



Gog and Magog

The War Before The 7 Year Tribulation

Part 5



John 1:1-15 KJV

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.

8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

John 1:1-15 AMPC

1 In the beginning [before all time] was the Word ([a]Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God [b]Himself.

2 He was present originally with God.

3 All things were made and came into existence through Him; and without Him was not even one thing made that has come into being.

4 In Him was Life, and the Life was the Light of men.

5 And the Light shines on in the darkness, for the darkness has never overpowered it [put it out or absorbed it or appropriated it, and is unreceptive to it].

6 There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.

7 This man came to witness, that he might testify of the Light, that all men might believe in it [adhere to it, trust it, and rely upon it] through him. 8 He was not the Light himself, but came that he might bear witness regarding the Light.

9 There it was—the true Light [was then] coming into the world [the genuine, perfect, steadfast Light] that illumines every person.

10 He came into the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him [did not know Him].

11 He came to that which belonged to Him [to His own—His domain, creation, things, world], and they who were His own did not receive Him and did not welcome Him.

12 But to as many as did receive and welcome Him, He gave the authority (power, privilege, right) to become the children of God, that is, to those who believe in (adhere to, trust in, and rely on) His name—

13 Who owe their birth neither to [c]bloods nor to the will of the flesh [that of physical impulse] nor to the will of man [that of a natural father], but to God. [They are born of God!]

14 And the Word (Christ) became flesh (human, incarnate) and tabernacled (fixed His tent of flesh, lived awhile) among us; and we [actually] saw His glory (His honor, His majesty), such glory as an only begotten son receives from his father, full of grace (favor, loving-kindness) and truth. 15 John testified about Him and cried out, This was He of Whom I said, He Who comes after me has priority over me, for He was before me. [He takes rank above me, for He existed before I did. He has advanced before me, because He is my Chief.]

John the Baptist was prophetic, he was forth-telling of that which was foretold, the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ. There is over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament foretelling of Jesus Christ and His life. This was what the Apostle Peter did by identifying and Old Testament prophecy in Acts 2.

Acts 2:1-18 AMPC

1 And when the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all assembled together in one place,

2 When suddenly there came a sound from heaven like the rushing of a violent tempest blast, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting.

3 And there appeared to them tongues resembling fire, which were separated and distributed and which settled on each one of them.

4 And they were all filled (diffused throughout their souls) with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other (different, foreign) languages (tongues), as the Spirit [a]kept giving them clear and loud expression [in each tongue in appropriate words].

5 Now there were then residing in Jerusalem Jews, devout and God-fearing men from every country under heaven.

6 And when this sound was heard, the multitude came together and they were astonished and bewildered, because each one heard them [the apostles] speaking in his own [particular] dialect.

7 And they were beside themselves with amazement, saying, Are not all these who are talking Galileans?

8 Then how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own (particular) dialect to which we were born?

9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites and inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and [the province of] Asia,

10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and the transient residents from Rome, both Jews and the proselytes [to Judaism from other religions],

11 Cretans and Arabians too—we all hear them speaking in our own native tongues [and telling off] the mighty works of God!

12 And all were beside themselves with amazement and were puzzled and bewildered, saying one to another, What can this mean?

13 But others made a joke of it and derisively said, They are simply drunk and full of sweet [intoxicating] wine.

Note: Don't be surprised when you rightly identify prophecies from the Old Testament saying "this is that" spoken by the "Never Wrong" Prophets regarding the Time of the End events that people in the church will make fun of you, will scoff at you...Peter, Paul, Jude, John and Jesus said they would.

2 Peter 3 AMPC

1 Beloved, I am now writing you this second letter. In [both of] them I have stirred up your unsullied (sincere) mind by way of remembrance,

2 That you should recall the predictions of the holy (consecrated, dedicated) prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior [given] through your apostles (His special messengers).

3 To begin with, you must know and understand this, that scoffers (mockers) will come in the last days with scoffing, [people who] walk after their own fleshly desires

4 And say, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the forefathers fell asleep, all things have continued exactly as they did from the beginning of creation.

5 For they willfully overlook and forget this [fact], that the heavens [came into] existence long ago by the word of God, and the earth also which was formed out of water and by means of water,

6 Through which the world that then [existed] was deluged with water and perished.

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: You Jews and all you residents of Jerusalem, let this be [explained] to you so that you will know and understand; listen closely to what I have to say.

