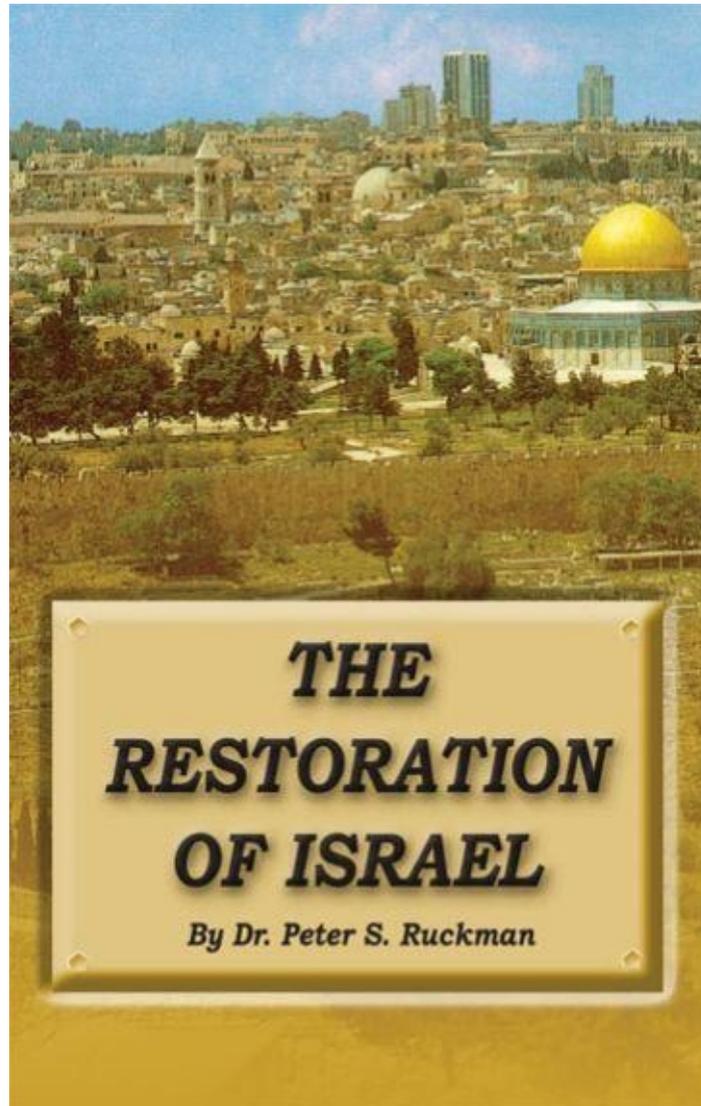




**THE  
RESTORATION  
OF ISRAEL**

*By Dr. Peter S. Ruckman*



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# The Restoration Of Israel

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# Restoration of the Jew To Palestine

Contrary to the Post-millennial teaching of the early 1900s, God's word solemnly declares (and then brings it to pass to prove His point) that He intends to restore the nation of Israel to its former estate; not only in its spiritual relationship, but in its national relationship. As early as 1900, Rev. Haddleman, pastor of the First Baptist Church of New York, and C. I. Scofield (as well as Dwight L. Moody and Spurgeon earlier) were declaring that the Jews would literally be restored to the land of Palestine. The scholars of the major universities and seminaries in their days ridiculed them. These scholars claimed that the church fulfilled the LITERAL promises to Israel, which were all intended to be "spiritualized," and therefore, God had no more dealings with the Jews as a NATION or PEOPLE. These scholars bear witness that they are the children (Matt. 23:29–31) of the same bunch that persecuted Wesley and Whitefield, and their grandchildren and children are the bunch that is raising the Neo-orthodox stench today. Their tactics never change; they all hold to the "grammatic-historico" method of interpretation which divests Scripture of its POWER and AUTHORITY (Mark 7:3–13).

But be this as it may, since World War I, God has fulfilled His promise (or at least part of it) right in front of these infidels' faces. Let us speak of the PHYSICAL restoration first, following the correct order of Scripture (1 Cor. 15:45–47).

In Ezekiel 37, we find the famous "dry bones," and in verses 1–3, we are asked, "**can these bones live?**" This is interesting because we are specifically told, in verses 11–14 and verse 22, that the "**bones**" represent "**the whole house of Israel.**" Now, you understand, they *do not* represent *the church*, neither the "True Israel" nor the "Israel of God" nor the "True Jew." They prepresent what the Bible says—"the whole house of Israel" (Ezek. 37:11).

Again, in Ezekiel 36:24, we are told that God intends to *literally* take a *literal people* from among the *literal heathen* and *literally* bring them into their own land! Nothing could be clearer. Again, Amos 9:14–15, the same theme is dealt with in detail, but this is a small part of the teaching. As a matter of fact, over 50 percent of the prophets in the Old Testament dealt with this time of restoration. No unprejudiced reader, lost or saved, could read Ezekiel 36:8–15, Zechariah 8:6–8, or Isaiah 54:6–7, without coming to the conclusion that, after a period of chastening and judgment, God is going to fully restore the Old Testament Israelite to this former state of favor. The "spiritualizing" of these promises to the Jews began with two Gentile "scholars" (I use the term for want of a better one; they were little more than *linguists*) in the earthly church—Augustine and Origen, and their successors (the modern-day Amillennialist who does not believe in a literal 1,000-year reign of Christ) are just as guilty of perverting the word of God as they were. The facts of history refute the position of the men who do not believe the book of Revelation literally.

