



**Signs of the End – How Soon?
A Prophetic Update Through the Lens of the Bible
Ezekiel 36:22-37**

Scripture quotations are taken from the following translations:

ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB),
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973,
1975, 1977, 1995, 2020 by The Lockman Foundation
Used by permission. www.Lockman.org**

Scripture quoted by permission. Quotations designated (NET) are from the NET Bible® copyright ©1996, 2019 by Biblical Studies Press, L.L.C. <http://netbible.com> All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

The Good News Translation Bible (GNB) text used in this product is being used by permission. Copyright © American Bible Society, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1992

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible: International Standard Version® Release 2.0. (ISV) Copyright © 1996–2011 by the ISV Foundation. Used by permission of Davidson Press, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED INTERNATIONALLY

Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Bible (NRSVue), Copyright © 2021, National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide

**Scripture taken from the New King James Version (NKJV).
Copyright 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.**

**Scripture taken from The Holy Bible: The Contemporary English Version (CEV).
©1995 by The American Bible Society, Thomas Nelson, Nashville TN.**

Scripture quotations marked (CSB) have been taken from the Christian Standard Bible®, Copyright © 2017 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission. Christian Standard Bible® and CSB® are federally registered trademarks of Holman Bible Publishers.

Taken from the Complete Jewish Bible (CJB) by David H. Stern. Copyright © 1998. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Messianic Jewish Publishers, 6120 Day Long Lane, Clarksville, MD 21029. www.messianicjewish.net

One of the things we are known for as a Calvary Chapel is we do not shy away from talking about prophecy. We are waiting for the soon return of Jesus Christ in the pre-tribulation rapture and as a result, since there are no signs for the rapture to be looking for, we look at other things from the prophetic Biblical record to include signs of the second coming of Jesus Christ as well as other prophetic events. By the way the second coming is at least over 7 years after the rapture of the church, and that has not happened yet.



I say that because there are many today who do not exactly teach what the Bible teaches. They either conflate everything to things that must take place before the rapture can occur, and nothing has to occur at all and it has been imminent for 2000 years; or they do not believe in a rapture at all and want everyone to start prepping to survive the Tribulation. Those of us who follow Jesus, we won't be here for any of that at all. Why?

1 Thessalonians 5:9

"For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,"
(ESV)

Yes, there are indeed those of us who are so looking for the Lord and watching prophecy that we live differently.

10 Ways to Know You Are A Prophecy Geek

1. You always leave the top down on your convertible in case the Rapture happens.
2. You never buy green bananas.
3. You try and talk us into adapting the '60s pop song "Up, Up, and Away" as a Christian hymn.
4. Bar code scanners make you nervous.
5. You refuse a tax refund check because the amount comes to \$666.
6. You can name more signs of the times than you can commandments.
7. You believe that there is an original Greek and Hebrew text with Scofield's notes.
8. You believe the term "Church Fathers" refers to Hal Lindsey and Tim LaHaye.
9. You get goose bumps when you hear a trumpet.
10. You use the Left Behind books as devotional reading. (Hitchcock 2012, xiii)

How did you score on that little quiz? I got a 7 and frankly, that really doesn't bother me too much. There are things happening today all around the planet that give us a hint of where we are on the prophetic clock. I literally wake up on Sundays and quickly scan the news in the event I need to add a "new" topic to the service.

Quite frankly, what is going on today prophetically is frankly, overwhelming. Jesus is coming at any second. I am going to provide a high-level view of what we believe about End Times and will not hit all of the points either.

We do indeed take a literal interpretation of the prophetic scriptures. "... in the interpretation of prophecy that has not yet been fulfilled, those prophecies which have been fulfilled are to form the pattern. The only way to know how God will fulfill prophecy in the future is to ascertain how He has done it in the past. All the prophecies of the suffering Messiah were literally fulfilled in the first advent of Christ. We have no reason to believe that the predictions of a glorified and reigning Messiah will be brought to pass in any other manner." (Pentecost 1958, 61)

Our viewpoint of prophecy here at Calvary Chapel is pretty simple. We believe what the Bible says. We believe in the pre-tribulation rapture of the church. At any second, Jesus Christ will once again re-enter time and when He does, He will remove His church.

After that there will be a peace treaty signed with someone currently unknown, (maybe) and Israel that will be for seven years. A warning, do not look at any of the current treaties being bantered about as "THE" one. They may morph into that, but the church is still here so the treaty has not been signed and the Anti-christ has not been revealed, yet. Daniel provides conditions.



