Ezekiel's Prophecies of the Latter Days

Part 2- **Armageddon** Ezekiel 38 &39

Reading: Daniel 11:40-45 & Daniel 12 1st January 2024

Dear Brothers, Sisters, Friends

We titled this talk this afternoon as Armageddon. Why, and what does it mean? The word comes from
Revelation 16:14-16 . *Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.* The context of this verse is describing the key events leading up to the second appearing of Jesus Christ, and his return to the earth. Jesus tells us that around the same time of this great battle, he will have returned to the earth. This place where nations will be gathered to is Armageddon.

This word has been Anglicized and is a corruption of the Greek Ha Megiddon, which in turn means in the Hebrew tongue or language the hill of Megiddo. This passage is also interesting as it reveals that before the return of Jesus, the Hebrew language would be spoken. Since the second century AD, Hebrew ceased to be a spoken language but has only recently been revived as a living language for the Jewish people in Israel. Not many people realise that.





Megiddo is the name of a real place, and is signposted in Hebrew, and is a site which attracts thousands of tourists every year. It is the site of an ancient city which sits at a strategic crossroads. At least 34 major battles have been fought in this enormous valley. Napoleon Bonaparte declared it as "the most natural battleground of the whole earth."

Megiddo actually means *a place of troops.* Now you see why. However, there is another interesting meaning: Based on splitting the place name into three parts from three Hebrew root words.

Arema - A heap of sheaves; *Gai* - in a valley; *Don* - for judgement, thus Armageddon means “a heap of sheaves in a valley for judgement”..

Many prophecies in the Bible liken God’s judgement on the nations in the last days to gathering sheaves of wheat to be reaped and threshed. The Bible uses symbols of nature to teach us lessons. The agricultural symbol of a farmer reaping and threshing wheat is used in the Bible to show how God will deal with nations who rebel against Him: For example: Joel 3v12-14: *Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe…Multitudes, Multitudes in the valley of threshing. For the day of the Lord is near*. We recall the image described in Daniel being broken to pieces- Daniel 2: 35: *The nations are broken in pieces and become like the chaff of the summer threshing floors…* Now as we will see why we have described Ezekiel 38 – 39 as the battle of Armageddon. Because it will be in this place, in this region in the mountains of Israel, that the final battle will take place in Israel.



Hopefully you can see by Brother Derek's remarks earlier that these events are relevant to us, because the events of the return of the Jews and the establishment of their nation state has taking place during our lifetime. This means the next events of Ezekiel 38 and 39 will begin to take place soon, and that they are the very last events to take place before the Kingdom of God is established on earth? Are we ready? Are we doing all that we can to ensure we in fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ, prepared and waiting?

Do we accept that if we trust God, we should allow His will to control our lives for the good. One theme that comes out in the chapters we are looking at this afternoon, is the overruling hand of God controlling the nations. – we read this in detail in Daniel 11 and 12, and can see it here in Ezekiel – the nations have been allowed by God to reach the climax of their powers until it is decreed that it is enough when they overstep the limits placed upon them. If God is overruling the nations, why should we doubt that our lives are also influenced by His Spirit? Like the nations, the outcome is dependant upon our actions now.
Chapter 38 commences 2,3 *Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:*

Just who are these nations, who is Ezekiel referring to? Understanding who they are will set the scene, and cause us to be amazed that the Scripture predicted an alliance which we see forming before our eyes thousands of years ago.
Gog - The Hebrew word is roof or a summit, and gives the idea of an autocrat, or a dictator. Of the land of Magog: Br. John Thomas in Elpis Israel devotes some 11 pages to providing historical evidence and sources indicating that the land of Magog is that of the Scythians, and



Goths, and is a region extending from Russia to the Rhine [Note 1]. Br. Derek Hilsden's book **The Last Days** is very helpful on this subject. This King James Version translation occasionally does not always have the best rendering. The phrase should read: *Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, Rosh, prince of Meshech and Tubal.* The word chief should be translated as a proper name. Rosh, we are told by scholars of authority such as Bochart and Gesenius that Rosh is the proper name of a northern nation mentioned along with Tubal and Meshech. [Note 2]Please see Notes at end of article.

Meshech and Tubal are again old names for areas in the Russian Territory. We can see the regions from this slide. The prophet continues 4. *And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: "I will turn thee back*", or as the RV has it "*I will turn thee about*", Gesensius recommends "*lead thee away enticingly*". Gog with his northern confederacy will be enticed by God to do His will. He will put hooks into thy jaws and this refers in to the Assyrian method that captives were led away in ancient times with a ring put through their lip or nose, and showing that Gog will be controlled by a power far mightier than himself.

