

THE SPECIFIC PROPHECY OF “THE GOG AND MAGOG WAR” IN EZEKIEL 38 AND 39 DOES NOT OCCUR BEFORE THE MILLENNIUM

A Study Illuminated by Understanding the Southern and Northern Kingdoms after King Solomon -- Identifying Some of Israel’s “Lost Tribes” Today

INTRODUCTION

There is much confusion about the timing of the so-called “Gog and Magog War” of Ezekiel 38 and 39, which involves various nations attacking Israel from the north, nearby, and from northeast Africa.

Probably the most-oft proclaimed explanations are that this war could happen anytime now – before, or else during, the tribulation.

This study contends that a careful reading of the context of Ezekiel 34 through 39 (and even looking at chapters 40 and thereafter) proves the title of this post to be true.

The reader is first urged, and helped, to remember what happened to that special kingdom God built under David and then Solomon, starting with Solomon’s son, King Rehoboam.

And secondly, it is most helpful to understand more about how Israel was declared by the United Nations in 1948 to be a sovereign nation.

EZEKIEL 38 AND 39 DESCRIBE WAR AGAINST AN ISRAEL THAT DOES NOT YET EXIST!

Ezekiel 34 and 36 (and other scriptures) include verses explaining what Israel will be like when the events of chapters 38 and 39 occur.

Following are some of the important verses in terms of the theme of this study.

(NOTE: No claim is made that ALL of the appropriate verses are included here. And MANY verses from Ezekiel 34-39 are NOT listed in this study. However, the reader is asked to read those chapters to see that this author is diligently trying to make some points but in no way trying to leave out what might be considered evidence contrary to the points being made! (As a sometimes-teacher of the Word, I have some experience in, and also a FEAR about, summarizing while NOT misrepresenting the intent of God’s Scriptures!))

After first expressing His strong displeasure with [most] shepherds over His flock, God begins to address His wonderful plans for those who have been wholeheartedly serving Him (**emphasis mine; all verses herein from the KJV**):

Ezekiel 34:11-14

11 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

12 As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of **all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.**

13 And I will bring them out from the people, and **gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel** by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

14 I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel.

And verses 22-28:

Ezekiel 34:22-28

22 Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle.

23 And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.

24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it.

25 And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.

26 And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; **there shall be showers of blessing.**

27 And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and **they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.**

28 And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but **they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid.**

Let's look also at some verses in Chapter 36:

Ezekiel 36:6-10; 16-28; 32-36

6 Prophecy therefore concerning **the land of Israel**, and say unto the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I have spoken in my jealousy and in my fury, because **ye have borne the shame of the heathen:**

7 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I have lifted up mine hand, Surely **the heathen that are about you, they shall bear their shame.**

8 But ye, **O mountains of Israel**, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to **my people of Israel**; for they are at hand to come.

9 For, behold, **I am for you**, and I will turn unto you, **and ye shall be tilled and sown:**

10 And I will multiply men upon you, **all the house of Israel, even all of it:** and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded:

16 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

17 Son of man, **when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it** by their own way and by their doings: their way was before me as the uncleanness of a removed woman.

18 Wherefore I poured my fury upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the land, and for their idols wherewith they had polluted it:

19 And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them.

20 And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, These are the people of the LORD, and are gone forth out of his land.

21 But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went.

22 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went.

23 And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

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.

...

32 Not for your sakes do I this, saith the Lord GOD, be it known unto you: be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel.

33 Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities **I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded.**

34 And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by.

35 And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.

36 Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.

Notice in Ezekiel 36:10 that God says “all the house of Israel, even all of it” will dwell in the land.

Which land? The land God “gave to your fathers” (36:28) – that is, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel). And that is the land they had previously defiled by their sins so that God scattered them among the heathen (in captivity).

However, for God's Name's sake (because the heathen had seen the Israelites blaspheme Him), God worked to bring Israel back to the land in ways that would show the gentiles (that is, non-Israelite nations) that HE is Almighty and in control!

Notice that DAVID will be king over Israel at that time (leading up to chapters 38 and 39), and God will be their God – with a NEW SPIRIT in them! That is, the NEW COVENANT applies to these people as we approach chapters 38 and 39!

WHAT IS MEANT BY “ALL THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL”?

Most in the USA and other nations today tend to think of the Jews when “Israel” is mentioned.

Yes, the Jews are Israelites – but they are NOT THE ONLY ISRAELITES!

