

Israel At The Time Of The End

EZEKIEL:

THE LORD'S WATCHMAN

May 17, 2017 Part 3 Pastor Grant Williams

In the first two weeks of this series we have studied the importance of the Holy Spirit for the follower of Jesus Christ today. The Holy Spirit will teach you and bring back to your memory the “things” that Jesus or The Word has said. Those “things” were not only spoken by Jesus but are in the Words spoken in all 66 books of the Bible. They speak to sin and righteousness, eternal judgement, heaven and hell, consequences of obedience and disobedience in our lives today.

John 14:26 KJV

*26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, **he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.***

John 14:26 AMPC

*26 But the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, Standby), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], **He will teach you all things.** And He will cause you to **recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.***

The Prophet Ezekiel is confirming not to just what God revealed throughout the Old Testament writers and prophets but in the New Testament as well. From the beginning of time until the “Time Of The End”, God’s Word is always the same, it never changes and is pointing to the time in which we are living right now and the Rapture of the Church.

As a Bible believing church, we must stay consistent and constant with the teaching and preaching of the whole counsel of God’s Word. It is life giving, it is alive, it is our protection and our correction, it teaches us about what has been and what is to come. God does not want His children caught unaware.

Ecclesiastes 1:4-10 KJV

4 One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever.

5 The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose.

6 The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.

7 *All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.*

8 *All things are full of labour; man cannot utter it: the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.*

9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

10 *Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.*

Ecclesiastes 1:4-10 AMPC

4 *One generation goes and another generation comes, but the earth remains forever.*

5 *The sun also rises and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises.*

6 *The wind goes to the south and circles about to the north; it circles and circles about continually, and on its circuit the wind returns again.*

7 *All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full. To the place from which the rivers come, to there and from there they return again.*

8 *All things are weary with toil and all words are feeble; man cannot utter it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.*

9 *The thing that has been—it is what will be again, and that which has been done is that which will be done again; and there is nothing new under the sun.*

10 *Is there a thing of which it may be said, See, this is new? It has already been, in the vast ages of time [recorded or unrecorded] which were before us.*

So, judgement is coming, as in the days of Noah, Jesus said it would. Jesus is coming back, just like He said He would. God's Word hasn't changed regardless of what the people of this world think or try to say. Peter in his writings gives us, the imitator of Jesus Christ, the follower of God's Word, prophetic imagery in his words given to Him by the Holy Spirit for today.

2 Peter 3:1-18 AMPC

1 Beloved, I am now writing you this second letter. In [both of] them I have stirred up your unsullied (sincere) mind by way of remembrance,

*2 That you should recall the predictions of the holy (consecrated, dedicated) **prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior** [given] through your apostles (His special messengers).*

*3 To begin with, **you must know and understand this**, that scoffers (mockers) will come in the last days with scoffing, [people who] walk after their own fleshly desires*

4 And say, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the forefathers fell asleep, all things have continued exactly as they did from the beginning of creation.

5 For they willfully overlook and forget this [fact], that the heavens [came into] existence long ago by the word of God, and the earth also which was formed out of water and by means of water,

6 Through which the world that then [existed] was deluged with water and perished.

7 But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been stored up (reserved) for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly people.

8 Nevertheless, do not let this one fact escape you, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord does not delay and is not tardy or slow about what He promises, according to some people's conception of slowness, but He is long-suffering (extraordinarily patient) toward you, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will vanish (pass away) with a thunderous crash, and the [material] elements [of the universe] will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up.

11 Since all these things are thus in the process of being dissolved, what kind of person ought [each of] you to be [in the meanwhile] in consecrated and holy behavior and devout and godly qualities,

12 While you wait and earnestly long for (expect and hasten) the coming of the day of God by reason of which the flaming heavens will be dissolved, and the [material] elements [of the universe] will flare and melt with fire?

13 But we look for new heavens and a new earth according to His promise, in which righteousness (uprightness, freedom from sin, and right standing with God) is to abide.

14 So, beloved, **since you are expecting these things, be eager to be found by Him [at His coming]** without spot or blemish and at peace [in serene confidence, free from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts].

15 And consider that the long-suffering of our Lord [His slowness in avenging wrongs and judging the world] is salvation (that which is conducive to the soul's safety), even as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the spiritual insight given him,

16 Speaking of this as he does in all of his letters. There are some things in those [epistles of Paul] that are difficult to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist and misconstrue to their own utter destruction, just as [they distort and misinterpret] the rest of the Scriptures.