15 For these men are not drunk, as you imagine, for it is [only] the third hour (about 9:00 a.m.) of the day;

16 But [instead] this is [the beginning of] what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, God declares, that I will pour out of My Spirit upon all mankind, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy [[b]telling forth the divine counsels] and your young men shall see visions ([c]divinely granted appearances), and your old men shall dream [[d]divinely suggested] dreams.

18 Yes, and on My menservants also and on My maidservants in those days I will pour out of My Spirit, and they shall prophesy [[e]telling forth the divine counsels and [f]predicting future events pertaining especially to God's kingdom].

The Apostle Peter in Acts 2 was speaking of this passage written by the Prophet Joel written hundreds of year prior...

Joel 2:28 AMPC

28 And afterward I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

So, do we believe it? Do we believe that sense the beginning of time, Jesus, the Word has always been telling of not just His birth and life but the “Time Of The End” ?

If we believe it then we speak it and in order to speak it, you have to read it. Peter had to have read it in order to tell everyone this is that which is happening. When we read it (The Word) and get the information, the Holy Spirit will give us revelation in order to bring the transformation. A transformed life is always the proof or fruit of a someone who is spirit filled.

The transformed life is the one who is the disciple of Jesus Christ. That spirit filled, transformed life, is a disciplined follower of the Word. They are obedient to God's Word.

They are also growing in the knowledge of God's Word, they are being a witness (of the transformed life) not just by the information they have but how they live and how they speak. Does our life line up with the knowledge that we have?

2 Peter 1:1-4 AMPC

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ, to those who have received (obtained an equal privilege of) like precious faith with ourselves in and through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: 2 May grace (God's favor) and peace (which is [a]perfect well-being, all necessary good, all spiritual prosperity, and [b]freedom from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts) be multiplied to you in [the full, personal, [c]precise, and correct] knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

3 For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [[d]full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue).

4 By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great promises, so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature.

You and I have become partakers of His divine nature and as a result we will be changed through the reading and believing of His Words. Jesus Christ, the Word wants you and I, who are here right now to understand that we were created for this time.

Esther 4:14 AMPC

14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance shall arise for the Jews (God's People) from elsewhere, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows but that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this and for this very occasion?

"For a time such as this", we need to know the former things...

Isaiah 46:9-10 AMPC

9 [Earnestly] remember the former things, [which I did] of old; for I am God, and there is no one else; I am God, and there is none like Me,
10 Declaring the end and the result from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure and purpose,

Isaiah 46:9-10 KJV

9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,
10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

In part 4 we concluded not only identifying the nations in Ezekiel 38:5-6 that would come up against Israel in the war of Gog & Magog but the significance and history of these nations.

Ezekiel 38:5-6 KJV

5 Persia, Ethiopia (& Sudan area or Cush in Hebrew), and Libya (Put in Hebrew) with them; all of them with shield and helmet:



Ezekiel 38:6 AMPC

6 Gomer and all his hordes, the house of Togarmah in the uttermost parts of the north and all his hordes—many people are with you.

Ezekiel 38:6 KJV

6 Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee.



We read in John 16 that when Jesus was telling His disciples 2,000 years ago about the time of the End, He said I have more to tell you but you can't understand it right now.(v.12)

John 16:12 AMPC

12 I have still many things to say to you, but you are not able to bear them or to take them upon you or to grasp them now.

John 16:4 AMPC

4 But I have told you these things now, so that when they occur you will remember that I told you of them

Jesus told His disciples what it would look like at the “Time OF The End” and remember it so they would know that it is the truth and they wouldn’t get caught by false teaching. He said we need to use His Word to testify to others - saying, this is that which was prophesied.

Note: _____

Jesus continued in chapter 16 in the book of John by reiterating to them the importance of the Holy Spirit.

John 16:8-13 AMPC

8 And when He comes, He will convict and convince the world and bring demonstration to it about sin and about righteousness (uprightness of heart and right standing with God) and about judgment:

9 About sin, because they do not believe in Me [trust in, rely on, and adhere to Me];

10 About righteousness (uprightness of heart and right standing with God), because I go to My Father, and you will see Me no longer;

11 About judgment, because the ruler (evil genius, prince) of this world [Satan] is judged and condemned and sentence already is passed upon him.

12 I have still many things to say to you, but you are not able to bear them or to take them upon you or to grasp them now.

