when the 3 1/3 years from the date of the exchange of ratifications end, and are doing this thus early in order to have time to prepare another Truth and Herald before we leave September 29, on our Fall pilgrim trip.

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