Remember that Abraham begat Isaac, who begat Jacob. And God later changed Jacob's name to “Israel”. Over time, Israel had one daughter and twelve sons – of whom Judah was one. From Genesis onward the “Old Testament” primarily traces the history of the tribes of Israel, and the nations with whom Israel had to do.

David, a Jew (and a man after God's own heart – Acts 13:22) was chosen by God to be the second king in Israel, after Saul had failed. The Jews were rightly pleased to have David as their king, but the other tribes of Israel protested that THEY also were very much behind David - and he truly became the beloved king of ALL the tribes of Israel!

Solomon, a son of David, was the next king, and God used him to make Israel a beautiful, blessed kingdom that had the admiration of all other nations who knew about him and Israel! But Solomon turned from God. And his son Rehoboam, who became the next king decided (foolishly and against the advice of his oldest and wisest counselors) to put heavy taxes upon the people. So the “northern tribes” in the land, who were not Jews, decided to follow Jeroboam and rebel (as see 1Kings 12:16). Thus most of the non-Jews in Israel broke away, under Jeroboam, and had their own kings over the next few hundred years. And NONE of those Northern Kingdom kings was righteous before God, nor most of their people, so they went into captivity under the Assyrians for their sinful disobedience.

The Southern Kingdom also had a line of kings after Rehoboam. They (the Jews, but also some non-Jewish Israelites, including from Benjamin and Levi) tended to be more righteous, at least at first, and had several good kings and periods of “revival”. Eventually, their sins also became so heavy that God finally used Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon to destroy the temple in Jerusalem and, over time, carry most of the Jews into captivity.

Starting 70 years later, the Jews returned to Jerusalem and surrounding areas, in the time of Ezra and Nehemiah. They had their problems but were in the land for Jesus the Christ to be born and live there, and thus the “New Testament” Church began in that famous Day of Pentecost in Jerusalem.

The Northern Kingdom (which the Bible often refers to as “the house of Israel” and later the Southern Kingdom (originally known as “the house of David”, and later – after the split into two kingdoms – often referred to as “the house of Judah”), were taken into captivity by the will and working of God through rulers of gentile nations, because of their sins..

Jews had been found in many nations all around the world, well before and long after some of them went into, and later returned, from captivity to Jerusalem in the time of Ezra and Nehemiah.

There was no such return to their land of the tribes who composed the Northern Kingdom before Assyria carried them captive. What happened to them is not commonly known today, but the knowledge does exist. Of course God knew what would happen, and He knew all along that there would come a time (yet future even today!) that they would be reunited as ONE kingdom. (See verses above in Ezekiel 34 and 36, and also, for example, Jeremiah 3:18 and Isaiah 11:11-15.)

You probably have heard the phrase “the lost ten tribes of Israel”. The Bible speaks of them, though not in that exact phrase. (I believe James 1:1 applies here: Because although the author, a half-brother to Jesus, knew many Jews and Benjamites were still living in and near Jerusalem when he wrote this book, he also knew that most Israelites were “scattered” around the world. Also note that the Apostle Paul referred to himself as “a Jew” [Acts 21:39], but also stated in Romans 11:1 that he was “of the tribe of Benjamin”).

When I attended a small Bible college decades ago, we were taught that “the lost tribes” of Israel could be traced in various ways through history, through parts of Asia and Europe and on other continents. In fact, more than a few prophecies, as far back as Genesis, were shown to apply to these peoples in recent times – especially over the last few hundred years.

There are other, more recent, references that show – and I will say, **PROVE** – we can know where many of the tribal/national descendants of those “lost tribes of Israel” are today!

One such reference is:

The
"Lost" Ten Tribes of Israel...Found! By Steven M. Collins. The book was copyrighted in 1992 by the author; I have a copy of the FIRST REVISED EDITION, COPYRIGHT 1995 by STEVEN M. COLLINS.

NOTE: A few copies are available on Amazon but are expensive (mostly near or over \$200 each), except the Kindle edition was listed for \$12.99. The book can be read at goodreads.com.

More recently, within the last ten years, a Spirit-filled Christian named Rachel Baxter was led by Jesus to research and write a book on this subject:

The Revelation of Israel: God's Plan is Our Destiny This 2022 paperback book was listed at Amazon for \$19.99. I have a copy of it as well.

For sake of brevity here, let us close this section mostly by explaining that England and Great Britain were world powers in the 1800's and 1900's because so many people there were descendants of Israel, and God blessed them for His purposes:

Genesis 46:19 The sons of Rachel Jacob's wife; Joseph, and Benjamin.

Numbers 26:28 The sons of Joseph after their families were Manasseh and Ephraim.

