

- I) V1-7 INTRO: Now the word of the LORD came to me saying Son of man set your face against Gog  
a) Who are the allies of Israel at this time?  
1) Israel can find support from the UK, Germany, India, Canada, but her greatest ally has been the US  
2) Her greatest foreign enemy is Iran (Persia), but they include Libya and various Muslim countries
- II) WITH THIS IN MIND: Chapters 38 and 39 contain a prophecy concerning a future invasion of Israel  
a) These chapters speak of a coalition of nations that will invade Israel
- III) AS WE HAVE SEEN: Ezekiel is writing prophetically of the future restoration of the nation of Israel  
a) At the time of the writing, Israel had been overwhelmed and captives were exiled in Babylon  
1) The captives had lost hope, and Ezekiel was bringing comfort to them (Ezek 37:11-12)
- IV) THE PEOPLE: Were living in exile in Babylon, and were going through great sorrow  
a) As a people in exile, the joy had been removed from them as they lived in Babylon  
1) IN BABYLON: Their faith had been mocked by their captors  
2) Ps 137:1-4 By the rivers of Babylon, There we sat down, yes, we wept When we remembered Zion. We hung our harps upon the willows in the midst of it. For there those who carried us away captive asked of us a song, and those who plundered us requested mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" How shall we sing the LORD'S song in a foreign land?
- V) IN SPITE: Of their exile, God wanted them to have His comfort  
a) IN BABYLON: They could very easily believe God had given up on them, but He had not  
1) Their chastening was actually being accomplished because of His great love for them  
2) Pr 3:11-12 My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the LORD loves he corrects; even as a father the son in whom he delights.  
3) Rev 3:19 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. Therefore be zealous and repent.
- VI) KEY: In exile He gave them promises that *they would return to the land*  
a) These prophecies were both for the immediate and the far distant future  
1) NEAR: Jer 29:10-14 Thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you to the place from which I cause you to be carried away captive.
- VII) AS WE BEGIN CH 38 AND 39: Contain a prophecy of a future invasion of the nation of Israel  
a) In the first 7 verses we have a list of various nations: Gog (title, high one) of the land of Magog:  
1) Gen 10:2: Magog is a son of Japheth: Is Central Asia (Scythia), so. part of ancient Russia  
2) This is home of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan: possibly no. Afghanistan
- VIII) ROSH: Rosh can be translated as chief, or some consider it to refer to Russia  
a) Some believe it is Russia because vv. 6 and 15 refer to the *far north*, which could be Russia  
b) MESECH: Meshech and Tubal also were sons of Noah's son Japheth  
1) Today, they would be in modern Turkey, So. Russia, and northern Iran

- I) PERSIA: It was called Persia until 1935, changed its name to Iran
  - a) in 1979 it became the Islamic Republic of Iran
    - 1) Obviously, Iran is an archenemy of Israel and the West, and actively works to cause other Arab nations to no longer cooperate with the US, Israel, or any of our allies
  
- II) THEN WE HAVE: (Cush) Ethiopia, (Put) Libya, Gomer, and Togarmah
  - a) Ethiopia was the land just south of Egypt, on the Nile
    - 1) Today, this land is occupied by Sudan, home of the National Islamic Front
    - 2) They are strong supporters of Osama bin Laden, where he lived from '91-'96
  
- III) PUT: Is modern Libya and openly refuses to recognize Israel's right to exist
  - a) Gomer originally was in ancient southern Russia and is modern Turkey in the area called Armenia
  - b) Togarmah is modern Turkey
  
- IV) IMPORTANT: What we have here is a coalition of enemies of Israel that have one thing in common
  - a) They are all nations that have a Muslim majority
    - 1) Four of the nations mentioned are now in modern Turkey: Meshech, Tubal, Gomer, Togarmah
    - 2) Someone wrote: This makes a pretty strong argument for Turkey being a part of the invasion of Israel. Current circumstances in that country also lend this view some credibility. Since the break-up of the Soviet Union, Turkey has been gaining inroads into Central Asia (Magog). It is also linked to Central Asia both ethnically and linguistically, and has a growing number of political parties that support opposition to Israel, the establishment of a Turkish Islamic Republic, and the worldwide rule of Islam.
  
