"The Coming Invasion of Israel"

Today the Middle East is a powder keg surrounded by the fires of war. The civil war in Syria threatens to pull the nations of the world into a third World War. The madmen in Iran, full of Satanic hatred for Israel are pursuing nuclear weapons and practicing with missiles to deliver them to Tel Aviv. They boast that they will blow Israel off the map! Tiny Israel is surrounded on every side by implacable enemies so intent on his destruction that they will not recognize his right to exist. Turkey to the north is being transformed into a radical Islamic State. ISIS wages war in Syria and Iraq threatening to expand into Israel. Russia has its boots on the ground and planes in the air in support of Shia Islam in Syria, Iraq and Iran. Suui’s and Shia’s are at each others’ throats, but the one thing they all have in common is an universal hatred of Israel. It is not too hard to imagine a massive Russian- Islamic invasion of Israel.

The biblical prophecies in Ezekiel 37-39 concerning Gog and Magog, have not been fulfilled, but nearly all the pieces are in place today for this prophecied event to occur. We may be on the cusp of this Invasion of Israel, when God steps out of history and shows Himself mighty to save!

- Ezekiel 37 is called the vision of the dry bones and it details the restoration of the whole house of Israel. Valley of the Dry Bones 37

Two stages in Israel’s restoration.
1. The dry bones reassemble into bodies but they have no life.
   (The nation comes back to the Land in unbelief).

2. Breath comes into them and they live.
   (Israel receives National Regeneration and Resurrection). National salvation – (their fulfillment Romans 11:12)

- 1st Israel is brought back in the flesh – Return to the land in unbelief
- 2nd Israel is brought back in the spirit – Return to faith in God & the Messiah

The Return to the Land of Israel began around 1900 and in one day, May 14, 1948 Israel became a nation again. After 1900 years with no national existence, the nation was literally born in a day in fulfillment of Isaiah 66:7-8.

The Amplified Bible notes about this verse give this comment: “Never in the history of the world had such a thing happened before–but God keeps His word. As definitely foretold here and in Ezekiel 37:21, 22, Israel became a recognized nation, actually “born in one day.” After being away from their homeland for almost 2,000 years, the Jews were given a national homeland in Palestine by the Balfour Declaration in November, 1917. In 1922, the League of Nations gave
Great Britain the mandate over Palestine. On May 14, 1948, Great Britain withdrew her mandate, and immediately Israel was declared a sovereign state, and her growth and importance among nations became astonishing.”


But Jews came back to the land in unbelief. For many, the holocaust had shattered their faith even in the existence of God. Today, Israel is largely a liberal, secular state.

Just as God’s Word predicted, there were two great returns. “Isa 11:11 Then it will happen on that day that the LORD will again recover the second time with His hand the remnant of his people who will remain.”

The first dispersion was the Babylonian captivity (Temple destroyed) 586 BC
The first Return occurred (as prophesied) 70 years later 516 BC
The Second dispersion was the Roman Jewish War (Temple destroyed) 70 AD
The Second Return occurred first half of 20th century AD 1900-1948 AD

**ISRAEL DISPERSED both times for their sin. The 2nd time it was national rejection of their Messiah, Jesus.** In Ezekiel 36 God makes it clear that he will restore Israel not because they are such good people, but because he has promised and will do it “For the sake of His Name” Ezekiel 36:22

“It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went.

23 “And I will vindicate the holiness of My great name which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD,” declares the Lord God, “when I prove Myself holy among you in their sight.

**WHY WILL GOD RESTORE ISRAEL?**

To—

- Display His glory among the nations,
- Honor of His own Name (reputation)
- Demonstrate Faithfulness to His Word,
- Vindicate His Holiness
- NOT because of the worthiness of His people.

Application: God saves sinners for the sake of His name and for His glory. Never think that God saves those who are worthy—He saves the Unworthy – that is GRACE!
The Prediction of Ezekiel 38-39

Predicts the Future Military Invasion of tiny helpless Israel by a great Northern Confederacy which is subsequently totally destroyed by the mighty intervention of God so that the nations realize that YHWH is Israel’s God and Israel's faith in God is restored once again.

I. THE IDENTITY OF THE INVADERS (Slide)

Ezekiel 38:1-3

1 AND the word of the LORD came to me saying, 2 “Son of man, set your face toward Gog of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him, 3 and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against you, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal.

Although some scholars dismiss this prophecy as figurative, God intends His Word to be interpreted normally, unless it indicates otherwise.

The Bible itself identifies these nations by their ancestors in Genesis 10. The names of cities or countries change but our ancestors do not change.

