

## EZEKIEL 38:1-23 – “GOG AND ALLIES ATTACK ISRAEL; JUDGMENT ON GOG!”

### OBSERVATION

### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column.

#### **GOG AND ALLIES ATTACK ISRAEL – vs. 1-17:**

*Eze 38:1 Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,*

*Eze 38:2 "Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him,*

*Eze 38:3 and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal.*

*Eze 38:4 I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords.*

*Eze 38:5 Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them with shield and helmet;*

*Eze 38:6 Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah from the far north and all its troops—many people are with you.*

*Eze 38:7 "Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them.*

*Eze 38:8 After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword and gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely.*

Ez. 38:1 **Now the word of the Lord came unto me.....** At the same time as the preceding prophecy did, and shows; which predicts the restoration and conversion of the Jews; the union of their tribes under the King Messiah; and their settlement in their own land: and this respects some disturbance they should meet with upon it, for a short time, by a powerful enemy hereafter described:

Ez. 38:2 **Son of man, set your face against Gog**, who were a people that came from Magog the son of Japheth, (Gen 10:2). Magog also here signifies a certain country so that by these two countries which had the government of Greece and Italy he means the principal enemies of the Church, (Rev 20:8). (, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,

Ez. 38:3 **And say, Thus says the Lord God, behold, I am against you, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.** Which is repeated for the confirmation of it, that so it would certainly be; that the Lord, the mighty God, and King of kings, would in his providence frown upon him, and appear against him; and his titles are repeated also, to show that all his greatness, grandeur, and power, would not protect him from the vengeance of God.

Ez. 38:4 **turn you around** — as a wild beast, which thinks to take its own way, but is bent by a superior power to turn on a course which must end in its destruction. Satan shall be, by overruling Providence, permitted to deceive them to their ruin (Rev 20:7, Rev 20:8).

**put hooks into your jaws** — (Eze 29:4; 2Ki 19:28).

Ez. 38:5 **Persia** - That a part of this country was tributary to Antiochus, see 1 Maccabees 3:31. **Ethiopia, and Libya** - That these were auxiliaries of Antiochus is evident from Dan 11:43 : “The Libyans and Ethiopians shall be at his steps.”

Ez. 38:6 Gomer, and all his troops; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his troops: and many people with thee. Gomer was Japheth's son, and Togarmah the son of Gomer, and are thought to be they that inhabited Asia Minor.

Ez. 38:7 Spoken ironically. Make all thy preparations, they will be in vain.

Ez. 38:8 **After many days you will be visited.** - This was fulfilled about four hundred years after. The expedition of Cambyes against Egypt was about twelve years after the return of the Jews from Babylon.

**Ezekiel 37-48** - These closing chapters look forward to the future of Israel and Judah, to a time when God will do a new work and His glory will return to the land.

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Eze 37:9 Eze 38:9 You will ascend, coming like a storm, covering the land like a cloud, you and all your troops and many peoples with you." Eze 38:10 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "On that day it shall come to pass that thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan: Eze 38:11 You will say, 'I will go up against a land of unwallled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates'— Eze 38:12 to take plunder and to take booty, to stretch out your hand against the waste places that are again inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land. Eze 38:13 Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, 'Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?' " " Eze 38:14 "Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "On that day when My people Israel dwell safely, will you not know it? Eze 38:15 Then you will come from your place out of the far north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army. Eze 38:16 You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud, to cover the land. It will be in the latter days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me, when I am hallowed in you, O Gog, before their eyes."

Ez. 38:9 **You will ascend, coming like a storm** - It is observable that Antiochus is thus spoken of by Daniel, Dan 11:40 : The king of the north - Antiochus, shall come against him (the king of the south is the king of Egypt) like a whirlwind.

Ez. 38:10 **..will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan** - Antiochus purposed to invade and destroy Egypt, as well as Judea; see Dan 11:31, Dan 11:32, Dan 11:36. This may be interpreted of Cambyses, his cruelties in Egypt, and his evil design to destroy the Israelites.

Ez. 38:11 And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwall'd villages, meaning Israel, which had now been destroyed and was not yet built again: declaring by this the simplicity of the godly, who seek not so much to fortify themselves by outward force, as to depend on the providence and goodness of God .

Ez. 38:12 **To take plunder and to take booty** – Josephus wrote when Antiochus took Jerusalem he gave the pillage of it to his soldiers, and spoiled the temple of its riches, which were immense.