Daniel 9:27

“He will make a firm covenant with many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and offering. And the abomination of desolation will be on a wing of the temple until the decreed destruction is poured out on the desolator.” (CSB)

We believe that the Tribulation begins at that point and will be 7 years in length and at the end of the Tribulation, the remnant of Israel will ask for their Messiah to come and save them, and He does. That is the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Jesus then becomes King of the earth, condemns those left of the forces of the antichrist to hell, and we enter the Kingdom.

Yes, a literal 1000-year rule and reign of Jesus Christ, a Jew. He will be ruling the world from Jerusalem and when He comes back, He brings His church with Him, and we are busy serving Him in His global administration.

The first and primary sign we see today, involves the nation of Israel. Since the end of the Bar Kochba Rebellion in 132-135 AD until 1948, Israel did not exist as a nation.

Emperor Hadrian sent Julius Severus from Britain to put down the rebellion in Judea.

Fifty of their most important outposts and nine hundred and eighty-five of their most famous villages were razed to the ground. Five hundred and eighty thousand men were slain in the various raids and battles, and the number of those that perished by famine, disease and fire was past finding out. Thus nearly the whole of Judaea was made desolate, a result of which the people had had forewarning before the war. (Dio 1914-1927, 449-451)

The result, Jerusalem was renamed Aelia Capitolina and a Temple to Jupiter was placed on the Temple Mount. Hadrian also decided to “ban Jews from entering Jerusalem and, unusually in such circumstances, to change the name of the province from Judaea to Syria Palestina.” (Dunn 2015, 620)

Palestina being the Greek for Palestine.

That ended the Jewish governance and presence in the land forcing the people to disperse among the nations. And that remained the case, until May 15, 1948, fulfilling Ezekiel 36:22-24.

But we also see that “this initial regathering in unbelief prepares Israel for the judgment that will take place during the Tribulation. The horrors of the Tribulation will lead the Jewish people to repentance.” (Fruchtenbaum 2025, 79)

Ezekiel 36:22–24

““Therefore say to the house of Israel, ‘This is what the Lord GOD says: “It is not for your sake, house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went. And I will vindicate the holiness of My great name which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD,” declares the Lord GOD, “when I show Myself holy among you in their sight. For I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the lands; and I will bring you into your own land.” (NASB 2020)

Isaiah 66:8

“Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall a land be born in one day? Shall a nation be brought forth in one moment? For as soon as Zion was in labor she brought forth her children.” (ESV)



How long did it take for Israel to become a nation? A Day.

The restoration —the flesh being put on these bones that have come together— was the establishment of the Jewish state of Israel on May 15, 1948. For the first time in history, a people scattered and separated from each other for two thousand years came back together and reformed their nation in the homeland of their forefathers. That is the only time in history that has ever happened. (DeYoung 2012, Kindle Location 930-933)

And when they announced the new nation in 1948, it was announced in Hebrew to be Israel.

Zephaniah 3:9

“For then **I will restore to the peoples pure lips**, So that all of them may call on the name of the LORD, To serve Him shoulder to shoulder.” (NASB 2020)

It was at that point my great grandfather got serious about witnessing to others since Jesus was about to return. As prophesied, the first regathering, in unbelief, is currently taking place. “Almost all the key events of the end times hinge on the existence of the nation of Israel. Israel is the battleground for all the great end times conflicts. The people of Israel must be preserved and regathered to their ancient homeland to set the stage for end times biblical prophecy to be fulfilled.” (Hitchcock 2012, 111)

Why the increase in antisemitism globally? To encourage His people to return home. Look at this nation alone.

In 2024, ADL (Anti-Defamation League) tabulated 9,354 antisemitic incidents across the United States. This represents a 5% increase from the 8,873 incidents recorded in 2023, a 344% increase over the past five years and a 893% increase over the past 10 years. It is the highest number on record since ADL began tracking antisemitic incidents 46 years ago. (ADL Center on Extremism 2025)

Sadly, aliyah is evolving from the reality that Jews in the Diaspora are facing a level of antisemitism that can only be compared to the 1930s. The latest horrific mass shooting of Jews – in Australia’s Bondi Beach as families gathered to celebrate Hanukkah – emphasizes the level of Jew-hatred throughout the world. (Katten 2025)

Yes, His people are indeed returning to the land, but for the most part, in unbelief.

But large numbers are indeed finding Messiah.

“In 2012, there were an estimated 350,000 Messianic Jews worldwide, according to data at the time. Today, there are around 1 million, with 870,000 living in the United States, Jeff Morgan of Jews for Jesus said.

Modern-day Israel, too, has seen a growth in the number of Messianic Jews, Morgan said.

