

destruction of Satan and his armies. Notice the similarities with Revelation 20:

- Both armies are vast and cover the earth (Ezekiel 38:9, 15, 16).
- Both go out to destroy God's people (Ezekiel 38:10-12)
- Both are destroyed by fire and brimstone (Ezekiel 38:22).
- Both are destroyed at a time of final judgment "in the latter days" (Ezekiel 38:16) and both describe plagues (Eze. 38:19, 22)

Revelation 20:8 clearly identifies "Gog and Magog" as "the nations which are in the four corners of the earth"—in other words, everyone who follows Satan and war against God and His people in the latter days, at the end of time. This is simply a symbol of all the wicked and their leader.

8. What does this mean for us today? – Romans 2:5-11

In both Ezekiel's prophecies and John's description of the end of sin, Gog and Magog are symbols of the forces of Satan opposed to God and His people. They picture a battle and war between good and evil, sin and righteousness, God and Satan and that is the main point, in regard to Gog and Magog, based on what the Bible says.

9. What's the point? – Jeremiah 18:7-10, 6:15

In the Bible, God wants to warn us of the terrible results of sin. He wants us to know that righteousness will triumph in the end. The enemies of God will be destroyed, and sin will be ended forever. God is asking us to live each day in such a way that we are in "the camp of the saints" and not in the camp of Gog and Magog. We must also remember that the prophecies for Old Testament Israel was based on condition of obedience. Jesus Himself told us this no longer applies to literal Israel but rather, Spiritual, the Christian Church (Matthew 21:43). Thus, even the promised restoration of Israel (Eze. 39:21-29) has been forfeited by Israel. God now looks for a complete restoration of His people and the Return of Jesus Christ and its completion at the final annihilation of sin.

10. What can I do to ensure my place with God?

Mt. 10:22, Luke 8:12, Acts 2:21, Revelation 21:24

One day people will be fed up with deception and turn on those who misled them (Eze. 38:21). The most detestable person in outside New Jerusalem on that day will not be the Hitler's. It will be those who knew the Truth yet did not act on it. Would you like to be saved and walk in God's light?

GOG, MAGOG, & RUSSIA

Scripture Reading:

Revelation 20:7-8: ⁷Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number *is* as the sand of the sea.

Opening Hymn – #596 – Look for the Waymarks

Closing Hymn – #213 – Jesus is Coming Again

Gem of Light:

As Gog was to be utterly discomfited and men were to acknowledge the superiority of the God of heaven, so, as the controversy nears its climax, the carefully laid schemes of the great deceiver will be totally unmasked, and Satan will be unveiled in the weakness and falsity of his claims. Demons and men will be led to acknowledge that there is but One who is Supreme, and that all His dealings in the great controversy have been conducted with respect to the eternal good of His people and the universe at large. {**The Great Controversy P. 671**}

INTRO:

On Feb. 24, 2022 Russia began a military invasion of Ukraine. Since then many have wondered where this fits in with Bible Prophecy. There are many ideas how/if this relates to the war of Gog and Magog.

-Some have seen **the French invasion of Russia** under Napoleon as the war of Gog and Magog according to some Hasidic Rabbis.

-During **the Cold War**, Soviet Russia was seen as Gog according to Ezekiel's "prince of Meshek" (rosh meshke in Hebrew). Some **post-Cold War millenarians** still identify Gog with Russia.

- President George W. Bush, in the prelude to the 2003 Invasion of Iraq, told French President Jacques Chirac, "Gog and Magog are at work in the Middle East... This confrontation is willed by God, who wants to use this conflict to erase His people's enemies before a new age begins." This is said of the Islamic nations but is an unconfirmed report.

1. What is happening with Gog & Magog? – Rev. 20:7-8

Let's begin by unpacking the content of this passage:

- Deals with the close of the millennium
- Satan, the great deceiver, returns from unemployment
- This involves the whole world (four corners, points on a compass)
- Key players are Satan, Gog, Magog, and the innumerable wicked
- Who is this Gog & Magog?

2. History of Gog and Magog – Gen. 10:1-2, 1 Chron 1:5, 5:4

*Genesis 10, 1 Chronicles 1:5 – Noah had a grandson named **Magog**, son of Japheth.

-**Gog's name appears in** 1 Chronicles 5:4 in a detailed genealogy of Jacob's sons—the forefathers of the twelve tribes of Israel.

-Now Jacob and his twelve sons lived a long time after the flood—centuries later, in fact (see Genesis 11). So, Gog, a descendant of Reuben, would have been born even later. Therefore, Gog could not have been living at the same time as Noah's grandson, Magog; they were separated by hundreds of years. So how did the two become linked in our minds—and in other Bible verses?

3. Where is the bulk of Gog and Magog's story? - Eze.38, 39

Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 have spawned many interpretations of Bible prophecy... not all are good and accurate. Let us dissect the passages.

4. How is this related to the Exile? – Ezekiel 39:23-25

Ezekiel lived during the time the Jews were carried captive to Babylon. He told his fellow Jewish captives that their exile in Babylon was God's punishment for turning away from Him. But he assured them God would restore them when they repented and followed Him faithfully. He prophesied that Gog and his armies would attack a restored Israel, but that God would destroy Gog and preserve His people. Who was Ezekiel talking about—this "Gog of the land of Magog"?

5. Are these names or places? – Ezekiel 38:2

The Babylonian exile, during which Ezekiel lived and prophesied, took place later—much, much later—than either Noah's grandson, Magog, or Reuben's descendant, Gog. So, Ezekiel's prophecies could not be referring to the actual persons mentioned in Genesis and 1 Chronicles.

-In fact, a close look at the two verses in Ezekiel 38 and 39 that mention Magog suggests that they may not be referring to a person at all—but to a place or a nation. Ezekiel 38:2 refers to "the land of Magog," and Ezekiel 39:6 says that God "will send fire on Magog and on those who live in security in the coastlands."

-There is no historical record of a war or Israel being attacked by the forces of a ruler named "Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal" (Ezekiel 38:2). But whoever or whatever Ezekiel may have been talking about, it's clear that he is talking about a force that was opposed to God and His people—an enemy who would fight against Israel only to be destroyed, by God. And that's what we also find in the last book of the Bible that mentions God and Magog.

* One interesting point to note is that neither Ezekiel 38-39 nor Revelation 20 mentions a war or battle at Armageddon or Megiddo.

6. Who are Gog and Magog NOT? – Ezekiel 38:2

Some ascribe Gog as the Prince of Rosh and interpret it as Russia. Similarly, some say Meshech is Moscow and Tubal is Tobolsk. To make a long study short this is largely based on the similarity of sounds and not much else. To say that this represents Russia and its cities is without a Thus Saith the Lord.

7. Are there similarities in Ezekiel and Revelation?

The apostle John, who wrote Revelation, had Ezekiel's description of God's judgments on Gog and his armies in mind when he described the final