

Ezekiel 38 and 39

Read Ezekiel 38:1-9: This is the account of what is called the *Magog Invasion*. A massive army from the north will attack Israel. If you think about any attack on God's people; it always only blesses them. The persecution of the church got people to scatter and spread the gospel around the globe. In this case; it involves a massive attack against Israel.

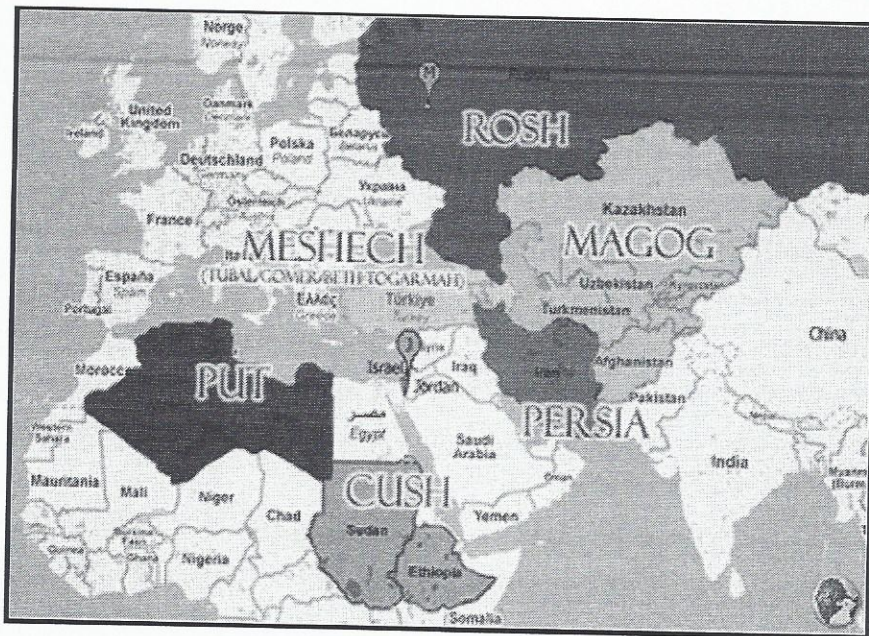
Let's begin by identifying the participants. We have to go all the way back to the flood to find these ancestral family names of areas settled in the world; that became nations. Noah had 3 sons. Magog invasion has to do with people groups who descended from Noah's son Japheth (the Gentiles).

Now the sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And Ham was the father of Canaan. 19 These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was populated. (Genesis 9:18-19)

Here are Japheth's descendants; who created their own countries. We find our main players in this story here.

The sons of Japheth were Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras. 3 The sons of Gomer were Ashkenaz, [a]Riphath, and Togarmah. 4 The sons of Javan were Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and [b]Dodanim. 5 From these the coastland peoples of the Gentiles were separated into their lands, everyone according to his language, according to their families, into their nations. (Genesis 10:2-5)

A Soviet -led coalition will secure added help from Turkey, Iran and some African nations to attack Israel.



Here is the invading force:

Gog-the prince of Russia (perhaps Putin)

Rosh and Tubolsk (Russia)

Magog (southern old Soviet Union)

Togarmah and Gomer (Turkey)

Persia (Iran)

Ethiopia and Cush (northern Sudan and Ethiopia)

Libya (Libya)

The leader of Russia will bring a confederation including the countries shown above against Israel. We have seen the Soviet Union broken up. Recently Vladimir Putin has decided to reclaim the old soviet union again. He is currently attacking Ukraine to re-annex it. The US shut down of the Keystone pipeline drove up energy prices; and removed America as an exporter of oil; and provided incentive for Putin to control the oil fields in the former Soviet nations. Putin claims to be re-claiming the old Soviet nations who did not become legitimate independent nations. These re-calimed nations produce oil, and they provide oil pipeline continuity.



The motivation to invade Ukraine could hinge on the fate of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline that would double the volume of natural gas Russia's state-owned Gazprom can ship to Germany. Previous U.S. administrations deemed the pipeline a national-security threat, since it would increase European dependence on Russian gas and reduce transit fees that Russia pays to Poland and Ukraine to transport gas on existing pipelines that cross their territories.

Israel just became a competitor against Russia in natural gas, for the first time. Recent discoveries of offshore natural gas reserves have transformed Israel from being a net importer to a self-sufficient and an exporter of natural gas. While these offshore discoveries offer many advantages to Israel, they also present new challenges. Israel must find markets to export the surplus gas to, while cheap gas is already flooding the market from the U.S., Australia, and Russia.

Israel has been a lightning rod among nations since its beginning. Israel has avowed enemies in this evil coalition. Iran will be an allied participant in the Magog invasion.

Relations between Israel and Iran further deteriorated after Iran deployed 1,000 Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) troops to the Beqaa Valley in 1982 in response to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The IRGC provided military training to Shi'ite Lebanese militias and was the driving force behind the formation of Hezbollah. In 1992 members of Hezbollah bombed the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires and in 1994 exploded a car bomb at the AMIA Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, killing 85 and wounding 300. Former Iranian president Ayatollah Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, current Defense Minister Ahmad Vahidi, and former Commander of the IRGC Mohsen Rezaei have all been implicated in the AMIA bombing and are still wanted by Argentina's authorities. The Islamic Republic's economic, diplomatic, and military support for Lebanese Hezbollah continues to be a serious point of contention between Iran and Israel. Speaking to Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah in 2010, Ahmadinejad warned that if Israel were to attack Hezbollah, "then [Israel's] case should be closed once and for all and the region delivered from their evil ways forever." That same year Ahmadinejad was greeted by throngs of Hezbollah supporters during a state visit to Lebanon. Iran also provides extensive military support, in the form of weapons and training, and financial support to Palestinian militants, most notably Hamas. According to one report, Iran provides Hamas with \$20 to \$30 million per year in financial support.