Magog is one of the sons of Japhath: Careful historical research done by well-known scholars has confirmed that Magog is associated in history with the fearsome Scythians who came to dwell in lands north of the Baltic and Black seas:
The land of Magog in the extreme north of Israel consists of much of what was the Soviet Union. Some have suggested that Russia with its allies is in view here, while others have questioned that interpretation.¹

Rosh = Russia? Or the head of a Near-eastern Confederacy
Elam = Persia Iran
Cush = Ethiopia -
Phut = Libya
Gomer = Part of Turkey
Tubal = Turkey
Meshech = Turkey -
and many other peoples with them (vs 6) This list is not all inclusive!

The head of this huge army is a person called Gog He is the Chief Prince of Meshech and Tubal.

¹ http://truediscernment.wordpress.com/2008/09/06/%E2%80%9Crosh%E2%80%9D-is-not-russia/
II. THE INVASION IS BOTH THE WILL OF MAN AND WORK OF GOD

This is not an accident. God brings these nations down upon Israel (vs 4)
“I will turn you about”
“Put hooks in your jaws”
“And bring you out”
God Himself summons Gog, Yet Gog and his allies are acting of their own volition. They desire spoil and they devise and evil plan (10-12).

APPL:
- Our God is Sovereign over the nations and the actions of nations
- Our God knows the future, he has planned it and will carry it out,
- God is totally Sovereign and Man is totally responsible. Both are true!
- God’s sovereignty does not render man a mere puppet with no choice.
- God’s power and control is so great that man does exactly what man wants to do and still God controls it all in his divine purposes,
- We don’t need to be fearful but we can live in confidence and praise because our God reigns. GOD RULES!

From advertisement on K-house email 5-23-08 I Will Turn Thee Back: Turkey at a Crossroads By Avi Lipkin

For over 75 years, the nation of Turkey has been striving for a place among the Western, industrialized countries. From the time that the European Union was first conceived, Turkey has done everything asked of it to be included in this version of a Western confederacy of European nations.

Now after all this time it is becoming increasingly apparent that their efforts have been futile and their destiny lies to the East, and not the West. Or does it? Turkey is now at a pivotal crossroads in their history.

With the recent rise in fundamental Islamic beliefs, within Turkey, they are turning back to their historic roots. A view into Turkish history and culture, past, present, and future, will give a valuable perspective on their strategic location-both geographically and prophetically.

III. THE TIME OF THIS INVASION: When Does this Occur?

This invasion happens in the latter days (v. 8). This prophecy has never yet been fulfilled in history although several OT prophets spoke about it (vs 17) Isaiah and Joel (specifically).

There are 6 time-clues given in verses 8-9
1. After *many days* [It will be a long time]
2. In the latter years [of Israel’s history] or [toward the end the age]
3. After the land (of Israel) is restored from the sword
4. After the land is restored from having been *a continual waste*
5. After a large re-gathering of Jewish people from all the nations of earth
6. At the time when Israel is dwelling securely in their land.

In the 20th century, after 1800 years of being out of the land and scattered all over the world, Jews began to return to Israel. The land was a virtual waste which they reclaimed. Millions returned in the 20th century from nearly every nation on the face of the earth. We have lived to see a partial fulfillment of this prophecy. This warns us that we are in the latter years of Israel’s history and very likely near the end of the age.

**The apparent security of Israel**

7. A land of unwalled villages
8. Those who are at rest (11) living securely (14)
9. People who are living securely without walls, bars or gates.

Today Israel is dwelling securely in their land. That Hebrew word means “confidently” not necessarily “safely.” Israel boasts that its army is the best trained, best equipped and most powerful fighting force in the mid-east. Israel has fought several wars against overwhelming odds on all sides at the same time and emerged victorious every time. It is widely believed that Israel possesses nuclear weapons.

Today the stage is set for this invasion. Some scholars place this invasion within the tribulation period, the 7 years of trouble which Jesus warned about. The events in 70 AD did not fulfill all that the Bible predicts.

**IV. The Objection of Some Nations**

They object to this Invasion but Do Not Act

*Sheba* = (in S Arabia) Saudi Arabia

*Dedan* = (in N Arabia) Saudi Arabia

*Tarshish* = Britain – British Isles and its Merchants (13) Western Powers including the United States, Canada, etc. the young lions of England

**V. THE DESTRUCTION OF THE INVADERS** Ez 38:18-23

1. A Great Earthquake shakes everything to the ground
2. The Invaders alliance breaks and they fight and kill each other
3. A Pestilence destroys the invading enemy
4. A torrential rain, Hailstones, fire, & brimstone will fall upon them
5. Total destruction of the invading army
I will send Fire on Magog and on the Coastlands who live in SECURITY:  
The Hebrew is Be-tach = *in false confidence*  
They think they are safe but they are not (a nuclear exchange?)  
God promises, “It is coming and it shall be done” 39:8  
The weapons will *fuel Israel for 7 years*.  
   It has been suggested that weapons contain nuclear material with a 7-year shelf life that can be used as *fuel*.