17 Let me warn you therefore, beloved, that knowing these things beforehand, you should be on your guard, lest you be carried away by the error of lawless and wicked [persons and] fall from your own [present] firm condition [your own steadfastness of mind].

18 But grow in grace (undeserved favor, spiritual strength) and recognition and knowledge and understanding of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (the Messiah). To Him [be] glory (honor, majesty, and splendor) both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (so be it)!

These **things** that the Apostle Paul warned and instructed the church to do and be aware of is confirmed with the Old Testament writers as well. The Prophet Ezekiel is one of these writers for today, right now, in the timeline of Bible prophecy at the “Time Of The End”.

Week one we looked at the prophecy in Ezekiel Chapter 37 which is the vision of the “valley of dry bones”, those who have survived the Holocaust, the Jewish people.

Ezekiel 37:1 KJV

37 The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones.

Ezekiel 37:1 AMPC

37 The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.

The prophet is in a valley of bones that are dry. They are separated in different sections. There are skull bones in one section, back bones in one section, leg bones in another.

Ezekiel 37:3-9 AMPC

3 And He said to me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, You know!

4 Again He said to me, Prophecy to these bones and say to them, O you dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath and spirit to enter you, and you shall live;

6 And I will lay sinews upon you and bring up flesh upon you and cover you with skin, and I will put breath and spirit in you, and you [dry bones] shall live; and you shall know, understand, and realize that I am the Lord [the Sovereign Ruler, Who calls forth loyalty and obedient service].

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a [thundering] noise and behold, a shaking and trembling and a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

8 And I looked and behold, there were sinews (tendons) upon [the bones] and flesh came upon them and skin covered them over, but there was no breath or spirit in them.

9 Then said He to me, Prophecy to the breath and spirit, son of man, and say to the breath and spirit, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath and spirit, and breathe upon these slain that they may live.

The four winds here is referring to the North, South, East and the West. Since 1948, millions of Jews have returned to Israel and continue to this day as well.

Jews Return to Israel: Isaiah 45 and Ezekiel 37

From the East: Many Jews living in the Middle East moved to Israel since 1948.

From the West: During the mid-1900's, hundreds of thousands of Jews living in the West (Europe and the United States) began moving to Israel.

From the North: The former Soviet Union (Russia) first refused to let its' Jewish residents move back to Israel. But, after years of pressure from other countries, Russia finally began to allow Jews to return to Israel during the 1980's. So far hundreds of thousands of Russian Jews have moved to Israel.

From the South: Ethiopia refused to allow its' Jewish people to return to Israel. Israel struck a deal with Ethiopia's government to allow the Jews of Ethiopia to move to Israel. On the weekend of May 25, 1991, 14,500 Ethiopian Jews were airlifted to Israel and in 2016 it began again.

Ezekiel 37:10-12 AMPC

10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath and spirit came into [the bones], and **they lived and stood up upon their feet, an exceedingly great host (army).**

11 Then He said to me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, **they say, Our bones are dried up and our hope is lost; we are completely cut off.**

12 Therefore prophesy and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves (grave is symbolic of death) and cause you to come up out of your graves, O My people; and I will bring you [back home] **to the land of Israel.**

This predicts that Israel will return to the land after being divided and separated after they looked like they were skeletons and become a great and mighty army in the land of Israel. This vision or prophecy says it will specifically be called Israel.