When Israel was established as a modern nation in 1948, there were only 23 Messianic Jews in the country -- yet today, that number has grown to at least 15,000, with some estimates exceeding 30,000. A 2022 study by the Caspari Center reported that the number of Messianic Jews in Israel has "more than tripled in the last 20 years." (Foust 2025)

Based on the collected data, the number of Israeli Messianic believers in 2020 stood at 15,323 people. Less than half the congregations use Hebrew as their primary language. Russian-speaking fellowships comprise the biggest group, with their 136 congregations. Hebrew-speaking fellowships came in second, at 83 congregations. Other languages included Amharic (30 fellowships), English (16), Spanish (6) and



Romanian (2). The congregation's senior leader is a native-born Israeli in only 17% of the cases. The Israeli Messianic movement can legitimately be called an immigrant movement. (Ereiă 2022)

Once the rapture takes place, the focus turns from the church back to Israel, and there is yet to come a time where the remnant will indeed turn to Christ. Zechariah speaks to that time.

Zechariah 13:9

"I will bring that group through the fire and make them pure. I will refine them like silver and purify them like gold. They will call on my name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'These are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.'" (NLT)

As a result of the nation, the remnant turning to the Lord, Jesus returns and everything changes as we see in Ezekiel 36:25.

Ezekiel 36:25–28

"Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and bring it about that you walk in My statutes, and are careful and follow My ordinances. And you will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God." (NASB 2020)

God Is not done with Israel. Genesis 12:3 still applies. And so do all the prophecies connected with Israel.

As we watch Israel, we realize that His people are the key to the last days. There are some things we know will take place in the last days, but the timing is iffy.

The destruction of Damascus in a day.

Jeremiah 49:23–27

"Concerning Damascus: "Hamath and Arpad are confounded, for they have heard bad news; they melt in fear, they are troubled like the sea that cannot be quiet. Damascus has become feeble, she turned to flee, and panic seized her; anguish and sorrows have taken hold of her, as of a woman in labor. How is the famous city not forsaken, the city of my joy? **Therefore her young men shall fall in her squares, and all her soldiers shall be destroyed in that day, declares the LORD of hosts. And I will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus, and it shall devour the strongholds of Ben-hadad.**" (ESV)

Yes, Syria is in deep trouble right now with Turkey trying to establish a foothold there, ISIS, the United States, the Kurds and Israel as well. Is the ground set for the destruction of the city, most likely yes. Currently, the Kurds are trying to consolidate in Syria.

Under the March agreement signed between al-Sharaa's government and the SDF, the Kurdish-led force was to merge with the new Syrian army, but details were left vague and implementation has stalled...Turkey has been opposed to the SDF joining as a single unit. Ankara considers the SDF as a terrorist organization because of its association with the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, which has waged a long-running insurgency in Turkey, although a peace process is now underway. (The Associated Press 2025)

Meanwhile though, the Turkish government alleges the "Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) are running operations "in coordination with Israel," Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said on Monday." (Reuters 2025)



Add in the recent multiple attacks that the US just conducted in Syria. “U.S. Air Force F-15E Strike Eagles and A-10 Thunderbolt II attack planes, as well as U.S. Army AH-64 Apache attack helicopters and HIMARS artillery launchers, struck dozens of ISIS sites in Syria, officials said. The sites, which included suspected ISIS infrastructure and weapons storage locations, totaled more than 70 targets, U.S. military officials said.” (Gordon 2025)

This indeed helps to pave the way for another coming event, the Gog-Magog War of Ezekiel 38. Add in Gaza, Lebanon, Yemen, and growing antisemitism globally and yes, the ground is indeed being prepped. I also want to bring in another moving part here that Paul spoke to.

1 Thessalonians 5:2–6

“For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord is coming just like a thief in the night. While they are saying, **“Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction will come upon them like labor pains upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, so that the day would overtake you like a thief; for you are all sons of light and sons of day.** We are not of night nor of darkness; so then, let’s not sleep as others do, but let’s be alert and sober.” (NASB 2020)

We ushered in 2025 amid the most conflicts since World War II (Matthew 24:6) (both between and within states) and rising global threats to peace and security. (Saferworld 2025)

Despite global rollback on gender equality, 2025 is a big year for the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, with the 25th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, as well as the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action. The feminist vision for peace that these represent could be the radical voice that is needed in this time of global conflict, injustice and uncertainty. We know that more gender-equal societies are more peaceful, and that gender is a crucial lens through which to analyse and respond to conflict. However, women’s rights organisations (WROs) are extremely under-resourced, particularly in fragile settings, making it difficult for them to participate in the political work that is needed to prevent conflict and build peace. (Saferworld 2025)

This is the tip of the iceberg in that most of the global literature does indeed talk about gender equality to include all that the Bible holds to be an abomination, as key to obtaining peace and security. This is not a peace and safety or security from a Biblical perspective at all.

