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God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Revelation 20.

(2014)

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Revelation 20.

Topics.

- The dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and satan.
- Those who did not receive the mark of the beast reign with Christ.
- The mark on the forehead and on the hand.
- Gog and Magog, gather nations for battle.
- Satan will be released from his prison.
- The devil, the beast and the false prophet, tormented forever and ever.
- The millennium period and the return of Christ.
- The Great White Throne, the Book of Life and the lake of fire.

This study is divided up into two sections, the first section travels through the Scriptures highlighting certain points and explaining others. The second section titled: "Gog Magog, Meshech and Tubal," gives some very interesting insights into how Islam views Gog and Christ's return and how they view Western civilization and why Islam has such aggression against Israel and the western world and their end time goal.

Section 1

Introduction to Revelation twenty: before examining Revelation twenty it helps to have an understanding of the progress of the chapters before it and the story of the chapters that follow after it. The following is a brief outline of Revelation chapter: 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20.

Revelation 16: seems to be a general and wider picture of the final judgments of God seen in the outpouring of seven bowls of wrath. These seven last judgments of wrath include the wrath on the prostitute woman and the beast, the false prophet and the nations of the earth at Armageddon.

Revelation 17: gives more specific detail how the judgment of the prostitute woman takes place.

Revelation 18: continues to give specific detail of the destruction of the prostitute woman.

Revelation 19: begins with worship in heaven over the fall of the prostitute woman, it then continues on to the battle with the false prophet and his ungodly beast kingdoms with all the nations of the world gathered at a symbolic place called Armageddon. This is a battle with ungodly nations, not the world's false religious system (called the prostitute woman) as she has already been destroyed. (Revelation 17:16-18).

Christ is seen coming on a white horse with his armies and destroying ungodly kings, captains, mighty men and the flesh of all men, it is the final climax of God's plan for this age. The ungodly beast nations and the kings of the earth, with their armies, gather together to make war against Christ and against his army.

Revelation 20: begins with satan being bound for a thousand years (thousand years being a symbol of a new age), then John sees the first resurrection and judgment. Those that have not received the mark of the beast rule with Christ a thousand years. The chapter then continues on to the end of the thousand years with satan being released and gathering Gog and Magog together with the nations.

Gog and Magog surround the camp of the faithful and the beloved city Jerusalem. God destroys Gog and Magog by sending fire down from heaven and consuming them then the Great White Throne judgment takes place.

Revelation 20

The Dragon, that Ancient Serpent, who is the Devil and Satan.

Revelation 20:1-3 ----- ¹And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ²And he laid hold on the dragon (*drakon*) that old serpent which is the devil and satan and bound him a thousand years, ³And cast him into the bottomless pit and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

The word dragon in these verses comes from the Greek word (*drakon*). From Strong's Concordance it carries the idea of a fabulous kind of serpent (i.e., as supposed to fascinate). This is a very apt definition since the words, "that old serpent," immediately takes the mind of the ardent Bible student back to the serpents' deception of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. This verse shines a spotlight on the truth that the old serpent is the great dragon called the devil and satan. The Bible speaks of a bottomless pit and knowing the depths of satan (Rev. 2:24 KJV) the bottomless pit and the depth of satan can be seen as the personification of the following four things: -

1. The extreme depths of sin and evil dwelling in the human heart and mind.
2. The extreme depths of sin and evil dwelling in the flesh (i.e., the lower nature).
3. The extreme levels that pride (self-glory) dwelling within can corrupt a person.
4. The extreme evil that the mind of the flesh (self, ego, pride and greed etc.) can sink to.

The bottomless pit and the depth of satan can be seen as the personification of the heart of man that all these evils ascend from. Jesus said: -

- Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person. (Matt. 15:19-20)
- From within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²²coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person." (Mark 7:21)

The heart: was regarded as the seat of physical life and figuratively denotes the center and energy of all physical and spiritual life. When used in the Bible it is seen as the fountain and seat of the soul (the mind and the heart) with the thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, and endeavors of the understanding. It represents the faculty and seat of the intelligence of the will and character of the mind so far as it is affected and stirred in a bad way or good. It represents the seat of the sensibilities, affections, emotions, desires, appetites, passions, of the middle or central or inmost part of human nature.

The dragon: embraces all the evil character of the serpent, the devil and satan. These titles are all different aspects of the same entity which is the mind of the flesh and the pride of man manifested in all its various forms of wickedness, not only throughout the entire history of mankind but also during Christ's millennial reign on earth.

The words: -

- That old serpent which is the devil and satan and bound him a thousand years (v2)

Means that anything that is contrary or opposed to God's law will not be tolerated it is in this sense that the dragon that old serpent which is the devil and satan are bound during Christ millennial Kingdom age. It means that the flesh (self, ego, pride and greed etc.) will be greatly limited and unable to manifest their evil sinful, corrupt and rebellious ways.

The dragon the serpent, the devil and satan are bound for a thousand years, means all the evil contained in the human heart of those who are hostile toward God and the pride of man will be restrained by Christ when he rules over the nations as King of kings and Lord of lords with great authority (a rod of iron) and with those who have been gathered to him.

The flesh and the pride of man refer to that spirit and will of man that is hostile toward God and His laws and commandments. Evil, rebellion, oppression, greed and such like things will not be tolerated during the new age of Christ's Kingdom. It is in this sense the dragon the serpent, the devil and satan which are all different aspects of the same entity, (the pride of man and the mind of the flesh that is hostile and opposed to God and the Lord Jesus Christ are bound. It means that they will not be able to do the evil sinful and rebellious things the flesh (self, pride, ego and greed, etc.), desires and craves to do.

The words,

- After that he must be loosed a little season (v3).

Means that the pride of man and the flesh (self, ego, greed, etc.), that is hostile and opposed to God and rebellious toward Christ's rule as King of kings and Lord of lords will be permitted to manifest its evil, sinful rebellious nature at the end of Christ's millennial Kingdom reign, but will be destroyed by the power of God forever (Rev. 20:1-10).

Generally but not always the dragon and the serpent represent the personification of the greatest and highest power of deception and evil, control and authority that kings, rulers and governments have over the entire world, while the devil and satan (these titles are used interchangeable) are primarily, but not always a personification of the evil power, control and authority of an individual man or woman or of a crowd, a group, an organization (religious or secular) or of kings, rulers and governments of countries and nations.

SUMMARY: because of the prophetic language of the Bible the title, "The dragon" can apply to any of the following: -

- The religious leaders of Jesus generation (the chief priest, Pharisees and scribes who had Jesus murdered and aggressively set about to destroy the church).
- A powerful false religious system that rises up in the latter days and deceives those who belong to the Kingdom of God and the family of Christ.
- An amalgamation of secular nations and a world government that seeks to destroy Israel and those that belong to Christ.

The past historical battle was between the false religious leaders (called dragons and angels of satan) and the faithful apostles that belonged to Christ (these could be called Michael's angels). Under Christ's leadership they ushered in a spiritual Kingdom of faith in the heart of all who accept the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. The future battle will be between faithful Jews and faithful Gentiles united together in Christ (these could be called Michael's angels) and the world's most powerful false religious leaders and secular kings and governments (called the dragon and satans angels).

But whereas the first battle ushered in a spiritual Kingdom of God in the heart and mind of those who by faith trust in Christ and by love follow him this future battle will usher in the glorious literal Kingdom of God on earth. The present spiritual Kingdom of God being established in the heart and mind by faith and love of those

who belong to Christ in this present age will be manifested outwardly when the Lord returns and the remaining world will marvel at God's glory manifested in the children of God. John wrote the following beautiful words: -

- See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is (1 John 3:1-2)

And Paul said: -

- Creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God (Rom. 8:19).
- In Christ Jesus you are all children of God, through faith (Gal. 3:26).

For further information see the following titles: -

- Leviathan, Satan and the Devil, in Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Those who did Not Receive the Mark of the Beast reign with Christ.

Revelation 20:4-6 ----- ⁴Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

John now sees in this vision those resurrected in the first resurrection. These Scriptures show that the mark of the beast must be sometime before the first resurrection because these verses say that those who were resurrected and reigned with Christ for a thousand years had not received the mark of the beast. The faithful of the Old and New Testament are resurrected in the first resurrection, but those that have received the mark of the beast and died outside of Christ remain in the grave until the end of the thousand years. Following are seven great truths these verses shine a light upon: -

1. The faithful will be resurrected in the first resurrection.
2. The rest of the dead do not come to life until the thousand years were ended (which implies as second resurrection).
3. The faithful will reign with Christ for a thousand years (a symbol of a new season of time or new age of time).
4. Those who attain to the first resurrection are blessed and holy (which implies that those resurrected in the second resurrection may not be so blessed).
5. The second death has no power over those who attained to the first resurrection (which implies there are two deaths) (i.e., one mortal and one eternal).
6. Those who did not attained to the first resurrection will be raised in the second resurrection (which implies that no one is yet totally extinct or eternally dead).
7. God's purpose at this present time is to raise up faithful men and women to be priests of God and of Christ, to reign with the Lord during the thousand years.

The Mark on the Forehead and on the Hand.

In this vision John sees: -

- Those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands come to life and reigned with Christ (v4).

Throughout Christianity there are various ideas of what the mark on the forehead and hand might. To assist us in gaining some understanding it will help to look at the following verses that use similar language.

The Mark on the Forehead and on the Hand in the Book of Deuteronomy.

