

# God's Everlasting Covenant

presents

## **The End of the Age – Part I War of Gog/Magog and Armageddon: The Same War**

Western schools of prophecy have long taught that the war of Ezekiel 38 & 39 is a separate war that will take place in Israel before the Battle of Armageddon, which is the final war at the end of the age, described in part throughout the prophets and also in the book of Revelation. We respectfully disagree with this premise, and want to use the Scriptures themselves to prove why we believe these two wars are, in fact, the same war. We will go through several parallel passages that will help any Bible student to clearly see what we saw when it was pointed out to us by a good friend. We believe that our God is a God of peace and not of confusion, and He makes things absolutely clear in the Scriptures, if we will allow them to speak for themselves. There need not be any confusion with regard to prophecy or difficult to understand passages in the Scriptures. One need simply understand the symbolism and then, take the time to look for the similarities and parallels to come to a clear conclusion. Having said that, let's take a journey through the words of Ezekiel, Revelation and a few other prophets and see what we can see.

Before we actually begin comparing the words and language of both Ezekiel 38 and passages in Revelation, let's look at what Ezekiel has to say about the condition of Israel and the nations of the world.

My holy name I will make known in the midst of My people Israel; and I will not let My holy name be profaned any more. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. Ezekiel 39:7

This verse is really astounding when we think about it. When is it that the Holy Name of the LORD (*Yud-Hey-Vav-Hey or YHVH*) will be made known in the midst of Israel? When is it that His name will not be profaned, or made common, any longer by them? When is it that the nations will know that YHVH is the LORD? This will only happen at the very end of the age when Israel will recognize that the LORD is God. Israel will be purified. The LORD and His Name will be sanctified or made holy. The word for "holy" is *kadosh*, and it means to be set apart. In other words, both Israel and the nations will know that YHVH (the LORD) is set apart from all the other so-called "gods" of the earth. After the war of Gog and Magog, they will know that He is the true and only God. This can only happen at the end of the age.

Further in Ezekiel 39, it says:

I will manifest My glory among the nations; and all the nations will see My judgment which I have executed and My hand which I have laid on them. And the house of Israel will know that I am the LORD their God from that day onward.

Ezekiel 39:21-22

The prophet tells us that from that day onward, Israel will know that YHVH is their God. Again, when is it that all Israel will know this? It is at the end of the age. When is it that the God of Israel will judge the nations? At the end of the age. When is it that He will manifest His glory? It is at the end of the age. This can only be if this battle is the same as Armageddon and immediately precedes the Messianic Age. Listen to Rabbinic commentary on Ezekiel 38 & 39:

Chapters 38-39 foretell the climatic War of Gog and Magog, which will introduce the End of Days and the Messianic era. In it, Gog, from the land of Magog – allied with a multitude of nations – will advance to attack Israel in its own land. The war will end with the destruction of Israel's enemies and the promised Messianic era of bliss. (The Stone Edition, *Tanach*, Artscroll Series, Mesorah Publications Ltd., p. 1298)

The Jewish rabbis have long believed that the war of Gog and Magog is the final battle of mankind, when God Himself will destroy the enemies of Israel, His people.

Let's move on to compare the language used in Ezekiel with what is described for us in the book of Revelation.

- I. The LORD Himself is present in both battles. Let's look again at the text and this time, we will look at the Hebrew text.

My holy name I will make known in the midst of My people Israel; and I will not let My holy name be profaned any more. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. Ezekiel 39:7

The Hebrew for “in the midst” is *b'tavek* .

This is Strong's # 8432 and it means: in the center, among, in the middle, within. There can be no doubt what this means. He is physically present in the midst of them. The first letter is the *bet* or our “b” sound. When the *bet* precedes a word, it always means “in” or “with.” Placing a *bet* before the word *tavek* leaves no doubt as to what is being said here. The LORD is physically present with them.