So, a little bit about the coming Gog Magog War.

Ezekiel 38:1–13

“Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, **“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, ‘This is what the Lord GOD says: “Behold, I am against you, Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. So I will turn you around and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you out, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them magnificently dressed, a great contingent with shield and buckler, all of them wielding swords; **Persia, Cush, and Put with them, all of them with buckler and helmet; Gomer with all its troops; Beth-togarmah from the remote parts of the north with all its troops—many peoples with you.** “Be ready, and be prepared, you and all your contingents that are assembled around you, and be a guard for them. After many days you will be summoned; **in the latter years you will come into the land that is restored from the sword, whose inhabitants have been gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel which had been a continual place of ruins; but its people were brought out from the nations, and they are living securely, all of them. And you will go up, you will come like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land, you and all your troops, and many peoples with you.**” ‘This is what the Lord GOD says: “It will come about on that day, that thoughts will come into your mind and you will devise an evil plan, and you will say, ‘I will go up against the land of unwallled villages. I



will go against those who are at rest, who live securely, all of them living without walls and having no bars or gates, to capture spoils and to seize plunder, to turn your hand against the ruins that are now inhabited, and against the people who are gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who live at the center of the world.' **Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish with all its villages will say to you, 'Have you come to capture spoils? Have you assembled your contingent to seize plunder, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to capture great spoils?'** " " " (NASB 2020)

It is obvious from the details given to us in the chapters under consideration that no invasion experienced in Israel's history is sufficient to be the fulfillment of this prophecy. (Pentecost, Where Do the Events of Ezeiel 38-39 Fit into the Prophetic Picture? 1957, 335)

The leader of this army is named Gog, ruler of "Magog," which means "the land of Gog." It was located between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. The title "chief prince" can be translated "prince of Rosh," a place that hasn't been determined yet. But if "prince of Rosh" is the correct translation, then this man will rule over Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. The latter two places are located in eastern Asia Minor along with Gomer and Beth-Togarmah. Prince Gog's allies will be Persia (Iran), Cush (ancient Ethiopia), Put (Libya), Gomer, and Beth-Togarmah, both located near the Black Sea. Since all these nations except Put, Cush, and Persia are located north of Israel, it's tempting to identify Rosh with Russia and therefore Meshech with Moscow and Tubal with Tobolsk, both cities in Russia; but we would have a hard time defending this on linguistic grounds. This doesn't rule out the participation of modern Russia, since it is located in the north (vv. 6, 15; 39:2), but neither does it demand it. (Wiersbe 2000, 173)

Gog will also have authority over Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. Rosh (lit. "head" or "chief") has not been identified either by biblical or extrabiblical references. The idea that it refers to Russia rests on etymological similarities, but the name Russia only came into existence in the late eleventh century A.D. Thus a linguistic connection with Russia is very tenuous. Rosh may be an adjective describing the ruler of Meshech and Tubal. Meshech and Tubal occur together in Scripture (27:13; 32:26; Gen. 10:2; 1 Chron. 1:5) and apparently refer to regions of Anatolia (modern western Turkey), the areas that became known as Phrygia and Cappadocia. The whole region would be what is now parts of southwestern Russia, Turkey, and Iran. (Constable 2003, Eze 38:1)

Is Russia part of this. I think so but not based on the grammar. Rosh, or chief prince, is not Russia, it is not a place name. But we do see in Ezekiel 38:15 and 39:2 that he comes from the remote parts of the north. I think there is a stronger argument to be made for that being a reference to Russia.

What is it that will move Turkey, Iran, Russia and others into wanting to move towards Israel per Ezekiel 38? Water? Gas? Remember Genesis 12:3, yeah it still is applicable today. These are all nations who would fall on the curse side of the equation.

Hundreds of sinkholes have emerged in Turkey's central agricultural region due to dwindling rainfall and receding groundwaters, causing concern among farmers and environmental experts who see it as a worrying sign of climate change. (Kucukgocmen 2025)

We see the same in Iran. "While failed rains may be the immediate cause of the crisis, hydrologists say, the root cause is more than half a century of often foolhardy modern water engineering — extending back to before the country's Islamic revolution of 1979, but accelerated by the Ayatollahs' policies since." (Pearce 2025)

Russia's southern Rostov region, which accounts for roughly 10% of Russia's national wheat output, has declared a federal-level agricultural emergency level after being hit by spring frosts and its worst summer drought in years. (The Moscow Times 2025)



Are there other elements of this going on right now? Absolutely.