- You shall bind them (the commandment, the statutes and the rules of the LORD) as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes (Deut. 6:8).
- You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes (Deut. 11:18).

Based on these words of the LORD the Jews wrap copies of the law around their arms and place containers with the law in them upon their foreheads. Obviously this is not what the LORD meant. God was highlighting the truth by way of a figure of speech that Israel should do (symbolised by the hand) and to think (symbolised by the forehead) the right thing by way of His commandments in their day to day lives.

The Mark on the Forehead and on the Hand in the Book of Ezekiel.

- The LORD said to him (a man clothed in linnen), "Pass through the city, through Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in it." (Ezek. 9:3-4).

The LORD said to a man clothed in linen (a symbol of righteousness) to walk through the city of Jerusalem and mark the forehead of everyone who mourns and weeps over all the wickedness they see in the city.

This invisible and spiritual mark in the forehead is a seal for salvation to eternal life for those who mourn over sin. Many with the mark may have been mortally killed when Babylon's armies invaded the city of Jerusalem, but everyone who had been marked in the forehead by the man clothed in linen will be remembered by God, counted righteous and resurrected to eternal life.

This is not a literal mark, the idea carried here is that the man clothed in linen is taking note of who is worthy of eternal life by examining their heart attitude to all the corruption that is going on around them. Just as those who mourn over sin today and have faith in Christ are sealed for salvation and eternal life, this mark in the forehead is doing the same thing for all those who the man in linen clothes has noted have an inward hatred toward all the abominations that are all around them. Ezekiel in his vision sees all the horror that is about to come upon Israel and he is devastated, and prays God will not destroy all the people of Israel and the LORD replies: -

- The guilt of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great. The land is full of blood, and the city full of injustice. For they say, 'The LORD has forsaken the land, and the LORD does not see.' ¹⁰As for me, my eye will not spare, nor will I have pity; I will bring their deeds upon their heads." ¹¹And behold, the man clothed in linen, with the writing case at his waist, brought back word, saying, "I have done as you commanded me." (Ezek. 9:9-11).

Notice the man in linen has a writing pad, he is taking note of who is worthy of being saved by noting their heart attitude toward God and their attitude toward all the corruption and injustice that is in the land of Israel.

The mark on the forehead in this context is a symbol of who has hatred toward abominations, corruptions and injustices and who doesn't. The man in linen makes a note in his writing case of who is worthy of salvation and takes it back to the LORD. The mark is a symbol of those who have favour with God and are set aside and kept for salvation and sealed for eternal life.

The Mark on the Forehead and in the Hand in the Book of Revelation.

- He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads. And that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name (Rev.13:16-17).
- I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgement was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshipped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years (Rev.20:4).

Following are the four most common understandings of the mark: -

1. The mark of the beast simply refers to those who think (symbolised by the head) and behave (symbolised by the hand) in a way that is offensive to God and usually motivated by money and greed. This behaviour is evident in many religious and political systems today, and rampant in the corporate world. In short, most of the world today could be said to already have the mark and name of the beast because they exhibit behaviour that is motivated by human greed and selfishness, which is not God's way.
- 2 The mark is a symbol of world governments (or a world leader) forcing the populations of the world to deny all forms of religion and deny the existence of God and accept their teachings of humanism and their particular laws and their system of buying and selling. An early example of this type of enforced mark can be seen during the reign of the Emperor Charlemagne. Anyone who refused to accept traditional Catholicism was banned from buying or selling resulting in the many starving.
- 3 That the mark is a literal mark implanted in the right hand or the forehead because it is linked to buying and selling. In my very early years of Christianity prior to bank cards even existing it was taught that everyone would receive a bar code either on their forehead or their right hand since almost every bar code starts and ends with the computer number six and is broken up in the middle by the computer number six which means almost all bar codes worldwide carry the number 666 the number of man and his kingdom.

Later bank cards arrived and the church preached against them since they were seen as the beginning of a cashless society and when that arrived everyone would be forced to have some kind of invisible trading mark that only a computer would see that would enable them to trade. Looking at the way the world is going with technology and especially with the mobile phone becoming a portable bank and enabling everyone to buy and sell without the need to actually have real money it is not too far a leap to think that a day could come when some kind of pin head size trading chip will be available to implant under the skin.

Certainly it would be an easy thing to sell since it would do away with the need for remembering pin numbers and the worry of losing cards or having them stolen etc. Should this happen it would only be a matter of time before everyone would need one to buy and sell, but notice the verse also says, "They worshipped the beast" (Rev.20:4) which means that this mark is also link to the worship of this beast.

- 4 The mark of the Beast is the seal of Islam, the book of Revelations says, "The beast causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead. (Rev. 13:16). Some believe that the mark of the Beast is the seal of Mohammad for the following reasons Every flag has a name (i.e., the British flag is called the Union Jack) the flag of Islam, the flag of Mohammad the jihadist flag with the rough circle and the seal of Mohammad within it is no different, its name in Arabic is called the "Black Banner" or the "Banner of the Eagle." This is enormously interesting in the light of the following verses: -

- The LORD will bring a nation against you (Israel) from far away, from the end of the earth, swooping down like the *eagle* (Deut. 28:49).

- The LORD shall bring a nation against thee (Israel) from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the *eagle* flieth (Deut. 28:49).
- Set the trumpet to thy mouth. He shall come as an *eagle* against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed my covenant, and my law. (Hosea 8:1).
- Their (Babylon's) horses also are swifter than the leopards, and more fierce than the evening wolves: and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and come from far; they shall fly as the *eagle* that hasteth to eat (destroy Israel). (Habakkuk 1:8).
- Set the trumpet to thy mouth. He shall come as an *eagle* against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed my covenant and my law. (Hosea 8:1-14)

In the context of these verses the nations surrounding Israel that are enemies of Israel are describe as and eagle. The eagle in the context of these verses is a biblical symbol of the neighbouring states surrounding Israel who are Israel's enemies and who will come upon Israel in judgment and today (2014) we see Israel's surrounding nations flying the banner of the eagle as the symbol of Islam and establishing an Islamic state in the land promised to Abraham (from the Euphrates to the Nile).

The flag of Islam is a black flag on this flag is a circle, but it is not a proper circle, but a rough circle the reason for this is because it is an imitation of the seal of Mohammad. The Arabic writing inside this circle states, "There is no other God but Allah and Mohammad his massager." Those who are fighting for Islam have this symbol and seal on their battle flags and many of them wear them on their battle dress and on their scarfs they proudly wear on their foreheads. Added to this a lot of them are wearing rings on their hands which also have the seal of Mohammad engraved upon them.

This Islamic seal went together with the Caliphate (an Islamic state led by a supreme religious and political leader known as a caliph) the seal was believed to have magical powers so much so that if the seal was lost then the Caliphate (the kingdom) would be lost and there would be no unity amongst the Muslim community.

In Revelation chapter thirteen we are told: -

- No one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. ¹⁸This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666. (Rev. 13:17-18).

These verses state that everyone will receive a mark in their right hand or forehead, and today (2014) we see many (not all) of those fighting to establish the state of Islam wearing the seal of Mohammad on their battle dress, on their foreheads and on their hands. We are told that the mark is the number of the name of the beast. Now here is the interesting thing concerning this statement, each letter in the Greek, the Hebrew and the Arabic language has a numerical value which means you can look at someone's name that is written in one of these languages and work out the sum total of the name. All anyone has to do to find out the number of a person's name is add the numerical number of each letter of their name.

From this verse we know that the name of the beast will add up to 666 the Greek value of these letters is 600 and 60 and 6 when the Greek numerical value of each letter of the name Mohammad is added together it adds up to 600 and 60 and 6 which we are told is the number of a man. The beast can be seen both as a man and as the embodiment of that man embraced amongst the people who follow that man and give him their loyalty and allegiance.

The guiding principles of both the Islamic state, Hamas in Palestine, Isis and other radical jihadist groups claim that their aim is to embody the prophet Mohammad in their state and their Caliphate (empire). In other words they are trying to embody the prophet Mohammad so that their Islamic state would be the embodiment of a person (i.e., his teaching, laws, rules etc.).

when the Islamic beast state arises with power and dominates the land promised to Abraham from the Euphrates to the Nile those living in the regions and nations conquered by the Islamic state will be forced to convert or be killed or flee into hills and caves for refuge as they are doing today (2014) as the murderous Islamic group called Isis gains control over the region declaring it an Islamic state. Since Islam's goal is to convert all to the faith of Islam it is very easy to see how those living under their control will eventually be forced to receive the mark of Islam the seal of Mohammad. For further information see the title: "The Black Flag of Islam," at the end of this chapter.

Since the book of Revelations is a highly figurative book to be dogmatic and insist that only one of these four concepts concerning the mark is the only interpretation of the mark would seem to me be an unwise thing to do especially since many parts of them all most likely apply if not all at the same time, certainly at various times as we move closer to the return of Christ. Jesus when speaking to his disciples about Judas said: -

- I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he (John 13:18-19).

These words of Jesus show that that the purpose of prophecy concerning future things spoken of is not always so we can predict the future, but so that when the things spoken of do come to pass we will believe. It is certain as we move nearer the glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ it will become very clear to all as to what this mark is and what shape and form it may take. Though it can be shouted with confidence that everyone who does have the mark of the beast will be the total opposite of everyone who has Christ's heavenly Father's name written on their foreheads (Rev.14:1).

The Beast Deceive them that Dwell on the Earth.