Another peculiarity in this verse is the phrase “Holy One *in* Israel.” Notice it says “in” again. The Hebrew here is very interesting because this is the only place in the entire *Tanakh* (Old Testament) where this phrase is used. The phrase “Holy One of Israel” *kadosh Yisrael* appears over 35 times, but the phrase “Holy One *in* Israel” *kadosh b'Yisrael* only appears once in this verse in Ezekiel! There can be no doubt that the LORD Himself is physically present on the earth in the midst of Israel, fighting on her behalf against her enemies. Every Bible student and believer knows that the LORD Himself in the person of Yeshua will be present on the earth to fight the Battle of Armageddon.

And I saw heaven opened and behold a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness, He judges and wages war...He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations...And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "King of Kings and Lord of Lords." (Revelation 19:11-16)

2. The LORD defends Israel as a result of His fury and sends a huge earthquake in both battles.

"It will come about on that day, when Gog comes against the land of Israel," declares the LORD God, "that My fury will mount up in My anger. In My zeal and My blazing wrath I declare that on that day there will be an earthquake in the land of Israel...and all the men who are on the face of the earth will shake at My presence. The mountains also will be thrown down, the steep pathways will collapse and every wall will fall to the ground." (Ezekiel 38:18-20)

It is important to mention that not only is there an earthquake, but the LORD says that the earth "will shake at My presence." Here again is further proof that the LORD Himself is present on the earth. Every creature will shake at the presence of Yeshua the Messiah!

I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. (Revelation 6:12, 14)

From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. (Revelation 19:15)

In prophetic scripture, it is important to understand that "mountains" represent nations or kingdoms. These verses are telling us that all the nations of the earth will be shaken, moved out of their place. Their power as nations will cease to exist. The LORD Almighty has struck down the nations personally. They are no more. Only the Kingdom of the Messiah will remain.

3. Because of the fury and blazing wrath of the LORD, both armies are destroyed by the sword and by hail, fire and brimstone.

I will call for a sword against him on all My mountains," declares the LORD God. "Every man's sword will be against his brother. With pestilence and with blood I will enter into judgments with him; and I will rain on him and on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, a torrential rain, with hailstones, fire and brimstone." (Ezekiel 38:21-22)

And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound them. The first sounded, and there came hail and fire, mixed with blood, and they were thrown to the earth, and a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up. (Rev 8:6-7)

And they gathered them together in the place which in Hebrew is called *Har Megiddo* (Armageddon). Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl upon the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne saying, "It is done." And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it and so mighty...Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven upon men. (Rev 16:16-21)

The prophet Zechariah adds his own perspective in this well known passage that prophecy experts agree is clearly speaking about the final battle of mankind on the earth against God.

On that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. (Zechariah 14:4)

Notice the great earthquake that splits the Mount of Olives in two at the presence of the LORD Yeshua Himself!

4. Both armies are eaten by wildlife.

You will fall on the mountains of Israel, you and all your troops and the peoples who are with you; I will give you as food to every kind of predatory bird and best of the field. (Ezekiel 39:4)

As for you, son of man, thus says the LORD God, "Speak to every kind of bird and to every beast of the field, 'Assemble and come, gather from every side to My sacrifice which I am going to sacrifice for you, as a great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel, that you may eat flesh and drink blood. You will eat the flesh of mighty men and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, as though they were rams, lambs, goats and bulls, all of them fatlings of Bashan.' (Ezekiel 39:17-18)

Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' (Revelation 19:9)

Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God, so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free and slaves, an small and great." (Revelation 19:17-18)

At the end of the age, men will have a clear choice: either they will be eating with the Messiah at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, or they will be eaten by the birds and wild beasts because they will be supper!

5. The enemy comes from the north in both battles.

You will come from your place out of the parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great assembly and a mighty army; and you will come up against My people Israel like a cloud to cover the land. (Ezekiel 38:15)

Although there is no direct mention of the enemy from the north in Revelation, prophecy teachers and analysts are in agreement that the “Day of the LORD” spoken of in Joel 2 is at the end of days and coincides with the final battle of Armageddon.

“But I will remove the northern army far from you...” (Joel 2:20)

The prophet Daniel also talks about the end time battle, when the king from the north will fight against the king from the south.