*13 But when He, the Spirit of Truth (the Truth-giving Spirit) comes, He will guide you into all the Truth (the whole, full Truth). For He will not speak His own message [on His own authority]; **but He will tell whatever He hears [from the Father; He will give the message that has been given to Him], and He will announce and declare to you the things that are to come [that will happen in the future].***

This is identical to what the Prophet Ezekiel was told to speak by God 600 years earlier. He was to speak of sin, righteousness, eternity and things to come, the “Time Of The End”.

Remember, God’s Word from the beginning of time has been telling us the things that will happen at the End Of Time .

Isaiah 46:9-10 AMPC

*9 [Earnestly] **remember the former things,** [which I did] of old; for I am God, and there is no one else; I am God, and there is none like Me,
10 **Declaring the end and the result from the beginning,** and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure and purpose,*

Earnestly defined: With sincere and intense conviction

We read in God’s Word the story of Noah and his three sons who were spared from God’s wrath. But, only one son would remain righteous, and that was Shem. Shem became the ancestor of the Semitic people, Abraham, a descendant of Shem, is the first person in the Bible who is referred to as a “Hebrew”.

Noah blessed Shem above his brothers (Genesis 9:26–27), and it was through Shem that the promised seed destined to crush Satan came (Genesis 3:15). That seed is traced back to Adam’s son Seth (Genesis 5:1–32), through Shem, and on to Abraham, Judah, and David, leading all the way to Christ (Luke 3:36).

Noah's firstborn son, Japheth, is listed as the father of Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras (Genesis 10:2).

Genesis 10:2 KJV

2 The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras.

In blessing his son Japheth, Noah said, *“May God extend Japheth's territory; / may Japheth live in the tents of Shem, / and may Canaan be the slave of Japheth” (Genesis 9:27).*

Ham, the youngest of the Noah's three sons, had four sons: Cush (Hebrew for Ethiopia), Mizraim (Hebrew for “Egypt”), Put (Hebrew for Libya), and Canaan (Genesis 10:6; 1 Chronicles 1:8). Egypt was later called the “land of Ham” (Psalm 78:51; 105:23; 106:22). The Hamitic peoples are shown in Genesis 10:6–20 as becoming a godless and worldly power.

It was the land of Palestine that was assigned to Ham's son, Canaan, and for centuries it was under the control of the Egyptians. Ham is the father of the Arabians, Canaanites, and Africans (Sudan, Ethiopians, Libya), including the Egyptians.

We left off at Gomer and the hordes or bands/descendants which is the Germanic tribes that settled throughout Europe and now let's see who is next.

Ezekiel 38:5-6 AMPC

5 Persia, Cush, and Put or Libya with them, all of them with shield and helmet,

*6 Gomer and all his hordes, **the house of Togarmah** in the uttermost parts of the north and all his hordes—many people are with you.*

Togarmah in Ezekiel's day was a place called Cappadocia which is in modern Turkey and in the line of Japheth as well.

Cappadocia referred to much of modern day central Turkey back in the days of Ezekiel. Cappadocia was the whole region from Mount Tarsus in the south, close to the Mediterranean, to the Black Sea in the north, and from Tuz Gölü or the great Salt Lake in the west, past the Euphrates River in the east to Armenia, Georgia and Russia.



We know that there will be parts of Turkey that will be involved in this war all the way to Armenia and the southern parts of Russia. Every nation that has been listed in this war of Gog and Magog were pro western 60 years ago. Prior to 1948, jewish settlements were in all of these nations and now there is one link that connects all of them, they are predominately muslim or quickly becoming the majority. The top 2 religions in Russia - catholicism and islam.

In many of these nations, you have fanatical muslims and not just pockets of people but the leaders themselves want to destroy Israel.

From this prophecy in Ezekiel, when you study the map you will find that the northern part of Africa, the eastern part of Turkey and the southern part of Russia will be all against Israel.

the southern part of Russia is very interesting. This area has 5 states which were established when the Soviet Union was disbanded. These 5 states that were all apart of the Ottoman / Turkish empire are all linked into this area mentioned in Ezekiel which will all be apart of this war. This connection is to: Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan and even Pakistan. The war or invasion of Gog and Magog is an islamic instigated invasion.



How is this war going to start ? What will be the “thing” that instigates the beginning of this war? God, in the fulness of time. When God is ready for His plan to be revealed, He will cause these nations to come up against Israel with the “things” (prophecies in His Word) that He said would happen and for the reasons why.

Ezekiel 38:10 KJV

10 Thus saith the Lord God; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought:

Ezekiel 38:10 AMPC

10 Thus says the Lord God: At the same time thoughts shall come into your mind, and you will devise an evil plan.

Why at the same time? There is a prince or principality under satan and over this area of the world that will be allowed by God to get these leaders to go against Israel at the same time.