1. In 1917, there were 25,000 Jews in Palestine; in 1932, there were 180,000; in 1945, there were 500,000; today (2002), there are over 3,000,000.

2. In 1925 (April 1), a Hebrew university was opened on the Mount of Olives.

3. Three million trees were planted before 1925; one million dollars worth of vines before 1929; twenty-two million dollars was spent for rehabilitation, terminating in the establishment of Israel, as a nation, in 1948.

4. Israel had not been an independent nation since 600 B.C.

The most ridiculous position in this world is the position of a Greek scholar who cannot read enough English to see that God has intentions of restoring Israel, literally—anyone who can read a morning newspaper would have better sense.

This is not all. God has intentions of converting the nation of Israel to Himself by SIGNS and WONDERS, exactly as He did in the days that He sent Moses into Egypt (Hosea 2:14–23, 3:4–5; Jer. 50:17–20; Rom. 11:25–29; Ezek. 20:33–36). Someone has said, “the only thing men ever learn from history is that men never learn from history.” Although God has given a blueprint of the future by telling what has happened (Ecc. 1:9), the world, at large, will miss it exactly as they missed it the first time. We are told, over and over, that some day God will quit dealing with America, Europe, Asia, and Africa, and will give the Jews their chance again.

Read these references carefully:

Romans 11:25–33; 11:1–7

Ezekiel 36:24–28

Hebrews 8:9–13

Zechariah 12:9–11

Revelation 1:7

Isaiah 49:12–23

Isaiah 60:1–22

Old Pharaoh was persecuting the Jews when deliverance came to them, and the Gentiles will be busy persecuting them when Jesus comes again (Rev. 12). All the time there will be “Christians” professing that the Bible does not mean literally what it says. There is one thing that all Catholics, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Seventh-day Adventists, Campbellites, and Reformed theologians have in common: they all deny 50 percent of the Old Testament by stealing the literal promises God gave to Israel and misapplying them to the church. There is a movement on foot today, throughout the United States, to teach Christians that the American Jew is not an Israelite but a “Khazar” who intends to rule the world through the PROTOCOLS. (Some more goofing in the swamp—the protocols were written by a monk and pawned off in the Inquisition as an alibi to kill Jews and get their property.)

Don’t make any mistake about it; God is not only going to regather Israel as a nation, in their homeland, but He is going to convert them to the crucified Saviour as their real Messiah. When He appears the second time, He will be accepted of them (as Joseph, Moses, David, and Jephthah were accepted).

The capstone of the Jewish restoration, prophesied throughout the Old Testament, is put on by the Apostle Paul in Romans 11:25–29. Here, Paul says three things that no New Testament Christian could miss, unless he deliberately and willfully submitted to deception.

1. Someday, God is going to “dump” the Gentiles (Rom. 11:25; Jer. 30:11, 46:28, 50:4–7; Isa. 40:17).

2. Someday, God is going to “save” Israel, as a nation (Rom. 11:26; Dan. 12:1–4; Jer. 30:7).

3. The greatest danger for the Gentiles (Americans, Europeans, Africans, Asiatics) is “becoming wise in their own conceit” (Rom. 11:25; Psa. 2; Jer. 50:4–7; Isa. 40:12–22, 45:11–24).

Ladies and gentlemen, you can rest assured that God Almighty is going to fulfill His promises: He is **“not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?”** (Num. 23:19).

Today, the Jews are on the move by the thousands. In the subsequent messages that we shall bring, we will talk, in detail, about the miracle that is going on in the land of Palestine today. But for now, suffice it to say that God is going to do two things:

1. He is going to restore Israel, as a nation, to Palestine.

2. He is going to restore Israel to Jesus, as their Messiah.

And neither the superstitious traditions of our great, pagan universities in the northeast, nor the fanatical ravings of the sects and heretics will nullify the promises of God. God is going to restore Israel, and a man that doesn't believe that is “wise in his own conceit” and is in great danger. When God says something, He means it. If He says (and He has), **“There is none that doeth good, no, not one,” “there is no difference: For all have sinned,” “by nature the children of wrath,” “children of disobedience,” “ye must be born again”** (Rom. 3; Eph. 2; John 3), brother, **“ye MUST BE BORN AGAIN.”** Someone asked George Whitefield why he preached so many sermons on the text, **“Ye must be born again.”** To which he replied, **“Because ‘ye must be born again.’”**

Have you ever been born again? **“That which is born of the flesh is flesh,”** and as far as that goes, that which born of water is water!

But what God demands is an entirely new creation by HIS SPIRIT (John 1:12–13; 2 Cor. 5:17). And when He says that without this new birth you will wind up in the Lake of Fire, unable even to see the kingdom of God, He meant exactly what He said. And He will bring it to pass, regardless of your attitude toward Him or toward His word. God is fulfilling Old Testament prophecy in your morning newspapers, and still some will not submit to His word.

God will, one day, fulfill His promises of a burning, eternal, lake of fire, regardless of anyone's “spiritualizing.” **“Ye MUST be born again.”** Have YOU ever been born again?

