



## The Last Days Series - Part 5

Pastor Christopher Miller – August 30, 2020

-greet / -welcome online viewers / -share service / -New Staff  
Relaunch Wednesday Nights this coming Wednesday, 9/2

According to the Jewish Encyclopedia, *concerning the life of Ezekiel there are but a few scattered references contained in the book bearing his name. He was the son of Buzi, a priest of Jerusalem and consequently a member of the Zadok family, as such he was among the aristocracy whom Nebuchadnezzar (597 B.C.), after the first capture of Jerusalem, carried off to be exiles in Babylonia.*

*Ezekiel therefore reckons the years from the abduction of Jehoiachin. He lived among a colony of fellow sufferers in or near Tel-abib on the River Chebar, which probably formed an arm of the extensive Babylonian network of canals. Ezekiel was married and lived in his own house. On the fifth day of the fourth month in the fifth year of his exile (Tammuz, 592 B.C.), he beheld on the banks of the Chebar the glory of the Lord, who consecrated him as His prophet.*

*The latest date in his book is the first day of the first month in the twenty-seventh year of his exile (Nisan, 570); consequently, his prophecies extended over twenty-two years. The elders of the exiles repeatedly visited him to obtain a divine oracle. He exerted no permanent influence upon his contemporaries, however, whom he repeatedly calls the "rebellious house", complaining that although they flock in great numbers to hear him they regard his discourse as a sort of esthetic amusement, and fail to act in accordance with his words.*

*If the enigmatical date, "the thirtieth year", be understood to apply to the age of the prophet—and this view still has the appearance of probability—Ezekiel must have been born exactly at the time of the reform in the ritual introduced by Josiah. Concerning his death nothing is known.*

*Ezekiel occupies a distinct and unique position among the Hebrew Prophets. He stands midway between two epochs, drawing his conclusions from the one and pointing out the path toward the other. Through the destruction of the city and the Temple, the downfall of the state, and the banishment of the people; the natural development of Israel was forcibly interrupted. Prior to these events Israel was a united and homogeneous nation. True, it was characterized by a spirit totally unlike that of any other people; and the consciousness of this difference had ever been present in the best and noblest spirits of Israel.*

*The demands of state and people, however, had to be fulfilled, and to this end the monarchical principle was established. There is undoubtedly an element of truth in the opinion that the human monarchy was antagonistic to the dominion of God, and that the political life of Israel would tend to estrange the nation from its eternal spiritual mission. The prophecy of the pre-exilic period was compelled to take these factors into account, and ever addressed itself either to the people as a nation or to its leaders—king, princes, priests—and sometimes to a distinguished individual, such as Shebna, the minister of the royal house mentioned in Isaiah; so that the opinion arose that the Prophets themselves were merely a sort of statesmen.”*

Now the Book of Ezekiel can be broken down into four primary parts:

1. Israel's Captivity to Foreign Nations and the Reasons for the captivity can be found in Ezekiel chapters 1-24.
2. Judgment upon the Nations that have come against Israel can be found in Ezekiel chapters 25-32.
3. Israel in the last days before the return of the Messiah can be found in Ezekiel chapters 33-39.
4. The Millennial Temple and the reign of the Messiah in the Earth can be found in Ezekiel chapters 40-48.

So if you will notice with me, parts 3 and 4, that I just defined, we all find ourselves dead in the middle of these two sections in our modern time. Israel has been restored as a Nation just as Ezekiel 37 records and it is a setup leading to the return of Messiah! Remember the Words of Christ in the Gospel of Saint Matthew 24:32-35 - 32 "From the fig tree learn its LESSON: as soon as its branches become tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. 33 So also, when you see all these things, you know that HE IS near, at the very gates. 34 Truly, I say to you, this generation will not PASS AWAY until all these things take place. 35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

And what did Jesus say, **“From the fig tree learn its LESSON (IT’S FAMILIAR ANALOGY): as soon as its branches become tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near.”**

Remember what I taught you last Sunday? It was a Code within a Code! Jesus was giving a deeper prophetic insight regarding the Nation of Israel being reborn and we discussed that last Sunday. It is the sign of the Nation of Israel being reborn that would be a prophetic siren and Jesus said that the generation that sees the Nation of Israel rise again as its own Nation would not cease to exist until these things begin to manifest in the earth.