In other words, the deck chairs are in the process of being made ready for the coming war. First there is the issue of the non-nation players. Hamas, Hezbollah and the Houthis.

What is the timing of this battle? There are different views of that. The end of the church age just prior to the rapture of the church. After the rapture but before the Tribulation begins. At the middle of the Tribulation, or at the end of the Tribulation. There are some who also say it after the Millenium. Ezekiel 38 is a prophecy of an invasion of foreign militaries into Israel with the largest assault coming from the north.

But that is not what we have been seeing predominately over the past two years. Iran has been using proxies, Hamas, Hezbollah and the Houthis. Psalm 83 maybe?

There are some who comment that there will be a prior war involving Israel, one which is seen in Psalm 83 and as a result of that war, Israel will be at peace. In fact, it is that war we may have been observing the past two years in Gaza and Lebanon.

"We can safely presume that the execution of the judgments upon the surrounding Psalm 83 nations, those countries that despise Israel, will occur before the Gog of Magog coalition forms." (Salus 2013, Kindle Location 730-732) Or as it forms.

Psalm 83:title-8

"A SONG. A PSALM OF ASAPH. O God, do not keep silence; do not hold your peace or be still, O God! For behold, your enemies make an uproar; those who hate you have raised their heads. They lay crafty plans against your people; they consult together against your treasured ones. **They say, "Come, let us wipe them out as a nation; let the name of Israel be remembered no more!"** For they conspire with one accord; against you they make a covenant—the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites, Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre; Asshur also has joined them; they are the strong arm of the children of Lot. Selah" (ESV)

Psalm 83:4, which is different from those who simply want to take booties from Israel like Gog Magog. This is a group who wants them to cease to exist as a nation. From the RIVER TO THE SEA THEY WOULD SAY. And we indeed are seeing that take place right now.

There is a group we know of that is rapidly disintegrating in Gaza, that is possibly referenced by name in Obadiah, Amos and Ezekiel.

Obadiah 10-14

"Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever. On the day that you stood aloof, on the day that strangers carried off his wealth and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them. But do not gloat over the day of your brother in the day of his misfortune; do not rejoice over the people of Judah in the day of their ruin; do not boast in the day of distress. Do not enter the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; do not gloat over his disaster in the day of his calamity; do not loot his wealth in the day of his calamity. Do not stand at the crossroads to cut off his fugitives; do not hand over his survivors in the day of distress." (ESV)

Obadiah makes it clear for us in the indictment, beginning in verse 10. First of all, this is a family matter and Edom has forgotten that simple fact. YAHWEH though made it a matter of law for the Jewish people in Deuteronomy 23:7, treat them like family.



But Edom didn't look at it that way. They violated this familial tie.

Obadiah 10

"Because of violence to your brother Jacob, Shame will cover you, And you will be eliminated forever." (NASB 2020)

The Hebrew word translated "shame" provides some insight. It is the word בּוֹשָׁה (busa(h)).

The primary meaning of this root is "to fall into disgrace, normally through failure, either of self or of an object of trust." (Oswalt 1999, 97)

Then there is the Hebrew word for violence, חָמָס (hamas). "An act of aggression; especially involving physical contact...violence (state), a turbulent state resulting in injuries and destruction...wrongdoing n., activity that transgresses moral or civil law...malicious witness n., a witness who wishes evil against the person being testified against..." (Lexham Press 2017)

This is something being done to both Kingdoms, the term "brother Jacob" is important in that it opens up what we see taking place in Israel today, it is not just Judea or Israel in the north, it is both.

Obadiah 10

"Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever." (ESV)

Here is the thing, this term being used here in Obadiah as a noun also may be a point of prophecy pointing to a future group of people who have chosen that term.

Most of the time the word "Hamas" should just be translated "violence." But there are a few Old Testament passages that speak of this "violence" being a group of people who are anti-Israel. For instance, this group seems to be headquartered in the ancient area of the Philistines. Today we call this area the Gaza Strip. (Johnson 2021)

In Amos 6, we see this word used again as a noun. Now we start putting the pieces together.

Amos 6:2–3

"Pass over to Calneh, and see, and from there go to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines. Are you better than these kingdoms? Or is their territory greater than your territory, O you who put far away the day of disaster and bring near the seat of violence?" (ESV)

As we focus on the last part of verse 3, we see the invitation for the northern kingdom to compare themselves to a city state they know, Gath. We also see that there is a belief that judgment is far away, but we see this reference that by believing that brings near violence, hamas, again as a noun.