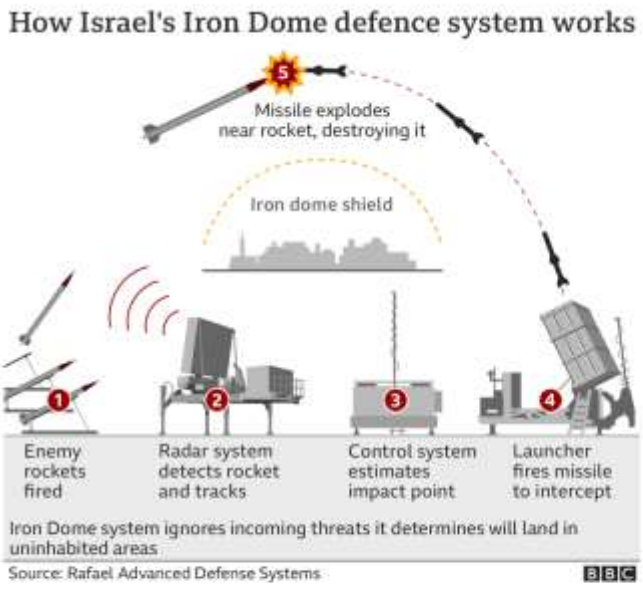
Notice how Ezekiel calls them *a great company*. This word is *Gahal,* and is equivalent to ecclesia, indicating that these nations have been called out in fact for a purpose, and perhaps suggests that these allies will be waging what they call a holy war.



V5. *Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet*: Persia, todays' Iran, Ethiopia, or rather Cush, and Libya, again rather Put. 6. *Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee.* - Gomer, or the Gallic nation, and Togarmah, the region of Armenia and including modern day Turkey. 7. *Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them.* This *be thou a guard*, can be better understood as you will be at my disposal. They are there drawn by the will of God. The theme of the overruling control of God is seen repeatedly as we have already referred.

This confederation Ezekiel describes will be enticed, and drawn against a special land and people.

The following description tell us when and where. 8. *After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them.* The text reveals, that this event cannot have happened in the past as some claim, nor at the end of the millennium as others claim, but very very soon, as we shall see. The Jews are back in the land and dwelling with a degree of safety. It is not particularly safe, but the Hebrew word *botach* is better rendered confidently. Israel are a very confident little nation.



- Military annual budget $23billion*
- > Egypt, Iran, Lebanon & Jordan combined
- 170000 active duty pers.
- 465000 reserve
- 2200 tanks
- 15 warships
- 5 submarines
- US has supplied $130 billion since founding

- *2.5x more than UK PHP

Israel, far from humble instead a regional military superpower, backed by the single global military superpower sheltered by its Iron Dome umbrella, was startled by its recent security breach on October 7th last year and now sees the war against Gaza as a battle for its very existence, and is turning the small enclave into an unliveable rubble site after levelling the place to the ground. In truth the adversary is tiny in comparison, and the seeming cracking a nut with a sledgehammer has not endeared Isarel to the rest of the nations. In fact, it has entrenched the existing antisemitism in the United Nations even further, and compounded the hatred against them by the many Muslim nations around the world.

That the Israeli government and military are systematically bulldozing homes and infrastructure of hundreds of thousands of Gazans in the face of the worldwide protests will surely ultimately not work in Israel's favour, but give fresh impetus to the alignments of nations against the Jewish state. It may well be in time that Russian troops will be invited into Gaza by the leaders of the Palestinians, once Israel has completed its mission.

v10. *Thus saith the Lord God; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil*

thought: 11. And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, This verse implies that the northern confederacy does not come in the first place as an occupying force, but is in the region, drawn in for some other reason.

Israel is in fact very vulnerable to Russian influence and control. Israel is the only Russophone nation outside of the former Soviet Union, with 1.5million Russian speakers living in Israel. Hundreds of thousands of Israeli citizens still vote in Russian polling booths in Israel. Russians make up the largest nationality of tourists and pilgrims to Israel. Moscow has the world largest Israeli expatriate community, some 80,000 Israeli citizens reside there. As of 2016, Russia along with Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan is Israel's largest supplier of crude oil, and Israel is in Customs Union talks, they already have a Visa free agreement, and Israel has been sharing and selling military technology to Russia. Russia you can clearly see has a very large vested interest in little old Israel.





