

EZEKIEL 38 - 39 - PART 2

The last 13 chapters of Ezekiel are prophetic in nature!

He is writing in mid 6th century BC, but is looking forward to our time and beyond.

So some of this has already occurred but much of it is still yet to happen.

The last 13 chapters can be divided into 3 categories:

36 - 38 Reestablishment of Nation of Israel and that happened in 1948.

40 - 48 Kingdom Age and Millennial Kingdom

38 - 39 Battle of Armageddon

We don't know when this battle will take place but we can see a glimpse of some things that line up to begin to see this in an infancy stage of development.

This battle will star Jesus and it's going to be a real war and a real battle.

Don't be a Doomsday Disciple and the sky is falling and disaster is at hand.

Reason is because yes Armageddon is a real war, it will really happen but it also means the return of Christ.

We read about all this doomsday stuff, we all have to remember HE is coming to rescue HIS Bride.

John 14:1 - 3

We need to remember . . . don't be anxious, worried, or fearful.
He is coming!

Here in Ezekiel 38, he is talking about this.

The lead in here is that there will be a confederation, a joining of nations that will join together to converge against Israel.

Their target is Israel. That's the specific target but really the broader target is the God of Israel.

These nations will, I believe, be demonically inspired and antisemitism is really satanically inspired.

Ezekiel also teaches that the Leader of this campaign is Russia.

The Bible actually names Russia as the principal player in this military campaign that's going to happen against Israel.

Second most significant player is Iran.

Never before has there been the kind of alliance between Russia and Iran that we see today.

As you look in Exodus 38, there are 6 nations that are a part of this confederation of nations.

“Gog” = This is a title, a person, like a Czar or Prince.

We know this because he gets a personal pronoun at the end of verse 2.

“Gog” is a Prince over a region called “Magog”.

“Magog” = was the ancient land of the “Skitheans and their ancient land was north of Black Sea and Caspian Seas. So there

is a great agreement that Magog is the land of Russia in modern times.

“Meshach” and “Tubal” are mentioned there as part of territory of Magog.

Meshach is thought to be Moscow by most Bible Scholars.

Tubal is believed to be the town “Tobolsk”. It’s in West Central Russia and used to be the Siberian Oil Capital.

Joining Russia are 5 other nations.

The second nation in this confederation is in vs 5, Iran.

Iran = Persia, Ethiopia and Lybia.

Up until 1935, Iran was named Persia. It's only been since 1935 Persia has been called Iran. Until 1979 when the Islamic Revolution occurred, Iran had been an ally of the United States and Israel.

Prior to 1979 the "Shah" of Iran was selling oil to Israel.

So today we are seeing a Russian/Iranian alliance that has never existed before.

Alexei Pushkov, a close ally of Vladimir Putin says "Russia and Iran have created a durable alliance and says "Russia and Iran have a partnership which can evolve into a strategic relationship".

Now back in 2019 there was a tri-lateral summit where Benjamin Netanyahu along with the United States and Russia trying to coax Russia away from Iran and it was not successful.

Netanyahu said this during the summit.

“We will not allow Iran, which calls for our destruction to establish itself on our border and we’ll do all we can to prevent it from getting a nuclear weapon”.

If you look further in ch 38 and verse 5

Ethiopia - some of the older translations vs “Cush”
But it’s Ethiopia and Northern Sudan.

Libya - some ancient text say it “Put”. It’s 97% Sunni Muslim.

Vs 6 says “Gomer and Togarmah”

Gomer - represents Eastern Europe (Germany & Poland)

Togarmah - Turkey, Armenia, Georgia

Vs 13

There are a few nations that question them.

“Sheba and Dedan” - they always go together and they represent Saudi Arabia.

Also Tarshish questions this?

Where is Tarshish located?

Herodotus said Tarshish is located beyond the pillars of Hercules.

The pillars of Hercules were the rock formations that formed the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea.

Also known as the Straits of Gibraltar.

Herodotus said Tarshish is out of Mediterranean in Atlantic and believe it's England.

Vs 13

“Merchants of Tarshis and all her young lions”.

The National symbol for England is a “Lion”.

“Young lions” could be a reference to British territories.

So if you have ever wandered where does the U S fall into prophecy were not really mentioned.

Some scholars believe that all of these events begin to transpire right around the time of the Rapture of the Church.

One explanation could be seen in the fact when Christians are snatched from the earth, what will be the population of the United States?

Now we're not the only missing players in this:
Egypt, Jordan & Syria.

Egypt entered this peace treaty in 1979, Arab league of Nations kicked them out but were brought back in 1989.

Jordan, same way, entered into peace treaty in 1994.

Syria maybe not mentioned because they have been rendered helpless and useless.

So, Saudi Arabia, England and maybe US will question these nations as to why conversing. But no one will come to Israel's aid.

EXCEPT the LORD!

Ps 121:4 - He who watches over Israel neither slumbers or sleeps.

Between vs 18 - 23 in Ezekiel 38, there is this description of this judgement against Gog and the nations that rise up.

Vs 18 - 23 - underline certain words.

“Wrath”

“Great Earthquake”

“Mountain be thrown down”

“Pestilence”

“Hailstones”

Rev 16:12

There will be Kings that come from the east to join forces with the nations mentioned in Ezekiel, 38 to come against Israel.

From the east we would be talking about China, Japan, Korea, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India are all going to join forces with these nations, and they will converge on Israel.

Some Bible Scholars interpret the war of Ezekiel 38 and Rev 16 as 2 different wars.

I believe these 2 forces merge and come together.

Vs 16

Vs 21 - Weight of a talent - 100 lbs each hail stone.

Rev 19 - The Lord returns and He strikes down these nations that have come against Him and against Israel.

Rev 19:11 - 16

Vs 14 - I believe that's the church returning with Him.

Ezekiel 38:23

God's ultimate purpose in the Bible is that people would know Him.

Sometimes He has to reveal Himself in serious ways to get our attention.

When people and Nations are in full throttle opposition to God, He has to display his power and might, greater than the opposition against Him.

There is no reason you and I, as Christians, that know Him should fear His return or afraid of this battle of Armageddon.

It's not about being afraid or worried, it's about BEING READY!

Luke 21:28 - when you see these things, look up, your redemption draweth nigh.