

Who is Israel?

Part 6

Ezekiel 38-39

Part 1

Introduction: In our last study of Israel, we looked at Ezekiel 37 and in that chapter, we saw two word pictures to show us how God is going to gather the nation of Israel back into their homeland which He is doing as we speak. This was foretold in Ezekiel 36 and therefore Ezekiel 37 explains how it will happen. There is something else told in Ezekiel 36 that we need to see.

Ezekiel 36:24-28

²⁴ *For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.*

²⁵ *Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.*

²⁶ *A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.*

²⁷ *And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.*

²⁸ *And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.*

There will come a day when Israel will be saved, and God will pour out His Spirit into them. In this day they will accept Jesus Christ as their King. Jesus spoke of this when He walked upon the earth.

Matthew 23:37-39

³⁷ *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!*

³⁸ *Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.*

³⁹ For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

This then raises a question, "How will this ever come about?" Israel is in unbelief now and they are living in disobedience so how are they going to go from where they are today to the place where they turn and accept Jesus as their Messiah and King?

The answer is found in Ezekiel 38-39. Now before we get into this chapter let me just remind you of something that I had said several weeks back. There is no prophecy that happens in a vacuum which means that in order for prophecy to be fulfilled the pieces and the players **MUST** be in place. Just like a chess game. No chess game can happen unless the board is set up, the pieces are on the board, and the players are seated at the table. Then you can have a chess match. Prophecy is exactly the same way. Therefore, as we see certain things happen in our world, we can be sure that God is setting up the board, putting the pieces and the players in place for the prophecy to be fulfilled. This now brings us to where we are today.

➤ **The Battle of Gog and Magog**

Now before we step into these two chapters, we must understand that there are things pertaining to this battle that we cannot be dogmatic about. There are questions that are unanswered. There are also preconceived ideas that people have, and our study might just put some holes in the ideas that you had concerning this battle. Let us approach these verses with an open mind and let us allow the Bible to say what it says and allow the Holy Spirit to teach us as we move through these exciting chapters.

➤ **The Invaders**

Notice Ezekiel 38:1-6

I want to begin by defining who these groups are that are mentioned here that will come against Israel.

Gog - the prince of Rosh, Meschech, and Tubal.

Let me show you the verses from American Standard Version.

Ezekiel 38:2-3

² Son of man, set thy face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him,

³ and say, Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal:

- ✓ **Rosh** - Russia
- ✓ **Magog** - Central Asia - Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan.
- ✓ **Meshach and Tubal** - Modern day Turkey.
- ✓ **Persia** - Iran
- ✓ **Ethiopia and Libya**
- ✓ **Gomer and Togarmah** - Turkey also.

***Notice the power point.**

There is coming a day when these countries will come against Israel. These are Islamic nations and it is not hard to imagine these Islamic nations trying their very best to destroy the nation of Israel. Let us notice the reason.

What about the other nations that are closer? Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia?

Notice Ezekiel 38:6, 9, 15.

The phrase "MANY PEOPLE WITH THEE" could very well refer to these other nations.

Notice Ezekiel 38:4

Here we see that God will put hooks in their jaws and God will draw them into this battle. This verse speaks of the sovereignty of God. We will see as we move through this chapter that Satan also has a part in this battle. Let us notice the weapons that are used in this battle.

Some say that Ezekiel described the weapons this way because he did not have the terminology to describe planes, tanks, and modern-day rifles. That could be the case, but I am one who takes the Bible at face value, and I believe this battle will be fought with exactly what is described here. Possibly the power and the software of modern-day weaponry is taken out by EMPs (electromagnetic pulse).

"Instead of simply cutting off power in an area, a large EMP would actually destroy most machines that use electricity. Generators would be useless, cars wouldn't run, and there would be no chance of making a

phone call. In a matter of seconds, a big enough EMP could thrust an entire city back 200 years or cripple a military unit."

➤ **The Invasion**

Notice Ezekiel 38:7-8

Here in verse 8, we get a lot of information concerning this battle.

1. **It is in the days when God will be working with the nation of Israel.**

That tells us this battle cannot take place before the Rapture of the church.

Romans 11:25-26

²⁵ For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

²⁶ And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Israel is in blindness until the FULNESS OF THE GENTILES. This is not THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES but the FULNESS OF THE GENTILES. When will the FULNESS be complete?

Not until the church is complete and Raptured away.

Acts 15:14

¹⁴ Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

The church is not made up of all Gentiles, but it is predominately Gentiles. The FULNESS OF THE GENTILES will end when the church is complete. This does not mean there will not be Gentiles saved during the Tribulation because there will be many saved.

Revelation 7:9, 13-14

⁹ After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

¹³ And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?

¹⁴ And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Getting back to the point, this will be a time when God is working with Israel thus it will be in the latter days.

Notice Ezekiel 38:8 again.

This will take place after Israel has been gathered into her land and if we notice closely, it is when the Jews are dwelling safely.

Notice Ezekiel 38:11, 14

2. Here we see that it will happen in a time when the Jews feel secure enough to relax and will have laid down their weapons.

This appears to date the time here to when Israel is under the protection of the covenant with the Anti-Christ.

Daniel 9:27a

²⁷ And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week:

The Jews will see this as a covenant of protection, but God has another name for this covenant.

Isaiah 28:14-18

¹⁴ Wherefore hear the word of the LORD, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem.

¹⁵ Because ye have said, **We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement;** when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves:

¹⁶ Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

¹⁷ Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.

¹⁸ And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.

The Anti-Christ will break the covenant after 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years. It seems to be when this battle of Gog and Magog take place that Israel may possibly be in this covenant because of the security which they believe that they have.

➤ The Invader's Desire

Notice Ezekiel 38:9-13

Here in verse 13, we see that these people are coming to spoil Israel. They are coming to take their wealth. Listen to the King James Commentary.

"The development of Israel since 1948 has been phenomenal. It is also a known fact that the mineral wealth in the Dead Sea is of almost incalculable value! Much of it is used for production of fertilizer. These chemicals, together with modern technology in farming by irrigation and increasing amounts of natural rainfall, could make it to be the breadbasket for a large part of the world. Israel also stands at the crossroads of world commerce. Whoever controls Israel could control much more."

In verse 13 we are told that they will come for gold. Let me give you something to consider.

1 Kings 10:14

¹⁴ Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred threescore and six talents of gold.

This was 25 tons of gold per year. Many believe that gold is buried in Israel and may possibly be found before this battle.

Conclusion: Notice the headline on November 30th from Turkey.

Türkiye, Iran vow deeper cooperation, slam Israel as biggest threat

Ankara and Tehran outline plans to boost trade, upgrade border crossings, coordinate on migration and confront regional crises, while reaffirming shared opposition to Israeli policies.

"Israel is the biggest threat to stability in the Middle East"