

THE COMING GREAT INVASION OF ISRAEL

Israel is 76 years YOUNG today! On May 14, 1948 Israel was once again constituted as a nation after being out of the land for almost 2000 years. This is unique in the history of the world. No other nation can claim such a thing! It is a GOD THING! It is a prophecy thing – a fulfilled prophecy thing!

And INSTANTLY when Israel became a nation they were attacked by surrounding Arab nations that had the goal of driving Israel into the sea and totally destroying her. But alas God had other plans! God has brought Israel back to the land and reestablished her as a nation. And this is not the end of the story.

In Ezekiel 38-39 the Bible predicts a “latter days” (v. 38:8, 16) war involving an overwhelming invasion of the land of Israel that has been restored from the nations. Israel is back in the land of promise and the formation of this prophesied enemy coalition seems to be coming together even now.

The “players” in this war against Israel are led by a person called “Gog”. Gog is not a proper name, but rather a title like “Pharaoh” or “Czar”. He is described as a political leader, a military leader, and a coalition builder. The title “Gog” appears 11 times in Ezekiel 38-39 and literally means “*high*” or “*supreme*”. He is the main leader that heads up this great Last Day’s coalition that comes against Israel.

Ezekiel 38:1-6 spells out in some detail those nations (areas) which will be involved. Scholars are not in absolute agreement on the identity of all these places; but in general, this reflects what most in the dispensational camp think is in view.

The Players:

Gog – leader from the “far north” of Israel, corresponding to modern-day Russia which is farthest north of Israel in land mass (cf. Ezek. 38:15, 39:2).

The Makeup of the Coalition:

- **Magog** (cf. Ezek. 38:2) = Central Asia (The “-stan” countries, making up the former Soviet Union.)
- **Meshech** (cf. Ezek. 38:2) = Turkey
- **Tubal** (cf. Ezek. 38:2) = Turkey
- **Persia** (cf. Ezek. 38:5) = Iran
- **Cush** (cf. Ezek. 38:5) = Sudan/Ethiopia
- **Libya** (cf. Ezek. 38:5)

- **Gomer** (cf. Ezek. 38:6) = Turkey
- **Beth-Togarmah** (cf. Ezek. 38:6) = Turkey

Russia, Turkey, and Iran are growing increasingly “tight” with a common thread of being anti-Israel. We see this formation developing right before our eyes!

The Motive for Gog’s Invasion of Israel:

Ezekiel 38:10 (NKJV)

10 ‘Thus says the Lord God: “On that day it shall come to pass that thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will make an **evil plan**:

Ezekiel 38:12 (NKJV)

12 to **take plunder** and to **take booty**, to stretch out your hand against the waste places that are again inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land.

In recent years MASSIVE amounts of oil have been discovered in the Golan Heights of Israel. It is claimed that this could potentially make Israel energy independent for the foreseeable future. Add to this the discovery of MASSIVE amounts of natural gas off Israel's Mediterranean coast. These discoveries are NOTEWORTHY in view of Gog’s stated “***evil***” motives to invade Israel for plunder and booty.

Until recently, it did not seem like there was really that much to PLUNDER in Israel. But the motivation of Gog and company for their invasion of Israel, as stated in Ezek. 38:12-13, is clearly TO TAKE stuff. It is amazing that in spite of all the adversity, how Israel is thriving.

Gog and company come "to take plunder", "to take booty", "to carry away silver and gold", "to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder". And perhaps part of that intended “plunder” will be the HUGE deposits of recently discovered natural gas and oil. These discoveries may well fuel Israel’s Last Day’s economic success and become the envy of the world.

Gog and company come to “take plunder and to take booty” but the God of Israel will be waiting for them. And it is a “HOME GAME” for God. This is His turf! He is going to smash them! They would be wise to read the Scriptures and take a warning from God to stay home! But alas the FOLLY of depravity is to NOT LISTEN to God and the consequences always prove DEADLY!

Ezekiel 38:22–23 (NKJV)

22 And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

23 Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.” ’

“LORD” here is literally “YHWH” – the covenant God of Israel!