

**“From GOD to Gog!”****1. Intro:**

- 1.1. **Announce:** Foreclosure Prevention Workshop. (help needed)
- 1.2. These 2 chapters describe a northern coalition of gentile nations in the latter days that invade Israel (see 38:16)
  - 1.2.1. They attack Israel when she is at peace in her land (see 38:14)
    - 1.2.1.1. See Rev.20:8 for timeline. [definitely future; after Mill.]
  - 1.2.2. This is **God’s** intervention on **Israel’s** behalf.

**2. FROM GOD TO GOG! (Ch.38)**

- 2.1. **ABHORANCE OF GOG!** (1-3)
- 2.2. (2,3) **Gog**(leaders name); **Magog**(region of Gog). **Rosh**(Russia area); **Meshech**(between the Black and the Caspian Seas; became known as Muscovs, and gave that name to the Russian nation and its ancient capital); **Tubal**(So. Region of Caucasus Mnt’s, Turkey).
  - 2.2.1. **Rosh, Meshech, & Tubal = Scythian people.**
  - 2.2.2. **i.e. Modern Turkey & southern Russia!**
- 2.3. Ezekiel used names of nations during his day because the future invaders would be from the same geographical places.
- 2.4. **ALLIES OF GOG!** (4-7)
- 2.5. (4) “**I will...lead you**” – They were responsible, yet God is sovereign over all nations & events, & will bring history to its conclusion according to **His** sovereign purpose.
  - 2.5.1. **Thus we can be at peace**, in spite of political & international turmoil.
- 2.6. **Horses & horseman w/swords** – Since he didn’t have terminology for modern warfare, he would use the terminology of his time.
  - 2.6.1. **BUT...when we went to war with the Taliban in Afghanistan**  
I remember seeing them riding on camels & horses.
- 2.7. (5) **Persia = Iran.** **News last week** (Troy sent me): Officials say **Israeli Drill** was Message to **Iran** over Nukes, More Than Rehearsal for Attack!
  - 2.7.1. **More than 100 Israeli F-16 & F-15 fighters** took part, along with **helicopters and refueling tanks**. The helicopters and refuelers flew more than 900 miles, about the distance between Israel and Iran's uranium enrichment plant at Nantanz. Israeli military officials have denied that the drill simulated an attack on Iran's nuclear program, **though** they acknowledge Israel **is** preparing for a possible strike.
  - 2.7.2. **My guess...After Olympics & before** our Presidential elections!

- 2.8. **ATTACK BY GOG!** (8-16)  
 2.9. Latter days & peace & safely.
- 2.10. **ANNIHILATION OF GOG, FORMER DAYS!** (17,18)  
 2.11. Note: **His face** we'll talk about later.
- 2.12. **ANNIHILATION OF GOG, FINAL DAYS!** (38:19-39:24)  
 2.13. God will use an **earthquake**, a **storm** & **confusion** against His enemy!  
 2.13.1. [1] **Earthquake** - (38:19,20)  
 2.13.2. [2] **Confusion** – (38:21)  
 2.13.3. [3] **Storm** - (38:22) [as I the days of Sodom & Gomorrah; **fire & brimstone**]

### 3. **FROM GOD TO GOG! (Ch.39)**

- 3.1. (6) **Why does God do this?**  
 3.1.1. [1] **Nations will know that he is Lord** - (39:6)  
 3.1.2. [2] **His name is holy** – (39:7)  
 3.1.3. [3] **Israel will know that he is their God** - (39:22)
- 3.2. (9) **Weapons** – or equipment. (combustible materials)
- 3.3. (11) **Valley of Hammon Gog** - A dead-end Valley east of the Dead Sea.  
 3.3.1. **They coveted Israel...so God gave them a permanent place there!**
- 3.4. (12) **7 months** – So massive would the destruction be that it would take **7 months** to bury the dead.
- 3.5. (17-20) Vs.4 expanded here. {Also **see Rev.19:17,18**}  
 3.5.1. **Calling all birds** – Like Tarzan used to call jungle animals as he needed them.  
 3.5.2. **Whoever says God's judgment is for the birds** may just be right!  
 3.5.3. **What a great slaughter that all the birds of the earth are needed for clean up!**
- 3.6. If you receive the **Supper of Salvation**(Mt.22 *Parable of Wedding Feast*), you may partake in *the next supper...the Lord's Supper*; and await the **Marriage Supper of the Lamb**; and never face the **Supper of the Great God!**  
 3.6.1. If you **do not** "**Come to the Table**" at the 1<sup>st</sup> Supper; the 2<sup>nd</sup> won't mean anything to you; you'll miss the 3<sup>rd</sup>; **but** be assured you not only will be **at** the 4<sup>th</sup> dinner...you **will be** the 4<sup>th</sup> dinner!  
 3.6.2. Your choice Eat or be Eaten!
- 3.7. (21-29)  
 3.8. **God's worse punishment!** – vs.23  
 3.9. **God's greatest reward!** – vs.29