In what way then can Israel be described as being a land of unwalled villages, having neither bars nor gates, dwelling safely? Right now, Israel is a land of almost continuous conurbation with urban sprawl, with little demarcation between towns, but more than this it relies on central security, not local, its security is based on nuclear deterrent, the Iron Dome defence, with a world class army and air force, no

wonder they dwell confidently s they describe it. But their lack of confidence will be their undoing.

On other hand Putin recently described Israel's action as comparable with the Nazi siege of Leningrad! Grassroots Antisemitism is growing as we can recall. In October 2023, a mob in Dagestan stormed Uytash Airport, shouting anti-Semitic slogans and attempting to find Israeli passport holders.
Russia does not recognise Hamas as a terrorist organisation, and Hamas has successfully broken the delicate entente between Russia and Israel. It should come as no surprise to us, that Putin suggested that Russia could be a mediator in the conflict. [note 3]
v12. *To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.*
The complete humiliation of the nation is necessary for their arrogance and unbelief to be shaken, for the nation to be prepared to finally acknowledge their Messiah. The spoil referred to here, the cattle and goods, not only the riches of a nation that is very prosperous indeed, but the strategic position obtained which is of the utmost value. The Middle East unites three continents and drives a wedge into the two great blocks of nations. The nation that holds the Middle East can command the world. Daniel 11 reveals this in verse 43. *But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps*. Russia's control of the oil deposits will constitute a strangle-hold on the resources of the West who will be observing this panic stricken!

V 13: *Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil?*

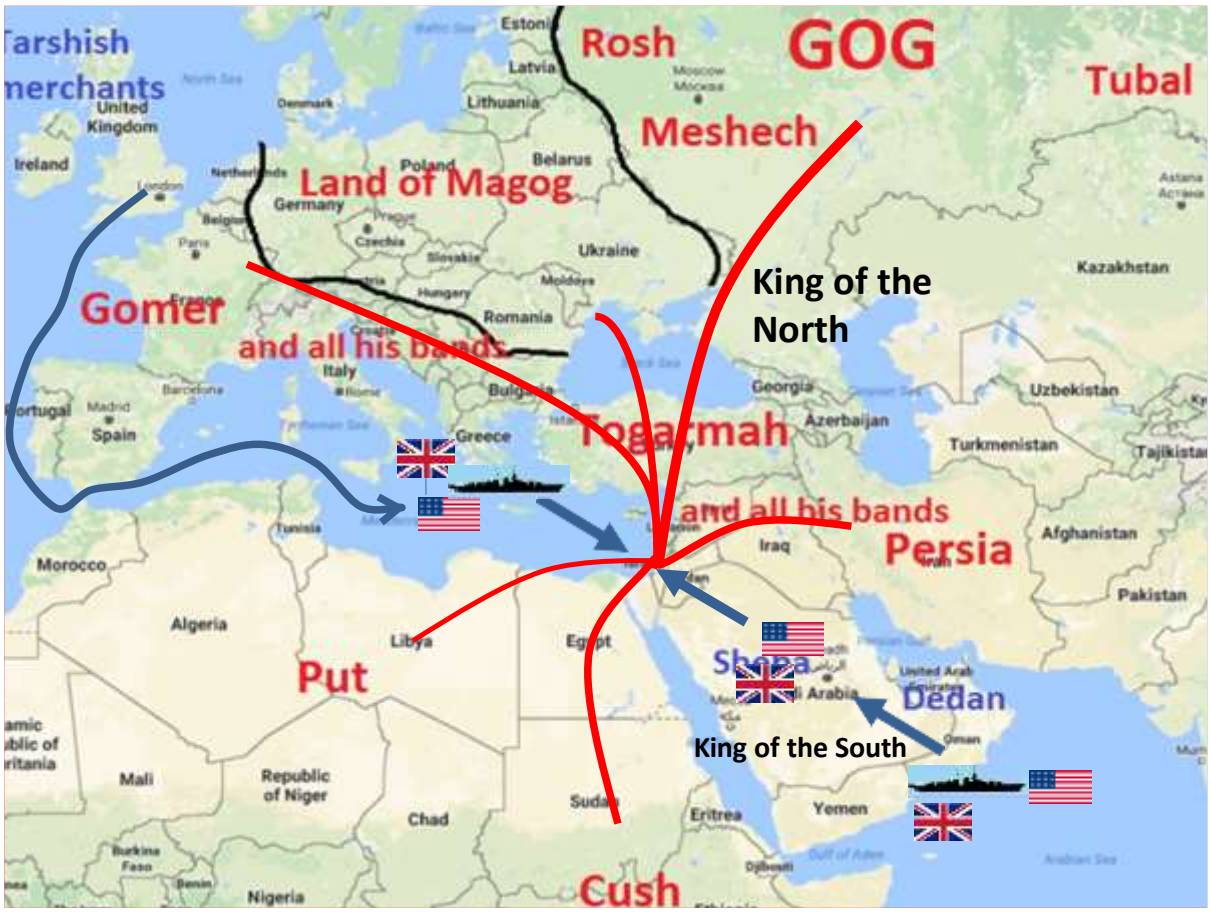
hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil? It has been well established that Sheba and Dedan relate to the modern nation of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States, who are totally reliant on trade with the West for their riches.

