

Ezekiel 38
Gog and Magog

Background:

_____, a first century historian and former general during the time of the Jewish rebellion of A.D. 70, writes that the Book of Ezekiel was _____ separate books: Chapters 1-37, chapters 40-48, with chapters 38-39 as an _____. This is noted because these two chapters seem out of place in the narrative. (*Antiquities*, x.5.1)

These two chapters consist of _____ (38:3-9, 10-13, 14-16, 17-23; 39:1-16, 17-24, and 25-29).

1. Yahweh will bring Gog and his allies against _____. (38:1-9) (Cf. Rev. 16:13-14; 20:7-8)
2. Gog's evil thoughts and intentions will lead him to invade Israel for their national _____. (38:10-13).
3. Gog will advance against Israel from the _____ (38:14-16)
4. God will display his awesome _____ against Gog. (38:17-23)
5. It will take _____ years to plunder and _____ months to bury Gog's fallen army. (39:1-16)
6. The birds of the air and the beasts of the field will be invited to a great _____ at which Gog is the meal (39:17-24)
7. Through this deliverance God will conclude the _____ and restoration of Israel as foreseen in 33:1-37:28. (39:25-29)

The Text: Ezekiel 38:1-2a

^{NIV} **Ezekiel 38:1** The word of the LORD came to me: ² "Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshek and Tubal; (Ezek. 38:1-2 NIV) (Cp. 27:13; 32:26)

The phrase "set your _____ against" is used only in Ezekiel and eight times (6:2; 13:17; 21:2; 25:2; 28:21; 29:2; 35:2; 38:2) (if the word "against" is translated "toward" then the amount goes up to fourteen). It is a Hebrew phrasing that means "to confront" or "to strongly _____."

Many suggestions have been offered for the name "Gog."

1. Another name for Gugu or Gyges, a ruthless leader of the _____ kingdom (modern day Turkey)
2. Gagu, a ruler of the land of Sakhi, an area north of _____ (modern day Iran)
3. An unidentified person with a Sumerian name meaning, "_____."
4. An _____, impersonal name such as "Pharaoh."
5. A _____ term for any enemy of God's people.
6. A cryptogram for _____ or Babylon.

The text does tell us specifically that he is:

1. From/of the land of _____ (Cp. Gen. 10:2; 1st Chron. 1:5) Also known as the home of the Scythians. Cf. Col. 3:11

² The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshek and Tiras. (Gen. 10:2 NIV)

2. The chief prince of _____ and _____

The following maps give us a visual location of where those places were supposedly located: Russia, the Stans, and Turkey.

Note the prophetic word given in verse 2b – 4.

“...prophesy against him ³ and say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am _____ you, Gog, chief prince of Meshek and Tubal. ⁴ I will _____ you around, put _____ in your jaws and bring you out with your whole army-- your horses, your horsemen fully armed, and a great horde with large and small shields, all of them brandishing their swords.' (Ezek. 38:2-4 NIV)

Question: Who is with him? Verses 5-6.

Answer: ⁵ _____, _____ and _____ will be with them, all with shields and helmets, ⁶ also _____ with all its troops, and Beth Togarmah from the far north with all its troops-- the many nations with you. (Ezek. 38:5-6 NIV)

Countries involved are: Persia = _____; Cush = _____; Put = _____; Gomer and Beth Togarmah = areas in _____.

Question: What further prophetic word does God give to Gog? Verses 7-9.

Answer: 4 parts

1. ⁷ "Get _____; be prepared, you and all the hordes gathered about you, and take command of them.

2. ⁸ After many days you will be called to arms.

This is a divine _____. God is behind the conflict.

3. In future years you will invade a land that has recovered from war, whose people were _____ from many nations to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate. They had been brought out from the nations, and now all of them live in _____.
4. ⁹ You and all your troops and the many nations with you will go up, advancing like a _____; you will be like a _____ covering the land. (Ezek. 38:7-9 NIV)

Question: What is the intent of the invasion? Verses 10-13

Answer: ¹⁰ "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: On that day _____ will come into your mind and you will _____ an evil scheme.

¹¹ You will say, 'I will invade a land of unwalled villages; I will attack a peaceful and unsuspecting people-- all of them living without walls and without gates and bars. ¹² I will _____ and _____ and turn my hand against the resettled ruins and the people gathered from the nations, rich in livestock and goods, living at the center of the land.'"