In the hundreds of years following their captivity in Assyria, many of the Israelites from the Northern Kingdom (which the Bible indicates were led by the Ephraimites) migrated to Parthia, then to Armenia, and then to Eastern Europe. From there (and/or much earlier from Assyria), Israelite tribes settled in what became France, England, Germany, and Scandinavia.

When England rose to power, descendants of Ephraim were a key part of its population, and as it colonized places around the world, so many Israelites once again moved to those places (including Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and what became the United States.

Rachel Baxter, who is from the USA, says in her book referenced above that she was told she is of the Tribe of Manasseh.

Reuben is often understood as the predominant tribe of Israel in France.

Notice some of the promises God gave Abraham after he proved he was willing to sacrifice his only (God-ordained) son, Isaac:

Genesis 22:16-18

16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying **I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven**, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and **thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies**;

18 And **in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.**

I have heard it explained that first, for awhile, Britain and then the United States (until recently) “possessed the gate(s)” of their enemies – and it seems very much to have been the case! For while those nations descended from Abraham AND Jacob/Israel were significantly involved in living and teaching the true Gospel ... they had control over such places as Gibraltar, the Suez Canal, the Panama Canal, the Cape of Good Hope, the Philippines, India and Ceylon, and the Falkland Islands.

EZEKIEL 37 ABSOLUTELY TELLS OF THE FUTURE UNITING OF THE “TWO KINGDOMS”

After David and Solomon, the Southern and Northern kingdoms often were hostile to each other. More proof that the Gog and Magog war does not occur until after the tribulation is shown in Ezekiel 37.

The first half of the chapter tells the vision of the dry bones. We will pick up the story after that:

Ezekiel 37:15-28

15 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,

16 Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim and for all the house of Israel his companions:

17 And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.

18 And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these?

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.

20 And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes.

21 And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land:

22 And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all.

23 Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwellingplaces, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God.

24 And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.

25 And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever.

26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

27 My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

28 And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore.

PRAISE GOD! How much plainer could that be? --That HAS NOT HAPPENED YET AND WILL NOT UNTIL AFTER CHRIST RETURNS TO RULE THE EARTH!

VERSES ABOUT THE LORD'S SECOND COMING

When "The second coming of Christ" is mentioned, it is appropriate to think of His FIRST COMING as a baby, born of virgin Mary. The "Second Coming" is when HIS FEET STAND ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES (Zechariah 14:4), after His TOTAL VICTORY (Revelation 19). BEFORE THAT, He will APPEAR IN THE CLOUDS and IN GLORY that all will see, to catch away His faithful. But He will not STAND on the earth.

Revelation 19:11-21

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

Zechariah 14:1-4 and 9-11

1 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.

2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

...

9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

10 All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses.

11 And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

KEY VERSES FROM EZEKIEL 38 AND 39 ALSO “SEAL THE DEAL” ON TIMING OF THE WAR

Notice the following verses. They fit perfectly as a continuation from (same context as) what we have already seen in this study:

Ezekiel 38:1-8

1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

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

3 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:

4 And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:

5 Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet:

6 Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee.

7 Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them.

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.**

Remember the two sticks we have just read about: They – all Israel – are NOW reunited for the first time, when this war commences. (And of course, it should not go unmentioned that under the NEW COVENANT – which did not exist when Ezekiel wrote – “gentiles” FROM ALL NATIONS have also been chosen by God and GRAFTED INTO tribes of Israel for God’s ultimate purpose as “The Israel of God”!)

Ezekiel 38:9-13

9 Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee.

10 Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and **thou shalt think an evil thought:**

11 And thou shalt say, **I will go up to the land of unwallled 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,**

12 **To take a spoil, and to take a prey;** to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.

13 Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?

This is certainly not describing the “nation of Israel” of today!

Here is just one example: Bethlehem is famously surrounded by a huge wall ... so HOW could Israel at present be called a place of “unwalled villages”? (And the wall at Bethlehem extends miles beyond that village, and there are other walls in Israel as well.)

Ezekiel 38:14-23

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.**

19 For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, **Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;**

20 So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.

21 And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord GOD: **every man's sword shall be against his brother.**

22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, **an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.**

23 Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD.

Chapter 39 continues the account:

Ezekiel 39:1-

1 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:**

2 And **I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee**, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel:

3 And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand.

4 **Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured.**

5 Thou shalt fall upon the open field: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD.

6 And **I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the LORD.**

7 So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

8 Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the Lord GOD; this is the day whereof I have spoken.