Iran's nuclear program has also been a major source of concern for Israel. Israel believes that the Islamic Republic intends to use its program to produce nuclear weapons and has repeatedly asserted that a nuclear-armed Iran could threaten its existence. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad confirmed Israel's anxiety when he declared in 2005 that Israel was "doomed to be wiped off the map." Israeli officials have suggested in recent years that they will undertake unilateral military action to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons if necessary. In

2010, Israel urged the U.S. and its allies to develop a credible military threat against Iran.

Iran has responded to Israel's defensive posture by further developing its long-range missile program in order to place Israeli cities within range of its systems. The head of IRGC's Aerospace Force confirmed Iran's strategy when he announced, "the range of our missiles has been designed based on American bases in the region as well as the Zionist regime." Israel's chief military intelligence officer reported in 2011 that Iran possessed the technology to develop a nuclear weapon within two years. Accordingly, Israeli concerns continue to grow.

So we have elements of the old Soviet Union, Turkey, Iran, northern Sudan and Ethiopia all joining forces to attack Israel. This seems like a lot of effort for a tiny country that is far away. Israel keeps to itself. There is a spiritual propellant here. Satan has wanted to destroy Israel all along.

These verses describe Israel as *a land that was brought back from the sword*. They were enslaved by Egypt for 430 years. Israel was captured and carried off to captivity by the Assyrians, and the Babylonians. Prior to 1948, Israel last existed as an independent nation in 606 B.C. when the first captives of Israel were taken by Nebuchadnezzar. They returned after the Babylonian invasion to re-build. Later on, they would be dominated and abused by Greece and the Romans. Israel was largely killed off and left their homeland. Israel is the only country to cease being a country for 2,000 years, and then to return again to become a nation. In fact they forgot their own language. They have been stomped out of existence over and over.

These verses describe Magog as being drawn by their greed and evil lusts to conquer and control. It is almost like Israel will be used like *alligator bait* to attract a massive force of their enemies to meet their doom. It is similar to the

story in Esther. The evil Haman made arrangements to kill all of the children of Israel worldwide. God intervened; and the Hebrews killed those worldwide who wanted to kill them. God is with Israel. It is called the apple of his eye.

For thus says the Lord of hosts: "He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches the [a]apple of His eye. 9 For surely I will shake My hand against them, and they shall become [b]spoil for their servants. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent Me. 10 "Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst," says the Lord. 11 "Many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and they shall become My people. And I will dwell in your midst. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent Me to you. 12 And the Lord will take possession of Judah as His inheritance in the Holy Land, and will again choose Jerusalem. 13 Be silent, all flesh, before the Lord, for He is aroused from His holy habitation!" (Zechariah 2:8-12)

Apparently the invasion of Israel will be massive. The current Russian military arsenal is as follows:

1.5 million troops

12,500 tanks

30,000 armored vehicles

4,000 aircraft, and

400 naval vessels

Read Ezekiel 38:10-23: The motivation will be financial. The Soviet leader will imagine an easy snatch and grab opportunity in a seemingly-weak country. Israel was a barren waste land until it was re-settled in 1948. It is now a major exporter of produce and flowers. It is a lush agricultural area. It seems too easy to Russia. Who is going to protect Israel. All of their neighbors hate them. This is actually God drawing Russia; just like he played on Pharaoh's lust for power.

The result will be an annihilation of the invading troops. Absolute confusion and mayhem will break out. This same thing happened in the Old testament, when other nations attacked Israel. God will send a massive worldwide earthquake. He will rain down rain and great hailstones and fire and brimstone. God is effectively re-introducing himself to a godless world.

Read Ezekiel 39:1-8: This will be a David vs Goliath battle between Israel and the massive Soviet-led confederation. God will intervene and turn this into a huge loss for the soviets. There will be a large earthquake, and a lot of confusion amongst the troops. The Soviets will become very confused. The Soviets will experience a slaughter; and the Soviet Union and surrounding area will experience fire and brimstone. I do not know if that is a nuclear device or a natural phenomenon. It will be like the judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah. The King James version clarifies that 5/6ths of this Soviet coalition will be wiped out!

The result of this whole event will be to clearly remind the nations of the world that God is alive and powerful and the protector of his people. It will be similar to the Red Sea wipe out of Pharaoh's army. It will be a spectacular event; that will warn the world against messing with Israel. Secondly, The Jews will have the veil removed from their eyes. They will become aware of God again. God's name will become respected and revered.

Read Ezekiel 39:9-16: It seems like men will have died somewhat intact. Their bones will be picked up and buried for 7 months. An atomic bomb would not leave any skeletons behind. People have speculated that Israel may have buried neutron bombs in the mountains for such an occasion. The effect of a neutron bomb is to wipe out the immediate area; but not harm Israel with radiation or burst.

A **neutron bomb**, officially defined as a type of **enhanced radiation weapon** (ERW), is a low-yield thermonuclear weapon designed to maximize lethal neutron radiation in the immediate vicinity of the blast while minimizing the physical power of the blast itself. The neutron release generated by a nuclear fusion reaction is intentionally allowed to escape the weapon, rather than being absorbed by its other components.^[3] The neutron burst, which is used as the primary destructive action of the warhead, is able to penetrate enemy armor more effectively than a conventional warhead, thus making it more lethal as a tactical weapon.

Read Ezekiel 39:17-29: God has brought the Jews back to Israel from all over the globe. This event will re-awaken their faith. God will remove the veil of spiritual

slumber and blindness from the Jews. It will be an awakening for them. This event could come at any time. The Soviet invasion of Ukraine may be a precursor to it.