Any threat to this arrangement by a powerful aggressor in the region is a threat to their very existence. In alliance with these oil rich kingdoms are nations described here as *the merchants of Tarshish and the young lions therof*. Tarshish in Ezekiel's day were ancient traders



and suppliers of sought after metals used for making bronze, such as tin and silver. The phrase merchants of Tarshish then relates to the modern equivalents of those lands. Today they the UK, the US and other English speaking nations who have formed the AUKUS Pact, designed to challenge the Indo Pacific Tilt caused by the threat Chinese. Today the UK has based its RAF operational headquarters of No 83 Expeditionary Air Group at Al Udeid air base in Qatar; a Royal Navy base in Bahrain; and Joint Logistics Support Base in Oman (same as Dedan) as well as a permanent base in Cyprus. The US moved two aircraft carriers and their accompanying strike groups to the region as American bases in Syria and Iraq came under repeated attacks from Iran-affiliated groups, working with them are 5 naval ships from the UK, India a young lion has now dispatched a destroyer to support. Yes, the alliance Ezekiel predicted through the Divine spirit 2600 years ago, is pretty much in place already.

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

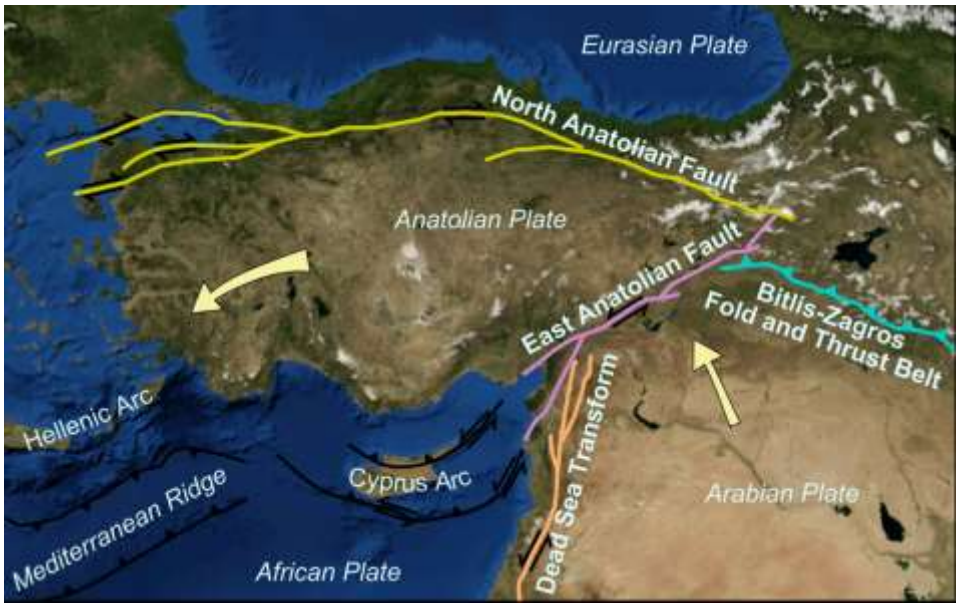


up in my face. 19. For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;

Over and again, God states in his Word, that no one reads, Israel he says is My Land. It is a land which has played a peculiar, and special part in God's purpose with the earth and man upon it. The people who he promised the land to, are those He chose, the people also of the covenant. He describes them in this section of Ezekiel between chapter 36 and 39, some ten times as My People. For just a few years back as we shown in the last talk, Israel were not a people. But now they are a people. They are God's people, even though they have returned in unbelief. It gives no right to the nations to interfere. Their only justification for attacking Israel is a deep-seated jealousy and hatred, and a lust for power. They themselves have also corrupted the true Christian faith for centuries turning it into a blasphemous

machine to control and manipulate. Another themes in these prophecies of Ezekiel is the vindication of the Name of God whereby the nations will be forced to know the God of truth and renounce the god of evolution. See Ezekiel 36:22,38:16, 38:23, 39:21.