- 3.10. **Read Num.6:22-27**
- 3.11. **Just like when hiking** - Sometimes as you're reading OT Scriptures you'll be walking a **dusty trail** & then run across a **cool stream** w/an awesome **bunch of flowers** planted next to it.
- 3.11.1. This text is one of those bouquets!
- 3.11.2. Joseph Parker, "There is **wine** in the **grape** of **every syllable**; he who **presses most** in the agony of his need, will drink most abundantly & most refreshingly of the wine of **God's love!**"
- 3.12. **The SOURCE of Blessings!** (22,27)
- 3.13. **Q: In our text who is this blessing from?** [Aaron? Moses?...**Nope!**]
- 3.13.1. *We don't have Aaron say*, "Hey Moses, I have a formula of benediction that I think the children of Israel would be pleased with"
- 3.13.2. This is **Not** man made! But **100% God made!** [See 22,27 **The Lord!**]
- 3.13.2.1. This is **a flower** that God brings right out of Paradise itself!
- 3.13.2.2. Or a **bar of music** right from heaven's anthem!
- 3.14. I've thought in the past... "**who am I** to call down a blessing upon someone?"
- 3.14.1. But I realized there's nothing contingent on the "**blessor**" or the "**blessee**"! But from "**Him...from whom all blessings flow**"!
- 3.14.2. God is always in charge of blessings! (Balaam in Deut.23:5)
- 3.14.2.1. **Nevertheless the LORD your God would not listen to Balaam, but the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loves you.**
- 3.15. **The COMMAND to Bless!** (23)
- 3.15.1. This was a **divinely appointed** liturgy of worship!
- 3.15.2. **Note:** This blessing was to **the common man**.
- 3.15.2.1. Let the man or woman **farthest away** from Him this evening say, "**I will arise & go to my Father!**"
- 3.16. **The VEHICLE of Blessings!**
- 3.17. **How did Aaron do it?** **Jewish writers** tell us that during this ceremony the high priest not only pronounced the benediction 3 times, but 3 times w/a diff accent. He would elevate his hands, & would extend the 3 middle fingers on his right hand.<sup>1</sup>
- 3.18. **The SUBSTANCE of Blessings!** (24-26)
- 3.19. *Lets' define His 3-Fold Blessing:*
- 3.20. **[1] The LORD bless you and keep you.**
- 3.20.1. Means that all the **benefit & protection...**come from God.
- 3.20.2. **The blessing of God is the Goodness of God in action!**<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> JFB; pg.527 (my paraphrase).

<sup>2</sup> Keil & Delitzsch(quoting Calvin); pg.41

- 3.21. [2] The LORD make His face shine upon you & be gracious to you.
- 3.21.1. The thought here is His face radiant upon you!
- 3.21.1.1. Prov.16:15 In the **light** of the king's face is life.
- 3.21.2. **Example:** In my dad's backyard we were praying for breakfast once & kept expanding the circle as more people joined, & I stepped back 1 step from the **shade**, into the **sun**.
- 3.21.2.1. Spiritually it is only 1 step away also!
- 3.21.2.2. **Q:** Have you felt the warmth of God's face shine upon **you**?
- 3.21.2.3. Step out of the world's **cold chill** into His **radiant love**!
- 3.21.3. His **Grace** will come to men in their need!
- 3.22. [3] The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, & give you peace.
- 3.22.1. **Countenance & Face** are exactly the same Hebrew word.
- 3.22.1.1. The difference is between "*making the face shine*" & "*lifting it up/upon*".
- 3.22.1.2. Opposite of God "*looking away*" in displeasure.
- 3.22.2. It's the picture of a **drowning victim** looking to shore & crying for help, **when finally** he sees the **lifeguard** "*look up*"...help is on its way!
- 3.22.3. **Peace/Shalom** – that comprehensive word meaning "*completeness, security, health, tranquility, & peace w/God & man.*"<sup>3</sup>
- 3.22.3.1. When **Jesus came** the song was, "*Peace on earth*"; & When **he left** His farewell speech was, "*Peace, I leave w/you.*"<sup>4</sup>
- 3.22.4. Philip nailed this at the last supper in Jn.14:8 "**Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.**"
- 3.22.4.1. Philip spoke for every believer..."*Total sufficiency for one glimpse of the unveiled face of God.*"
- 3.22.4.2. **Why can't we gaze directly now?** - Not because of a deficiency of our **eyes**, but a deficiency in our **hearts**!
- 3.22.5. **Now**, don't you dare **cheapen this** to meaning "material blessings".
- 3.22.5.1. Oh, it can **include that...**but that pales in comparison to the **spiritual blessings** here...of **God's Gracious smile upon you & your life!**
- 3.22.5.2. His **relationship**, His **favor**; His **Smile**; His **Grace**!
- 3.23. The **Beatific Vision** is the promise of the vision of God that carries w/it the ultimate **blessedness** (Happiness) of the human soul!<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Wycliffe Bible commentary; pg.121

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Parker; pg.163

<sup>5</sup> R.C. Sproul; Essentials; pg.282

- 3.24. One of Christ's errands to the world was to **bless us!**
- 3.24.1. Acts 3:26 ...God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to **bless you,(how?)** in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.
- 3.24.2. This was also the **last thing** He did on earth...“And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He **lifted up His hands** and **blessed them**. Now it came to pass, while He **blessed them**, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.” Luke 24:50,51
- 3.25. The Psalmist paraphrases this Ps.67:1 “God be merciful to us and **bless us, And cause His face to shine upon us. Selah”**
- 3.25.1. **Note:** a good place to **pause** because it is so rich!
- 3.26. So, right now is God **hiding from** or **looking toward** you?