## Who Owns the Land of Palestine?

The land of Palestine is the core of three continents. There is no place else on earth where three continents “come together,” so-to-speak; where Mongoloid, Negroid, and Caucasian can mingle without traveling more than one hundred miles. Palestine has been the constant center of dispute since 2000 B.C., and we are plainly told, in the word of God, that the last two great “world wars” will be found in its boundaries (Rev. 16:16, 20:8–9). It was possessed by the descendants of Ham (Gen. 10:18–20), even though Africa was to be Ham’s territory (Psa. 105:23–24; 106:21–22). Consequently, God called out the Israelites to dispossess the children of Ham (Exod. 2–4; Josh. 1–8) about 430 years after Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

After the death of Joshua, the Jews were in the land less than one hundred years before Gentiles re-entered the land and fought the Jews, intermittently, for another four hundred years or more. The land of Palestine has always been a coveted territory (Deut. 8:7–10); and it was attacked by Pharaoh, Sennacherib, Nebuchadnezzar, Titus, Omar, Antiochus Epiphanes, Saladin, and, recently, by Arabs and Egyptians (in keeping with the word of God, Psa. 83:3–8). Kaiser Wilhelm, in the early 1900s, planned to capture Palestine. He planned to personally enter Jerusalem by the Eastern gate (which God shut in the days of Ezekiel 44:1–5), but he was not able to confound the Old Testament. The Kaiser was defeated. General Allenby, an Englishman, entered Jerusalem—and not by the Eastern gate, for no one will enter *that way* until Jesus Christ Himself goes through on a white charger from the Mount of Olives (Ezek. 44:1–5).

At present, there is a “great wrangling” over the land of Palestine, and with the squabbling getting louder by the minute, there are cries of “intervention” being heard from all sides: someone, evidently, is needed to properly “partition” Palestine to settle the constant fighting over her boundaries. The Bible speaks of Gentiles dividing the land of Palestine (Dan. 11:39). This seems perfectly all right for a Gentile, for after all, Jerusalem has been in Gentile hands from 600 B.C. until A.D. 1948. But according to the Bible, no Gentile, or group of Gentile nations, has any right to any part of the land of Palestine, nor is it theirs to divide.

In *both* Testaments we are told that all land belongs to God, which is contrary to both capitalistic and communistic systems of economy, and also to the Catholic system, which says the land belongs to the Roman church (1 Cor. 10:26, 28; Isa. 45:18–19, 40:15–17; Psa. 8:3–4, 24:1).

God says the earth and all that is on it belongs to Him, despite the thievery of man in trying to “seize the inheritance” by slaying the Son of God, to whom God gave it (Luke 20:9–18). So if the earth belongs to God, then it is certainly up to Him to say who gets what. And God has spoken (Acts 17:26–27; Deut. 32:8). He said, **“Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will shew thee: and I will make of thee a great nation...Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for**

ever” (Gen. 12:1–2, 13:14–15).

These words were spoken to Abraham, the Hebrew, and were confirmed again to Isaac and Jacob (Gen. 26:2–3, 28:13–15), his descendants. There is no mistaking of these promises: God Almighty has promised to give the Israelites LAND, and the land He promised to give them is the land of Palestine and the territory eastward to Ur of the Chaldeans (Gen. 15:18–21; 2 Sam. 8:3). (Which, incidentally, probably marks the boundaries of the original Garden of Eden, but the subject is too lengthy to deal with here.) Notice how clearly God repeats and repeats this real estate through the Bible:

**“O ye seed of Abraham his servant, ye children of Jacob his chosen.... He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations. Which covenant he made with Abraham, and his oath unto Isaac... Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance”** (Psa. 105:6–11). **“Hear thou from the heavens, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest to them and to their fathers... That they may fear thee, to walk in thy ways, so long as they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers... If they return to thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captives, and pray toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers”** (2 Chron. 6:25, 31, 38).

Now the United Nations may divide Palestine someday before Russia attacks her (or afterward), but like the Old Book says: **“Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished”** (Prov. 11:21). A union, confederacy, convention, association, presbytery, or “council,” without the Bible installed as the final authority in all matters, will end in disaster (Isa. 8:9–15).

In the end, God Himself will repartition Palestine (Ezek. 45–48), according to His plan for the twelve tribes of Israel. The details of this partitioning, with exact measurements, are found in the last several chapters of Ezekiel. Here we find even an allowance made for another temple and a tract of land about Jerusalem, designated holy ground, for the reign of Christ Himself on the earth.

From a practical point of view, this all amounts to just this—any Christian, if confronted or faced with the political issue of Palestine and the Jew, in either a military sense or economic sense, can rest assured that any movement to give all of Palestine to the Jew, as his homeland, is a movement in line with the word of God and the prophecies of Scripture. The United States is ready, at this time, to make some of the most tragic, disastrous decisions in foreign policy it has ever made, or ever will make.

Pray for those in authority. Read your Bible. Keep awake. Stay on your toes. History is winding up where it began in the “Fertile Crescent,” and as the days pass, the “windup” is getting closer and closer. In subsequent messages, we will see what the Bible says about the nations which will soon fight against the Jews, what the Bible says about God’s method of dealing with those nations, and what the Bible says about Russia’s coming attack on Palestine and her defeat.

# Russia's Allies in Her Coming War Against Palestine and the Jews

The Bible plainly teaches that the land of Palestine belongs to God (1 Cor. 10:26, 28; Psa. 8:3–4) and that God gave it as a gift to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob for the Israelites to have as a possession (Gen. 12:1–3, 13:14–15; 2 Chron. 6:25, 31, 38). Although the United Nations is thinking of controlling it, and later “partitioning” it (Dan. 11:39), God Himself is going to divide it and allot it to His chosen people (Ezek. 45–48). And God is not only going to restore Israel to the Promised Land in a material, literal sense, but He, at a later date, is going to convert them to Himself and bring them to a saving faith in the Lord Jesus as the promised Messiah (Rom. 11:25–29; Ezek. 36:24–28).