In Revelations chapter thirteen we read: -

- The beast deceiveth them that dwell on the *earth* by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the *earth*, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live (Rev. 13:14).

In the New Testament the Greek word earth can refer to a region, a part of the land mass of the globe or the whole globe or to a country or an area of land or the world. In the Old Testament the Hebrew word earth can also refer to a country, the land, the earth and to nations or the world (including the occupants in all applications) which means that the word earth does not always apply to the whole planet.

In the book of Daniel we read that there would be a succession of Empires that would reign over the whole earth, yet there has never literally been one world empire that has governed the whole earth in the sense of the whole globe the whole planet. The following verses show that the expression the whole earth in some contexts does not embrace the entire land mass of the globe or all populations of the earth.

- How is the hammer (Babylon) of the *whole earth* cut asunder and broken! (Jer. 50:23).
- The fourth beast (Rome) shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the *whole earth* (Dan. 7:23).
- As I was considering, behold, an he goat (Greece) came from the west on the face of the *whole earth*, and touched not the ground. (Dan. 8:5).

In these verses Babylon, Rome and Greece are spoken of as covering the whole earth, yet as vast as these empires were not one of them literally covered the whole globe of the earth which means we can either understand the Hebrew and

Greek word earth to mean the whole planet or to be referring to a particular region or area of land. So when we read that the whole earth is going to have this mark of the beast enforced upon them it is hardly likely it means that every person globally will have the mark such as those in the south America rain forests and the natives in the jungle of Africa etc.

If we understand the earth in Revelation and also in the many of the Old Testament prophecies (especially of the last days) to, be referring to the land promised to Abraham and the surrounding nations which is biblically justifiable and in terms of prophecy in line with much of biblical usage and Bible teaching. Then it would not be biblically wrong to apply the words, "The beast deceives them that dwell on the earth," to the land promised to Abraham from the Nile to the Euphrates and its surrounding nations.

comes under the control of the latter day entity called the beast that this areal will demand upon everybody who lives there to use this mark the seal of Mohammad.

By Signs the Beast Deceives those who Dwell on Earth.

- It (the beast) performs great signs (wonders in KJV), even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, ¹⁴and by the signs (miracles in KJV) that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, Revelation 13:13-14

The mark is associated with wonders and miracles and these wonders and miracles are associated with fire coming down from heaven, a perfect description of modern weapons of war, Islam claims that their sudden growth, victories and rise to power they are having today (2014) are miracles of Allah.

The Islamic state that we are seeing developing as a Caliphate state today is in fact ancient Assyria (also called Syria) (today called Iraq) revived which many believe is the beast system of the last days. If this is so it is certain that the mark and seal of Mohammad will eventually appear on bank notes and coins so that those in the land promised to Abraham and the surrounding nations won't be able to buy or sell without these coins and notes that the state of Islam issues. Even today (2014) those in control of the areas that have been taken over by the Islamic state are putting a pretty heavy tax on people and taking full control of peoples economic life so it is easy to see how this mark of the beast would become necessary in order just to survive.

Gog and Magog, gather Nations for Battle.

Revelation 20:7-10 ---- ⁷And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. ⁹And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, ¹⁰and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Gog and Magog: in the Bible, are great hostile powers that oppose Israel, Magog is also identified as a land (the home of Gog). In Ezekiel chapter thirty-eight it also mentions Magog Meshech and Tubal these three can be summed up in the word Russia the land of Gog. The names of king Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal resemble the modern Russia, Moscow and Tobolsk and the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog means all the ungodly nations of the earth who oppose the people of God (Ezekiel 38:2).

The biblical study of Gog and Magog is enormously fascinating for the following two reasons: -

- 1 Christians believe they are the people of God so they naturally believe Gog and Magog refer to all the nations that are opposed to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the God of Israel and of Christianity.

- 2 Moslems believe they are the people of God so they naturally believe Gog and Magog refer to all the nations that are opposed to the Allah and against Islam.

To discover who Gog is and gain some insights into the mind and belief of the Muslim world concerning Christ's return, see the title: Gog, Magog, Rosh, Meshech and Tubal at the end of this study.

Satan will be released from his Prison: in verse seven we are told satan deceives the nations then in verse ten it says the devil deceived the nations, showing that the word satan and the word devil are the same entity. Satan and the devil in this context refer to all the evil that dwells in the human heart (see the notes following Revelation 20:1-3) (above). Mankind will once again rise up against Christ. This is the final battle between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of men although it is not really a battle since God consumes these armies with fire from heaven. All the rebellious nations of the earth who do not want to submit to Christ's government surround Jerusalem with the intent of destroying Christ and those with him and God destroys them.

The False Prophet.

Verse ten speaks of the false prophet being cast into the lake of fire the following verses are the only three verses that use the expression "The false prophet."

- I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the *false prophet*, three unclean spirits like frogs. ¹⁴For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty. (Rev. 16:13-14).
- The beast was taken, and with him *the false prophet* that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. (Rev. 19:20).
- The devil (the spirit of the false prophet see Rev 19:20) that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and *the false prophet* are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Rev. 20:10).

These verses show that the false prophet does miracles before the beast, deceives the kings of the earth and speaks things that are an offence to God and is identified with the dragon and the beast. Both the false prophet and the beast are cast into the lake of fire. Notice the beast and the false prophet are already seen in the lake of fire prior to the end of the thousand years, while the devil and satan are cast into the lake of fire at the end of the thousand years. The lake of fire is a symbol of total destruction, this is the final death (called the second death) (Rev. 2:11) (Rev. 20:6) (Rev. 20:14) (Rev. 21:8) whoever is cast into the lake of fire is punished forever with eternal death (i.e., total extinction). For further information concerning satan and the devil see the title: -

- Satan and the Devil.

In, Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU).

They will be Tormented Day and Night Forever and Ever.

The words, "They will be tormented day and night forever and ever" (v10) are the only words in the entire Bible that could be taken to mean that people will be tormented forever and ever (especially if a person already has a preconceived mindset that this is what the Bible teaches). Before we look further at this verse it will help to consider the following five golden rules in establishing Bible doctrine: -

1. Doctrine should never be established on one or two verses (especially if they contradict the majority of other verses).

2. Doctrine should never be built from Scriptures that are full of figurative language and extreme symbolism.
3. Single verses should always be kept in the context of the surrounding verses, the chapter and the overall picture of the Bible.
4. Doctrine should never be established from parables since they are a story that teaches a moral or principal of life.
5. Scriptures should never be lifted out of their context and united with other verses that have also been lifted out of their context.

It is not only a very dangerous exercise to build doctrine when these five rules are ignored, but it is also how most false teaching throughout history has been established. In verse ten we are told that when the devil, the beast and the false prophet are cast into the lake of fire and brimstone they are tormented day and night forever and ever.

Forever: comes from the Greek word (aion) and from Strong's Concordance can refer to an age, a period of time; an eternal age without end or to the Jewish Messianic period (present or future).

Brimstone: comes from the Greek word (theiodes) and from Strong's Concordance is sulphur it is used in the Bible and classical records, because of its flammability this is because fire throughout the Bible is a symbol of total destruction and total extinction since fire destroys everything in its path until it is utterly consumed. When the word brimstone is added to the word fire, (i.e., fire and brimstone) it magnifies two things, firstly God's utter distain for those in focus and secondly it magnifies their utter destruction.

NOTICE: John says only the devil, the beast and the false prophet are tormented day and night forever. This is the only Scripture in the entire Bible that could be taken to imply eternal torment, and it only mentions the devil, the beast and the false prophet being the tormented ones, not all mankind.

This chapter begins with John seeing an angel descending from heaven holding a key and a great chain and seizing a dragon and binding him up in prison for a thousand years, obviously angels do not need literal keys and chains to lock a dragon up in a prison. This chapter is full of very symbolic language even the thousand years symbolize a long period of time and a new age to come. Therefore to view the words, "The devil, the beast and the false prophet will be tormented day and night forever and ever literally when eternal torment is not taught anywhere else in the Bible and doctrine should never be built on one or two verses at the expense of the multitudes of verses that teach a different idea or concept is a very dangerous excise especially when the verse sits amongst such symbolic and figurative language to accept it as a literal statement. It is more fitting and harmonizes far better with all other Scriptures concerning the fate of the wicked to view this in the following two ways: -

1. As biblical lofty language to graphically highlight the extreme distain, disgust, wrath and anger God has against everything that is evil and brings harm to other humans.
2. As illustrative and pictorial language to strikingly highlight and depict the absolute and utter destruction of everything that is evil and that opposes God and His will, His plans and His purposes.

Contrary to traditional religious teaching the Bible does not eternal torment, agony and suffering for all eternity. the dead outside of God's Kingdom do not survive death as conscious eternal beings who dwell in a lake of eternal flaming fire and not only suffer the most extreme agony and pain of flames burning their flesh but also are cruelly tortured by eternal spirit creatures called demons for all eternity (as some believe), but rather teaches eternal life or eternal death (i.e., total and utter extinction). For further information see the title: Torment and Tormented, in Death (ON WEBSITE MENU).

The Millennium Period and the Return of Christ.

The words, "When the thousand years are ended" (Rev. 20:7) refer to the glorious new age to come when the Lord returns in glory as, King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to rule and reign from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to establish God's Kingdom on earth during his glorious millennial reign.

The dead in Christ (Old and New Testament) and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6) to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God. Christ the King united with his people will not only bring peace to the Middle East, but establish God's Kingdom of steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, joy and peace throughout the world and the glory of God will cover the earth.