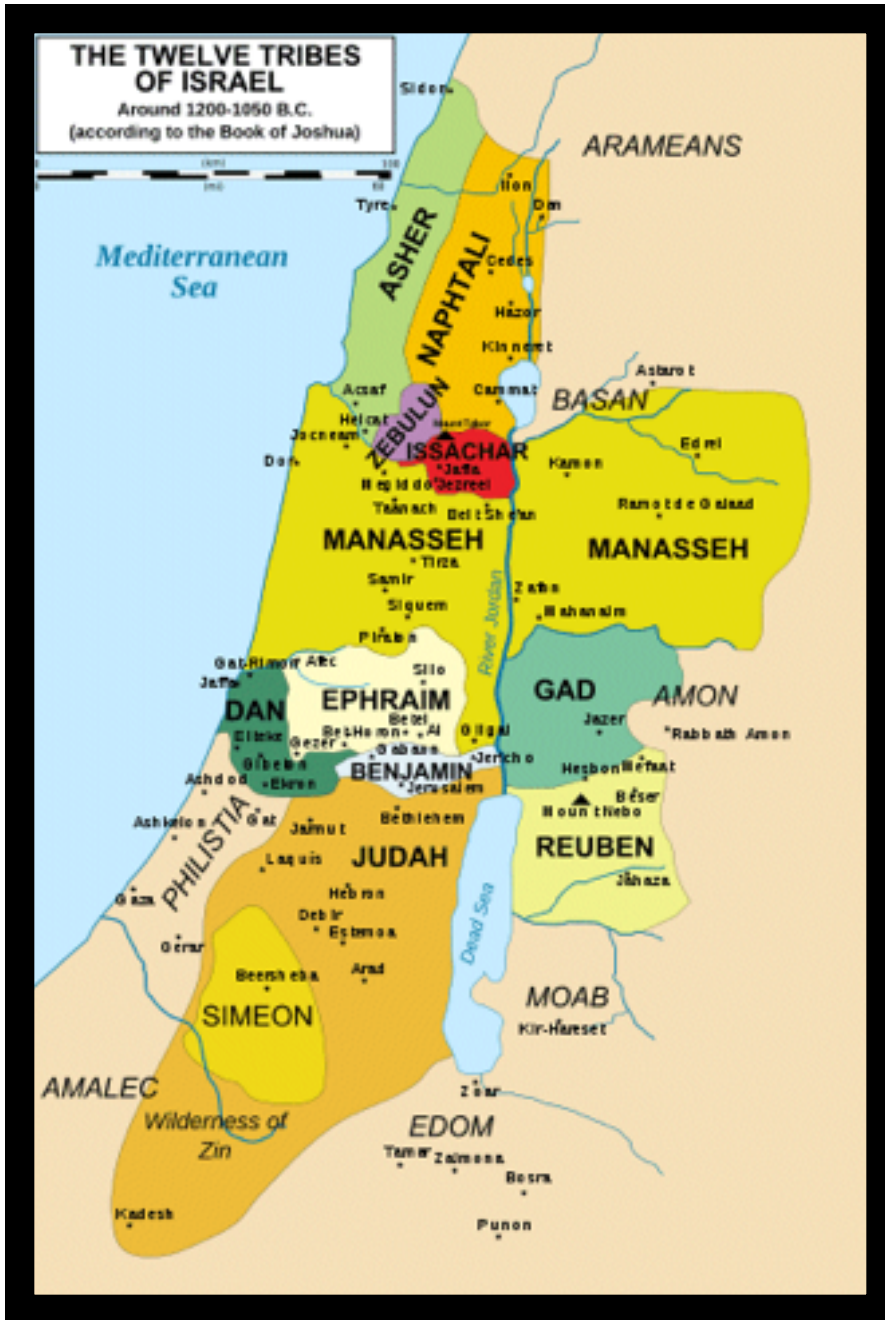
Last week, we looked at Ezekiel's Prophecy that there would no longer be division among the Jewish people regarding the different tribes and their descendants.

Ezekiel 37:19 KJV

19 Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand.

Ezekiel 37:19 AMPC

19 Say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph—which is in the hand of Ephraim—and the tribes of Israel his associates, and will join with it the stick of Judah and make them one stick, and they shall be one in My hand.