Ez. 38:13 **Sheba, Dedan** - The Arabians, anciently great plunderers; and Tarshish, the inhabitants of the famous isle of Tartessus, the most noted merchants of the time. They are here represented as coming to Antiochus before he undertook the expedition, and bargaining for the spoils of the Jews. Art thou come to take a spoil, to carry away silver and gold, cattle and goods?

Ez. 38:14 God will mark the prosperous security of the people, and rise up against them as an easy prey.

Ez. 38:15 Whose original was from Scythia, or Cathaia in Tartary, that lies to the north of China; and who will bring with him many people from the Euxine and Caspian seas, and from the northern parts of lesser Asia; and the Turk is, by many interpreters, thought to be the king of the north, in Dan 11:44 as before observed: **..you, and many people with you, all of them riding upon horses**; the Turkish armies consisting chiefly of horse, as has been observed on Eze 38:4, **a great company, and a mighty army**; for quantity many, for quality strong and mighty.

Ez. 38:16 **And will come up against my people Israel**,.... Which is repeated for the certainty of it; **likes a cloud to cover the land**; the land of Israel, so great should be his army; **it will be in the latter days**; of the Gospel state, or kingdom of the Messiah, when the Jews shall be converted, and are returned to their own land, Hos 3:5, **and I will bring you against My land**; not to possess it, nor to hurt it, or to any injury to the people of it: but **that the Heathen may know me**; the Pagan kingdoms of China, and others; who by God's judgments on the Turks will come to the knowledge of the true God, and acknowledge him, and will become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ, Rev 11:15, **when I shall be hallowed in You, O Gog, before their eyes**; that is, when God shall appear to be a holy and just God, in inflicting deserved punishment on the enemies of his people;

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*Eze 38:17 Thus says the Lord GOD: "Are you he of whom I have spoken in former days by My servants the prophets of Israel, who prophesied for years in those days that I would bring you against them?"*

#### JUDGMENT ON GOG - vs. 18-23:

*Eze 38:18 "And it will come to pass at the same time, when Gog comes against the land of Israel," says the Lord GOD, "that My fury will show in My face.*

*Eze 38:19 For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: 'Surely in that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel, Eze 38:20 so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who are on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.'*

*Eze 38:21 I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains," says the Lord GOD. "Every man's sword will be against his brother.*

*Eze 38:22 And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.*

*Eze 38:23 Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD." '*

### INTERPRETATION

Ez. 38:17 **Are you of he of whom I have spoken in old time** - This prophecy concerning Antiochus and the Jews was delivered about four hundred years before the events took place. Possibly refers to Cambyses beings spoken of, and refers to ancient prophecies, especially Isaiah 14, [Isa 15:1-9](#), [Isa 16:1-14](#), [Isa 20:1-6](#), 21.

Ez. 38:18..**My fury shall show in My face** — literally, “nose”; in *Hebrew*, the idiomatic expression for *anger*, as men in anger breathe strongly through the nostrils. Anthropopathy: God stooping to human modes of thought ([Psa 18:8](#)).

Ez. 38:19 **great earthquake** — a shaking: physical agitations after accompanying social and moral revolutions. Foretold also in [Joe 3:16](#); (compare [Hag 2:6](#), [Hag 2:7](#); [Mat 24:7](#), [Mat 24:29](#); [Rev 16:18](#)).

Ez. 38:20 So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping animals that creep upon the earth, and all the men that [are] upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be overturned, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground. All means by which man would think to save himself will fail, the affliction in those days will be so great, and the enemies destruction will be so terrible.

Ez. 38:21 And I will call for a sword against him, against the people of God and Magog., throughout all my mountains, says the Lord GOD: every man's sword will be against his brother.

Ez. 38:22 Bring him to judgment — because God in His inflictions acts on the principles of His own immutable *justice*, not by arbitrary impulse ([Isa 66:16](#); [Jer 25:31](#)).

**bloodshed ... hailstones, fire** — ([Rev 8:7](#); [Rev 16:21](#)). The imagery is taken from the destruction of Sodom and the plagues of Egypt (compare [Psa 11:6](#)). Antiochus died by “pestilence” (2 Maccabees 9:5).

Ez. 38:23 **Thus will I magnify Myself, and sanctify Myself,....** Show the greatness of his power, and the strictness of his justice and holiness, and glorify these, and all other of his perfections, in the destruction of the enemies of his people: **and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord;** Heathen nations shall now come to the knowledge of the true God, and his Son Jesus Christ, and of the Christian religion, and shall embrace and profess it; See Gill on [Eze 38:16](#), the kingdoms of the world will now become the Lord's, [Rev 11:15](#).

### APPLICATION