Jesus will do justice to the poor and oppressed, he will be a faithful and compassionate King forever. He will not allow anyone to strike terror in the earth or use lies and deception to enlarge their own wealth and power. The land will abundantly produce and even the deserts will flourish.

The animals will not feed on each other and even the lamb will be able to lie down with the wolf and everyone will eat of their own hands because all that they plant will produce. All nations the LORD has made will come and worship before the Lord Jesus Christ. They will glorify God's Name, proclaiming the LORD is great and does wondrous things and that He alone is God.

The book of Revelation states: -

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

And in Revelation chapter five we are told that: -

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

For further information see title: -

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
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The Great White Throne, the Book of Life and the Lake of Fire.

Revelation 20:11-15 -- ¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. ¹⁴Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

These verses shine a brilliant spotlight on a universal resurrection. In Revelation chapter twenty it is written: -

- The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years. (Rev. 20:5-6).

The faithful in Christ (Old and New Testament) will be raised in the first resurrection and rule with Christ during his glorious Kingdom age, but at the end of this new age on earth God descends on a great White Throne. The dead, noble, rich, lowly and poor are raised from the sea from Death and from Hades (the grave) to stand before God Himself. Then the Book of Life" is opened and if a person's name has been blotted out of it they are cast into the lake of fire (also called the, Second Death) (v14) a symbol of eternal death (i.e., utter extinction), but if a person's name is found in the Book of Life then other books are opened and they are then judged by God according to what is written in these other books, according to what they had done.

Personally I believe this judgment will be according to what heart attitude they had toward God (remember not everyone on planet earth was blessed to hear the message of the cross and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ) and according to Jesus command, "Love your neighbour as yourself," meaning do-good to others and not harm. After this judgment those counted unworthy are cast into the lake of fire with Death and Hades and Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its majestic royal fullness and everlasting glory. For further information see the title: -

- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Section 2

Gog Magog, Meshech and Tubal.

This section gives some very interesting insights into how Islam views Gog and Christ's return and views Western civilization and why Islam has such aggression against Israel and the western world and their end time goal.

Topics.

- The creation of Israel and Muslim rage against them.
- The Dome on the Rock, Islam and Judaism.
- The third and fourth temple.
- Israel the Holy Land and the Judeo-Christian Euro-World-Order.
- Islam's proof that Israel and the Western World is Gog and Magog.
- The monetary system and European Judeo-Christians.
- The increase of poverty, the IMF and the enemies of Islam and the Anti-Christ.
- Muslims, Christians and Jews and the return of the Messiah.
- The Holy Land, the Messiah and a world government based in Jerusalem.
- The grand design and Jewish and Christian alliances.
- Worldwide legalized theft, gigantic fraud, and economic oppression.
- The meaning of common Muslim words.

In Ezekiel thirty-eight it is written: -

- The word of the LORD came to me: ²"Son of man, set your face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him. ³and say, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. (Ezekiel 38:1-3).

The study of Gog and Magog is enormously fascinating for the following two reasons: -

1. Christians believe they are the people of God so they naturally believe Gog and Magog refer to all the nations that are opposed to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the God of Israel and of Christianity
2. Moslems believe they are the people of God so they naturally believe Gog and Magog refer to all the nations that are opposed to the Allah and against Islam.

To discover the identity of Gog and Magog it will help if we firstly take a little journey through history this will also help us understand the mind of Islam.

The creation of Israel and Muslim rage against them: one hundred years ago, there was no threat of Islam against Israel, because there was no Israel. Today that has all changed, since the first of Israel's creation, the Muslim nations have raged against it, threatening to send the Jews into the sea from the first day of their creation.

The origin of this rage against the Jews and Israel dates back to the time Mohammad fled from Mecca to Medina. In Medina, the Jews rejected his claim of prophet, and ridiculed him. His rage against them transferred to the Quran, which was later transferred to all Muslims through the Quran. Muslims today (2012) make up a majority of the population in 49 countries around the world and compose of over 23% of the earth's population, 1.6 billion making Islam the second-largest religion after Christianity.

Qur'an or Koran: is the central religious text of Islam which Muslims believe to be a revelation from God. Muslims believe that the Quran was verbally revealed from God to Muhammad through the angel Gabriel. Muslims regard the Quran as the most important miracle of Muhammad, a proof of his prophet-hood, and the culmination of a series of divine messages that started with the messages revealed to Adam and ended with Muhammad. They consider the Quran to be the only revealed book that has been protected by God from distortion and corruption.

The great Islamic threat to Israel comes from Iran: Muslim nations surround Israel, and oppose their existence, even after losing five major conflicts. Currently the great Islamic threat comes from Iran, which has openly called for the destruction of the Jewish state, while at the same time trying to develop nuclear capability. Islam will remain a threat to Israel, until either Islam or Israel attains a decisive victory over the other. Since Israel's very existence remains in doubt from the world perspective, the conclusion to this Islam/Israel conflict needs to be understood from a prophetic viewpoint concerning the Dome on the Rock.

The Dome on the Rock and Islam: the third most holy place for Islam is located in the heart of Jerusalem, the Dome of the Rock, a building which, according to Islam commemorates Mohammad's ascent into Heaven. There according to Islam, Mohammad received the confirmation of Islam by the biblical prophets and the Lord Himself.

The Dome on the Rock and Judaism: the Dome of the Rock also happens to be the Most Holy location of Judaism, where according to the Bible, God instructed Israel to build a Temple. Only on this spot alone can Israel establish a place of sacrifice to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This creates quite a problem in the world today. We have two groups of people, both with claims to the same location. Yet according to Bible prophecy, a Third Temple will be constructed on this very location.

Therefore, if a Third Temple is to be constructed, then at some point the Dome of the Rock or Noble Sanctuary must be removed. Since Islam in a unified voice, on numerous occasions has threatened world-wide war, if the Dome of the Rock is harmed, it's logical to conclude, Islam as a power and threat needs to be removed before the Temple is rebuilt. The prophetic war in the Bible, the war of Gog and Magog, though not stated explicitly, implies the war is caused by a conflict over the Temple and the Dome of the Rock.

Gog, Magog, Rosh, Meshech and Tubal.

After the defeat of Gog and Magog: in the book of Ezekiel chapters 40 to 43, is the building of the Temple, when the Glory of the LORD, enters the area now known as the Temple Mount. From the context, of the events described in these two chapters, it is clearly a future age, known as the Messianic age, or the Millennium, when the Kingdom of God is established on Earth. During this period, the Messiah, Jesus Christ reigns over the earth.

The third and fourth temple: the Temple described in Ezekiel 40 to 43, would actually be the 4th Temple, since the 3rd Temple (Yet to be built) is the subject of the Abomination of Desolation (Matt. 24:15), (Dan. 9:27) (Dan. 12:11). The 4th Temple is established, after all earthly conflicts are finished, which includes Armageddon. This 4th Temple follows the return of Messiah (Jesus Christ) who comes in glory and power to rule over the nations and Israel (Matt. 24:29-31, (Matt. 25:31-40) as King of the world.

Gog, Magog and Russia: in short, the battle Gog and Magog is war in the latter days (Last days) when a confederacy of nations attack Israel, which has been restored in the last days. These nations, which attack Israel in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39, include nations, which are Muslim and have a clear animosity to Israel. Along with these Muslims nations, a northern kingdom, called Gog and Magog, which many identify, as the land Russia, will ally itself with Muslim nations, to oppose Israel in the last days.

Gog and Magog in Ezekiel: in Ezekiel Gog and Magog is a symbol of the evil darkness of the north and the powers hostile to God, whereas in Revelation, Gog and Magog have no geographic location, and instead represent the nations of the world, banded together for the final assault on Christ and those who follow him during his millennial reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. Since the primary reference concerning Gog and Magog in Ezekiel is to the northern powers the general thought is that the title, Gog and Magog refer to the European powers, headed up by Russia. Most agree that the reference to Meshech and Tubal (Moscow and Tobolsk) is a clear mark of identification. The Bible confirms this conclusion by giving the location three times calling it "the uttermost north" (Ezek. 38:6, 15 KJV) (Ezek. 39:2 KJV). Drawing a straight line north of Jerusalem on the map almost hits Moscow.

Rosh, Magog and China: Rosh is the proper name of the country of Russia and its people (Russians). Arabic writers confirm that the Great Wall of China is called the wall of Magog (Hait Al-Ma'ajooj), to protect China from the invading Russians. Certain Muslims might claim that Magog refers to China and not Russia, but this disagrees with many Arabic historians. The following will give the nations ancient names and the modern nation that now occupies that territory.

The Ancient Nations.

The Modern Nations.

Gog and Magog ----- Russia.

Meshech and Tubal ----- Moscow and Tobolsk.

Persia ----- Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ethiopia ----- Ethiopia and Sudan.

Libya ----- Libya.

Ashkenaz, Gomer ----- The Soviet Block (Eastern Europe).

Togarmah ----- Southern Russia.

Many nations with you ----- Other nations allied to Russia.

The nations allied to Russia in this prophecy are Muslim nations seeking the Islamic form of Government. Islamic fundamentalism is the greatest enemy to the Jews. The evidence for this is overwhelming. The LORD tells Ezekiel to prophesy against Gog and say thus says the Lord GOD: -

- Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. (Ezek. 38:3) (Ezekiel 39:1). (The Islamic nations are included in this warning of the LORD).