- V) FOR MANY YEARS: People wondered how Russia might be able to participate in such a coalition
  - a) The former USSR was led by atheistic communism: how could these nations ally with Russia
    - 1) INTERESTINGLY: Islam is currently the second most widely professed religion in the Russian Federation. According to the most recent estimates: while there are 6 million *genuine* followers of Islam in Russia, there are more than 20 million *officially* self-identified Muslims.
  
- VI) V3 NOTICE GOD SAYS: Behold *I am against you* O God the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal
  - a) POINT: This coalition's invasion against Israel is regarded as an attack on God Himself
    - 1) This will make the conflict between them and God, and God is going to defend Israel
    - 2) The huge odds against Israel will be nullified because God is on their side
    - 3) Ps 56:11 In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?
  
- VII) V4-7 I WILL: Turn you around put hooks into your jaws and lead you out with all your army
  - a) Like an animal that has been caught, the invaders will not be successful in their plans
    - 1) God actually allows them to enter Israel so that He can visit them with judgment
    - 2) They come in fully confident and fully armed and prepared to conquer Israel
  
- VIII) V7 INTERESTINGLY: Gog is told to be a guard for his troops
  - a) The point is: He will be helpless because he is going to be defeated
    - 1) Is 52:12 God promises Israel that He will be their rear guard
  
- IX) V8 AFTER MANY DAYS: You will be visited. In *the latter years* you will come into the land of those
  - a) POINT: This is to take place in the last days, and not in the near future (V16)
    - 1) It is in the context of Israel's restoration to the land, when once again she is a nation
  
- I) V9-13 YOU WILL: Ascend coming like a storm covering the land like a cloud you and all your troops

- a) INTERESTINGLY: The coalition invading Israel intends to both destroy and plunder the nation
  - 1) V12 This is a people gathered from all the nations (worldwide): it has to take place in latter times
  - 2) It occurs when they are living in a time of security, with no fear of deportation
  
- II) THIS IS WHY: It is going to take place sometime during the Tribulation
  - a) Israel will have signed a peace treaty, and will be living securely at that time
    - 1) Dan 9:27 He (antichrist) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week
    - 2) During this time of security, the invasion occurs
  
- III) WHAT MOTIVATES THEM IS JIHAD: Coupled with their desire to possess Israel
  - a) They want the land, and all that it has: they want its silver, gold, livestock, and goods
    - 1) They want to wipe them off the face of the earth, and to take all that they have
    - 2) WHY: Because Muslims believe that any land once occupied by Muslims is permanently theirs: this would include great portions of Europe all the way to France
  
- IV) THE FACT IS: This is accepted by almost every Islamic nation in the Middle East
  - a) Iran's president Ah ma din e jad called for Israel to be wiped off the map in a World Without Zionism Conference in Asia speech in Oct of 2005
    - 1) They believe that they are only regaining what in fact actually belongs to them
  
- V) V13 SHEBA: Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you Have you come
  - a) Sheba and Dan are easy to identify: it represents to area of Saudi Arabia
    - 1) Tarshish is known in ancient history as Tartessus: most likely Spain (Western Europe)
    - 2) Young lions: most likely refers to governmental leaders offering a lame protest, like today
  
- VI) V14-16 THEREFORE: Son of man prophesy and say to God Thus says the LORD GOD On that day
  - a) You will come out of the north (Russia?) as a cloud, but I will destroy you
    - 1) God will allow them to act on what is already in their hearts, and use it against them
    - 2) After dealing with them, nations will see what a Holy God He is
  
- VII) V17 THUS SAYS: The LORD GOD Are you he of whom I have spoken in former days by My servants
  - a) POINT: God's prophets have declared that God would set up a kingdom and destroy His enemies
    - 1) Ps 2:1-4 Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, *saying*, "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The LORD shall hold them in derision.
  
- VIII) V18-23 AND: It will come to pass at the same time when Gog comes against the land of Israel
  - a) When this happens, God will reveal His anger as His patience is now exhausted
    - 1) He will destroy Israel's enemies using a massive earthquake
    - 2) The armies will spiral into confusion, and the death will bring pestilence and anarchy
    - 3) Nature will be used against them: Rain, hailstones, fire and brimstone (sulfur)
  
- IX) V23 THE RESULT: Those who witness this will understand that God is, and that He is Holy
  - a) They will know that God is the only true God