

## Ezekiel 38

As a militaristic nation, God is against what Russia stands for. He loves its people. This is not about being a Russian citizen. It is about their hard-core leadership. Communism is a system that gives power to a few to act on behalf of the people. It does not matter if it is called Democratic socialism or State Capitalism or Marxism. The leaders get rich; and the rest barely survives. Their argument is that instead of sharing profits with employees, that capitalist business owners keep it all. It is an imaginary comparison. In reality, communist regimes have nothing left over for the working class other than minimal compensation and a poor supply of food and services. Regardless, unchecked power in any nation results in individual and national failures. Russia plays a key role in the development of the Jewish mindset and need for God.

So far, Ezekiel has taken us through a painful history of sin and the resulting defeated Jews. They have been getting killed off for thousands of years. Last week, we saw the turn around begin at the Valley of Dry Bones. The nation of Israel hit the lowest bottom. They essentially repeatedly killed themselves by rejecting life and truth. They sinned into near non-existence. After an endless series of ruined generations, God *changes the music* and inserts himself on behalf of the virtually dead and non-existent nation of Israel. He makes some changes by once again inserting himself into their lives.

*He has sent Me to <sup>[a]</sup>heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; <sup>2</sup>To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup>To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.” (Isaiah 61)*

The Jews have been repatriating their homeland since the 40's, and those numbers of *the Alaya* immigrants have increased in recent decades. In that sense alive Jews are standing on the bones of killed Jews. Even today, antisemitism is accelerating the regathering of God's people whom he dearly loves. In fact, antisemitism seems to be sprouting in the most unlikely and uninvolved places. Support for Israeli terrorists has somehow become embraced by many. It may be a necessary evil.

The net result is the beginning of a spiritual awakening and a greater number of Messianic Jews and Christian Jews today than ever before. In that sense, the Jews are receiving God's Holy Spirit unto eternal life for the first time in a big way.

That is one reason that we are repeatedly told to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. That is literally to pray for the second coming of Christ.

Now we move from the past to the future. Ezekiel 38 and 39 describe the infamous Magog Invasion. It is the horrific events where Israel's eyes become opened to who Jesus really is. It is also an opening event to make way for the time of the tribulation. The Magog Invasion could literally take place right now.

*<sup>25</sup> For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. <sup>26</sup> And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; <sup>27</sup> For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins." (Romans 11)*

**Read Ezekiel 38:1-9:** Once Israel is done currently repatriating the land, a massive invading multinational force will come in like a storm from the north. The Russia invasion of Ukraine is just a warmup. So far, the Russians have lost 790,000 soldiers to Ukraine. This may explain why Ezekiel points out that Russia will conscript all of these Muslim forces. Perhaps they are mercenaries for Russia, or perhaps it is sold as a joint Muslim action.

Let's begin by introducing who these deadly players are. Gog is the leader of Russia. Russia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Iran, Sudan and Libya are all involved. It is interesting that all of the Turkish countries, who have no direct interaction with Israel are all jumping in. Their Ottoman Empire in the Crusades included both Turks and Arabs. They were all Muslims. It is interesting that Christian's failures in the Crusades are all that are discussed. Some Jews were killed when the crusaders re-took Jerusalem. That could be described as war collateral damage. Why do we not talk about what Islam did when they tried to invade all of Europe? 30% of Christian men were slaughtered in numerous locations across Europe. Many European women were raped and taken captive. It was the worst international incident that gets almost no discussion. This is how the forces of darkness have always acted. It will happen again.

Like many scary moments in history, Satan has an idea as how to put an end to God's people and take away their assets. They think that it should be an easy mark to take. Like always, God is using Satan's hatred to ultimately accomplish good.

**Read Ezekiel 38:10-13:** God knows our thoughts and intentions and aspirations. He shares what the Czar of Russia will think, and what the more peaceable Arabs think. In the book of Job God poses a rhetorical question to Satan about Job. It is not to send Satan to attack Job. It is to reveal that this was already Satan's plan,

and God sees it. It is also used to show us how Satan speaks about facts in a way that does not disclose what is needful.

*Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. <sup>7</sup> And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." <sup>8</sup> Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?" <sup>9</sup> So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing? <sup>10</sup> Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. <sup>11</sup> But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!" <sup>12</sup> And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person." So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD. (Job 1)*

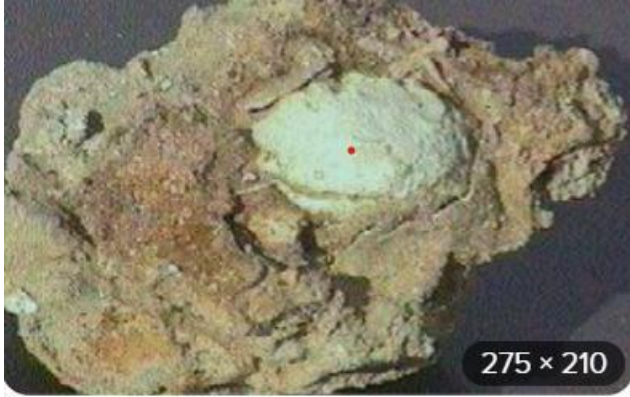
We saw previously in Ezekiel that God even knew the secret thoughts of the idolatrous priests in his temple. God has told us thousands of years before it happens, how it will play out. It is easy today to envision a Russian invasion of Israel. That was not the case when this was written.

Christians are givers and unbelievers are ultimately takers. Believers live without paranoia of attack; and that open mindedness allows evildoers to take advantage.

**Read Ezekiel 38: 14-23:** The invading Russian and Muslim coalition will be wiped out by God. He will rain down fire and brimstone, just like Sodom and Gomorrah.



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It will be a massive place of dead bodies that are unclean and need to be buried. It will take 7 months to bury the bodies.

This impressive display of God's control over the universe will turn many hearts of Israelis to God. From this day forward God will be seen and heard and understood by the Jews.