Ezekiel 7:7–11

"Your doom has come to you, O inhabitant of the land. The time has come; the day is near, a day of tumult, and not of joyful shouting on the mountains. Now I will soon pour out my wrath upon you, and spend my anger against you, and judge you according to your ways, and I will punish you for all your abominations. And my eye will not spare, nor will I have pity. I will punish you according to your ways, while your abominations are in your midst. Then you will know that I am the LORD, who strikes. "Behold, the day! Behold, it comes! Your doom has come; the rod has blossomed; pride has budded. **Violence has grown up into a rod of wickedness.** None of them shall remain, nor their abundance, nor their wealth; neither shall there be preeminence among them." (ESV)



Here we see, in the middle of a prophecy dealing with judgement on the land of Israel, we see judgment being called down on the inhabitants of the land. Most assume this is about Israel, but we see “violence,” hamas, referenced again, and as a noun.

Is there something to this? There is more to come from Obadiah.

By the way, just as a reminder, “Hamas is a Palestinian nationalist group that seeks to eliminate the nation of Israel, replacing it with an Islamic state. Hamas is an acronym for Ḥarakat al-Muqāwamah al-Islāmiyyah, which in English translates to “Islamic Resistance Movement.”” (Got Questions Ministries 2014-2021)

Here in Obadiah, the word is used as a noun, not a verb. The same occurs in Amos 6 and in Ezekiel 7. It sounds like we are talking about a group.

We know that Edom ceased to exist as a nation. We also know many were forced to become Jews by the sword. Where are they today?

Many are still in the middle east, possibly living in other nations or in Israel as part of the group known as Palestinians.

If we are still to see a war in the land as outlined in Psalm 83, the combatants who move against Israel include “the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites, Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre; Asshur also has joined them; they are the strong arm of the children of Lot. Selah” (Psalm 83:6–8, ESV)

As you read this, or at least as I do, I am also seeing the geography of the area around Israel. In that area we see more than one group who has, as a stated goal, the elimination of Israel ala Psalm 83:4.

The peoples referenced are in Jordan, the Sinai, Southern Israel, the cities that used to make of Philistia, Southwest Lebanon as well as Syria and northern Iraq. Homes to Hamas, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad, the Palestinian Authority, and possibly the Houthis.

We do not see Egypt referenced as part of this group that invades, and they did so on October 7, 2023. This could only happen if Israel was in the land as they are now.

Is this about Edom? Yes. Is this also a prophecy about the future destruction of the world system at the end of the age? Yes. Does it also speak to events we see taking place in the middle east right now? Yes. What is the punishment for those who are involved in this hamas against all of Israel, the north and the south. They will be eliminated forever.

Has that happened yet? Maybe, or are we seeing it in the final phase of fulfillment right now?

In the regional arena, Hamas now stands more isolated than at any time since its founding. Until late 2023, Gaza was the only territory ruled by the Muslim Brotherhood and benefited from the backing of Iran, Qatar, and other allies. That era has ended.

Iran, Hamas’s main patron, is now preoccupied with rebuilding Hizbullah in Lebanon after suffering heavy losses against Israel in the north. Qatar, long the group’s chief financier and diplomatic protector, is moving cautiously amid mounting international accusations of supporting terrorism. (Allam 2025)

It is also interesting in the nations that are part of the Ezekiel 38 coalition, and those that are not.



Turkey, who will indeed be part of the coalition that will make up the Gog Magog War, is already trying to get their nose under the tent even as Hamas, an Iranian proxy they supported, is being defeated.

Back to our discussion about what brings them all in, potentially. We already referenced their current water issues. Then there is Turkey being a main player with the Muslim Brotherhood.

Turkey is fully prepared to send troops to Gaza as part of a peace keeping force. But the trust level is very low. "There will be no Turkish troops in the Gaza Strip, the Prime Minister's Office insisted Wednesday, after reports emerged of a disagreement on the issue during the previous day's meeting between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Egyptian intelligence chief Hassan Rashad." (Berman, Reuters and TOI Staff 2025)

Tensions between Israel and Turkey have escalated amid reports of Ankara's plans to establish a new military base in the Eastern Mediterranean, potentially encroaching on Israeli strategic interests. This development, rooted in disputes over maritime boundaries and energy resources, could ignite a direct confrontation. Drawing from recent military assessments by Global Firepower Index for 2025, Turkey ranks ninth globally in military strength, surpassing Israel's fifteenth position. Without

United States support, Israel's qualitative edges in technology may falter against Turkey's numerical advantages, leading analysts to predict a protracted and unfavorable outcome for Tel Aviv. (Times of Islamabad 2025)

But it may be the economics connected with the Leviathan gas field and a Europe looking to find another source other than Russia.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced on Wednesday 17 December the approval of what he described as the "largest gas deal in Israel's history," set to supply natural gas to Egypt from the Leviathan natural gas field (one of the largest natural gas fields in the Eastern Mediterranean). (Nawar 2025)

Russia, meanwhile, is losing market share and if Israel does build a planned gas pipeline to Greece, economics may also play a role in why Gog Magog.