Here in the land of Israel will be the forces of the Gentiles like a cloud to cover the land. Massed troops, artillery, heavy weaponry, will overwhelm the land from many countries, set to resolve the Jewish problem. The best of the king of the north, facing off the best of the king of the south. None of the military planners will have thought of the supernatural. Of God who controls all things. A great shaking. Read Micah 1:3-4, Joel 3:16, Isaiah 30:25, Zechariah 14:4 – these all clearly show, there will be huge seismic activity in the region which will cause absolute carnage, complete chaos will ensue. It is worth noting some of the phrases in these passages, mount of Olives splitting in two, when the towers shall fall, mountains molten, wax like fire…. Delta region of the Nile being transformed. Clearly from this passage we can see a period of massive change in the region, caused by earthquakes, and even volcanic activity.



Note the direction of the thrust. It is also worth noting that massive tectonic movement here, will affect other regions as well. God will use nature as his weapon. Is this not what the scriptures teach? Joshua 10:11 *…the Lord cast down great stones from heaven upon the Canaanites …, and they died: they were more which died with hailstones than they whom the children of*

Israel slew with the sword. Job 38:22-23. *Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail, Which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war?* In fact, experts in Israel are very worried they know things have been pretty quiet for a while, they are anticipating a great shaking, albeit for different reasons.

Israel sits astride the Great Rift Valley, a geographic trench that runs approximately 3,700 miles from Syria to Mozambique. Israel's last major tremor occurred in 1927 and left 130 dead in Jerusalem. On average a destructive earthquake measuring 6 or more on the Richter scale takes place in Israel once every 80 years. Almost no one in Israel has personally experienced a major tremor since that last one was 87 years ago. Current report states experts are waiting for The Big One. Current estimates that 30,000 buildings in Israel would be destroyed, leaving 7,000 dead and 170,000 homeless. In terms of damage to buildings and infrastructure and the number of displaced it would be an unprecedented disaster for Israel in which 2% of the population in one fell swoop would lose their homes

Bible says it will be FAR WORSE!

It will be exactly as Ezekiel has predicted in this 38th chapter: 20. *So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake <u>at my presence,</u> and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.* Notice the words in this verse "*at my presence*"

The Hebrew signifies "faces" (cp.Gen.4:14), and is in fact a reference to the presence of the cherubim. That is the army of God, the resurrected and glorified saints, who have arrived on the scene with Christ at their head. The battle of Armageddon enters a new phase, where the systematic destruction of the enemy forces and their humiliation, is the just retribution for the complete humiliation of the

Jews. The Jews because of their humbling will see and acknowledge at long last their Messiah, and God will begin to use Israel as his battle axe and weapons of war. We notice too, verse 22. *And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.* Just as many times before God will use the same natural elements to crush the power of the aggressor, like Agag of old Gog will be broken on the mountains of Israel. Fire and brimstone? Brimstone, an old fashioned way of describing sulphur, volcanic emissions, clearly the earthquakes will set off once extinct volcanos, and there are plenty of them in the region as well.

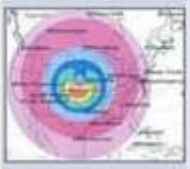
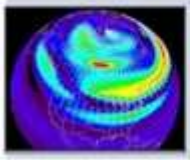
Of course, with the discovery of nuclear power, the world has made much of using it for the ultimate weapon of destruction. Tactical Nuclear weapons in the hands of irresponsible and cowardly men, who will not stop at anything to further their own selfish interest whatever the cost. Thus, Ezekiel may be referring also to the effects of a nuclear catastrophe, as described by Zechariah 14:12… *the Lord will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.* For a comparative modern fulfilment read Hiroshima, by John Hirsey page 73, for an almost word for word description, by an eye witness journalist who saw the effects of the explosion.