I firmly believe that Matthew 24:33-35 is a prophetic utterance of Jesus addressing the rebirth of the Nation of Israel and Ezekiel’s prophecy found in Ezekiel 37 about the reformation, rebirth and reestablishment of the Nation is in lock step with Christ’s prophetic direction. Matthew 24:33-35 and Ezekiel 37 are speaking about the same thing! And the last two chapters of the 3<sup>rd</sup> point I outlined regarding Israel in the last days before the return of the Messiah, which can be found in Ezekiel chapters 33-39, leaves us transitioning from Ezekiel 37 into Ezekiel 38 and 39.

Remember that Ezekiel 40 is a transition into the Millennial Temple and the reign of the Messiah in the Earth which is outlined in Ezekiel chapters 40-48; Ezekiel 40-48 ties directly into the Book of the Revelation regarding the Millennial Reign of Christ, the establishment of Messiah over all the earth, and His Rule and Reign being administered from Jerusalem!

So if one were to simply stay in order with the Text by chapter then it could be easily asserted that the next major battle, after the Psalm 83 conflict that we discussed last Sunday, is the Battle of Gog of Magog.

Now, last Sunday we only read the first half of Ezekiel 37; namely, verses 1-14. Verses 15-22 outline the reunion of Judah and Israel as predicted by the uniting of the two sticks in the prophet's hand. The blessings of their union under Messiah is outlined in verses 23-28 which is a blessing to come. Some Bible Prophecy teachers even suggest that the union of the two branches mentioned in verses 15-17 are not only pointing to God uniting the Tribes as one Nation but also Jew and Gentile together as one new people under Messiah to rule the Nations.

Notice these verses with me found in Ezekiel 37:15-17, “<sup>15</sup> The word of the Lord came to me: <sup>16</sup> “Son of man, take a stick<sub>kdj</sub> and write on it, ‘For Judah, and the people of Israel associated with him’; then take another stick and write on it, ‘For Joseph (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of Israel associated with him.’ <sup>17</sup> And join them one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand.” Whether you subscribe to this thought or not, the goal is clear and that is the emphasis of uniting under the headship of Christ the Messiah to rule from the Throne of His Father David from the City of Jerusalem!

To continue our course forward without getting too caught up in the details, there is a prophetic prediction in Ezekiel 38 and 39 that there will be a coalition of nations that will invade Israel. The purpose of this conflict is to take a spoil according to Ezekiel.

The purpose will be to latch onto and lay hold of the tremendous natural resources available in Israel. As we have seen things develop though, we have come to understand that when we look at these opening verses of Ezekiel 38:5,8, we discover that all of these are attached to Russia in some way and that they have something in common with one another.

Rather than just strictly a political coalition, we also have a religious coalition. What we know about every one of these countries mentioned and predicted here in this invasion is that all of them have a common religion, and it is the religion of Islam. Thus it seems to be a political and religious coalition; it is an Islamic Invasion. And it is after this great war leading into the tribulation period that the Millennial Temple will be built in Jerusalem but I want you to notice with me a very strange prophecy by Zechariah noted in Zechariah 12:1-10 that doesn't make sense without New Testament insight.

**Zechariah 12:1-10, "The oracle of the word of the Lord concerning Israel: Thus declares the Lord, who stretched out the heavens and founded the earth and formed the spirit of man within him: "Behold, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the surrounding peoples.**



The siege of Jerusalem will also be against Judah. <sup>3</sup> On that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples. All who lift it will surely hurt themselves. And all the nations of the earth will gather against it. <sup>4</sup> On that day, declares the Lord, I will strike every horse with panic, and its rider with madness. But for the sake of the house of Judah I will keep my eyes open, when I strike every horse of the peoples with blindness. <sup>5</sup> Then the clans of Judah shall say to themselves, ‘The inhabitants of Jerusalem have strength through the Lord of hosts, their God.’ <sup>6</sup> “On that day I will make the clans of Judah like a blazing pot in the midst of wood, like a flaming torch among sheaves. And they shall devour to the right and to the left all the surrounding peoples, while Jerusalem shall again be inhabited in its place, in Jerusalem. <sup>7</sup> “And the Lord will give salvation to the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem may not surpass that of Judah. <sup>8</sup> On that day the Lord will protect the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them on that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the angel of the Lord, going before them. <sup>9</sup> And on that day I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup> “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.



Notice that they are weeping over having to see the one that they have pierced; they will see Messiah and know that Jesus is Lord because the Lord will pour out a spirit of Grace upon them and they will receive the one whom their forefathers crucified realizing the mistakes of their past.

Jesus will save Jerusalem and He will save the elect amongst the Jewish People, which John talks about in the Book of the Revelation, whom the Father will call by His Spirit! But the Battle of Gog of Magog spoken of by Ezekiel is a major turning point of transition from one prophetic season to the next.