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. (Daniel 11:40)

6. All the weapons will be destroyed at the end of both battles.

Then those who inhabit the cities of Israel will go out and make fires with the weapons and burn them, both shields and bucklers, bows and arrows, war clubs and spears, and for seven years they will make fires of them. So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, says the Lord GOD. (Ezekiel 39:8-10)

If there was to be a war again, why in the world would Israel destroy all the weapons? There are so many of them that it takes a full seven years to burn them all.

In agreement, the prophet Micah declares after what is clearly the final battle of mankind:

Many nations will come and say, “Come let us go up to the mountain of the LORD and to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us about His ways and that we may walk in His paths.” For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And He will judge between many peoples and render decisions for mighty distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they train for war.” (Micah 4:2-3)

7. Gog is the Antichrist/Antimesiah and all the prophets have spoken of Gog.

And you will invade my people Israel like a cloud covering the land. This will be in the last days; and I will bring you against my land so that the nations will know me when, before their eyes, I am set apart as holy through you, Gog. The Lord God says, "Are you not the one I have spoken of long ago through my servants the prophets of Israel? Back then, they prophesied for many years that I would have you invade them." (Ezekiel 38:16-17)

Let me ask you a question? When or where did the prophets speak of Gog in the Scriptures? He is not mentioned specifically as Gog, in the Prophets before or after Ezekiel. But when it is understood that Gog is the Antichrist, we see that the prophets have indeed spoken of him.

- a. Isaiah spoke of him as the *King of Babylon* and in verse 12-17, his lament against the King changes to a lament about Satan, the morning star, son of the dawn.

How did you come to fall from the heavens, morning star, son of the dawn? How did you come to be cut to the ground, conqueror of nations? You thought to yourself, 'I will scale the heavens, I will raise my throne above God's stars. I will sit on the Mount of Assembly far away in the North. I will rise past the tops of the clouds, I will make myself like the Most High.' (Isaiah 14:12-14)

The King of Babylon is a type of Antichrist.

- b. Ezekiel spoke of him as the *Pharaoh, King of Egypt*.

I am against you, Pharaoh king of Egypt, you big crocodile lying in the streams of the Nile!...But I will put hooks in your jaws and make your Nile fish stick to your scales...you will fall in the open field and not be gathered or buried; but I will give you as food to wild animals and birds. Then all who live in Egypt will know that I am the LORD...(Ezekiel 29:1-6)

This language sounds remarkably close to Ezekiel 38! The Pharaoh of Egypt is a type of Antichrist.

- c. Ezekiel spoke of him as the *Prince and King of Tyre*.

The word of the LORD came to me: "Human being, tell the prince of Tyre that the LORD God says: Because you are so proud and have said, "I am god; I sit on the throne of God surrounded by the sea", yet you are a man, not God, even though you think that you think like God. Sure, you are wiser than Daniel [the prophet]! No secret can be hidden from you! (Ezekiel 28:1-3)

The Word of the LORD came to me: "Human being, raise a lament for the King of Tyre, and tell him that the LORD God says: You put the seal on perfection; you were full of wisdom and perfect in beauty; you were in Eden the garden of

god; covered with all kinds of precious stones – you were a cherub, protecting a large region; I placed you on God’s holy mountain...you were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you...(Ezekiel 28:11-14)

When was the King of Tyre in Eden, the garden of God? This is none other than Lucifer who changed into the serpent who tempted Adam and Eve. This is a type of Antichrist, and teaches us to that Antichrist will be inhabited directly by Satan himself.

- d. Isaiah, Ezekiel and Micah speak of him as *the Assyrian*.

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to me the One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting." Therefore He shall give them up, until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; then the remnant of His brethren shall return to the children of Israel. And He shall stand and feed His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; and they shall abide, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth; And this One shall be peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land, and when he treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princely men. (Micah 5:2-5)

These verses are speaking of the time before Messiah returns to deliver Israel. When the remnant of the Messiah’s brethren have returned to the Land of Israel, then the Assyrian will invade the land. This is the Antichrist, and Messiah will raise up seven shepherds, led by Him, the eighth, to fight against him and destroy him.

