

A PROPOSED CHRONOLOGY OF THE TRIBULATION—Part 3

- I. The opening of the first Seal.
- II. The two witnesses begin their ministry.
- III. The opening of the second seal.
- IV. War... The Battle of Gog and Magog.

The battle of Gog and his allies, also referred to as the alignment of nations is found in Ezekiel 38 – 39 and speaks of a battle the likes of which has never happened in the life of Israel.

A. When will this battle of the Gog coalition occur?

1. According to Ezekiel it falls between the physical and spiritual rebirth of Israel which would place it between 1948 (the physical rebirth) and the beginning of the Millennial reign (the spiritual rebirth). Between Ezekiel chapter 37, the physical rebirth, and chapters 40 thru 48, the Millennium, the spiritual rebirth.

2. Six possibilities for the timing of this battle:

- (1) Before the Rapture.
- (2) Between the Rapture and the beginning of the Tribulation.
- (3) Sometime during the first half of the Tribulation.
- (4) Part of the campaign of Armageddon in the 2nd half of the Tribulation.
- (5) The battle of Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation.
- (6) The Battle of Gog and Magog at the end of the Millennium

3. It is not the Battle of Gog and Magog at the end of the Millennium.

(Revelation 20:8-9)

a. In verse 8 Satan is loosed and gathers all the nations together to fight against Christ.

b. In the battle of Ezekiel 38-39, Gog is the prince-leader and gathers some nations together to fight against Israel.

c. In **Revelation 20:9** God consumes them with fire from Heaven.

4. It's not the Battle of Armageddon (**Revelation 19:17-21**), which occurs at the end of the tribulation.

a. Here, the Antichrist gathers all the nations to make war against Christ and His army.

b. In the battle of Ezekiel 38-39, Gog is the prince-leader and gathers some nations together to fight against Israel.

c. In **Revelation 19:15** Christ returns with a sharp sword with which He smites the nations.

5. The text in Ezekiel 38-39 gives us some clues about the timing of this battle.

a. The terms “Latter years” & “Latter days” are used in Ezekiel 38:9, 16.

Ezekiel 38:8, 16

⁸ *After many days thou shalt be visited: in the **latter years** thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them.*

¹⁶ *And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the **latter days**, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.*

- The last days for Israel are after the rapture of the church during the tribulation.

b. The battle takes place when Israel is at peace. (Ezekiel 38:8, 11, 14)

Ezekiel 38:8, 11, 14

⁸ *After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, **and they shall dwell safely all of them.***

¹¹ *And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, **that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates,***

¹⁴ *Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; **In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely,** shalt thou not know it?*

c. The clean-up time after the battle. (Ezekiel 39:9)

Ezekiel 39:9

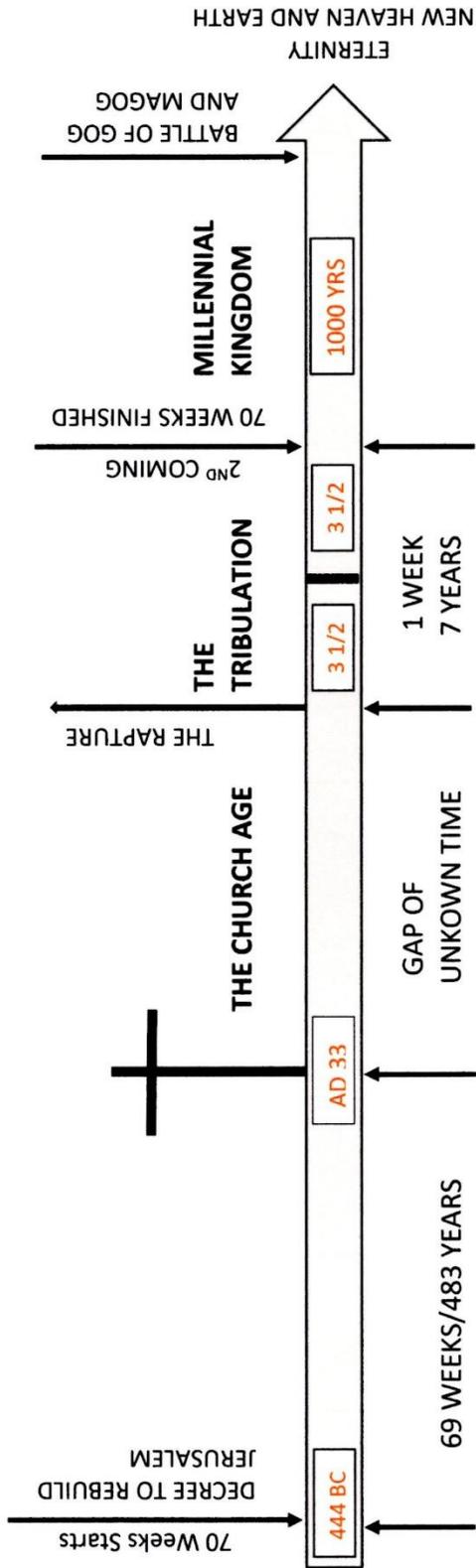
⁹ *And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the handstaves, and the spears, **and they shall burn them with fire seven years:***

CONCLUSION: This battle will probably occur early in the first half of the tribulation.

Two other things I believe will have a bearing on the time of this battle:

1. The signing of the peace treaty.
2. The rebuilding of the Temple.

DANIEL'S 70 WEEKS (490 YEARS)
Dispensational view



PRETERIST/ AMILLENNIAL VIEW