Ezekiel 39:2-6 KJV

2 And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel:

3 And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand.

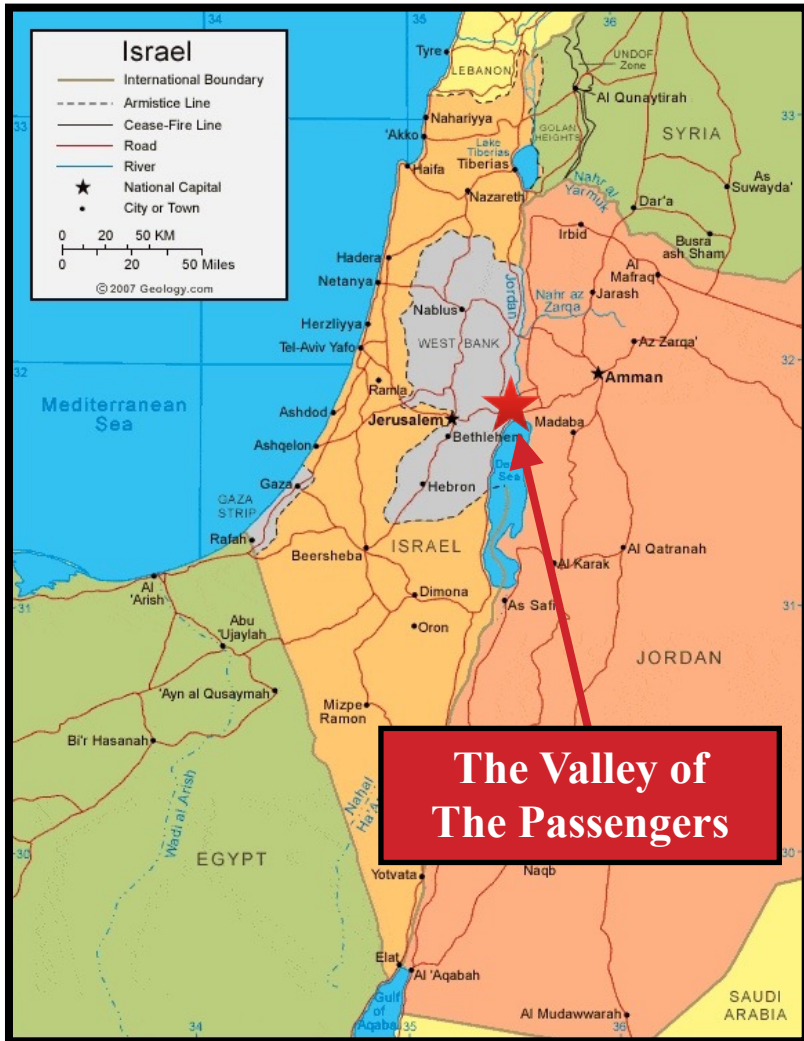
4 Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured.

5 Thou shalt fall upon the open field: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God.

6 And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the Lord.

That evil thought is, we will attack Israel - God's people. There is no way that these islamic countries would try to attack Israel unless they thought they could win. I believe that the war in Lebanon (see end of notes) was a set up for making them believe that they could take Israel, basically do what Hezbollah did. But what they don't understand is that when the Bear from the north with all those nations comes down, they will be meeting the Lion of Judah.

Almost all of these nations that are going to attack Israel were at one time pro-western and now they are not. Most of these nations mentioned hate the western nations and are enemies of the west because they feel like the west helped create Israel and that is why the hatred is there.



In Ezekiel Chapters 38 & 39, this islamic coalition attacks Israel in two places. One is the “valley of the passengers” on the east at the edge of the country of Jordan. Across from Jericho on the Dead Sea side.

Ezekiel 39:11 KJV

11 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of The Valley of The Passengers graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamongog.