Chapter 39 begins 1. Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal: 2. And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel: The arena of battle will move from the mountains of Israel to

Europe. Leave but the sixth part is not the correct translation. It should actually read, I will turn you around and lead you on. The reason for this, is that the word to draw out is literally to sixth, that is a Hebrew word based on a fishing hook with six teeth used to pull out fish. So Gog will be drawn out in the same way, led on, to utter military economic and political destruction. We read in verse 3:

v3 *And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand.*

This is a fascinating verse especially in light of modern missile technology. As has been seen in recent conflicts, missiles are now guided using laser, or other electronics. Warfare is waged using cyber attacks, use of drones and unmanned systems, robotics and autonomous systems, artificial intelligence, self-steering bullets, precision munitions, all bows and arrows if you like, which rely on the use of satellite, wifi, laser, bluetooth and microwave technology, all communications reliant on the electromagnetic spectrum, and all of which can be rendered useless by an Electromagenetic pulse. That this is a serious threat, is why the US is spending billions of dollars in trying to mitigate this as this May published paper shows. - The Buzz about Electromagnetic Pulse Weapons by Prof. Zhanna L. Malekos Smith in May 2023.

	THREAT	Environments	Susceptible Systems
	High Altitude EMP	Fast Pulse E1	Long-line and short-line electrical and electronic systems
		Slow Pulse E3	Long-line network systems incl. electric power grid, terrestrial and undersea comm. lines, pipelines
	Solar Super Storms	Geomagnetic Disturbance	Long-line network systems incl. electric power grid, terrestrial and undersea comm. lines, pipelines

However EMPs also occur naturally caused by volcanic activity and sunbursts. We suggest this could be a weapon that will be used to neutralise all the wicked murderous inventions of men.

v4. *Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured.* For the millions of displaced refugees, it will be the answer to their prayers, just like the lepers in 2 Kings 7:8, who will fall upon the spoils of war, like vultures upon the carcase.

We might be tempted to feel a bit sorry for these nations, after all isn't God setting them up for a fall? Not at all. Remember the promise to Abraham *I will bless them that bless thee, and curse them that curse thee.* Remember it was Russia who gave the world the word pogrom, from a Russian root word *Gromit* meaning to destroy and wreak havoc. Who were the pogroms aimed at. I am sure we all know. The Jews. It was the Russians who confined the Jews to the Pale of the Settlement in the 18th and 19th centuries. Catherine the Great wanted Jews removed from Russia entirely, but inside the pale, in their shtelts they were still horribly persecuted. Germany, in the land of Magog. Responsible for the deaths of millions of Jews. Hungary, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, the Eastern European bloc, and Slavic nations, all were collaborators in this ethnic extermination. Turkey too, classed Jews as dhimmis, second class citizens, it was the Turkish ruler Sultan Mehmet II who started the Jewish Blood Libel in the 16th century. Gomer? It was the antisemitism in France that actually kick-started the Zionist movement by Theodor Herzel. No. No reason to feel sorry.

v*6. And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the Lord.* Dwelling carelessly in the isles or rather on the coastlands. Does this refer to the Tarshish powers, dragged into the big fight? Why should they escape? All nations will need to be broken to be reformed. In Daniel 11 we read of this change of direction: 44. *But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many*. The European

confederate nations with Gog, who have survived the initial confrontation will return to their own lands to fight the second phase, as Revelation 17 and 18 describe a great European based war, where the Lord Jesus will confront the false religious and political ideology, but staying with Ezekiel, he in the 39th chapter particularly dwells on the aftermath of the battle. He describes the clean-up process. *9. And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the hand-staves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years: 10. So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord God.* Now this is clearly a metaphor using language understandable for the time, people don't use spears and swords in war today, but we see here the principles of salvage, recycling, and reconstruction. Of course such conversion of weapons into useful fuel is already known to man. For example:



marine mine casings used to create furniture and other useful objects, like light fixtures, bathtubs, and fireplaces –there has been made a fully functioning toilet from a mine casing!



Or where in In Mexico 1,527 guns were collected, s melted down and recast into 1,527 shovel heads to be used to plant 1,527 trees all over the community…

Such example will be insignificant as weapons recycling becomes a new temporary industry. They are still clearing up thousands of tons of unexploded ordnance in the Pomeranian forests after the Red army advance on Berlin, and they are still at it after 80 years. So seven years seems very reasonable, especially seeing it will be overseen by the wisdom of Christ and the immortal and righteous saints with him.