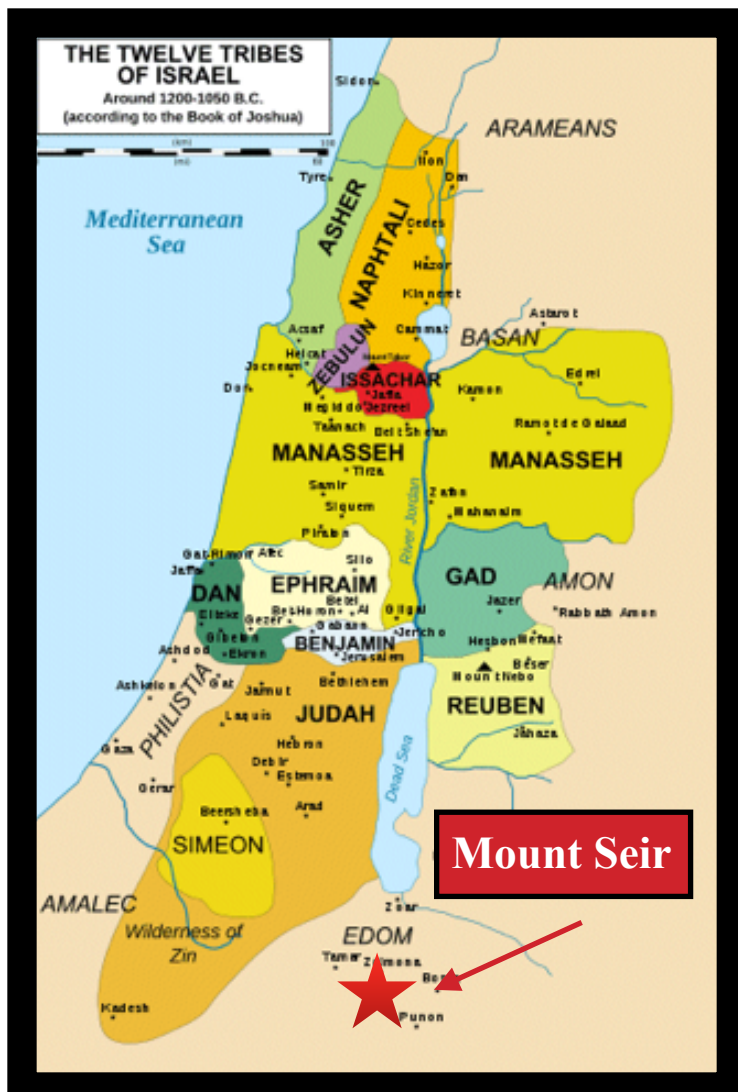
It is often pointed out in this particular prophecy how the tribes were divided. There were Northern tribes and Southern tribes. A separation had occurred during the time of the Assyrians. But it was foretold that God would bring them all back as one.

When you go to Israel today, people don't say I'm from the Tribe of Benjamin or I'm from the Tribe of Judah, they just say I'm from Israel. That is what the Prophet Ezekiel is saying is going to happen in the last days.

So far in this study we have seen the fulfillment of the prophecies of Ezekiel listed below.

- o The Holocaust has happened...
- o The Jewish people have returned from the four winds...
- o They have built a great army...
- o No division in the Jewish people from their descendants...

Now, there is a struggle with the division of the land and that struggle is pictured in Ezekiel Chapters 35 and Chapter 36. This is where I believe we are at prophetically right now, the prophecy concerning Mount Seir.



Ezekiel 35:1-2 KJV

*1 Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,
2 Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it,*

The area of Edom is where Mount Seir is located. The Edomites were the descendants from Esau. Jacob (Israel) and Esau's conflict started the animosity between the Arab people and Jewish people. The Palestinians are descendants of Esau who today live in the Gaza Strip and West bank.



Ezekiel 35:3-5 KJV

3 And say unto it, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate.

4 I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the Lord.

5 Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end:

So, a leader/group from the Palestinians/Mount Seir, the Edomites who are descendants of Esau, are going to try and split Israel and make it into two nations.

Ezekiel 35:10 KJV

10 Because thou (Mount Seir or Edom) hast said, These two nations (Judah and Israel) and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas the Lord was there:

The Palestinians are saying, we are going to divide Israel up into two parts. We are going to take one part and we will let them have the other part. But then, these two nations will both be ours (Ezekiel 35:10).

So, after we get what we want, the dividing of Israel, we are going to go after the land that was just divided so we can own both of them. That is exactly what you are hearing today all over the world from the people who are the descendants of Esau.

Ezekiel 36:1-2 KJV

1 Also, thou son of man, prophesy unto the mountains of Israel, and say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord:

2 Thus saith the Lord God; Because the enemy hath said against you, Aha, even the ancient high places are ours in possession:



The ancient high places according to the biblical term is the area of Judea and Samaria which today is known as the West Bank. This is the area that is on the news continuously where the Palestinians live, descendants of Esau that Israel annexed in right after the 1967 war. It was part of the country of Jordan divided now by the Jordan river.

Ezekiel 36:3 KJV

3 Therefore prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord God; Because they have made you desolate, and swallowed you up on every side.....

