

## ISRAEL DWELLING SAFELY??

### *Gog and Magog in the Context of Ezekiel*

Chapters 33-39 – Subject: Israel’s End Time Restoration

- Chapter 37 – Israel back in the land in UNBELIEF
- Chapter 38-39 – Gog & Magog - in the “latter years”**
- Chapter 40 – Millennial Temple/Kingdom

Thematically, the war of Gog and Magog takes place somewhere between Israel’s end time restoration to the land and the Kingdom Age. Ezekiel 38-39 is a unit. It plays a vital part in revealing the process of Israel’s Last Days’ restoration. And thematically, it connects closely to the events that will usher in the Messianic Kingdom.

Ezekiel 38 makes the case STRONG that the war of Gog and Magog takes place at a time when Israel is “dwelling safely”.

- Ezek. 38:8 – **“Dwell Safely”**
- Ezek. 38:11 – **“Dwell Safely”**
- Ezek. 38:14 – **“Dwell Safely”**

According to Ezek. 38:11, this war will happen at a time when Israel is dwelling without walls, having neither gates nor bars. Gates and bars are “defensive” measures. This in effect describes a time when Israel will have laid down her defenses. Her military defense will not be up. Israel will be living an unarmed, peaceful lifestyle. Therefore, she will be unsuspecting and vulnerable.

Prophetically, there is only ONE time between now and the Second Coming when Israel will temporarily (very temporarily) be dwelling safely. Daniel 9:26 points out that the entire GAP period between the 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> weeks of Daniel will be characterized as a time of WAR desolations for the land of Israel. What finally breaks this perpetual cycle of war desolations is the SIGNING of the 7-year covenant with Antichrist as indicated in Daniel 9:27.

The clear implication is that the war of Gog and Magog takes place after Israel has signed a 7-year COVENANT with Antichrist and is therefore dwelling safely. Israel at this time will put their trust in Antichrist to be their protector. But this will prove to be a “covenant with death” (Isa. 28:15) and Antichrist will prove to be a foolish/worthless shepherd (Zech. 11:15-17).

Even though Last Days' signs are not directed to the Church, there may well be a foreshadowing of things which will transpire and come to fruition soon after the Church is gone. A clear example would be the fact that Israel is even now back in the land, as prophesied in conjunction with the Last Days prophecy. This reality of Israel back in the land has to be in place in order for last days prophecy to be fulfilled.

Similarly, we see the budding development of a Gog-like coalition (notably Russia and Iran) in our day that in many ways seemingly aligns with what Ezekiel predicted for the last days in chapters 38 and 39. This may well be a "stage setting reality" for the Last Days' finale.

Israel at the moment is desperate for PEACE and SAFETY! In the wings of history is "The man with the plan" – a 7-year peace plan (cf. Dan. 9:27). When he comes out of the shadows and on the scene, he will come as a man of PEACE promising safety to Israel (cf. Rev. 6:1-2). Then the cry will be "Peace and safety" (1 Thess. 5:3), but it will be very short lived as the time of "Jacob's trouble" will ensue (Jer. 30:7).

**LIVE READY!**