

ISRAEL IN PROPHECY

Text: Ezekiel 38, 39

Key Word: Prophecy

Key Thought: Israel is Foremost Involved in End-time Prophecies!

With all the recent uprising in the Middle East, there has been a renewed interest in Biblical prophecy concerning Israel. There is hardly a week that passes that the Middle East fails to gain the headlines in the news.

As you consider the events surrounding the nation of Israel, it becomes very clear that its “*birth pains*” are increasing in both frequency and intensity. It all began of course, with the covenant made to Abraham recorded in Genesis chapter 12.

Major events have taken place on Israel’s calendar in just over a century

- | | | |
|---------------|-----|---|
| | 1. | The First Zionist Congress 1897 |
| | 2. | Balfour Declaration 1917 (British general Allenby captured Jerusalem) |
| | 3. | United Nation Partition Resolution Nov. 29, 1947 |
| War #1 | 4. | Israel’s Independence May 15, 1948 |
| War #2 | 5. | Suez Canal Crisis 1956 |
| War #3 | 6. | Six Day War June 5 – 10, 1967 |
| War #4 | 7. | Yom Kippur Oct. 6, 1973 (Israel’s most Holy Day) |
| War #5 | 8. | South Lebanon June 6, 1982 |
| War #6 | 9. | Ezekiel 38 |
| War #7 | 10. | Battle of Armageddon - Revelation 9; Daniel 11:40 |

“The only way to have Arab power in the Middle East is for another all-out-war against Israel.”

Yasser Arafat

What Can We Expect to Take Place in End-time Prophecies?

I. WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?

II. WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

III. WHERE WILL IT HAPPEN?

IV. WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN?

VI. WHY WILL IT HAPPEN?

I. WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?

There is no doubt that Russia will be greatly involved in the wars surrounding Israel. Russia had boasted for years that she would gain World Power Supremacy by the year 1985.

“On Monday, May 16, 1983, Barbara Frum of the CBC “Journal” interviewed a journalist from Paris who had just returned from Syria. He said, “I had never believed that I would see such great numbers of Russian personnel and Russia armaments flowing into Syria during just one month.”

There will be another amalgamation of nations that will rise up against the tiny nation of Israel that has a land area only half the size of Switzerland. Ezekiel 38:1 – 6 lists of following nations to be involved.

Ancient Nations

Gog and Magog
Meshech and Tubal
Persia
Ethiopia (Cush)
Libya (Put)
Ashkenaz
Gomer
Togarmah
Many nations with you

Modern Nations

Russia
Moscow and Tobolsk
Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan
Ethiopia and the Sudan
Libya
Austria, Germany
Eastern Europe
Southeastern Europe
Nations allied to Russia

There are only a few nations that stand in opposition to these advancing armies. Ezekiel 38:13 mentions Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish and all her villages (or her strong or young lions). There are many differences of opinion about whom these nations represent. The following considers some of the possibilities.

Ancient Nations

Tarshish
Sheba
Dedan
Young Lions

Modern Nations

Great Britain, Spain, Sardinia
Modern Yemen
Southern Edom (possibly Jordan)
United Kingdom, U.S.A., All the
Commonwealth Nations

II. WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

The prophet Ezekiel makes it clear that the nations mentioned earlier will attack Israel in a concentrated effort to destroy her.

Read Ezekiel 38:7 – 9

Many prophetic teachers were watching the events as they unfolded in the Middle East in September – November of 1990. Many of the nations listed began a strange alliance. Many wondered if the Word of Prophecy was about to be fulfilled. Military intelligence unlocked what **could have happened** in 1982. A book titled “**Magog 1982 Cancelled**” by Dr. David A. Lewis explains how we were so close to entering WW III. Israel invaded Lebanon to protect itself from the continual bombardment of the PLO and opened up a treasury of arsenals.