The land of Palestine is truly a “Promised Land” and has always been an object of covetousness to the Gentile nations. It was attacked by Pharaoh, Sennacherib, and Nebuchadnezzar in Old Testament times; it was attacked by Antiochus Epiphanes and Caesar in the days of the Maccabees; and later it was attacked by Omar, Titus, Saladin, and others. And those of you who know your Bible know that Palestine is the last battleground for the last two major “world wars” (Rev. 16:16, 20:8–9).

But before these last two wars take place (or at least before the last one *certainly*), someone else is going to attack Palestine, and the days can be numbered before this attack comes, for Russia is now massing for the attack. Russia will attack Palestine, according to all the best *literal* Bible scholars (and of course, the crowd that does not believe the Bible literally is not even capable of making a fair guess as to the future—Isa. 29:10–12; 1 Cor. 2:11–14). As far back as 1890 and 1900, premillennial preachers were identifying Meshech and Tubal (in Ezek. 38) as Moscow and Tobolsk, and the “land of Gog” as Russia. This is not surprising when we remember that any man who believes the Bible literally will get an insight into the future. Gesenius, one of the greatest Hebrew scholars that ever lived, identifies the territory of Ezekiel 38:2 as the shores of the Black Sea and the Volga River and its inhabitants as “Sythian mountaineers” (*International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, p. 325). Gesenius calls this great northeastern confederacy in Ezekiel 38 “ROSH” for Russia. Gibbons also identifies Turkey and Armenia as Togarmah (Ezek. 38:6). The Scofield note (written before 1910), at the bottom of the page on Ezekiel, again singles out Russia as the attacker. The evidence is impressive, especially when we consider that all of the Amillennial and Postmillennial crowd, around 1900–1914, thought the “boogie man” was Germany.

Ezekiel 38 says (if Russia is the country the Holy Spirit had in mind) that the restored Israelites in the land of Palestine will be attacked from the north by a great confederacy of nations. And if we search the Scriptures further, we begin to see more than one or two nations “has it in” for Palestine.

1. Arabia will be against her (Psa. 83:3–8; Neh. 6:1). The Ishmaelites and Hagarenes, of course, are Abraham’s seed which God called **“the dust of the earth,”** in contrast to Isaac, the chosen seed like **“the stars of the heaven.”**

2. Egypt, her old enemy, will be against Israel again (Ezek. 29:1–3).

3. Russia (Ezek. 38–39).

4. Persia and Ethiopia (Ezek. 38:5). Persia is modern Iran and, incidentally, signed a treaty with Russia in 1932 for Russia to use her land in case of war in the Middle East.

5. Rome (Rev. 17:3–4, 8, 18:12–13, 24). This is not surprising; as third only to Babylon and Egypt has Rome been the fiercest persecutor of the Jew. Christ died the death of a criminal under a *Roman* governor and was pierced by a *Roman* soldier. Don't underestimate Rome!

6. Asia (Rev. 16:12–13).

In plainer words, “the cards are stacked” against Palestine. The United States has not yet “showed her hand,” but soon she will have to. Unfortunately, our Congressmen, as a whole, are pro-Catholic (in the past, they voted \$18,000,000 of Protestant tax money to go to rebuild Catholic cathedrals in the Philippines!) and anti-Jewish. The same subtle anti-Semitism that cleaned out Germany is at work in the United States today, blaming the Jew for every trouble, and the old Protocol-Khazar gimmick is still being used by agitators to swing America to the *Roman* position against the Jew.

Now, what is God's method of handling those against the Jew?

1. He promises them a curse (Gen. 12:1–3).

2. He promises to make an end to their countries (Jer. 30:10–11).

3. He promises to give them back “what they dish out” (Rev. 18:4–7, 19:1–6; Jer. 50:21–40).

And these facts are brought out in their brutal reality when one studies secular history. Every nation that persecuted the Jew met with disaster; and after it met with disaster, *the Jew was still standing there* (Mal. 3:6). When a great emperor sarcastically asked a Christian to give one argument to prove the Bible was the word of God, he replied, concisely and quietly: “THE JEW.”

Ah, the bush that burns without being consumed!

Egypt made slaves of the Jews (600,000 of them), and nearly 3,000 years after God drowned Pharaoh, the British army made 600,000 Egyptians build a railroad to haul supplies to British troops on the Nile.

After Shalmaneser besieged Samaria and took the northern kingdom of Israel into captivity to Assyria, Sennacherib tried to do the same thing to Jerusalem and Judah. He wound up murdered by his own children (2 Kings 19:37).

Babylon kept the Jews for seventy years, and Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom wound up fit for nothing but “**wild beats of the desert**” (Isa. 13:19–22).

Rome sacked Jerusalem, burning the temple and crucifying five hundred Jews on trees outside the city walls. Not five hundred years later, the Goths, Vandals, Huns, Visigoths, and Ostrogoths sacked Rome and left it good for nothing but the Pope.

Hadrian in A.D. 135 killed 580,000 of them right in Rome.

Canute banished them from England in 1036.

Edward I confiscated all Jewish property and exiled 16,000 of them.

Austria and Turkey banished them from Prague and Constantinople (1560).