Ezekiel goes onto describe the burying of the dead. v*11. And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it the valley of Hamongog. v12. And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land.* This could be a literal time frame or a symbolic. Either way removing the contamination of the death and decaying bodies with the toxic residues left from war will be a mammoth task. The land remediation will continue perhaps aided by continued earthquakes, as the geography of the land will be altered significantly to enable the building of the House of prayer for all nations in Jerusalem. *13-16. Yea, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, saith the Lord God. And they shall sever out men of continual employment, passing through the land to bury with the passengers those that remain upon the face of the earth, to cleanse it: after the end of seven months shall they search. And the passengers that pass through the land, when any sees a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the valley of Hamongog. And also the name of the city shall be Hamonah. Thus shall they cleanse the land.*

To the unemployed, to the homeless, the oppressed and vulnerable, suddenly there is life with a purpose, rebuilding, cleaning, burying, reconstruction, reformation. But moving on is not forgetting that

which has gone before. Verse 11 speaks of the *valley of 'passengers'* and people stopping their noses because of the smell perhaps, but this is a wrong impression because of a difficult translation. In fact, it is speaking of a memorial valley being created, which will be set up to remind passers through, the nation's coming up year to year, of the punishment and sure end meted out to those who disobey God's word. The stopping of the noses should be stopping the mouths, (as in Isaiah 52:15 15). The end of the chapter ends on a happier note: v25*. Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name;* This is what we have been looking at in the first talk, but we can see Ezekiel clearly indicates that it is at this moment of near annihilation, this miraculous escape from the paws of the Russian bear, but being so humbled, they will be in a fit state to receive the preaching of the gospel from the latter-day Elijah, the messengers of Yahweh *26. After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid. 27. When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; 28. Then shall they know that I am the Lord their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there. .* Zechariah reminds: 12: *10. And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him 29. Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord God.* This vision of Ezekiel will be realised as certainly as we have seen so much of these chapters already fulfilled. Friends we live in momentous times, privileged to be

able to see Ezekiel's come alive before us, to be living in the days of his prophecy. There are a few days left. What side do we want to be on? With Jesus Christ, and his saints, part of the clean-up process, or among the losers, the detritus of war, to be buried and forever forgotten?

Notes

1. It is admitted by all geographers and critics of any authority in such matters that var Rös is the Hebrew name for what we call Russia or the Russ.
   Bocart shows that the river Arazes was called Ros; whence the Russi, who seem to have settled in Taurica Chersonesus." (Geograph. 1. Iii., c. 13). Taurica Chersonesus is the Crimea, a peninsula of the Black Sea, with which every one, since the siege of Sebastopol, is quite familiar. The Araxes is a river rising in Armenia, but for the greater part of it's course flowing through the Russian province of Georgia into the Caspian.
   Gesenius upon the word says, "Rosh is the proper name of a northern nation mentioned along with Tubal and Meshech, without much doubt the same as the Russians, who are described by the Byzantine writers of the 10th century under the name of the Rhö as inhabiting the northern parts of Taurus; and also John Fosslan, an Arabian writer of the same period, under the name Rü as dwelling upon the river Wolga, anciently called Rha".
2. It is also admitted that Kvm Mosc, as it may be spelled without the points, or Meshech, with them, is the Hebrew name of the people called in modern geography Moscovites. Dr Newcome says in a note, "Tubal and Meshech, sons of Japheth, Gen 10:2. The people called Tibareniand Moschi are here meant, who are generally mentioned together and were situated towards Mount Caucasus."
   Gesenius styles them "a barbarous people inhabiting the Moschian mountains between Iberia, Armenia, and Colchia." David, speaking prophetically of Israel, says in Psalm 120:5: "Woe is me that I sojourn in Meshech." They are usually coupled with the neighbouring Tibaroni by Moses, Isaiah and Ezekiel. So, too, by Herodotus. This places their original settlements between the Black Sea, and the Caspian, and in what is now Russian Territory.
   It is also admitted that lbt Thubl, or Thubal, is the Hebrew name for the Tibareni, or Siberians who occupied the country watered by the Thubl, or Tobol, north of the Caspian, and east of the Ural mountains. Hence, while Moscow is the capital of Meshech, Tobolski is the capital of the Thubal.
3. https://nypost.com/2023/10/16/putins-cynical-offer-to-mediate-in-the-middle-east-is-a-farce/