

Gog and Magog

Written by K B Napier
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It is likely that most Christians only vaguely know of 'Gog and Magog'. Equally vaguely they probably remember the names are found in The Revelation (actually, Revelation 20:8), and are something (vaguely) to do with end of time trouble. Well, they are vaguely right. However, let us look at the subject in a more detailed biblical context.

Revelation 20:8

“And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.”

This is when Satan, in his last throes of freedom, gathers together allies to fight with his own army, against Israel, using physical and spiritual means. But, as in Joshua, when many kings combined their innumerable armies to defeat Israel, they will fail, because God will obliterate them completely. The application for us today is the wicked cooperation of all who hate God, and who attack Christians.

Those involved may indeed be a foreign nation, but 'Magog' will be all and any who hate us, and who loathe God. This is already being witnessed throughout the world, and is led in the West by the UK and Europe. There are also many factions, from false religions, to Islam, to homosexuals, to fake environmentalists, and those who are corrupt within the churches, such as true charismatics and near-dead nominal 'Christians'. Between them, they easily form the forces of Magog. But, they will be defeated and erased by God. This persecution has already begun, and this is how we know that the time of Revelation 20:8 is upon us, and upon Israel.

But, though prophesied, Christians are not to just sit back and allow the enemy to put their feet upon our neck! We are to act with confidence and vigour:

“Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,”

(Ezekiel 38:2)

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The 'Son of man' in this context is not Christ, but the prophet Ezekiel. He was to tell king Gog that he, and all his allies, were going to be defeated, for *"I am against thee"*, and those whom God is against are already dead.

In spite of this promised action by God against enemies, the people were also to act: *"Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them."*

(38:7). The move against believers by Gog will be when those believers think all is well.

"And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face. For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;" (38:18,19)

In those days at the height of persecution and promised death, God will act with immense force. He will *"call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains"* (verse 21); there will be pestilence and blood 'rained' upon the enemy (verse 22) with rain, huge hailstones, fire and brimstone. In this way, God will again be known as the Lord. Think this is just Old Testament imagery? No, read what happened to Canaanites who died under the command of God through Joshua!

Background Information

Magog was the land ruled by king Gog. Gog was a descendant of Noah, through Japheth. The land he had was between Cappadocia and Media. That is, between central Turkey and North-West Iran, including Azerbaijan, Kurdistan and some of Kermanshah. The land was referred to as 'Mada' in texts by the Assyrian king, Shalmaneser III (858-824BC). Thus, far north of Israel.

In Ezekiel 38:3 we find God was against king Gog, and thus also against Meshech (son of Japheth) and Tubal (also a son of Japheth), their people and their lands (east Asia Minor). God says they were in league with Persia, Ethiopia and Libya, plus the people of Gomer (eldest son of Japheth) and his son, Togarmah, and his own tribes in the north and *"many people"*.

All of these would gather like locusts to attack Israel, as a *"cloud to cover the land"* in the "latter

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days” (Ezekiel 38:16). But that will be when God will display great wrath against them (verse 18). For this reason Ezekiel was to prophesy against Gog and all his associates (39:1). Gog himself and his army would die and be buried in Israel, in the Valley of Hamongog, as a testimony against those who hate God and His people.

In the very end days Gog and all who are like him will “*gather them to battle*” a vast number of enemies, so number so great that no-one will be able to count them (Revelation 20:8). They will deceive most in their efforts to destroy God’s children. This enemy will come against Christians and the ‘beloved city’ (Jerusalem). Is this not what is happening before our very eyes? Is not the world deceived and godless? When this persecution is at its height, God will kill them all and will imprison Satan.

The people of Magog will be devoured by fire from God, so that they will know He is in control and to be feared (Ezekiel 39:6). The whole picture is that of the enemies of God combining forces to defeat the people of God. When they are at the height of their warfare (physical and spiritual) God will smite them to a man. This time is almost complete, even now.

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