Catholics (Dominicans) threw them out of Spain in 1492, torturing hundreds of them to death.

Germany gassed them, buried them alive, burned them alive, skinned them, and shot them for five bloody years under Hitler.

Russia has been the latest to persecute them.

And what does this amount to? It amounts to the invasion of William the Conqueror and destruction of the “Angles” in England, following Canute’s banishment. It amounts to the Black Death sweeping Europe in 1349, following the Jewish persecutions by France, and it amounts to the end of Spain as a world power, following the Inquisition. Oh, yes, it was the end of the “Third Reich” in 1945 and the splitting in two of the German nation.

England reneged on the Balfour Declaration, which gave the Jews Palestine as a mandate, and when they did, World War II came with the bombing of London and the end of England as a primary world power. The sun IS setting on the British Empire, and England and the Union Jack no longer “rule the waves.” God is no respecter of persons, but to say that God has not singled out a RACE (Jewish) is to ignore the facts of secular and sacred history. Even the world wars were designed with the Jew in mind. World War I got the land ready for the Jew, but he was unwilling to return; so World War II came, and when that mess was over, he was ready to go back to the land—and they are returning by the thousands (2 Chron. 36:19–23). God’s intention is quite clear in His dealing with those who oppose the Jew—He intends to destroy them (Jer. 30:10–11). Paul says, **“As concerning the gospel, they are enemies...but as touching the election, they are beloved”** (Rom. 11:28).

Be careful how you treat the Jew. And look out when your congressmen and Supreme Court “judges” begin to lean toward Rome. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the Hope of Israel, has no plans for the Gentile-Catholic system but universal catastrophe (Rev. 5–19).

## The Attacker from the North

A careful study of Ezekiel 38 and 39 yields some rich Bible truths on the future of Palestine in God's program. Not everyone agrees as to the times and settings of these events, but generally speaking, we can say that the battle of Gog and Magog, spoken of here, is either:

1. Just before the Rapture of the saints.
2. Just before the Millennium begins—Armageddon.
3. Just before the White Throne Judgment—at the end of the Millennium: Revelation 20:7–10.

There are several things clear in the study of these two chapters and then several things which are not so clear. It is clear that:

1. Palestine is the country at stake in that fighting (Ezek. 38:5–15, 39:1–11).
2. Palestine's enemies come from the north (Ezek. 38:6, 9, 15, 39:1–11).
3. Palestine's enemies are thoroughly defeated.

I would not be dogmatic in teaching on the battle of Ezekiel 38 and 39 for many good men (and *believing* men) disagree as to the time setting of this battle. There are at least three reasons why this battle could be the battle of Armageddon spoken of in the last verse of Revelation 19, and there are at least two reasons why it is probably the battle of Gog and Magog spoken of in Revelation 20, just preceding the White Throne Judgment. To better understand the difficulty here, notice, first, the ways in which the battle of Ezekiel 38–39 is *different* from the Gog and Magog of Revelation 20.

1. In Revelation 20:7–8, Satan is the leader; in Ezekiel 38:2, Gog is the leader.
2. In Revelation 20:8, the armies are from the four quarters of the earth; in Ezekiel 38:6, they are from **“the north quarters.”**
3. In Revelation 20:9–10, the termination of the battle goes directly into the destruction of the heavens and earth and the last judgment begins; in Ezekiel 39:11–17, there is a period of seven months of burying following the battle.
4. In Revelation 20:9, the attack is on Jerusalem, a city; in Ezekiel 38:8–13, the attack is on Palestine, a country.

These “differences” have led scholars to believe that the battle of Gog, in Ezekiel 38–39, must occur *before* the battle of Gog and Magog, mentioned in Revelation 20.

But on the other hand, notice the similarities between these passages of Scripture (Ezek. 38; Rev. 20).

1. The instrument of destruction in both cases is FIRE (Ezek. 38:22; Rev. 20:9).
2. The name Gog is prominent in both prophecies (Ezek. 38:2; Rev. 20:8–9).
3. Israel is “at rest” in both contests (Ezek. 38:8–11; Rev. 20:1–9).

Regardless of where one puts the battle of Ezekiel 38–39, there are several facts which are clear, and personally, I am inclined to believe that the Gog of Ezekiel 38–39 is an earlier “foretaste” of the last great battle of Gog and Magog, which will not take place till the end of the Millennium. You see there is something about the *order of chapters* in a King James Bible which would almost prove conclusively that the battle of Gog in Ezekiel 38–39 is a battle to take place *before* the Second Advent of Christ. Here is what I mean:

1. Psalm 22 is the crucifixion of Christ.
2. Psalm 23 is the Church Age following this.
3. Psalm 24 is the Second Coming, after the Church Age.

WHAT WONDERFUL ORDER!

1. In 2 Chronicles, the Jews are dispersed.
2. In Ezra, they return to Palestine.
3. In Nehemiah, they are rebuilding.
4. In Esther, there is a picture of the Rapture and Marriage of the Lamb.
5. In Job, the Jews are in the Tribulation—forty-two months, forty-two chapters: seven years; seven days and nights (Job 2:13)!

WHAT WONDERFUL ORDER!

1. In Psalm 44 we find the Great Tribulation on earth.
2. In Psalm 45 we find the Marriage of the Lamb in Heaven.
3. In Psalm 46 we have the Advent after the Marriage.

WHAT WONDERFUL ORDER!

