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# The Valley Of Decision

## Joel 3:14-16 (NIV)

“Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine.

The Lord will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the heavens will tremble. But the Lord will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.”

1. What is the Valley of Decision?

The prophet Joel foresaw a time when God would gather the nations for judgment in a place called **the Valley of Decision**, also referred to as **the Valley of Jehoshaphat** (Joel 3:12). The name *Jehoshaphat* means “*Yahweh judges*,” reminding us that this valley is not merely geographical—it is prophetic. It represents the moment when God Himself will deliver a final, irreversible verdict on the nations.

This corresponds with the climactic battle described in **Revelation**

## **16:16 (ESV):**

“And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.”

Thus, the Valley of Decision is ultimately linked to the final confrontation between the kingdoms of this world and the kingdom of Christ.

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### 2. Why “Decision”?

The term “decision” here implies a final settlement, the closing of all arguments. Just as a human judge puts an end to disputes by issuing a binding judgment, so God will silence every voice—both the cries of His saints and the mockery of unbelievers.

This reveals God’s dual role: He is both **a refuge for His people** (Joel 3:16) and **a righteous Judge of the wicked** (Psalm 96:13).

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### 3. Two Voices Rising to Heaven

#### (a) The Cry of the Righteous

God's people groan under the weight of injustice and wickedness in the world, crying, *"How long, Lord?"*

*Revelation 6:9-10 (KJV):*

*"And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God... And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?"*

This longing for justice reflects God's promise that He will one day "wipe every tear" from the eyes of His people (Revelation 21:4).

(b) The Cry of the Wicked

Meanwhile, the ungodly mock God's patience, mistaking it for weakness.

*2 Peter 3:3-4 (NIV) warns:*

*“In the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, ‘Where is this ‘coming’ he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.’”*

Yet Peter reminds us that God’s delay is not forgetfulness but mercy:

*“(2 Peter 3:9, NIV)*

*The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise... He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance”*

Both voices—the cry of the saints and the scoffing of the wicked—will be answered decisively in the Valley of Decision.

#### 4. Signs Preceding the Judgment

Joel, Amos, and Jesus Himself foretold cosmic disturbances that will precede Christ's return:

*Joel 3:15 (NIV): "The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine."*

*Amos 8:9 (KJV): "I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day."*

*Matthew 24:29 (ESV): "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken."*

These cosmic signs signal that human history as we know it is about to close, and Christ will be revealed in glory.

##### 5. The Coming of Christ in Power

Revelation paints a majestic picture of Christ's return:

*Revelation 19:11-16 (NIV):*

*"I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war... His name is the Word of God... On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."*

Unlike His first coming in humility as the Lamb of God, His second coming will be in majesty as the Lion of Judah. He will strike down the nations with the sword of His mouth (His Word), reminding us that God's spoken Word is the ultimate authority (Hebrews 4:12).

#### 6. The Judgment of the Nations

After Christ defeats the armies gathered against Him, He will separate the righteous from the wicked:

*Matthew 25:31-33 (ESV):*

*“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left.”*

The wicked will be cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:15), while the righteous will inherit the kingdom and reign with Christ for a thousand years (Revelation 20:4-6).

#### 7. A Sobering Reality

Isaiah gives a chilling description of how rare survivors will be:

*Isaiah 13:12 (NIV): “I will make people scarcer than pure gold, more rare than the gold of Ophir.”*

Just as only Noah and his family were saved in the flood, so only a remnant will survive the coming judgment. Salvation has never been

about numbers—it has always been about faith and obedience to God (Romans 9:27).

#### 8. Hope for Believers

For the redeemed, however, the Valley of Decision is not a place of fear but of vindication. God promises that He will be a refuge for His people (Joel 3:16). Those who belong to Christ will not face His wrath, for “there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1, NIV).

This is why the gospel is urgent. Today is the day of salvation (2 Corinthians 6:2).

Beloved, the world is racing toward the Valley of Decision. Nations already align against Israel, fulfilling biblical prophecy (Zechariah 12:2-3). But the real decision is not made on that day—it is made now, in your heart.

Joshua’s challenge remains true today:



*Joshua 24:15 (KJV): "Choose you this day whom ye will serve... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."*

The Valley of Decision should not be your destiny. You can choose Christ now and find refuge in Him. Surrender to Him today, and He will make you a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).

**May the Lord keep you safe in His truth until that great day.**

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