EU states remain divided on the time scale, but European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has said the bloc hopes to phase out its dependency on Russian gas, oil and coal by 2027.

Israel could build one or more pipelines, potentially via Greece or Turkey, or increase the quantity of gas piped to Egypt to be liquefied and shipped off, say officials and experts. (Mandel 2022)

This is now so close, the shadows being cast on the current world is indeed getting darker and I totally feel comfortable considering that all of this is less than ten years away.

As I said earlier, there is a lot of ground to cover and limiting myself to Israel means I still have not covered all potential bases to discuss prophetically.

Yes, things are happening that fast. Let me suggest you review Matthew 24 where Jesus provided some of the signs leading up to the second coming. The problem, we are seeing the shadows of those things today as well. Let me touch on wars and rumors of war.

World stability is iffy these days, in other words, wars and rumors there of.



Let's see, just in the past week, rumors of war with Venezuela, ISIS in Syria, Iran, Yemen, and then there is the issue of our allies.

From the November 2025 National Security Strategy, we see this.

"Continental Europe has been losing share of global GDP—down from 25 percent in 1990 to 14 percent today—partly owing to national and transnational regulations that undermine creativity and industriousness.

But this economic decline is eclipsed by the real and more stark prospect of civilizational erasure. The larger issues facing Europe include activities of the European Union and other transnational bodies that undermine political liberty and sovereignty, migration policies that are transforming the continent and creating strife, censorship of free speech and suppression of political opposition, cratering birthrates, and loss of national identities and self-confidence.

Should present trends continue, the continent will be unrecognizable in 20 years or less. As such, it is far from obvious whether certain European countries will have economies and militaries strong enough to remain reliable allies. Many of these nations are currently doubling down on their present path. We want Europe to remain European, to regain its civilizational self-confidence, and to abandon its failed focus on regulatory suffocation." (The White House 2025)

I am going to stop here. I am simply out of time.

What this all clearly points to though is as we go into a new year, is this the year that Jesus will take us home to be with Him and all of this accelerates. Maranatha Lord Jesus.

If you do not know Jesus, let me encourage you to wait no longer, as there may not be any time to wait before He returns.

Romans 3:21–24

"But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins." (NLT)

Romans 10:9–13

"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced." Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."" (NLT)

ABC's of Salvation

- A. Acknowledge that you are a sinner, tell Him that.
- B. Believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sin and that He rose from the dead.
- C. Confess that Jesus is Lord. Tell someone about what you have done.



Works Cited

- ADL Center on Extremism. 2025. "Audit of Antisemitic Incidents 2024." ADL. April 22. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.adl.org/resources/report/audit-antisemitic-incidents-2024>.
- Allam, Oded. 2025. "A Turning POint in Gaza: The Fall of Hamas Begins." *Jerusalem Center for Security and Foreign Affairs*. November 4. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://jcfa.org/a-turning-point-in-gaza-the-fall-of-hamas-begins/>.
- Berman, Lazar, Reuters, and TOI Staff. 2025. "Netsnyahu's office to Tol: There will be no Turkish troops deeployed in Gaza." *The Times of Israel*. October 22. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahus-office-to-toi-there-will-be-no-turkish-troops-deployed-in-gaza/>.
- Constable, Tom. 2003. *Tom Constable's Expository Notes on the Bible*. Galaxie Software.
- DeYoung, Jimmy. 2012. *Ezekiel: The Man and the Message*. Kindle Edition. Shofar Communications.
- Dio, Cassius. 1914-1927. *Dio's Roman History, The Leob Classical Library*. Translated by Earnest Cary. Vol. 8. London: The Macmillan Co.
- Dunn, James D. G. 2015. *Neither Jew nor Greek: A Contested Identity, Christianity in the Making*. Vol. 3. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.
- Ereiä, Sanna. 2022. "The Caspari Center Survey Released: THE Israeli Messianic Movement Has More Than Tripled in the Last 20 Years." *The Caspari Center*. February 7. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.caspari.com/2022/02/07/the-caspari-center-survey-released-the-israeli-messianic-movement-has-more-than-tripled-in-the-last-20-years/>?
- Foust, Michael. 2025. "Messianic Jews Are Seeing 'Massive' Global Growth with Prophetic Implications, Leader Says." *Crosswalk*. August 14. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.crosswalk.com/headlines/contributors/michael-foust/messianic-jews-are-seeing-massive-global-growth-with-prophetic-implications-leader-says.html>.
- Fruchtenbaum, Arnold G. 2025. *The Book of Ezekiel, Ariel's Bible Commentary*. First Edition. Vol. 2. San Antonio, TX: Ariel Ministries.
- Gordon, Chris. 2025. "US Strikes ISIS Targets in Retaliation for Killing American Troops in Syria." *Air & Space Forces Magazine*. December 19. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.airandspaceforces.com/us-conducts-airstrikes-isis-syria-retaliation-killing-american-troops/>.
- Got Questions Ministries. 2014-2021. *Got Questions? Bible Questions Answered*. Vol. 2. Bellingham, WA: Faithlife.
- Hltchcock, Mark. 2012. *The End: Everything You'll Want to Know About the Apocalypse*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale Momentum.
- Johnson, Ken. 2021. "Obadiah and the Gaza War." *Prophecy Watchers*. May 20. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://prophecywatchers.com/obadiah-and-the-gaza-war/>.