Now, in Ezekiel we have the most lengthy and detailed account of the Millennium anywhere in the Bible. Eight whole chapters are devoted to the setting up of the kingdom: chapters 40–48. There can be no doubt about these chapters as to their time setting, for in them we find a temple (there is none in Rev. 21), a literal land divided, and a Jerusalem whose measurements are different than the measurements of the New Jerusalem in Revelation 21. Ezekiel 40–48 speaks clearly of the Millennium; therefore, Ezekiel 38–39 is almost sure to take place *before* the Millennium, which would mean that it will take place either just before the Rapture or just before the Battle of Armageddon; UNLESS it is the Battle of Armageddon.

Now it is fairly plain that the attacker from the *north* that we find here in Ezekiel 38–39 has something to do with Russia. As far back as 1890 and 1900, premillennial preachers were identifying Meshech and Tubal (in Ezek. 38) as Moscow and Tobolsk, and the “land of Gog” as Russia. Gesenius, one of the greatest Hebrew scholars that ever lived, identifies the territory of Ezekiel 38:2 as the shores of the Black Sea and the Volga River, and the inhabitants as Scythian “*mountaineers*” (*International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, p. 325). Gesenius calls this great northeastern confederacy “Rosh” for Russia. Gibbons also identifies Turkey and Armenia as Togarmah (Ezek. 38:6). The Scofield notes (written before 1910) again single out Russia as the attacker.

## I. WHEN WILL SHE ATTACK?

Certainly not right now, for we are told in Ezekiel 38:14–15 that at that time of Gog’s attack, Israel will be “dwelling safely.” They are not safe, at this writing, by any means. Again, we are told in Ezekiel 38:8 that at the time of this attack from the north that Israel is likened to a land **“brought back from the sword,”** implying that some kind of a conflict precedes the big attack from the north. There are three possible settings as to the time of this attack, and none of them, as yet, fully meet the requirements of all texts in the Bible.

1. Ezekiel 38 deals with Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation.
2. Ezekiel 38 is an attack which will take place before the Tribulation begins.
3. Ezekiel 38 deals with the attack of Revelation 20, which will take place after the Millennial Reign of Christ.

I have heard scholars say it is not the battle of Gog and Magog in Revelation 20 since Ezekiel 39:11–16 distinctly tells us of a time interval following the battle; whereas, the destruction of the heavens and earth and the White Throne Judgment immediately follow Revelation 20:9.

I have heard it said that Ezekiel 38–39 is Armageddon since the millennial temple immediately appears in Ezekiel 40–48 and because of the references to the carrion in Ezekiel 39:17–20 (cf. Rev. 19:17–18, 21).

I have also heard it said that Ezekiel 38–39 is a reference to a battle preceding the Rapture since Russia could not wait another seven years (the period of the Tribulation) to attack Palestine.

If I were asked for my personal opinion, I would reply: “I don’t know for certain.” But the facts would indicate that it is either Armageddon or a battle preceding the Tribulation.

## II. WITH WHOM WILL SHE ATTACK?

The attackers are described in Ezekiel 38:1–6, and **“the kings of the east”** (present at Armageddon) are noticeably lacking from the list. The adversaries to Israel are:

1. Togarmah—Turkey and Armenia.
2. Persia—modern Iran which signed a treaty with Russia in 1932 for Russia to use her land in case of war in the Middle East.
3. Gomer—the descendants of Ashchenaz (1 Chron. 1:5–6), generally identified as Europeans who settled northern Greece and later Austria, Poland, and Germany.
4. Libya—the modern designation in Africa.
5. Ethiopia—the modern designation in Africa. Although some “Cushites” settled in modern Arabia, the land of Cush, as all descendants of Ham, is in eastern Palestine and Africa (see any good, ancient map).
6. If there is any doubt as to the locale of the allies, we are enlightened at once by Ezekiel 38:6, where we are told **“of the north quarters,”** and again in verse 15, **“out of the north parts.”** And this brings us to the place of Russia’s attack.

### III. WHERE WILL SHE ATTACK?

In Ezekiel 38:9, we are told that Russia will ascend and come up **“like a cloud,”** which means only one of two things. Either she will come to Palestine in rockets and planes, or she will go up over the north to attack the USA while she attacks Palestine. I have heard both theories taught. In Ezekiel 39:2, God says that Russia will come up on **“the mountains of Israel,”** which means the attack will generally be down the western side of Palestine, for with the exception of Mt. Horeb and Pisgah and Gilead, there are no high mountains on the Moabite plain. The **“mountains”** from Mt. Hermon right on down to the Nile River are on the western side of the Dead Sea: Mt. Carmel, Mt. Ephraim, Mt. Zion, Mt. Scopus, the Mount of Olives, and the Lebanon range. Ezekiel 39:11 confirms this opinion conclusively.

Now, the fearful part of all this business is this: we are expressly told by the Holy Spirit that Russia’s main “suit” will not be in planes but in horses (Ezek. 38:4, 15). And if there ever was a country that has abandoned horses as a tactical weapon, it is the USA. Russia, today, breeds seventy percent of all the horses in the world and is busy at this moment breeding a “super-brand” of horse that can take temperatures below zero. Even the archaic “bow” has come back into its own as a strategic weapon, and the thought of “bows and horses” so commonly mentioned in the Bible is no longer a proof of the Bible’s untruthfulness but a conclusive proof of its divine *inspiration*.