The army will take 7 months to bury in a vast burial ground *east of the Dead Sea*.

Leftover weapons provide all the energy needed by Israel for seven years.  
   ▪ Professionals hired to clear the battlefield (due to contamination?)  
   ▪ They wait seven months merely marking the dead  
   ▪ and then clear and bury the dead for seven years  
   ▪ They bury the dead, east of the Dead Sea (downwind)  
   ▪ If a traveler finds a body he marks it and lets the professionals deal with it.

VI. The Results of this Invasion  21-29

   Political Results

   ▪ Completely Disrupts Islamic Power in the Middle East  
   ▪ May Remove Russia as a serious threat to world Dominion  
   ▪ Paves the way for the rise of Anti-Christ’s Power and Peace in the Mideast  
   ▪ May provide the impetus to build the 3rd Jewish Temple

   Physical Results

   ▪ Massive Destruction of Magog and the Coastlands who live in False Security  
   ▪ This may involve a nuclear exchange?  
   ▪ The material from the weapons fuel Israel for 7 years.  
   ▪ It requires 7 months to bury the dead from this vast horde  
   ▪ Professionals are used to bury these bodies (contamination)  
   ▪ There may be a waiting period of 7 months (radiation)  
   ▪ If travelers find a body they mark it and leave it for professionals

SPIRITUAL RESULTS:  Ezekiel  39:21-29

   • All Nations see God’s glory in Judgment  
   • Israel will know that I am the Lord *from that day onward.  22  Israel believes in God!*  
   • This event will cause Israel to awaken and realize that God is there and He is their God!  
   • The Nations will know that Israel suffered for the last 2000 years for its iniquity
The Timing of this Invasion

Although we cannot know for sure, it is possible that this event could take place before the tribulation! Ezekiel 38-39 appears ready to happen. The Allies are all in position except one = Turkey. According to Intelligence Digest, “The Kremlin decision has been made.”

Russia and Israel

Russian and Israeli relations
- Following the 6 day war in 1967 Russia severed diplomatic ties with Israel and threw its support to the Palestinians
- Russia threatened to enter the war on the Arab side in 1973
- Russia strongly opposed the first invasion of Lebanon in 1982
- Russia remains solidly in support of Israel’s enemies such as Syria, Iran, and the Palestinians. It ties to the Iranian dictator grow every day.

Russia Today Under Vladimir Putin
- Democratic ideals such as freedom of speech are steadily eroding under the autocratic leadership of Vladimir Putin
- Putin has recently faced criticism for restricting democratic freedoms and concentrating his presidential powers.
- Once thought to be a growing Capitalist ally, Russia is now returning to its Soviet roots.

Russia and Its Mideast Allies
- Since losing its mid-east foothold in Iraq, Russia is building a new axis of power by cultivating ties with Iran, Syria and Turkey.
- Russia is now Turkey’s second largest trading partner with 10 billion in trade per year.
- Russia has strengthened ties with Iran by providing it with nuclear technologies
- Russia and Syria have plans to increase diplomatic and military cooperation.

Russia and Iran
- Russia is selling missiles and air defense to Iran
- Making money in contracts with Iran
- Helping Iran build its nuclear power plant at Bushehr
- Russia has vowed to use its veto power in the UN to prevent sanctions against Iran.

Could the events of Gog’s invasion be shaping up in the Middle East?
VII. LESSONS OF THIS TEXT

- **God is Sovereign** and has history totally under HIS control
  History is marching toward a predestined future that God has determined.
- **God is faithful** to his promises to his people no matter what- God has revealed in prophecy what he will do and he will accomplish all his purpose
- **God is Omnipotent.** In spite of how impossible a prediction or prophecy seems to be, God will bring it to pass.
- **God is mighty.** God will cause the nations to know who he is once again by acting in history on behalf of his people as he did at the Exodus. They will know that “I am the Lord,” not in a saving way but through judgment. Just as Egypt learned that YHWH was God.
- **God is Active:** He is going to so dramatically intervene in history once again to save his people. God is working to bring His people Israel back to Him.
- **The Bible is True.** It is demonstrated to truly be the Word of God because only God could predict the future so accurately and cause it to come to pass. We can trust God’s Word to come to pass in all that it says.

**ACTION STEPS FOR US TODAY**

1. Jesus’ Coming may be nearer than you think.
2. How completely are we living for Christ?
3. Are we exhibiting Faith rather than Fear?
4. How Fervently are we serving Christ?