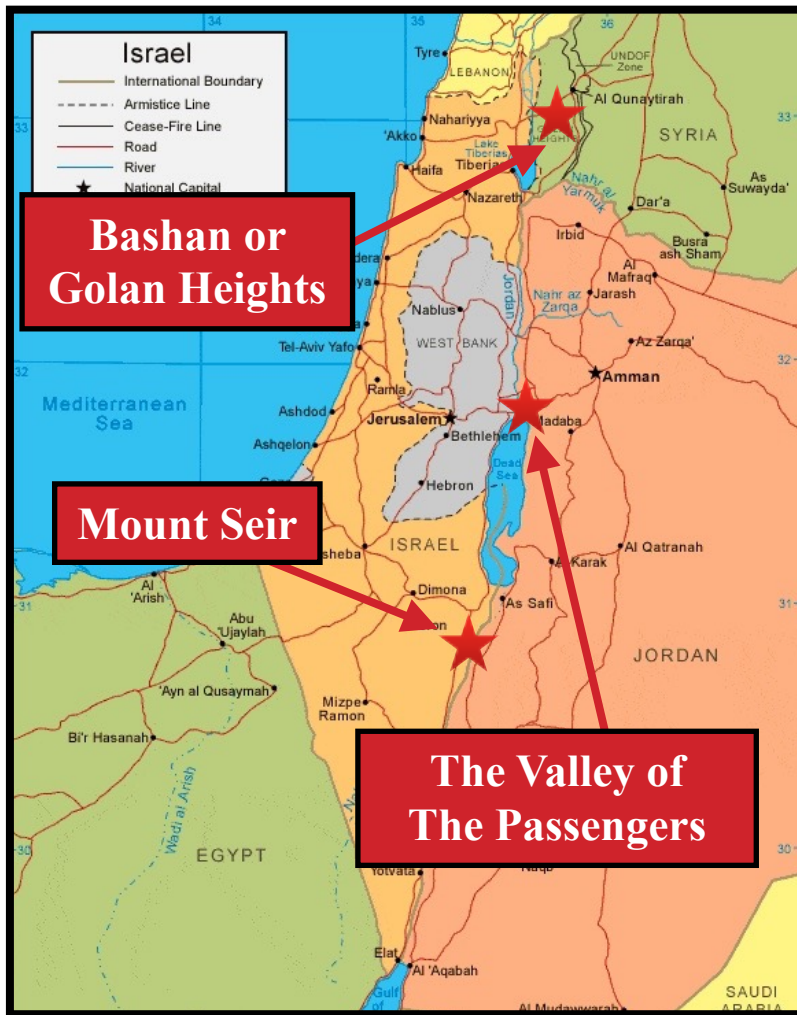
The Bible says that the other location from where the attack takes place is in Bashon which is the Golan Heights which is at the border of Syria and Lebanon. (pictured on the next page)

Ezekiel 39:17-18 KJV

17 And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord God; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; (continued next page)

gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood.

18 Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan.



Remember, the area of Mount Seir, (Ezekiel 35) descendants of Esau, is Bashan or Golan Heights just to the south of the Valley of the Passengers. Those individuals who classify themselves as Palestinians, being an Mount Seir arab or a muslim are actually descendants of Esau. (Ishmael - Islam).

They will be coming up The Valley of The Passengers to the north using the Dead Sea as protection to go straight at Jerusalem from the area of Jericho. This will be through the ancient high places. (Judea/Samaria)

The prophet Ezekiel gives you and I the plan of the enemy against Israel.

Ezekiel 38:12-13 KJV

*12 **To take a spoil,** and to take a prey; **to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited,** and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.*

13 Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? **to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?**

Ezekiel 38:12-13 AMPC

12 **To take spoil and prey, to turn your hand upon the desolate places now inhabited** and assail the people gathered out of the nations, who have obtained livestock and goods, who dwell at the center of the earth [Palestine].

13 Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish, with all their lionlike cubs [or satellite areas], shall say to you, Have you come to take spoil? Have you gathered your hosts to take the prey? **To carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take a great spoil?**

The word **spoil** in Hebrew means: to strip them of or take substance. **Goods** in Hebrew means: money, riches and substance. It is not going to be the oil in Israel that will cause these nations to come up against Israel, several of these nations have oil money. It is not going to be the wealth of the Dead Sea.

The Dead Sea is divided down the middle between Jordan and Israel today and although it is worth 2 trillion dollars... what are these nations going to do with an abundance of bromide, potassium, magnesium, chloride - basically salt.

The Bible tells us what makes them come up against Israel...

Ezekiel 38:4 KJV

4 And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:

The Bible says that God will put hooks into their jaws...you don't just speak with your jaw but you eat with your jaw/mouth and I believe that their is going to be a major famine. I believe that the nations that will attack Israel, the ones who have mistreated Israel are going to suffer an extremely severe famine. It could be from a war, chemical weapons or just a natural catastrophe.