An old cavalryman from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, told me one time that if the Army had had five hundred cavalymen ready at the end of the last war, they could have taken all of Berlin in thirty minutes, without needing any oil or gas. He also told me that many of the streets were too narrow to permit a wholesale tank operation and that the foot troops could not have covered the distance quickly enough; horsemen could have. In the Korean conflict, on one occasion, five thousand cavalymen (Reds) crossed the Yalu River without being detected, and it is a matter of common knowledge that the German Tiger tanks with mounted 88’s in World War II were no match for mounted Russian cavalry. A horse can go places a tank cannot go, and he can outmaneuver a tank as a target. Above all, he doesn’t need any oil or gas.

And while we place our hopes on ICBMs and rockets and radar, Russia is quietly preparing for the warfare of Ezekiel 38–39, which is carried on mainly by mounted soldiers. *Men win wars; machines do not.* There is not one general in any branch of service who does not know this, and yet America goes madly on trusting in push buttons to save her in the hour of crisis. America, today, is like a lost man on a plane bragging about how far he has been and how fast he is going and never a thought about where he is going to land. **“The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God”** (Psa. 9:17). As a lost man, America is trusting in what she knows, instead of whom she knows, to save her in the hour of disaster. May I ask you personally: “Do you know the Saviour?” I mean, “Do you actually know Him?” Not “about Him” or “of Him,” but do you actually know the Lord Jesus as your OWN personal Saviour from sin (Matt. 1:21)?

# The Real Enemy of the Jews

There are over one hundred verses in the Bible that deal with the spiritual and literal restoration of the House of Israel in the “last days,” and as we have seen in previous studies, God fully intends to restore the Jews to the land of Palestine and also to convert them, as a nation, to Himself (Ezek. 36:24–28; Amos 9:14–15; Rom. 11:25–29). Since the **“earth...and the fulness thereof”** belongs to God (1 Cor. 10:26–28; Isa. 45:18–19), then God can apportion land to whomsoever He will. God has WILLED to give the land of Canaan to the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Gen. 12:1–3, 13:14–15; Psa. 105:6–12).

In our last message, we learned how in the last days, Russia, Arabia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Rome, and Persia would ally themselves together to oppose Israel and take their land from them (Psa. 83:3–8; Ezek. 38–39; Rev. 17:3–4, 9, 18, 18:12–13, 24). And since God has promised a curse to all who oppose the Hebrews (Jer. 46:28, 33:15–16; Gen. 12:1–3), we can rest assured that “when the smoke has cleared,” the Hebrews will come out in the millennial kingdom as victors with their King-Messiah the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now, behind all this opposition the Jew has encountered down through the centuries is the invisible **“god of this world”** (2 Cor. 4:2–4) who has, as his special object of hatred, the seed of Israel. No student of prophecy in the secular or sacred realm would be competent to make any kind of a prediction on the future state of affairs if he were not familiar with what the Bible says about the *real* enemy of the Jew. And behind all attacks on Israel, direct and indirect, apparent and non-apparent, powerful or weak, the hand of this “enemy” is clearly seen by the Bible-believing Christian; for as Paul said: **“we are not ignorant of his devices”** (2 Cor. 2:11).

Take your Bible, if you will please, and follow with me the “trail of the serpent” and notice that in 90 percent of his attacks against mankind, he aims primarily at the children of Israel or the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

1. Genesis 3:15—Here, open war is declared by God against the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent. The guns don’t cease firing till Revelation 20, and no sane man would reasonably hope for international peace under any conditions until the Lord Jesus Christ comes. Even then it will be a forced peace (Zech. 14; Rev. 2:26–27, 19:15) which ends with a revolution (Rev. 20:7–9).

2. Genesis 4:8—In view of the fact that the seed of the woman is to finish up the serpent’s work, the wicked one (1 John 3:12) doesn’t waste any time in killing the first type of Christ in the Bible—Abel, the good shepherd.

3. Genesis 6:1–3—Having failed to stop the coming of the appointed seed (Gen. 5:1–3), the serpent then seeks to corrupt the entire human race and wipe out any possibility of a “seed” defeating him.

4. Genesis 12:1—Having failed in his work through Ham to defeat a chosen seed by Noah, the serpent then has to deal with Abraham, and he does. Notice, Sarah HAD NO SEED (Gen. 11:30), and we are told that although God is behind this indirectly (Gen. 20:18), the Devil (the serpent) receives permission from God to bring such frustrations

and misery upon men (Heb. 2:14).

5. Genesis 16:1–4—The Devil now goes to work on Abraham in earnest, as he has heard God mention the despised “seed” (Gen. 15:4), again reminding him of the declaration of war in Genesis 3:15. He gets Abraham and Sarah to despair of having a son, and then, when they finally bear the chosen seed (Gen. 21:1–2), the Devil gets God to tempt Abraham to see if Abraham loves Him (God) as much as the Devil’s followers love him (2 Kings 3:27).

6. Genesis 25:21—Having failed to stop Isaac, the Devil again gets permission to prevent the seed from continuing by stopping Isaac’s WIFE from having children. Most people don’t realize it, but Isaac and his wife prayed twenty years before God gave them a child (Gen. 25:21, 25:26).

7. Genesis 27:41—Having failed to stop Jacob at birth, the Devil immediately tried to drive Esau (as he drove Cain) to kill Jacob.