*** They discovered a staggering number of weapons which Russia had stockpiled in tunnels that were carved deep into the rock. Noted in the stock piles were hundreds of thousands of uniforms, AK – 47 assault rifles and millions of rounds of ammunition, tanks, dynamite, and canons. These tunnels were so large that they contained railroad tracks. They also found Russian military *K rations* that had a shelf life of only six months. If this scale of warfare was staged for 1982, you can be assured that a greater one is being staged to come to pass shortly. The recent alignment of nations is proof of God’s Word being true. ***

III. WHERE WILL IT HAPPEN?

It is one thing to prophecy a war along with naming the nations involved, it is quite another thing to locate its exact position. It’s incredible when we realize that these prophecies were written around 2600 years ago.

“ . . . to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate.”

Ezekiel 38:8

“ I will invade a land of unwalled villages.”

Ezekiel 38: 11

These two chapters make it very clear that this war will encompass the nation of Israel.

III. WHERE WILL IT HAPPEN? (Contd.)

“ . . . *When Gog attacks the land of Israel*”

Ezekiel 38:18

“ . . . *living at the center (navel) of the land.*”

Ezekiel 38:12

Rabbinic literature writes,

“As the navel is the center of the human body, so is the land of Israel the navel of the world . . . Situated in the center of the world, and Jerusalem in the center of the land of Israel, and the sanctuary in the center of Jerusalem, and the holy place in the center of the sanctuary, and the ark in the center of the holy place . . .”

“ . . . *I will bring you against my land*”

Ezekiel 38:16

“*I will turn you around and drag you along. I will bring you from the far north and send you against the mountains of Israel.*”

Ezekiel 39:2

There is no doubt that the nation of Israel is going to be invaded from all directions: from the North, South, East and West, all at once.

North – Ezekiel 38:15

South – Ezekiel 38:5

East – Ezekiel 39:11

West – Ezekiel 38:5

IV. WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN?

As we continue to search the Scriptures, once again we find ourselves having to admit to the urgency of the hour.

“After many days you will be called to arms”

Ezekiel 38:8

“In the days to come (latter days)”

Ezekiel 38:17 KJV

“In that day when my people Israel are living in safety.”

Ezekiel 38:14

These words (and many others) are used to tell us that it must happen at the end of this age – when the Time of the Gentiles is completed. There are also important keys in recognizing the time.

First, it must come about in . . .

“. . . a land that has recovered from war”

Ezekiel 38:8

Israel today has sprung up to be one of the greatest exporters of fruits, vegetables, and textiles, etc. It is become at an oasis in the middle of the desert. It has definitely recovered from war. There is no enemy army on its soil. Every nation has its problems, but war is another thing.

Secondly,

“. . . whose people are gathered out of every nation”

Ezekiel 38:8

We’re constantly hearing reports of people from Jewish ancestry returning to their homeland. Plane loads have arrived with the returning descendants. This is caused a burden on housing and employment. But the infiltration has not stopped. There seems to be a deep need for people of Jewish descent to return to Israel as never seen since 1948.

IV. WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN? (Contd.)

Thirdly,

“ now all of them live in safety”

Ezekiel 38:8

Compared to the persecution they faced in other nations, it will appear as a Haven of Rest for these settlers.

Fourthly,

“. . . I will invade a land of unwalled villages, I will attack a peaceful and unsuspecting people – all of them without walls and without gates and bars.”

Ezekiel 38:11

This could not be said of China today. It could not be said of Germany up to the year 1989. The prophet Jeremiah had never seen Jerusalem without a wall. Even after the Babylonians tore it down, Nehemiah was used to rebuild it. It remained intact until the year 70 A.D..

VI. WHY WILL IT HAPPEN?

There are several reasons for the upcoming invasion.

A. Evil Thoughts

“On that day thoughts will come to your mind and you will devise an evil scheme.”

Ezekiel 38:10

Evil thoughts will grow into an executed plan. The “*evil scheme*” shows who is at the root of the attack – the devil.

VI. WHY WILL IT HAPPEN? (Contd.)

B. To Take a Spoil

Russia will use this is an opportunity to gain much in riches. Ezekiel tells us that there is much spoil to gain.

1. Livestock (Ezekiel 38:12)
2. Silver and Gold (Ezekiel 38:13)

It is no secret that Israel has done remarkably well for herself in a little more than 74 years. Israel, with its rights to the Dead Sea, gives it a resource of more than two trillion dollars in mineral wealth alone. That is more than 2,000 billion or 2×10^{12} . Many of these minerals are either very low in quantity or not available in other parts of the world.