The Gaza Strip to the west is where the Philistines are from. The West Bank is on the east side, Syria wants Golan Heights which is to the North and Egypt is restless as a result of terrorism.

“that ye might be a possession unto the residue of the heathen..”

They want to send you back to the Gentile nations from where you just came from...

“and ye (speaking to the people of Israel) are taken up in the lips of talkers, and are an infamy of the people.”

Ezekiel said, they'll try and swallow you up or surround you on every side and are now accusing you or speaking evil about you. What are they accusing Israel and the Jewish people of? Creating trouble. Every time you listen to the news it is always someone from the Middle East saying that Israel is the problem. From Egypt, Jordan, Iran, Syria, European nations etc., what you hear is, “if it weren't for the Jews, or the Zionists”...

Ezekiel said: after the holocaust, after becoming a nation again, after you have a great army, after the Palestinians reside in the ancient high places and try to divide up the land to the pre-1967 lines in order to take more land and then want more...they will still blame you for the trouble that these nations are having.

Ezekiel said in 36:3 that Israel would be “*taken up in the lips of talkers, and are an infamy of the people:*”

Talker(s) defined:

a forked tongue, a babbler or a slander, irrational prattler (to talk at lengths foolishly)

Infamy defined:

defaming or an evil report, speaking of things which are detested and despised; notoriously bad and scandalous;

At the End Of Time, the Palestinians and other anti-Jewish nations will be constantly saying that Israel or the Jews are evil. The news from the Palestinians will be constantly bringing an evil report about Israel in order to get the land or the other half of the 2 divisions. This is real picture of today's Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

Everything in the book of Ezekiel about the war to come will stem from the Palestinian conflict, I'm speaking about the War of Gog and Magog. This is based upon God's Word, the current events that are happening right now and the revelation to the information in God's Word. This is the forth telling of those “things” that were foretold 2600 years ago by the Prophet Ezekiel.

The battle of Gog and Magog which is found in Ezekiel Chapters 38 and 39, I believe will start from a conflict between the Palestinians and Israel over the land of Israel.

Timing of:
The Battle of Gog and Magog

Ezekiel 38:8 KJV

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.

- o after many days
- o in the latter years
- o land is brought back from the sword
- o Israel dwells safely

Ezekiel 38:11 KJV

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,

- o land of unwalled villages
- o no walls, gates or bars

Ezekiel 38:14 KJV

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?

- o people dwell safely

These passages identify that this war of Gog and Magog will take place after Israel is restored as a nation and it was, in 1948. Ezekiel said this war would take place after Israel has security and that is true today. From tours, vacations, and business travel, you can go anywhere you want to go in Israel.

The people of Israel are today, living in cities with unwallled villages. There's no gates to enter into a city, there is safety because there is security throughout the land of Israel.

This could not have happened in Ezekiel's day. In Ezekiel's day all the cities had walls around them which was during the time of the Jew's captivity and the writing of the Prophet Daniel, and Jeremiah as well who prophesied of their captivity and release. The walls in Jerusalem were then rebuilt as more prophecies were fulfilled by Nehemiah, as he received permission from the King to go back to Jerusalem and rebuild the walls.

This passage in Ezekiel is the set up for the last days, the "Time Of The End", the time in which we are living in right now. We are now going to get into who is Gog and what is Magog. In this story there is a person by the name of Gog. Who is Gog? There have been many things written about who or what Gog is. The Word Gog is mentioned 9 times in Ezekiel Chapter 38 and 39 which we will read in their entirety after identifying pieces first.

Ezekiel 38:2 AMPC

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

Ezekiel 39:1 KJV

39 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:

First, we are going to answer, who is Gog. Then, what is meant by the phrase chief prince and what is the land of Magog. Now, the book of Ezekiel is not the first time the name Gog is mentioned in the Bible, it first appears in 1 Chronicles 5:4.

1 Chronicles 5:4 KJV

4 The sons of Joel; Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son,

Gog, who is a descendant from Rueben in this passage and this is the only other place in the Old Testament that God is mentioned other than Ezekiel.

There is one verse that puzzles many scholars and that is found in Ezekiel 38:17

Ezekiel 38:14-18 KJV

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?

15 And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army:

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.