8. Exodus 1:16—And so it goes.

From the first shot in Genesis 3 to the last one in Revelation 20 we see Satan busy, relentlessly, mercilessly persecuting the SEED OF ISRAEL. He tried to drown the firstborn in Egypt; he tried to get the children of Israel to turn back to Egypt; he tried to get the children of Israel to turn back to Egypt after they got into the wilderness; he tried to get them to stone Moses, Joshua, and Caleb; he tried to prevent them from entering the Promised Land at Kadesh-Barnea; and when they began to enter, he had a false prophet hired to curse them. When they got in he tricked them into compromising with heathen ambassadors, and when they finished conquering the land, he got them to marry with the heathen—ALL TO STOP A “SEED” FROM COMING. The Devil’s tenacious battle against the Jews breaks out in all its fury after the Rapture of the saints (Rev. 12), and then when only minutes separate him from the Lake of Fire and eternal torment, he gathers an army to attack the capital of the Jews—Jerusalem (Rev. 20:9). Never has such bitter enmity held for so long with such fury as that which Satan has held against the Jews. When he could no longer *guess* which child would be the “seed of the woman” (and this happened when Jacob had twelve children), the Devil began to lash out at random to destroy them. He began with the firstborn Reuben (Gen. 35:22) and did what he could with the next two, Levi and Simeon (Gen. 34:25), and then began on Judah (Gen. 38). After that he tried to get God to wipe out the Jews as a NATION on three different occasions:

1. At Sinai (Exod. 32:10).
2. At Kadesh-Barnea (Num. 14:12).
3. In the dispersion (Esther 3:7–13).

And as if this were not enough, as the time of Christ’s appearing drew near, the Devil tried to kill Him before He was born and then again immediately after He was born. (Few people consider that on the night in which Mary gave birth to her child, she had just traveled seventy-five miles on the back of a mule. She came clear from Galilee to Bethlehem.) And of course, all Bible readers are familiar with Herod’s “massacre of the

innocents” (Matt. 2:16–18).

There could be no hit-or-miss coincidence in the Bible record of the persecutions of Israel by Satan. The Bible, written entirely by Jews, is the only book in print condemning its own people for their disobedience. As a man has said, “Angels or good men could not have written it, for they profess the word it speaks is not their word but the word of God. Bad men or angels could not have written it, for it exposes them in all their wickedness.” Only one person could have written it—God the Holy Spirit. And the reason it was written through the medium of Jewish writers is so all the world may know that it is an unprejudiced, unbiased, objective, factual account of the word of God and the Devil; and it has been the Old Serpent, the Devil, who has been the invisible, intangible enemy of the Jews since the days of Abraham’s calling. THIS the Bible clearly reveals.

If you are an unsaved reader of this message, take warning. You are up against an adversary more powerful than any fifty men that ever lived; and for you to have to deal with Hitler, Napoleon, Einstein, Khrushchev, and Rocky Marciano at one time would be “small pickings” compared with the adversary of your soul, that ancient veteran of all wars—his majesty, the Devil. He is smarter than any Ph.D., stronger than any heavyweight wrestler, quicker than any animal living; and fiercer than a bear bereaved of her whelps. He will do anything he can do to you (Job 1–2) to destroy you, confuse you, deceive you, and eventually damn you. You are no match for him with all your money, wits, education, talents, wisdom, and connections; and if you do not turn to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, and trust His blood atonement for your salvation (Rom. 5:5–10), you will most certainly die in your sins and spend eternity with the worst enemy you ever had in this life or the life to come (Matt. 25:41).

# Would You Like to Know How to be Saved?

Those of you who have read this book are faced with a choice: to respect and believe what the Bible says, or to reject the word of God as unimportant and ignore it. Ultimately, your fate is entirely up to you: whether you wish to go to heaven, or whether you wish to remain lost in your sins and hell bound.

The final question is this: Where will you spend eternity?

(1) Living with God in a perfect universe forever (Heaven).

(2) Burning with Satan in fire and brimstone forever (Hell).

These are the only two options presented in the Bible, and the Bible has never been wrong about anything. If you wish to live with God, then you have to accept His terms.

Since you, as a human being, cannot make yourself holy (“**Not by works of righteousness which we have done...**” Titus 3:5), the Lord is ready to give you His Righteousness (His goodness) instead. His righteousness is contained in Jesus Christ, who went to the cross “**to be sin for us...that we might be made the righteousness of God in him**” (2 Cor. 5:21). Jesus Christ came to save you from Hell when He suffered for your sin on the cross. If you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour, then you receive perfect righteousness and holiness, so that you can please God and be acceptable in His sight. Any other attempt to gain God’s acceptance will not work. God “**now commandeth all men everywhere to repent**” (Acts 17:30). That means you have to give up your old way of thinking and living and turn to God. The Bible says, “**For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved**” (Rom. 10:13). That is the invitation. Neither your church, your baptism, nor your good works can save you; you must trust Jesus Christ alone, by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8–9). It’s very simple. Wherever you are, bow your head and pray a simple prayer something like this:

“Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and unless you save me, I am lost forever. I now come to you, the best way I know how, and ask you to save me. I receive you as my Saviour and trust you to forgive me and justify me and present me without fault before God’s throne in the day of judgment.”

If you have done this, then you have made the greatest decision of your life. Don’t be ashamed of this decision. “**Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed**” (Rom. 10:11). You should find a Bible-believing church and start attending that you may grow (2 Pet. 3:18). Also begin to read your Bible (Authorized King James Version) daily and talk to God in prayer. God has given you a brand new life (2 Cor. 5:17); live it for Him.

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