

Scripture Readings

*The Old Testament Scripture reading is received from **Joel** chapter **3** verses **9-15**, which can be found on page **1109** in the **old testament** of your pew bible...*

⁹Proclaim this amongst the nations: Declare a holy war, call your troops to arms! Beat your mattocks into swords and your pruning-hooks into spears. Rally to each other's help, all you nations round about. Let the weakling say, 'I am strong', and let the coward show himself brave. Let all the nations hear the call to arms and come to the Valley of the Lord's Judgement; let all the warriors come and draw near and muster there; for there I will take my seat and judge all the nations round about.

Ply the sickle, for the harvest is ripe; come, tread the grapes, for the press is full and the vats overflow; great is the wickedness of the nations. The roar of multitudes, multitudes, in the Valley of Decision! The day of the Lord is at hand in the Valley of Decision; sun and moon are darkened and the stars forbear to shine.

*The New Testament Scripture reading is received from **Revelation** chapter **16** verses **12-21**, which can be found on page **330** in the **new testament** of your pew bible...*

¹²The sixth angel poured his bowl on the great river Euphrates; and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east. Then I saw coming from the mouth of the dragon, the mouth of the beast, and the mouth of the false prophet, three foul spirits like frogs. These spirits were devils, with power to work miracles. They were sent out to muster all the kings of the world for the great day of battle of God the

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sovereign Lord. ('That is the day when I come like a thief! Happy the man who stays awake and keeps on his clothes, so that he will not have to go naked and ashamed for all to see!') So they assembled the kings at the place called in Hebrew Armageddon.

Then the seventh angel poured his bowl on the air; and out of the sanctuary came a loud voice from the throne which said 'It is over!' And there followed flashes of lightning and peals of thunder, and a violent earthquake, like none before it in human history, so violent it was. The great city was split in three; the cities of the world fell in ruin; and God did not forget Babylon the great, but made her drink the cup which was filled with the fierce wine of his vengeance. Every island vanished; there was not a mountain to be seen. Huge hailstones, weighing perhaps a hundredweight, fell on men from the sky; and they cursed God for the plague of hail, because that plague was so severe.

May the Lord God help us to apply this scripture in our lives.