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:**

10 So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD.

11 And it shall come to pass **in that day**, that **I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel**, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamongog.

12 And **seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them**, that they may cleanse the land.

13 Yea, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown the day that **I shall be glorified, saith the Lord GOD.**

14 And **they shall sever out men of continual employment**, passing through the land **to bury** with the passengers those that remain upon the face of the earth, to cleanse it: after the end of seven months shall they search.

15 And **the passengers that pass through the land, when any seeth a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the valley of Hamongog.**

16 And also the name of the city shall be Hamonah. **Thus shall they cleanse the land.**

17 And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood.

18 Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan.

19 And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you.

20 Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD.

21 And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them.

22 So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward.

23 And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: because they trespassed against me, therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies: so fell they all by the sword.

24 According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions have I done unto them, and hid my face from them.

25 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name;

26 After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid.

27 When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations;

28 Then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.

29 Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

SO WHAT HAPPENED IN 1948?

Numerous history sources state that the current nation we know as “Israel” was founded in 1948, based on action by the United Nations. That land had been administered by the British for decades and was being promoted for independence as a sovereign nation by what is commonly called the Zionist movement.

NONE of the population in that area was happy with what the UN sponsored and declared, nor with what happened immediately after “independence” and through the decades since. There were “Jews” and “Palestinians” there, and both claimed THEY should be the rightful heirs to all that land: The “Palestinians” based on many hundreds of years of living there, and the “Jews” based on the promises made to Abraham thousands of years earlier that God had given the land to Abraham’s descendants.

To try to appease “both sides”, the UN and many leaders since have tried to institute a “two state solution”: that is, a plan to split the land in two.

Various wars have been fought there in and since 1948 between “Israel” and neighbors. Various attempts at peace treaties and border/land changes have been made. Still, as evident in recent events, there is NO PEACE. (There are true Jews, descended from Jacob’s son Judah, in the land and others, including leaders, who are not. There are also true Christians from all other major people groups now living in the land.)

Several things about all this can be stated with confidence, though the reader should prayerfully seek more truth on these and related matters:

- The Zionists are not the God-ordained heirs to the land (but rather a nationalist [political and military] movement perhaps officially started in 1897 and which morphed into various activities, and grew especially after Hitler's attempt to wipe out the Jews through his "Final Solution").
- The "synagogue of Satan" is involved (as mentioned in Revelation 2:9 and 3:9).
- The "Palestinians" include both peace-seeking and terrorist individuals and groups.
- The Zionists and their supporters are trying to make the current nation LOOK LIKE God's nation, and they are TRYING TO MAKE BIBLE PROPHECIES OCCUR (or at least to LOOK LIKE they have occurred!) SO THEY WOULD HAVE FURTHER "EVIDENCE" TO POINT TO AS "PROOF" OF THEIR LEGITIMACY AND TO FURTHER THE AGENDA OF A ONE WORLD BEAST SYSTEM.
- A "two-state solution" IS coming, but it is NOT OF GOD and will result in CALAMITY upon the USA.

For more information and understanding, see some of William Brooks' writings at eyesupandopen.org. (God has been clear that the hatred of Esau against Jacob has continued over the millennia since those two twins were born!)

WHAT ABOUT PSALM 83?

I do not presently have a definitive answer! It might refer to plans of surrounding gentile nations against Israel in the time of David. It might be a prophecy about the plans behind the Ezekiel 38 and 39 war. It might refer to other hatred of and plans against Israel, at another time.

SOME "FINAL THOUGHTS" (FOR NOW!)

The details in Ezekiel 38 and 39, with those in the relevant preceding chapters, prove that the war described occurs after the Tribulation. However, we have seen elsewhere that "history repeats itself" (or as someone said, it at least "mirrors itself"). God says there is nothing new under the sun. He causes patterns to recur. So, it is possible that a similar attack against Israel MIGHT occur at some point. AND it DOES seem likely that the Satan-led attack against Israel mentioned in Revelation 20:7-9 (at the end of the millennium) might be very similar!

A large part of the reason this post was prepared is to say that Christ could indeed APPEAR at any time now; it is FOLLY to say something like: "No; that CAN'T be, because the Gog and Magog War has not yet happened!" The reader is referred to the many, very important, messages given to William Brooks, which can be seen at eyesupandopen.org.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY! For HIS IS THE KINGDOM, THE POWER, AND THE GLORY FOREVER! AMEN! And HE LONGS THAT WE CHOOSE TO EXPERIENCE A PART IN IT!