*17 Thus saith the Lord God; **Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel,** which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring thee against them?*

18 And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord God, that my fury shall come up in my face.

So God is speaking about Gog in verse 17...***so, aren't you the one I have told the prophets of old about?*** You start going through the Old Testament and you find nothing listed about this man. So, what is going on here?



There was an ancient tribe when you start studying back to Ezekiel's day all the way to the present time called the Scythians. This was a group of vicious people that when they would kill a person, they would drink from their skull.

They would take the skin off the people they would kill and use it for covering. They were master archers and horsemen, they were masters at riding horses. They were considered master warriors at that time as well.



There is an ancient cuneiform tablet (meaning a tablet not written on paper but on stone) with an Assyrian inscription that has been discovered in which Ga-a-gi is mentioned as a chief of the Saka (Scythians). Historians identify the inscription and pronunciation with the word Gog. The text in Ezekiel Chapter 38 and Chapter 39 should be read, Gog (Gaagi), of the land of Magog.

Ezekiel 38:3 AMPC

3 And say, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince (ruler) of Rosh, of Meshech, and of Tubal.

Keep this in mind because historically, Ezekiel would have been very familiar with this group of people.

Next, let's go to the ancient Samaritan words/language which is one of the earliest languages in history. That language is what was spoken in the land of what we know today as Iraq. There is a word that was spoken thousands of years ago that in the English language would be spelled Gug and alludes to darkness. So, this is the second clue to this word Gog. You have Syrian inscriptions and language from Iraq both referring to Gog.

Gog in Ezekiel is called a chief prince and this is a clue. So, why is this a clue?

Let's read what Paul wrote in Ephesians about the prince of the air. These are demonic angels, spirits and rulers in high places.

Ephesians 6:12 KJV

*12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against **principalities**, against **powers**, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against **spiritual wickedness in high places**.*

Ephesians 2:2 KJV

*2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the **prince of the power of the air**, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:*

Now, let's go to the book of Daniel...

Daniel 10:13 KJV

*13 But the **prince of the kingdom of Persia** withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.*

Daniel 10:20 KJV

*20 Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the **prince of Persia**: and when I am gone forth, lo, the **prince of Grecia** shall come.*

These are strong demonic angels/spirits and leaders in Babylon at the "Time Of The End". Remember, Daniel Chapter 10-12 is a summary of the Kingdoms of this world, the death and rise of the Babylonian Empire at end of time and where the antichrist will come and rule from the first 42 months of the Tribulation.

Ezekiel 38:1-3 AMPC

1 And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

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

3 And say, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince (ruler) of Rosh, of Meshech, and of Tubal.

Let's start to break Ezekiel Chapter 38 down with what we know so far...remember our timeline, this is taking place after Israel has become a nation, secure, great army, Jewish people returning from the 4 winds, after the Holocaust etc.

Gog, is the name of the leader. The word means “ruler” or “the man on top.” In verse 2, Gog is explicitly called “the prince” and Ezekiel is identifying the leader of this massive army as “Gog”.

God told Ezekiel I already told you that this would happen, that a leader, Gog would come against Israel from Magog or the land of the Scythians territory from Central Asia across the southern parts of modern Asia across southern parts of modern Russia.



An old Assyrian tablet confirming that the leader named Gog would come from the old Scythian area as the Bible said he would.

Also, the word “Gog” from the old Samarian language was used in Iraq meaning darkness. Paul wrote about the prince of the air and demonic spirit in governmental leaders at the Time of The End as well.

The prophet Daniel in summarizing the first 9 chapters of the prophetic book said these demonic spirits would be from the Babylonian Empire (Syria/Iraq/Lebanon) - where the Grecian and Medes/Persian Empire intersect. This is from Daniel chapter 4 in the vision of the stump, Daniel chapter 10 and spoken of by Ezekiel in chapters 38 and 39.

In Ezekiel 38:2, Gog will lead an army from southern and central Asia, southern Russia and Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Afghanistan (Magog), the prince (President/leader) of Rosh (Russia), Meshech and of Tubal, (Turkey/Georgia and N. Syria/Georgia) to go against Israel.

This will be as was prophesied, after Israel has become a nation, is secure, has a great army, the Jewish people have returned from Russia, Ethiopia, Europe/US and the Middle East after the Holocaust etc.

This “End Times” leader named Gog will also get more nations to join him which we will look at next week.

