

MISTAKE 30

GOG IN EZEKIEL 38,39 IS NOT THE SAME CHARACTER AS THE FINAL ANTICHRIST

In Scripture, there are evil two personages who are highlighted as major players in the last days: Gog and the Final Antichrist. A common mistake is to assume that they are the same personage. The following points should be understood in order to clear up this mistake:

GOG

First, there is the leader of the invasion of Israel in as recorded in Ezekiel 38,39. His title is “Gog.” He comes from the land of Magog and he will arise as a leader of a coalition against Israel in the “last days:”

Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him (Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them. After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword and gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely (Ezekiel 38:1-2,7-8 NET).

Gog is definitely a human being who will be the leader of this “last days” group of nations who will invade Israel.

THE COMING WORLD LEADER

Second, there is a coming world leader. Through the help of his cohort, the False Prophet, the entire world will be forced to worship him and his image. Among other titles, he is known as the Antichrist. John wrote the following about him:

Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour (1 John 2:18 NET).

Since these two individuals have certain things in common, Gog and the Final Antichrist, some assume they are the same person. However, this is not what the Bible teaches.

GOG AND THE FINAL ANTICHRIST ARE TWO DIFFERENT PEOPLE

There are a number of reasons as to why Gog and the final Antichrist are not the same person. They can be listed as follows:

DIFFERENCE 1 THEY ARE FROM DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

The last days coalition of nations against Israel is led by a leader with the title of Gog. He is said to come to Israel from the “far north:”

Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him (Ezekiel 38:1 NKJV).

Gog is called the “prince of Rosh,” modern day Russia.

We also read that he will come from the “far north:”

Then you will come from your place out of the far north, you and many peoples with you (Ezekiel 38:15 NKJV).

The farthest point north from both Israel and Babylon (where Ezekiel was prophesying from) is modern day Russia.

On the other hand, the final Antichrist will arise from the revived Roman Empire. This the fourth of four kingdoms of Nebuchadnezzar's dream that Daniel explained:

Then there will be a fourth kingdom, one strong like iron. Just like iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything, and as iron breaks in pieces all of these metals, so it will break in pieces and crush the others (Daniel 2:40 NET).

The leader of this fourth kingdom will come from that part of the world, western Europe.

In other words, these two "last days" personages arise from two different geographical areas.

DIFFERENCE 2 GOG IS A MAN OF WAR, ANTICHRIST STARTS OUT AS A MAN OF PEACE

When we are introduced to these two characters, we find completely different descriptions of them.

In our book *The Final Antichrist* we chronicle his career. We find that he rises out of obscurity and becomes known as "a man of peace." It is only after three-and one-half years in the limelight that his true nature is revealed, he is a beast.

Gog, on the other hand, is an established warrior, a man of war. When we are introduced to him it is in the context of invading Israel with a military coalition that is under his control. Gog wants to take something from the chosen people that he, as well as the other invading countries, both want and need.

DIFFERENCE 3 GOG RULES A COUNTY, THE FINAL ANTICHRIST THE ENTIRE WORLD

Gog is a leader of a particular country. Most likely, it is modern day Russia. We have documented this in our book *The Ezekiel 38,39 Invasion* Appendix 1. The book is a free download on our website educatingourworld.com under the heading of *Bible Prophecy*.

On the other hand, the final Antichrist will not be the leader of only one country. Indeed, he will rise up to head up a ten-nation confederation. Eventually he will become a worldwide dictator while Gog's influence will be localized to one region. Note how the Scripture describes the Final Antichrist, the beast:

The beast was permitted to go to war against the saints and conquer them. He was given ruling authority over every tribe, people, language, and nation, and all those who live on the earth will worship the beast, everyone whose name has not been written since the foundation of the world in the book of life belonging to the Lamb who was killed (Revelation 13:7-8 NET).

DIFFERENCE 4 GOG SEEMINGLY APPEARS BEFORE THE RISE OF ANTICHRIST

The timing is also different. One of the last days scenarios, though certainly not the only one, has Gog arising before Antichrist. In other words, the invasion of Ezekiel 38 and 39 takes place before the Antichrist rises to prominence. Accordingly, they do not appear on the stage of history at the same time.

**DIFFERENCE 5 THE ARMY OF GOG IS STOPPED WHEN ENTERING THE HOLY LAND,
ANTICHRIST SETS UP HIS HEADQUARTERS THERE**

The army of Gog is destroyed when they enter the Promised Land:

I will summon the sword against you on all the hills of Israel, says the Sovereign LORD. Your men will turn their swords against each other (Ezekiel 38:21 NLT)

The final Antichrist, on the other hand, establishes his headquarters in the Holy Land:

He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him (Daniel 11:45 NIV).

“Between the seas” means it will be somewhere between the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea. The mention of the “beautiful holy mountain” refers to Jerusalem.

Therefore, it seems that Antichrist will set up his headquarters on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem or somewhere north of the city.

This is another indication that they cannot be the same person.

**DIFFERENCE 6 GOG IS DESTROYED BY GOD WHEN HE ENTERS THE HOLY LAND,
ANTICHRIST IS THROWN INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE AT THE RETURN OF
CHRIST**

It also seems Gog dies, along with his entire coalition, the moment they set foot in the Promised Land:

On that day I will assign Gog a grave in Israel. It will be the valley of those who travel east of the sea; it will block the way of the travelers. There they will bury Gog and all his horde; they will call it the valley of Hamon-Gog (Ezekiel 39:11 NET).

He is then buried in the Holy Land.

The Final Antichrist will rule the world for some three-and- one-half years. He will only be stopped at the Second Coming of Christ:

Now the beast was seized, and along with him the false prophet who had performed the signs on his behalf - signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. Both of them were thrown alive into the lake of fire burning with sulfur (Revelation 19:20 NET).

Instead of being buried, the final Antichrist will be thrown alive into the “lake of fire.”

In sum, the conclusion is clear: we are looking at two different persons when we consider what the Scripture says about Gog and the final Antichrist. Hence, it is a mistake to assume that they are the same person.