8. The entire chapter of Daniel 11 spoke of him as the *King of the North*. We have already cited Daniel 11:40, but let’s look at it one more time.

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him [king of the north]: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. (Daniel 11:40)

These verses have found their fulfillment once already in the Seleucid ruler Antiochus IV who fought against Ptolemy of Egypt just before the Maccabean revolt. But they are a type and precursor of The Antichrist, and once again, the King of the North will fight against the King of the South and prevail over him. In part 2 of our series, we will discuss this in more detail to see how this might be fulfilled again.

From all these verses, we see that precursors or types of the Antichrist have appeared throughout Israel’s history to trouble and destroy her. The final Antichrist will be inhabited by Satan himself. We could say, he is the embodiment of Satan in the flesh. He is the counterfeit or the false messiah, Satan’s son, an anti-type to the true Messiah who is God’s son and is inhabited by the Spirit of God.

Although all these facts should help us to be certain about the identity of Antichrist and Gog being one and the same person in the Scriptures, there is one last verse that brings it home. After Satan is bound in the Abyss (pit) for one thousand years, he is released. Immediately, we see the results:

Next, I saw an angel coming down from heaven, who had the key to the Abyss and a great chain in his hand. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and chained him up for a thousand years. He threw him into the Abyss, locked it and sealed it over him; so that he could not deceive the nations any more until the thousand years were over. After that, he has to be set free for a little while.  
(Revelation 20:1-3)

When the thousand years are over, the Adversary will be set free from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle. (Revelation 20:7-8)

There can be no doubt as to who Gog is and that he is inhabited by the devil himself. Although the first Gog was destroyed on the mountains of Israel, Satan leads the nations into battle against the Messiah one more time, and there is another Gog/Magog war after there has been peace on the earth for one thousand years. The inhabitation of a man by Satan qualifies him as *the Antichrist*. Gog and the Antichrist are the same person.

In conclusion, we believe it is clear from the Scriptures that Armageddon and the War of Gog and Magog are the same war. This belief would radically alter the view of western teachers, prophecy buffs and the Body of Messiah. Most believe that the war of Gog/Magog is a Russian-led invasion in an alliance between Iran and many of the Islamic nations, and they believe that Islam will be destroyed and therefore cannot be the final beast empire of the book of Daniel and Revelation. In our view, this is a dangerous position to hold because it prevents us from seeing the Islamic problem that is right in front of our faces. This will be catastrophic for many of the followers of Yeshua, and will result in them being caught completely off guard, leaving them unprepared and resulting in the martyrdom of tens or even hundreds of thousands during the tribulation period that will soon be upon us. The deception of Islam is very powerful. Yeshua Himself said the deception would be so great, that even the elect would be deceived if that were possible. In 2 Thessalonians 2:11, God is going to give mankind over to a strong delusion. It is our belief that Islam is this strong delusion. It is difficult for Westerners to see this, until they study Islamic eschatology. What Islam believes fits perfectly, like a glove, with what the Bible teaches about the Antichrist and his final beast empire. It is our hope that our readers will not blindly believe what we say either, but rather be good Bereans, study this subject thoroughly for themselves and stop believing everything that western prophecy teachers say. When we stand before our God one day, we will not be able to blame anyone else for our deception. "See to it that you are not deceived. False Messiahs and prophets will arise and do great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand." I must confess that I once believed no deception of the Antichrist could be so great that I could be deceived. After studying Islam, I see now how it is possible. Satan is very crafty and clever. We must know our enemy and what is coming. Yeshua warned us. We would do well to seriously heed His warning.



May the LORD bless you as you seek Him and His truth!

For further insights and study, please refer to *God's War on Terror* by Walid Shoebat, and Joel Richardson's, *The Islamic Antichrist*.

Next in our *End of the Age* series, we'll learn about where Gog comes from, and why he can't be from Russia or any western European nation. We'll also prove using the Scriptures that the Antichrist is not Jewish. Watch for Part 2.

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