Trillions of dollars of Natural Gas have just been found under the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea owned by Israel. Israel just made a deal with Saudi Arabia to liquify the gas. It can supply all of Europe with natural gas for the next 75 years.

C. To Take a Prey

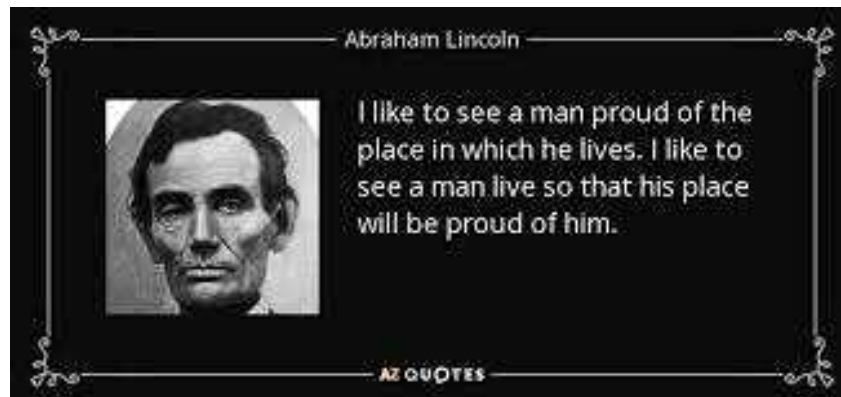
“Have you come to plunder? Have you gathered your hordes to loot?”

Ezekiel 38:13

Many nations, especially of Arab ancestry and Muslim faith are militantly opposed to Israel. They would leap at an opportunity to take everything Israel owns and destroy them completely. Their hatred would certainly bring about wholesale acts of torture and aggression if allowed.

D. To Restore a Pride of Power

Due to the former defeats in previous battles there will be a damage to the pride of the surrounding nations. There is no logical answer for why Israel exists as the nation today outside of God’s protective hand. Most nations are at odds against the tiny nation of Israel.



VI. WHY WILL IT HAPPEN? (Contd.)

E. So that God may be Glorified

“And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations.”

Ezekiel 38:23

“I will make known my holy name among my people Israel, I will no longer let my holy name be profaned and the nations will know that I am the LORD and the Holy One of Israel.”

Ezekiel 39:7

“ I will display my glory among the nations.”

Ezekiel 39:21

God’s glory will be made evident to both the nation of Israel and also the nations of the world. Therefore, all of this must come to pass as it is written. No one knows of the exact date or time, but there is clear evidence that the time is too short to take lightly what God’s word states in Prophecy. Are you ready?

C:\WPWin(2021)\Sermons.22\End Times\Ezekiel 38.39.wpd

Date: July 10/22

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30Am

Song: This Kingdom - D

ISRAEL IN PROPHECY

Text: Ezekiel 38, 39

Key Word: Prophecy

Key Thought: Israel is Foremost Involved in End-time Prophecies!

“The only to have Arab power in the Middle East is for another all-out-war against Israel.”

Yasser Arafat

What Can We Expect to Take Place Because of End-time Prophecies?

I. WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?

II. WHAT WILL HAPPEN? - *Ezekiel 38:7 – 9*

III. WHERE WILL IT HAPPEN? - *Ezekiel 38:8, 11, 18, 12, 16; 39:2*

North – Ezekiel 38:15

South – Ezekiel 38:5

East – Ezekiel 39:11

West – Ezekiel 38:5

IV. WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN? - *Ezekiel 38:8, 17, 14, 8, 11*

VI. WHY WILL IT HAPPEN?

A. Evil Thoughts - *Ezekiel 38:10*

B. To Take a Spoil

1. Livestock (Ezekiel 38:12)

2. Silver and Gold (Ezekiel 38:13)

C. To Take a Prey - *Ezekiel 38:13*

D. To Restore a Pride of Power

E. So that God may be Glorified - *Ezekiel 38:23; 39:7; 39:21*