- Katten, Brenda. 2025. "How aliyah is evolving in Israel amid rising antisemitism across the globe-opinion." *The Jerusalem Post*. December 21. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-880575>.
- Kucukgocmen, Ali. 2025. "Sinkholes in Turkey's agricultural heartland fuel farmers' concern." *Reuters*. December 23. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/climate-energy/sinkholes-turkeys-agricultural-heartland-fuel-farmers-concerns-2025-12-23/>.
- Lexham Press. 2017. *Lexham Analytical Lexicon of the Hebrew Bible*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.
- Mandel, Jonah. 2022. "As EU eyes stopping Russian fuel imports, Israel sees an opening for its natural gas." *The Times of Israel*. April 11. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/as-eu-eyes-stopping-russian-fuel-imports-israel-sees-an-opening-for-its-natural-gas/>.
- Nawar, Belal. 2025. "Israel Approves 'Historic' USD 35 Billion Gas Deal with Egypt." *Egyptian Streets*. December 18. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://egyptianstreets.com/2025/12/18/israel-approves-historic-usd-35-billion-gas-deal-with-egypt/>.
- Oswalt, John N. 1999. "בִּנְיָן." In *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*, edited by R. Laird Harris, Gleason L. Archer Jr. and Bruce K. Waltke. Chicago, IL: Moody Press.
- Pearce, Fred. 2025. "After Ruining a Treasured Water Resource, Iran Is Drying Up." *Yale Environment* 360. December 18. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://e360.yale.edu/features/iran-water-drought-dams-qanats>.
- Pentecost, J. Dwight. 1958. *Things to Come: A Study in Biblical Eschatology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.
- Pentecost, J. Dwight. 1957. "Where Do the Events of Ezeiel 38-39 Fit into the Prophetic Picture?" *Bibliotheca Sacra* 114.
- Reuters. 2025. "Kurdish-led SDF cooperating with Israel in Syria, Turkish FM Haka Fidan claims." *The Jerusalem Post*. December 22. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-880986>.
- Saferworld. 2025. "What does working for peace mean in 2025?" *Saferworld*. January 30. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.saferworld-global.org/resources/news-and-analysis/post/1065-what-does-working-for-peace-mean-in-2025>.
- Salus, Bill. 2013. *Psalms 83, The Missing Prophecy Revealed - How Israel Becomes the Next Mideast Superpower*. Kindle Edition. La Quinta, CA: Prophecy Depot Publishing.
- The Associated Press. 2025. "Clashes flare as top Turkish officials visit Syria ahead of deadline for Kurdish integration." *NBC News*. December 22. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.nbcnews.com/world/syria/clashes-flare-top-turkish-officials-visit-syria-ahead-deadline-kurdish-rcna250542>.
- The Moscow Times. 2025. "Agricultural Emergency Declared in Southern Russia's Rostov Region Over Crop Loss." *The Moscow Times*. September 29. Accessed December



- 24, 2025. <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2025/09/29/agricultural-emergency-declared-in-southern-russias-rostov-region-over-crop-loss-a90653>.
- The White House. 2025. "National Security Strategy of the United States of America November 2025." *The White House*. November. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-National-Security-Strategy.pdf>.
- Times of Islamabad. 2025. "Turkey's Military Superiority Looms in Potential Conflict with Israel." *Times of Islamabad*. December 21. Accessed December 24, 2025. <https://timesofislamabad.com/21-Dec-2025/turkey-s-military-superiority-looms-in-potential-conflict-with-israel>.
- Wiersbe, Warren W. 2000. *Be Reverent, "Be" Commentary Series*. Colorado Springs, CO: Chariot Victor/Cook Communications.