Israel is one of the few countries in that part of the world where they have underground water sources and they grow their trees, produce, vegetation all along the eastern borders of Jordan. The other side of that land in Jordan is a desert. There is also over 150 farms south of the Dead Sea that's produce is exported to the countries that will attack it during the war of Gog and Magog.

Also, the Valley of Jezreel is home to many farms that export and the vegetation is green and in abundance. In addition, this area is significant because the Battle of Armageddon will be fought here in this valley in a place called Megiddo.



Megiddo (which is in the valley of Jezreel) is a city located in the territory given to the Israelite tribe of Manasseh when they entered the promised land. The word itself is translated from the Hebrew means re:Valley Of Jezreel slaughter or cut off. Before Joshua led the children of Israel into the land, it was a Canaanite royal city (Joshua 12:21).

Sometime after the city came under the control of Israel it was restored and greatly fortified under the reign of King Solomon.

1 Kings 9:15 KJV

15 And this is the reason of the levy which king Solomon raised; for to build the house of the Lord, and his own house, and Millo, and the wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor, and Megiddo, and Gezer.

The plain of Megiddo is known as the great battlefield of Palestine. Many decisive battles, especially in ancient times, have been fought in or near this area.

Isaiah 46:9-10 AMPC

*9 [Earnestly] remember the former things, [which I did] of old; for I am God, and there is no one else; I am God, and there is none like Me,
10 Declaring the end and the result from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure and purpose,*

Ecclesiastes 1:9-10 KJV

9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

10 Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.



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Overview of the History of the Lebanese-Israeli Conflict

Because Israel and Lebanon have never signed a peace accord, the countries remain officially in a state of war that has existed since 1948 when Lebanon joined other Arab nations against the newly formed Jewish state. The two countries have been bound by an armistice signed in 1949, which regulates the presence of military forces in southern Lebanon.

With a large Christian minority in an overwhelmingly Muslim region, mercantile and Westernized, Lebanon was considered the least hostile Arab neighbor to Israel — and the weakest. The rare skirmishes that occurred were mostly symbolic.

That began to change as Palestinian guerrillas became active. In 1968, Israeli commandos landed at Beirut airport and blew up 13 Lebanese airliners in retaliation for Arab militants firing on an Israeli airliner in Athens, Greece. Under pressure from staunch anti-Israeli Arab regimes in 1969, Lebanon signed an agreement that effectively gave away a southern region for Palestinian guerrillas to use as a springboard to infiltrate Israel or launch cross-border attacks.

Yasser Arafat's Palestinian guerrilla movement, which had established itself as a force within Lebanon during the country's civil war that began in 1975. The bulk of Palestinian guerrillas were evacuated from Lebanon, but a new Lebanese guerrilla force, Hezbollah, emerged with the aid of Iran and drawn from the Shiite Muslim community that inhabits southern and eastern Lebanon.

Notable among these were an April 1974 raid on the northern Israeli town of Kiryat Shmona, when Palestinian gunmen killed 16 civilians, mostly women and children, and an attack the following month on a school in Maalot in which a militant group killed 20 teenagers. Israel retaliated regularly as Palestinian guerrillas fired on northern Israel, and Israeli forces invaded southern Lebanon in 1978. A U.N. peacekeeping force deployed and the Israelis pulled out after installing a local Lebanese militia in a border buffer zone, but the attacks continued.

Israel invaded again on a wider scale in 1982 to destroy Yasser Arafat's Palestinian guerrilla movement, which had established itself as a force within Lebanon during the country's civil war that began in 1975. The bulk of Palestinian guerrillas were evacuated from Lebanon, but a new Lebanese guerrilla force, Hezbollah, emerged with the aid of Iran and drawn from the Shiite Muslim community that inhabits southern and eastern Lebanon.

U.S.-sponsored negotiations produced a Lebanon-Israel agreement but that deal died as Lebanon collapsed in another round of civil war. After a destructive and costly military campaign that lasted for three years, Israeli forces withdrew from most of Lebanon but retained a self-proclaimed "security zone" just north of its own border.

Fighting inside Lebanon would escalate periodically, including a 1993 Israeli bombing offensive and the 17-day "Grapes of Wrath" military campaign in 1996 that left about 150 Lebanese civilians dead. At that time, Israel was reacting against guerrilla attacks by Hezbollah against Israeli soldiers inside the occupied zone and against Katyusha rockets being fired by Hezbollah into Israel proper.

Israel left that zone in 2000, but warned that it would return if its security to the north was compromised. Hezbollah trumpeted Israel's withdrawal as a great victory.