¹³ _____ and _____ and the merchants of Tarshish and all her villages will say to you, "Have you come to _____? Have you gathered your hordes to _____, to carry off silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods and to seize much plunder?" (Ezek. 38:10-13 NIV)

Note: The invaders are not coming to take over the country. They are after _____.

Note: Sheba = _____; Dedan = southern Saudi Arabia or _____; Tarshish = _____ or _____ (a small island of the southwest coast of Italy).

Question: What further prophesy does God give to Gog? Verses 14-16

Answer: ¹⁴ "Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: In that day, when my people Israel are living in _____, will you not take notice of it?

¹⁵ You will come from your place in the far _____, you and many nations with you, all of them riding on horses, a great horde, a mighty army.

¹⁶ You will advance against my people Israel like a cloud that covers the land. In days to come, Gog, _____ will bring you against my land, so that the nations may know me when I am proved holy through you before their eyes.'" (Ezek. 38:14-16 NIV) [Recognition Formula]

Note: The invasion is a divine _____ intended to convey the reality of the one true God and His care for Israel to the nations. It is an action of divine _____ - _____. God does not use an intermediary but defends His people himself.

Question: Was this predicted before? Verse 17

Answer: _____/_____. ¹⁷ "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: You are the one [or..."Are you the one..."] I spoke of in former days by my servants the prophets of Israel. At that time they prophesied for years that I would bring you against them. (Ezek. 38:17 NIV)

Yes. Some scholars take the text as a _____ statement. The problem is that Gog is never mentioned as an agent of God's wrath in any former prophets. Gog, however, could simply represent _____ the invading hordes from the north who attempted to crush Israel: Assyria, Babylon, Greece, Seleucia, and Rome.

No. Some scholars see the question as a rhetorical _____ of insult. "Are you the one I spoke of?" In his arrogance, Gog answers, "yes." God answers, "No." You are not an instrument of wrath upon my own people. You are the object of my wrath. I will save Israel." Gog does not represent the kings of the past who were used to discipline/bless his people, e.g. Ashurbanipal, Nebuchadnezzar, and Cyrus.

Question: How will God defeat Gog and his armies? Verses 18-22.

Answer: 3 ways

1. An _____

¹⁸ This is what will happen in that day: When Gog attacks the land of Israel, my hot anger will be aroused, declares the Sovereign LORD.

¹⁹ In my zeal and fiery wrath I declare that at that time there shall be a great _____ in the land of Israel.

²⁰ The fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the beasts of the field, every creature that moves along the ground, and all the people on the face of the earth will _____ at my presence. The mountains will be _____, the cliffs will _____ and every wall will fall to the ground. (Ezek. 38:18-20 NIV)

2. _____

²¹ I will summon a sword against Gog on all my mountains, declares the Sovereign LORD. Every man's sword will be _____ his brother. (Ezek. 38:21 NIV)

Example: ²⁰ Then Saul and all his men assembled and went to the battle. They found the Philistines in _____, striking each other with their swords. (1 Sam. 14:20 NIV)

3. Other divine _____ poured out from the heavens

²² I will execute judgment on him with _____ and bloodshed; I will pour down torrents of rain, _____ and burning sulfur on him and on his troops and on the many nations with him. (Ezek. 38:22 NIV)

Reminds us of _____ and Gomorrah (Gen. 19:24)...the Lord rained down burning sulfur.

Reminds us _____ fighting the Amorite kings (Josh 10:6ff)...the Lord killed more soldiers with hailstones than the Israelite soldiers.

Question: What is the repeated purpose for such judgment? Verse 23

Answer: ²³ And so I will show my _____ and my _____, and I will make myself _____ in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD.' (Ezek. 38:23 NIV) [Recognition Formula]

Global update

Question: When will the Ezekiel 38 war happen?

Answer: Most Pre-tribulation scholars believe that it will be _____ the Tribulation Period. Ezekiel 39:9 tells us that they use the weapons of this war for fuel for seven years (whatever that means since most weapons are not made from wood).

All this to say...the stage is set for a potential Ezekiel 38 war. But the _____ must happen first.

Application Question:

Q. Why is it important to keep up on geo-political news?

A.

Q. How does Genesis 10 with Ezekiel 38 support Isaiah 46:10?

A.