Gog and Magog, Meshech and Tubal: Gog and Magog are great hostile powers that oppose Israel. Magog is also identified as a land (i.e., the home of Gog). Magog Meshech and Tubal can be summed up in the word Russia the land of Gog, The names king Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal resemble modern Russia, Moscow and Tobolsk and the nations which are in the four corners of the earth. Gog and Magog refer to all the ungodly nations of the earth that oppose the people of God (Ezek. 38:2) (Rev. 20:8).

Fundamentalist Islam.

The Insight Magazine reported and interesting insight in the following article: -

Fundamentalist Islam looking to Iran for inspiration and support is spreading across the Middle East and North Africa. Shimon Peres recently stated: "Since the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union, we consider Khomeinism the greatest danger the Middle East is facing (Khomeinism is the religious and political doctrines of the Ayatollah Ruhollah). It has many of the characters of communism. It is fanatic it is ideological it is religious and claims, like communism, that the end justifies the means.

Most of all, it has the same inclination to export its ideas. It does not respect national borders. The Iranian example already has spread to Sudan ...Algeria...Tunisia...Palestine. The overall aim of these efforts apparently is to create an Islamic belt stretching from Iran through the Middle East to North Africa. Ironically, many Arabs attribute their defeats in wars with Israel to religion: While Israel from its very birth was built upon religion." (Insight magazine, 9, 6, 1993).

Another relevant Islamic writing is that of one of their respected prophets who said: -

- The Muslims will fight against the Kaafirs (someone who covers up the truth, a disbeliever of Islam) and even the trees and rocks will say, 'O Muslim, there is a Kaafir hiding beneath me - come and kill him!' Allah will destroy the Kaafirs, and the people will return to their lands. Then Gog and Magog will appear from all directions, eating and drinking everything they find. The people will complain to me, so I will pray to Allah and He will destroy them, so that the earth will be filled with their stench. Allah will send rain which will wash their bodies into the sea. My Lord has told me that when that happens, the hour will be very close, like a pregnant woman whose time is due, but her family do not know exactly when she will deliver."

(Ahmad, Musnad 1/375. Similar Hadith in Ibn Majah, Kitaab al-Fitan (Hadith 4081), 2/1365, 1366) By: Imam Ibn Kathir Source: Islaam.com.

Israel the Holy Land and the Judeo-Christian Euro-World-Order.

(Taken from Islamic Scholar Imran Nazar Hosein website: imranhosein.org).

The Islamic Scholar Imran Nazar Hosein wrote: one people today totally dominate and control the entire world, its politics, economy, culture, news, sports, entertainment, fashions, travel, etc. They possess absolute power that no possible combination of rivals can now challenge. Moreover, there is no secular evidence to suggest that their powerful grip over the whole world can ever be successfully challenged. They do much more than control the world.

They change, unfold and reinvent themselves, and then change the world as well, until it becomes their carbon copy. They have broken down all the barriers that have for ages separated people from each other, and a single global society has emerged for the first time in human history with a single language, English.

They are the Judeo-Christian Euro-world-order (i.e., modern secular western civilization), and they are an absolutely unique phenomenon in history. They are an ominous 'world-order', ominous for Arabs and Muslims in particular, and for non-Europeans in general. But even those European people who would live lives of piety, faith and righteousness are not spared. The 'world-order' wages relentless war on the religious way of life in general, and on Islam in particular. They use their absolute power to corrupt, to oppress, and to engage in acts of injustice and wickedness with no parallel in history.

Jewish Christian 'white' war crimes now inflicted on Arab Muslim Iraq are but a continuation of 'white' apartheid inflicted on black Christian Africa. Their greed is indescribable. They suck the wealth of all of mankind through legalized theft, and they even take from the poor the little that they possess. Eventually they imprison all of mankind in a new economic slavery. They are essentially godless and amazingly decadent, and possess such powers of deception that 'appearance' and 'reality' are always opposite to each other in everything they do.

Finally, they are a world-order that is strangely and mysteriously obsessed with liberating the Holy Land. Europe became Christian and then waged 'white' Holy Wars called 'the crusades' for a thousand years until success was finally achieved when a British army, led by General Allenby, defeated the Ottoman Islamic Empire's army and triumphantly entered Jerusalem in 1917. Allenby then declared "today the crusades have ended". In fact the crusades will not end so long as Muslims resist oppression in the Holy Land.

Europe also became Jewish and created the 'white' Zionist Movement which then fanatically pursued the goals of the Jewish return to the Holy Land and the restoration of a State of Israel. The European Jew was a native of the Khazar tribes of Eastern Europe and was a convert to Judaism. He was not Israelite. Yet the European Jews successfully led the way, employing means more crooked than straight, for the restoration of a State of Israel in the Holy Land. They used the same means to literally force the Israelite Jews, long resident in the Muslim world, to migrate to that secular State of Israel. The Judeo-Christian Euro-world-order has protected and strengthened that Israel to such an extent that it has now become a super-power. Indeed it will soon become the 'ruling state in the world.

The Islamic Scholar Imran Nazar Hosein went on to say: can all of this be an accident of history? Can it be something without meaning and explanation? There are scholars and writers who might shrug their shoulders and dismiss all of the above as mere chance. And then there are others who would be convinced by the evidence presented from the Holy Qur'an that today's strange world-order is that of Gog and Magog. Dajjal (the great deceiver and gross manifestation of cumulative evil the Anti-Christ) deceived the Jews into defying every moral and religious law while pursuing an unrelenting effort to make Israel the 'ruling state' in the world.

But they make that effort while riding the back of the 'Gog and Magog world-order'. In the end they will face the Messiah they had rejected, and whose crucifixion they had demanded. Allah Most High, Who created Gog and Magog, and who gave to them their indestructible power, would Himself now destroy Gog and Magog. A Muslim army would then attack and destroy the Euro-Jewish State of Israel, and the Jews in the Holy Land would then face, at the hands of that Muslim army, the greatest of punishments. The 'oppressor' would be punished, and history would thus end with the triumph of Truth over falsehood.

Islam's Proof that Israel and the Western World is Gog and Magog.

(Taken from Islamic Scholar Imran Nazar Hosein website: imranhosein.org).

The Islamic Scholar Imran Nazar Hosein presents his summary: the evidence from the Qur'an that supports our (Muslim) identification of Gog and Magog with the present world-order. In Surah al-Kahf of the Qur'an (chapter 18 entitled 'the Cave'), as well as in Prophetic commentary (Ahadith), Gog and Magog are described as two people who descended from father Adam (peace and blessings of Allah Most High be upon him) and who were created by Allah Most High, and endowed with great power. "None but I can destroy them", said Allah (Sahih Muslim).

Surah al-Kahf has described how they were contained behind an iron barrier because they used their power to commit acts of Fasad (acts of wickedness, oppression, corruption). The Surah (chapter 18) also implied that they would use power to wage war on those who lived lives of faith and righteousness, and that they would act malevolently against those who lived the primitive way of life, or who eked out a bare subsistence living (as in Haiti). Thus the picture emerged of an absolutely godless and ruthless people who had the hearts of beasts.

The Surah went on to inform that when the Last Age commenced, "Allah would bring down the barrier" and Gog and Magog (who are a major sign of the Last Age) would be released into the world. Surah al-Anbiyah (the 21st chapter of the Qur'an) then revealed that they would eventually "spread out in every direction" - indicating that with their invincible power they would take control of the whole world and that, for the first time in history, one people would rule all of mankind:

The 'town' is Jerusalem. Allah Most High destroyed that 'town' and expelled the Jews from it. They were then banned from returning to it to reclaim it as their own. Today they have returned and have reclaimed it as their own. But they have done so while riding on the backs of an essentially godless people whose power is such that they have taken total control of the whole world, and they relentlessly use that power to oppress mankind, and to wage war on Islam in general and on Arabs in particular.

From the time of medieval Euro-Christendom to the age of secular western civilization, Europe has progressively displayed the characteristics of the world order of Gog and Magog, and has also fulfilled their basic mission. European people in Europe, North America, Australia, and in the Holy Land today dominate the whole world. They use power to oppress and to corrupt.

They liberated the Holy Land, and brought the Jews back to reclaim it as their own. They created the secular godless Euro-State of Israel and presented it to the non-European Jews as David's Holy Israel. It is an indication of the utter spiritual blindness of the non-European Jewish people that they allowed themselves to be deceived and led down the road to their final destruction by Gog and Magog.

Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, has provided additional information on Gog and Magog. For example, he said, "None of them dies without leaving a thousand more behind." And so the reality of contemporary globalization that is corrupting and enslaving mankind can now be understood.

Islam and the Future of Money. (Taken from the writings of Islam).

The universal embrace of electronic money: the final stage of evolution in the western monetary system would witness the universal embrace of electronic money, the brightest jewel of their evil monetary crown, which would totally replace today's fraudulent paper currencies. Indeed this final stage has already commenced, and all that the international monetary bandits now need is a world crisis (such as a nuclear attack on Iran which has not as yet occurred but which is expected at any time) that would result in a total collapse of the US dollar and a consequent mass stampede away from paper currencies.

Perhaps the psychological shock of the collapse of the US dollar would produce the stampede through which electronic money would effortlessly replace paper money as the new cashless money system of the world.

The monetary system and European Judeo-Christians:

The monetary system created by the ruling European Judeo-Christian alliance was specifically designed to remove 'money with intrinsic value' from the money-system of the world, and to replace it with money that had no intrinsic value. Such non-redeemable paper currencies could then be devalued. When they were devalued, not only would it result in an unjust legalised theft of the wealth of those who used the devalued currency but additionally, it would become more and more expensive for such countries to repay loans which were taken on interest.