So who is Gog? - According to 1 Chronicles 5:4,11, Gog of Magog is a Reubenite; According to Ezekiel 38:2,3 he is the Prince of Meshech and Tubal. But in Revelation 20:8-15, he is a leader in the Final Battle.

Notice verses 2 and 3 of Ezekiel 38, “Son of man, set your face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him and say, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.” What is meant by chief prince here in this Text? Is it a literal man or a Spiritual Principality in the Earth? I bring this up because Gog reappears in Revelation 20:8 after the millennial reign; 1000 years of the Reign of Christ in the Earth after the Fall of the Antichrist and the Battle of Armageddon.

Bear in mind that the battle after the 1000 years of Christ's rule and reign and the Battle of Gog of Magog of Ezekiel 38 and 39 are two separate conflicts. So it would be impossible that "Gog" would be the same person found in both texts; this reference to Gog being the Chief Prince of Meshech and Tubal must be in reference to Spiritual Principalities in the Earth. Therefore the Question must be asked, "has a point of reference such as this been used before regarding Spiritual Principalities in the Earth within the text of the Bible?" And the answer is "Yes".

The Prophet Daniel in Daniel 10:7-14 recorded the following event that took place, "And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision, but a great trembling fell upon them, and they fled to hide themselves. <sup>8</sup> So I was left alone and saw this great vision, and no strength was left in me. My radiant appearance was fearfully changed,<sup>[b]</sup> and I retained no strength. <sup>9</sup> Then I heard the sound of his words, and as I heard the sound of his words, I fell on my face in deep sleep with my face to the ground.<sup>10</sup> And behold, a hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. <sup>11</sup> And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you." And when he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling. <sup>12</sup> Then he said to me, "Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I

have come because of your words. <sup>13</sup> The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia, <sup>14</sup> and came to make you understand what is to happen to your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come.”

Notice that the Angel Gabriel was sent to the Earth from Heaven to deliver a prophetic word in response to Daniel's Prayers but a Demonic Principality in the Earth, that Gabriel called “The Prince of the Kingdom of Persia”, withstood Gabriel for 21 days until Michael, one of the chief princes, came to deliver Gabriel from the opposition of the Kings of Persia. No finite man has the power to stop or prohibit an infinite being; what Daniel is recording here is a cosmic battle that happened in the 2<sup>nd</sup> heaven or otherwise referred to as the Spirit Realm. This is not “hocus pocus”; this is Bible.

Furthermore, where is the land of Magog? Ezekiel 38:5-6 records, “<sup>5</sup> Persia, Cush, and Put are with them, all of them with shield and helmet; <sup>6</sup> Gomer and all his hordes; Beth-togarmah from the uttermost parts of the north with all his hordes—many peoples are with you.

Persia = Iran; Cush = Ethiopia; Put = Libya; Gomer = Germanic tribes of Europe or Germany; House of Tugarma = Turkey. Interesting nugget is that Meshech and Tubol, according to ancient maps, reaches up towards

Moscow and covers the southern part of Russia. Remember this is not only a Political Alliance but a Religious Alliance as well.

But what about the Timing of the Battle of Gog of Magog:

- Ezekiel 38:8 – “After many days you will be mustered. In the latter years you will go against the land that is restored from war, the land whose people were gathered from many peoples upon the mountains of Israel, which had been a continual waste. Its people were brought out from the peoples and now dwell securely, all of them.

- Notice the references to after many days, in the later years, land will be restored from war, Israel dwells safely

- Ezekiel 38:10-11 – “Thus says the Lord God: On that day, thoughts will come into your mind, and you will devise an evil scheme <sup>11</sup> and say, ‘I will go up against the land of unwalled villages. I will fall upon the quiet people who dwell securely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having no bars or gates,’

- Notice the references to the land of unwalled villages, no walls, gates or bars.

- Ezekiel 38:14 - <sup>14</sup>“Therefore, son of man, prophesy, and say to Gog, Thus says the Lord God: On that day when my people Israel are dwelling securely, will you not know it?

- Notice the references to the people of Israel will dwell safely

The bottom line is that the Battle of Gog of Magog found in Ezekiel 38-39 will happen when Israel is restored as a nation, has its own military and dwells securely within its borders. When they dwell securely is when this Battle will be able to manifest on the World Scene.

