How peaceful this valley appears now! It is situated in Galilee, the range of Mount Carmel on the left (west) where the prophet Elijah called down fire from Heaven to the Sea of Galilee on the east some thirty miles away. On the north side you can see the stand-alone mount Tabor (in the center of the picture). Behind the bottom front of the picture might have stood the person who took the picture who would have been standing in northern Samaria. When seeing this incredible valley for the first time, Napoleon declared it “the greatest battlefield on earth.” It will one day be that! The powers of earth will converge for the fight of the ages! And then Jesus will return!
Ezekiel 39:1-6
Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: [2] And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel: [3] And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. [4] Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured. [5] Thou shalt fall upon the open field: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God. [6] And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 39:11-12
And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamon-gog. [12] And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land.

Ezekiel 39:17-20
And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord God; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood. [18] Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan. [19] And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you. [20] Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord God.
Gog’s (Russia’s) future is not overly bright. Even today with her greedy eyes on the Middle East, you and I are watching Russia crouch for the acquisition of that tiny land, Israel, which has thwarted her at every turn of the road. And just when it seems that Israel’s demise must be at hand, God steps into what we know as THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON and destroys the northern invader once and for all. And then... the King returns and the world will finally experience peace - for a while.

“Every time we hear the rattling of swords, and the rustling of sabers, we begin to wonder if this heralds the coming of the great battle of Armageddon.”

– – J. Dwight Pentecost, Prophecy for Today, Zondervan

Sadly, Pentecost’s observation does not include the thinking of the masses. I doubt that there is one in ten Americans who has a clue to how close we really are to this battle.

History has shown that most of the world has chosen the rulership of humans over the rulership by God Himself. When the Romans outright asked the Jews whom they wanted - Caesar (Tiberias) or Jesus, they quickly responded, “We have no king but Caesar!” It was a fateful response that brought about the terrible destruction of Jerusalem several decades later in 70 AD. That Christ-rejecting choice always brings about sorrow in the long run.

After the Rapture (catching away) of the Church, the world will be ushered into the seven-year Tribulation. The first wave of horror alone will decimate the world’s population substantially:

Rev. 6:1-17

And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. [2] And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. [3] And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. [4] And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill
one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. [5] And when he
had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I
beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in
his hand. [6] And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A
measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and
see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. [7] And when he had opened the fourth
seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. [8] And I
looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death,
and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth
part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and
with the beasts of the earth. [9] 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 for
the testimony which they held: [10] 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? [11] And white robes were given unto every
one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little
season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be
killed as they were, should be fulfilled. [12] And I beheld when he had
opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun
became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; [13] And
the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely
figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. [14] And the heaven departed as a
scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved
out of their places. [15] And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and
the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every
bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of
the mountains; [16] And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and
hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of
the Lamb: [17] For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able
to stand?

The first beast to appear in the Tribulation will be the Antichrist.
The second will be global war. I believe this is when the evil forces from the
north are obliterated.
The third will be famine.

The fourth will be death all over the world. Untold millions will die at the hands of this beast - so much so that God said if He didn’t stop it, no one would be left alive.

Matthew 24:21
For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Matthew 24:22
And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

During the Tribulation, Earth’s people will be ruled by a trio from Hell:
1. Satan, the false father
2. Antichrist, the false Son
3. The Unholy Spirit who has the power to perform miracles

God will not deal kindly with them. They will be cast into a lake of fire, according to Scripture.

Rev. 19:11-21
And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. [12] His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. [13] And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. [14] And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. [15] And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. [16] And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. [17] And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and
gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; [18] That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. [19] And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. [20] And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. [21] And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

Antichrist’s last hurrah will be Armageddon where he is quickly once-and-for all subdued and cast into Hell, along with his followers. Israel will receive one more blood bath:

Rev. 14:15
And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

Israel will be covered in blood and human loss from Armageddon to Jerusalem itself.