Eventually these countries would be trapped with debts they could never repay, and would thus be at the mercy of those whose suspiciously large loans to them were meant to deliver precisely such control over them. (See John Perkins, 'Confessions of an Economic Hit-Man'). As money was devalued, the cost of property, labour, goods and services in the territories of the devalued currencies would become cheaper and cheaper for those who created the monetary system. Eventually one part of the world could live very comfortably while the rest of the world, with their constantly devalued money, sweated and laboured in a new slavery to keep the bandits permanently rich and with permanent first class tickets on the ship of life.

The increase of poverty and the IMF: as poverty increased in the targeted countries, corruption naturally also increased. Those who had the intellectual acumen of cattle would then wonder loudly: why do Muslim countries suffer from so much corruption while the West (which had looted their wealth and was living off their sweat) was so free from corruption. Then when the IMF forced privatization upon those whose money had lost value, the bandits could then buy out oil and gas fields, power-supply companies, telephone companies, etc., in such countries for a song and six-pence, (i.e., for a price far less than their true value).

The enemies of Islam and the Anti-Christ: the enemies of Islam are not content with simply living off the sweat of others through exploiting to their advantage a monetary system that is unjust and oppressive. Rather they have a grand design to so financially enslave the masses as to permit them to impose their dictatorship over the whole world. Their dictatorship would, in turn, pave the way for the Euro-Jewish State of Israel to become the ruling state in the world and, eventually, for a ruler of Israel to startle the world with the utterly fraudulent claim, that he is the true Messiah. In fact, he would be Dajjāl the false Messiah or Anti-Christ! We are now so close to that event that this writer confidently predicts that children now at school would live to see it.

Muslims and the present money system: unless one has an understanding of the grand design behind the creation of the contemporary monetary system of non-redeemable paper money, one cannot respond properly to the challenge posed by that monetary system. For Muslims to accept the present system of nonredeemable paper-money in which the Jewish-Christian ruling alliance simply has to print paper as money, assign a fictitious value to it, and in the process become creators of as much wealth as they want. They can then use their currencies to buy anything they want in any part of the world. However, when Muslims follow them in this blasphemous activity of creating wealth out of nothing while a suitcase filled with Indonesian Rupiahs or Pakistani Rupees cannot buy even a cup of coffee in Manhattan they living against the will of Allah.

Scholars of Islam have never declared the present monetary system of non-redeemable paper money to be Harām (sinful) and they never will. Those who do are, of course, very wrong in their judgement and they will have to face the consequences on the Day of Judgement for that atrocious failure because they do not consider that money in the form of precious metals created by Allah Most High with intrinsic value assigned to them by Allah Himself is firmly grounded in the blessed.

Jewish rabbis and the Christian monks devour the wealth of mankind: the Jewish rabbis and the Christian monks devour the wealth of mankind wantonly and debar (men) from the way of Allah. They who hoard up gold and silver and spend it not (this would obviously be in the context of use of gold and silver as money) in the way of Allah, unto them give tidings (O Muhammad) of a painful doom." (Qur'ān, al-Tauba, 9:34). Money with intrinsic value has today disappeared from the money-system used around the world. The entire Muslim world is also guilty of having abandoned 'money' that is firmly grounded in the Qur'ān itself and which is of value even in the hereafter. Muslims have already paid a horrible price for having abandoned that 'sacred money' and accepted in its place an utterly fraudulent means of exchange in the form of 'secular money'.

The grand design: there is a grand design that links international politics, international monetary economics and religion with today's fraudulent monetary system. Let us explain. Every Jewish child knows about, and believes in, a divine promise communicated to the Israelite people in which Allah Most High promised

that history would end with one man, who would be a Prophet and the Messiah, ruling the whole world from the throne of David ('alaihi al-Salām) in Holy Jerusalem with eternal rule. Jews concluded from this that history would end with a Pax Judaica (Judeo-world-order), and with Jerusalem once more at the centre of the world as it was at the time of Solomon ('alaihi al-Salām). They believed that a Judeo-world-order would validate the Jewish claim to truth, while invalidating all other such claims.

Muslims, Christians and Jews and the return of the Messiah: it is quite remarkable that Muslims and Christians both share with Jews the belief that the historical process would culminate with the Messiah ruling the world with justice from Holy Jerusalem. However, unlike Jews, Muslims and Christians both believe that Jesus, the son of the Virgin Mary, was the divinely promised Messiah. They also both believe that he was raised into the heavens at the time of the attempt to crucify him, and that he would return to rule the world from Jerusalem exactly as divinely prophesied. The Qur'ān explained the phenomenon of his return by disclosing that Jesus was not crucified but, rather, that Allah Most High caused it to appear as such: The Quran says: -

- That they (the Jews) said (in boast) "We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Apostle of Allah," but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not. Nay, Allah raised him up unto Himself; and Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise. (Qur'ān, al-Nisā, 4:157-158)

Christians have rejected that declaration of the Qur'ān, and persist in their belief that Jesus was crucified. Jews, on the other hand, reject Jesus as the Messiah, and await another Messiah who would liberate the Holy Land for Jews, bring them back to the Holy Land to reclaim it as their own, restore the Holy State of Israel in the Holy Land (i.e., the Holy Israel that was created by the Prophets David and Solomon), and then cause that Israel to become the ruling state in the world. That Messiah would then rule the world from Holy Jerusalem with Pax Judaica (Judeo-world-order) and bring back the Jewish golden age.

The Holy Land, the Messiah and a world government based in Jerusalem: there is compelling evidence that continues to mysteriously unfold in the world that appears to validate the Jewish claim to truth. After all, the 'liberation' of the Holy Land took place in 1917. Then the world witnessed the subsequent return of the Jews to the Holy Land to reclaim it as their own some 2000 years after they were expelled from it by divine decree. The establishment of the present (imposter) State of Israel then followed in 1948, and subsequently growth of Israel to super-power status in the world became evident. Along the way the Judeo-Christian alliance that brought modern western civilization into being has made steady progress towards the establishment of a world government. It now appears to be only a matter of time before Israel replaces USA as the ruling state in the world, and a ruler of Israel makes his appearance as the head of a world government based in Jerusalem, and he makes the momentous claim that he is the Messiah!

The Prophet Muhammad and the false Messiah: Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) informed the world that Allah Most High, who had pre-knowledge of all events, had responded to the Jewish rejection of the true Messiah by creating a false Messiah. He disclosed that Allah Most High would release that evil being into the world with a mission to impersonate the true Messiah. Consequently Dajjāl the false Messiah would have to attempt to establish a world government through which he would rule over the world from Jerusalem.

There is information in the life of the blessed Prophet which indicates that the false Messiah was released into the world after the Prophet's Hijrah to Madina had taken place, and after the Jews of Madina had rejected him as a true Prophet and the Qur'ān as the revealed word of Allah Most High.

The Prophet also disclosed that one of the most formidable weapons that the false Messiah would use to achieve his goal of ruling the world from Jerusalem would be that of reducing mankind to such a state of internal spiritual blindness that they would be incapable of perceiving his diabolical strategies and would thus be deceived. (See 'Surah al-Kahf and the Modern Age' chapter on 'Moses and Khidr').

The Prophet disclosed the supreme strategy through which the false Messiah would seek to impose his universal dictatorship over mankind to be the weapon of Ribā (interest). With Riba he would enslave with poverty those who resist him, and empower with wealth those who accept and support him. The rich elite of mankind so created would then be used as clients and surrogates to exploit and enslave the poor masses and rule over them on behalf of the false Messiah.

The grand design and Jewish and Christian Alliances: the Qur'ān has strictly prohibited Muslims from entering into friendly relations or an alliance with such Jews and Christians who themselves reconcile and establish Judeo-Christian friendship and alliance. It did so in the following momentous verse of Sūrah al-Māidah:

- Oh you who believe (in Allah Most High) do not take (such) Jews and Christians as your friends and allies who themselves are friends and allies of each other. And whoever from amongst you turns to them with friendship and alliance belongs to them. Surely Allah will not guide a people who commit such (an act of) Dhulm" (evil, wickedness). (Qur'ān, al-Māidah, 5:51)

The Western civilization monetary and economic system: we live in precisely such a world in which a Judeo-Christian alliance has emerged for the very first time in history. It is that alliance which has created modern western civilization, and which now rules the world through the United Nations Organization, etc. It has created a monetary and economic system through which it has already succeeded in unjustly enriching itself at the expense of the rest of the world. It is that Jewish-Christian alliance which established the International Monetary Fund. The reader must now question whether the Qur'anic verse quoted above has prohibited Muslim membership in international organization created and controlled by that Jewish-Christian alliance. The answer should be obvious.

The rich elite rules over the world: a rich elite now rules over the poor masses of mankind, and the rich nations now rule over the rest of the world. In addition, the wealthy ruling elite around the world now constitute one Jamā'ah (community of Muslims) and the stage is now set for the appearance of their one Amīr (chief ruler) who would rule the world from Jerusalem and would be the false Messiah. Those who cannot recognize Dajjāl the false Messiah as the mastermind behind the present world-order, now rule almost the entire Muslim world. They consequently defy the Qur'anic prohibition while establishing and maintaining friendly ties and even alliance with that Judeo-Christian alliance.