Ezekiel 38:14-23 records, <sup>14</sup>“Therefore, son of man, prophesy, and say to Gog, Thus says the Lord God: On that day when my people Israel are dwelling securely, will you not know it? <sup>15</sup>You will come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great host, a mighty army. <sup>16</sup>You will come up against my people Israel, like a cloud covering the land. In the latter days I will bring you against my land, that the nations may know me, when through you, O Gog, I vindicate my holiness before their eyes.<sup>17</sup>“Thus says the Lord God: Are you he of whom I spoke in former days by my servants the prophets of Israel, who in those days prophesied for years that I would bring you against them? <sup>18</sup>But on that day, the day that Gog shall come against the land of Israel, declares the Lord God, my wrath will be roused in my anger. <sup>19</sup>For in my jealousy and in my blazing wrath I declare, On that

day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel. <sup>20</sup> The fish of the sea and the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the field and all creeping things that creep on the ground, and all the people who are on the face of the earth, shall quake at my presence. And the mountains shall be thrown down, and the cliffs shall fall, and every wall shall tumble to the ground. <sup>21</sup> I will summon a sword against Gog<sup>[a]</sup> on all my mountains, declares the Lord God. Every man's sword will be against his brother. <sup>22</sup> With pestilence and bloodshed I will enter into judgment with him, and I will rain upon him and his hordes and the many peoples who are with him torrential rains and hailstones, fire and sulfur. <sup>23</sup> So I will show my greatness and my holiness and make myself known in the eyes of many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord.”

Ezekiel 39 outlines what God does in this battle (Pastor Brad if you will come)

Ezekiel 39:2 - <sup>2</sup> And I will turn you about and drive you forward<sup>[b]</sup> and bring you up from the uttermost parts of the north, and lead you against the mountains of Israel.

What is “utter most parts of the north” geographically speaking to location wise? Russia

Ezekiel 39:7-8 - <sup>7</sup>“And my holy name I will make known in the midst of my people Israel, and I will not let my holy name be profaned anymore. And the nations shall know that I am the Lord, the Holy One in Israel. <sup>8</sup>Behold, it is coming and it will be brought about, declares the Lord God. That is the day of which I have spoken.

The Nations of the World will know there is a God who rules over Israel due to the outcome of this War. “And the nations shall know that I am the Lord, the Holy One in Israel.”

Ezekiel 39:11-12 - <sup>11</sup>“On that day I will give to Gog a place for burial in Israel, the Valley of the Travelers, east of the sea. It will block the travelers, for there Gog and all his multitude will be buried. It will be called the Valley of Hamon-gog. <sup>12</sup>For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land. <sup>13</sup>All the people of the land will bury them, and it will bring them renown on the day that I show my glory, declares the Lord God.

The Lord will utterly destroy these nations who come against Israel and will destroy the armies of Gog; it will take seven months for Israel to bury the dead who are killed in this conflict. This time frame for burial gives us significant insight in the size and force of this coalition.



Ezekiel 39:21-24, “And I will set my glory among the nations, and all the nations shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid on them. <sup>22</sup> The house of Israel shall know that I am the Lord their God, from that day forward. <sup>23</sup> And the nations shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity, because they dealt so treacherously with me that I hid my face from them and gave them into the hand of their adversaries, and they all fell by the sword. <sup>24</sup> I dealt with them according to their uncleanness and their transgressions, and hid my face from them.”

Interesting note here: Notice the words used in verse 21, “And I will set my glory among the nations, and all the nations shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid on them.” Could it be that this war is televised and the world will see the conflict unfold? Notice the verbiage, “all the nations shall see” SEE. Not hear or know or hear talk of. All the nations shall SEE! Could this text be prophetic of a global broadcast? But notice the end game for the Lord in light of this conflict; The Lord Will Restore Israel!

Ezekiel 39:25- 29, “Therefore thus says the Lord God: Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel, and I will be jealous for my holy name. <sup>26</sup> They shall forget their shame and all the treachery they have practiced against me, when they dwell securely in

their land with none to make them afraid, <sup>27</sup> when I have brought them back from the peoples and gathered them from their enemies' lands, and through them have vindicated my holiness in the sight of many nations. <sup>28</sup> Then they shall know that I am the Lord their God, because I sent them into exile among the nations and then assembled them into their own land. I will leave none of them remaining among the nations anymore. <sup>29</sup> And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when I pour out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, declares the Lord God.” (Reread verses 28-29)

In light of verses 28-29, remember the Words of Zechariah in Zechariah 12:10, <sup>10</sup> “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

And just as there is a Spirit of Grace for the Jewish people, there is a Spirit of Grace that is calling you to fellowship with the Heavenly Father because like this text in Zechariah, just as the Jewish People will have to look upon the One whom was Pierced, so shall we all have to do the same. May our seeing of Him be one of joy and not of dread; because Jesus is Coming very, very soon.... (Altar Call) Prayer