Worldwide legalized theft, gigantic fraud, and economic oppression: so long as such people continue to rule over Muslims, the Ummah (community of Muslims) of Muhammad (sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) would continue to remain imprisoned in miserable poverty and incapable of resisting those who wage war on Islam on behalf of the State of Israel. We now describe one of the processes of Ribā (interest) through which Dajjāl (the great deceiver and gross manifestation of cumulative evil the Anti-Christ) empowers with wealth those who support him, and enslaves with poverty those who oppose him.

What he did was to establish an international monetary system that corrupted money in such a way that it could be manipulated and made to function as a vehicle of legalized theft, gigantic fraud, and economic oppression. One of the very visible forms of such is the exploitation of labour through slave wages. Around the world of the so-called free market economy today, governments have found it necessary to impose minimum wage legislation in order to prevent bloody rebellion by those imprisoned in slave wages.

The reader can easily recognize the very heart of the process of legalized theft in the international monetary system that the Judeo-Christian alliance has created by focusing attention on an event that occurred in April 1933. The US Government enacted legislation at that time prohibiting American residents from keeping gold coins, bullion or gold certificates in their possession. Gold coins were demonetized, and were no longer permitted as legal tender. They could not be used as money. If anyone was caught with such gold after a certain date, they could be fined \$10,000 and/or be imprisoned for six months. In exchange for the gold coins and bullion, the Federal Reserve Bank, which is a private bank, offered paper currency (i.e., US dollars) with an assigned numerical value of \$20 for every one ounce of gold.

Most Americans rushed to exchange their gold for paper currency, but those who were aware of the rip off that was about to take place bought gold with their paper currency and then shipped the gold away to Swiss banks. It is significant that the British government also demonetized gold coins in the same year as the US. They did so through the simple expedient of suspending the redeemability of the sterling paper pound into gold.

After all the gold in USA had been exchanged for paper currency, the US Government then proceeded in January 1934 to arbitrarily devalue the US paper dollar by 41% and to then rescind the law of prohibition concerning gold that was previously enacted. The American people rushed back to exchange their paper currency for gold at the new exchange value of \$35 per ounce of gold. In the process, they were robbed of 41% of their wealth. The reader can now easily recognize the legalized theft that takes place when paper currency is devalued.

The Qur'ān has specifically prohibited, hence declared Harām (sinful according to Islamic law) such a robbery of people's wealth. It has done so, for example, in these verses of Sūrah al-Nisā and Sūrah Hūd:

- "O ye who believe! Do not appropriate each-others property and wealth in a manner that is unjust and unfair: Rather, let business be transacted in a manner that brings mutual satisfaction." (Qur'ān, al-Nisā, 4:29)
- "O my people! give just measure and weight, and do not deprive people of what is rightfully theirs by diminishing the value of their things (such as value of labour, merchandise, property, etc.) and do not commit evil in the land with intent to corrupt and destroy." (Qur'ān, Hud, 11:85).

The Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) has declared such transactions which are based on deception, and which yield a profit or gain to which one is not justly entitled (i.e., acts of 'ripping off'), to be Ribā.

The Federal Reserve Bank initiated a 'trial run' to test domestically the new monetary system through which a massive and unjust transfer of wealth throughout the unsuspecting world could be achieved. That transfer would take place through the simple device of creating money out of worthless paper and then forcing paper currency upon all of mankind. Those who control the monetary system would then target certain currencies and force them to be continuously devalued. As such paper currencies lost value the unsuspecting masses would suffer massive loss of wealth, however, their 'loss' would result in 'gain' for others.

For further information Google: Islam and the future of money.

Babylon and the Global World System of Money

The Babylonians were money-lenders not only out of dedicated policy but with fervour, zest, and relish. One of their proverbs expresses this outlook clearly:-

- The giving of a loan is like making love; The returning of a loan is like having a son born.

They were a breed of happy, proud, heartless and ruthless moneylenders. Their whole world of business moved in terms of credit financing, and their whole concept of social control and of imperialism rested on usury. It is not surprising that Babylon the Great, the harlot, is the type in Revelation of the One World Order which shall seduce all nations. Loans are not the basis of normal operation for a biblical economy as they are with a Babylonian economy.

Certainly loans are to be found in a biblical economy, but they are a result of abnormal circumstances and not the norm and because of such abnormal circumstance they have their place, but they operate in terms of absolute understanding as well as clear, definite' and obvious restrictions. The following two kinds of loans in the Bible were recognized: -

1. To the believer without usury, but with security.

2. To the unbeliever, with usury and security.

In both instances the security is the something real, it is a tangible asset, in goods or in money that is transferred and involves only the two parties involved to the contract. Modern banking however, is radically different. Banks “create” money by an official authorization and by one party simply recording a loan and a deposit on their books. The consequence is, not the personal and limited action of a biblical loan, but inflation, the decreasing of the prior relationship of money value to total goods and services. As a result there is a decreasing of all money, and such loans mean an element of robbery in that they reduce the value of all other money previously in existence. Modern central banking (i.e. the Federal Reserve System) is modern applications of the old Babylonian principles and is equally seductive in helping to bring about the lure of the dream of Empire

Federal Reserve System: prior to the introduction of central banking, the ability to create money by an official authorization was relatively limited, and it depended in large measure on the confidence of the individuals in the local bank. Today, the instrument of control has passed to the Federal Reserve System, its directors and stockholders, the Treasury Department, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and other agencies who are engaged in manipulating the money supply. Biblical law is hostile to a money system that is based on credit, because it creates an abnormal and oppressive lifestyle of debt for a country and for individuals who lives by it. The Babylonian system of economics today is anti-biblical and as such will incur the wrath of God, whose advance judgment Scripture proclaims:-

- The merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of Babylon’s luxurious living (Rev. 18:3).
- Babylon the Great is fallen is fallen (Rev. 18:2).
- The merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her Babylon since no one buys her gold, silver, jewels, pearls and fine linen anymore (Rev. 18:11-12).

The meaning of Common Muslim Words.

Amīr: is a noble title meaning chief captain, leader or commander, it is usually used in reference to a group of people and as a title for governors or rulers, usually in smaller states. In modern Arabic is equivalent to the English word prince. The word entered the English language in 1593, from the French word *emir*. It was one of the titles or names of the Islamic prophet Muhammad. It is possibly derived from the Syriac Mar or Mora, a title of respect, literally meaning, “my lord.”

Ayahs: is a verse in the Qur’an (the sacred scriptures of Islam). The Qur’an has 114 chapters (called surahs) which vary in length from several pages to several words.

Dajjal: literally means: the great deceiver; and seen as the gross manifestation of cumulative evil. In Islamic tradition the maleficent figure gifted with supernatural powers whose advent and brief, though quasi-universal rule (somewhat like the real thing, but not actually so), will be among the signs heralding the approach of the resurrection. In Islamic tradition the Dajjal is the maleficent figure gifted with supernatural powers whose advent and brief, though quasi-universal, rule will be among the signs heralding the approach of the resurrection. The Dajjāl may be thought of as the Antichrist since he is assigned the task of killing Jesus after his return to earth.

The Dajjāl will proclaim his divinity, using the words of the pharaoh “I am your supreme lord” (Koran 79:24) and deceiving men with a display of supposed miraculous powers and perform satanic tricks of false miracles. The Dajjāl will cover the globe with unbelief and sin he will defile the earth with his foulness as well as with the multitude of his forces and followers who will fill the world with corruption and few places will be spared from his triumphant on-slaught. It is written: Jesus will descend, and immediately seek out the Dajjāl. According to most

Sunnite traditions Jesus first task after his return to the earth is to put an end to the rule of the Dajjāl on the behalf of God. Certain Islamic writings end with the Prophet warning his community against the Dajjāl as “the greatest trial since the creation of Adam” and beseeching God to keep the Dajjāl either concealed or confined until the end of time (Kašmīrī, p. 105).

The Prophets warn that the emergence of the Dajjāl will be the supreme test of the Muslims and will clearly divide true believers from false (Majlesī, tr. Davānī, p. 969). Islam teaches worldwide that the Dajjāl will be a universal Anti-Christ that characterizes modern Western civilization. The role of the Dajjāl differs from that of the Western Christian world’s idea of the antichrist in that his defeat and death are envisioned by the Muslim community to introduce the universal triumph of Islam in the last days of the world.

Hafiz: is someone who has memorized the entire Quran.

Harām: (Arabic) (or Haraam) is an Arabic term meaning sinful. In Islamic jurisprudence, haram is used to refer to any act that is forbidden by Allah and is one of five Islamic commandments (al-ahkam al-khamsah) that define the morality of human action. Acts that are haram are typically prohibited in the religious texts of the Quran and the Sunnah. The category of haram is the highest status of prohibition. Islam teaches that a *haram* (sinful) act is recorded by an angel on the person’s left shoulder.

If something is considered haram, it remains prohibited no matter how good the intention is or how honorable the purpose is. It is believed that a *haram* is converted into a gravitational force on the day of judgement and placed on mizan (weighing scales). Views regarding, what is or is not haram amongst the Islamic community can vary significantly. Actions that are haram result in punishment, and are therefore considered a sin if carried out by a Muslim.

An Islamic principle related to haram is that if something is prohibited, then anything that leads to it is also considered haram. A similar principle is that the sin of haram is not limited to the person who engages in the prohibited activity, but the sin also extends to others who support the person in the activity, whether it is material or moral support.

Jamā’ah: congregation group or party and stick close to the community of Muslims.

Kaafirs: literally means "one who covers up the truth". It is used to refer to someone who is made aware of the message of Islam but refuses to worship Allah. Commonly known as a disbeliever.

The use of Kafir in the Qur’an: Kafir designate disbelievers and infidels it distinguish believers from non-believers of Islam. In its most fundamental sense in the Qur’an, kufr means “ingratitude,” however the Qur’an contains numerous verses in which more detailed definitions are provided. The kafir is referred to as being grievous and odious in the sight of God and in the sight of believers (40:35) who will be punished and destroyed when the inevitable day of punishment comes because they rejected Allah (25:77) (6:45). Kafir’s who wage war against Allah and His Messenger and strive upon earth to cause corruption are to be killed or crucified or their hands and feet are to be cut off because they are a disgrace in this world; and for them in the Hereafter is a great punishment (5:33).

Khomeinism: the religious and political doctrines of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (1900?-) who founded the Islamic Republic in Iran in 1979.

Pax: literally means Jewish matters, but is also the latin term for peace and love. Pax Judaica carries the idea of a Judeo-world-order.

Quasi-universal: close to resembling or somewhat like the real thing, similar, but not actually the same.

Qur’an or Koran: is the central religious text of Islam which Muslims believe to be a revelation from God. Muslims believe that the Quran was verbally revealed from God to Muhammad through the angel Gabriel (Jibril), gradually over a period of

approximately 23 years, beginning on 22 December 609 CE when Muhammad was 40, and concluding in 632 CE, the year of his death. Chapters are called Suras and it verses are called Ayahs. Muslims regard the Quran as the most important miracle of Muhammad, a proof of his prophet-hood, and the culmination of a series of divine messages that started with the messages revealed to Adam and ended with Muhammad. They consider the Quran to be the only revealed book that has been protected by God from distortion and corruption.

Ribā: is a loan that demands the borrower will return to the lender more than and better than the quantity borrowed (i.e., interest and profit). Those who took ribā', are severely condemned in the Quran and declared to be at war with Allāh and His Prophet. Muslims are to forego all outstanding ribā', and only to take the principle amount, and to forsake even this if the borrower is in hardship.

Allāh says in Qur'ān: -

- That which you give in usury in order that it may increase people's wealth does not increase with Allāh. But what you pay as zakāt seeking Allāh's pleasure —it is they who will be given a manifold increase. (30:39)
- For their taking usury —though they had been forbidden from it— and for eating up the wealth of the people wrongfully. And We have prepared for the faithless among them a painful punishment. (4:161)
- You who have faith! Do not exact usury, twofold and severalfold, and be wary of Allāh so that you may be felicitous. And beware of the Fire which has been prepared for the faithless, and obey Allāh and the Apostle so that you may be granted [His] mercy. (3:130-132)

The principal reason why the Qur'ān has delivered such a harsh verdict against interest is that Islām wishes to establish an economic system where all forms of exploitation are eliminated, especially the injustice perpetuated in the form of the financier being assured of a positive return without doing any work, while the entrepreneur, in spite of his management and hard work, is not assured of such a positive return. Islām wishes to establish justice between the financier and the entrepreneur therefore interest should be abstained from in all manners because it is hazardous to justice.

As for loans that are borrowed, the borrower is obligated to return the initial money borrowed only. A Muslim teacher wrote: "Muslims who do loan money and charge interest should ask themselves, is it really worth destroying the eternal life of the hereafter, just so that we may have a few more comforts in a life which can come to an end any moment."

Surah: (also spelled sura, Arabic surah) is a chapter in the Qur'an (the sacred scriptures of Islam). The Qur'an has 114 surahs (chapters) which vary in length from several pages to several words (verses are called Ayahs).

Surah Al-Anbiya: is the 21st chapter of the Qur'an it has 112 verses in 7 sections and was revealed to the prophet in Mecca. The holy Prophet of Islam said: "Whoever recites Surah Al-'Anbiya' Allah will take his reckoning easy, (and also On the Day of Hereafter He will not reckon his deeds strictly), and every prophet whose name has been mentioned in the Qur'an will greet him and shake his hands.

Sura al-Kahf: (The Cave) is the 18th surah (chapter) of the Qur'an with 110 ayat (verses).

Ummah: means a community of Muslims. It refers to the people in Arabic, but more specifically to Muslim people with a common ideology and culture. It is more commonly used in Islamic countries. Muslim ummah absolutely refers to the unity of Muslims all over the world. It is a communal word which divides people into two classes: one of them is Muslim and the other is non-Muslim. Non-Muslims are viewed as brothers and sisters in terms of all being children of Adam. The Muslim ummah is responsible for upholding the religion and therefore benefiting the community regardless whether the community is Muslim or non-Muslim.

For further information see: -

- Ezekiel 38 Commentary OT.

Taken from (Qur'ān, al-Nisā, 4:157-158) (Koran 79:24) (Kašmīrī, p. 105) (Majlesī, tr. Davānī, p. 969) and various other Islamic writings.

Gog and Magog in Ezekiel and in the Book of Revelation.

Following are sixteen reasons why the battle with Gog and Magog in Ezekiel chapter thirty-eight and chapter thirty-nine cannot be the same battle as Gog and Magog in Revelation chapter twenty.

1. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) the battle results in Israel knowing God, in (Rev. 20) Israel has been ruling with Christ for one thousand years prior to the invasion of Gog.
2. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) the purpose of the battle is that Israel and the nations may know the Lord God, in (Rev. 20) Israel already knows God, the only reason for God's intervention is to protect Jerusalem from Gog.
3. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) prior to Gog's invasion, God's face was hidden from Israel because of their transgressions, in (Rev. 20) God's face is not hidden from Israel prior to the invasion of Gog.
4. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) God is said to be using Gog to punish Israel, in (Rev. 20) Jerusalem is now referred to as the beloved city and God is seen protecting Israel from the invasion of Gog.
5. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) Israel is not dwelling in total safety prior to the destruction of Gog. God says that Israel will forget their shame and all the treachery they have practiced against the LORD, when they dwell securely in their land, in (Rev. 20) Israel is dwelling in absolute safety with Christ as their King and protector prior to the destruction of Gog.
6. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) many Jews were dwelling among the nations prior to Gog's invasion, in (Rev. 20) the Jews are already dwelling in their own land with Christ prior to the invasion of Gog.
7. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) Gog and Magog gather specific nations, in (Rev. 20) Gog gathers all the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, it says, they march up over the broad plain of the earth and surround the camp of the saints and the beloved city.
8. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) it says God will destroy the weapons and make them useless and that there is a great earthquake, extreme rain and hail that affect the fish of the sea, the birds, the beasts, and all creeping things that creep on the ground, and all the people. The mountains are thrown down, the cliffs fall, and every wall (around the city of Jerusalem?) shall tumble to the ground, in (Rev. 20) there is no mention of any of these events, except that fire from heaven consumes Gog.
9. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) after Gog's defeat the birds and all the beasts of the field, gather to the great feast of Gog's dead bodies on the mountains of Israel, in (Rev. 20) Gog is destroyed by fire and then we see the Great White Throne judgment.
10. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) after Gog's defeat those who dwell in the cities of Israel go out and make fires of the weapons and burn them for seven years, in (Rev. 20) there are no weapons as they have been turned into plowshares.
11. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) the battle results in the Jews coming out of the cities of Jerusalem that they are living in and burying the dead bodies of Gog (after Gog's defeat) for seven months in a special grave, in (Rev. 20) there are no graves as Hades is thrown into the Lake of Fire (the final destination of the dead) (i.e., eternal death, total extinction).

12. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) after Gog's defeat God says, now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel, in (Rev. 20) Israel is already ruling with Christ and enjoying God's favour prior to the destruction of Gog.
 13. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) satan, is not bound for a thousand years until after Gog's invasion, in (Rev. 20) satan has been bound prior to the invasion of Gog.
 14. In (Ezekiel 38 & 39) the resurrection does not take place until after Gog's invasion in (Rev. 20) the resurrection has already taken place prior to the invasion of Gog.
 15. In Ezekiel 38 & 39; Christ is not ruling prior to Gog's defeat, in (Rev. 20) Christ has been ruling as, King of kings and Lord of lords on earth for one thousand years prior to Gog's defeat.
 16. In Ezekiel 38 & 39; after Gog's defeat Christ returns, in (Rev. 20) after Gog is defeated the great White Throne judgment takes place.
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The Black Flag of Islam.

The following two passages in the Hadith (the teachings, deeds and sayings of the Islamic prophet Muhammad) are often cited as the inspiration for the flags.

- The black flags will come from the East, led by mighty men, with long hair and beards. Their surnames are taken from the names of their home towns and their first names are from a 'Kunya.
- Messenger of Allah said: If you see the Black Banners coming from Khurasan go to them immediately, even if you must crawl over ice, because indeed amongst them is the Caliph, Al Mahdi.

Al Mahdi: is a reference to Islamic "end times" theology. If a Muslim who speaks Arabic holds such a black flag, they are very aware of the historical significance. These verses of the Hadith show that the black flag that jihadists used as the backdrop for beheading videos is a symbol calling all Muslims to rise up for the establishing of the Caliphate (the Islamic Empire). Those who carry this flag believe they are fulfilling prophecy.

Those who carry the black flag of the Khilafa (Caliphate) terrorist movement seek to infiltrate and spread all over the world and re-establish the Caliphate (Islamic empire). This infiltration takes place via mass immigration and rapid population growth. The movement then use gradual means to indoctrinate society from within: propaganda is brought to schools, lawfare is used to quiet critics, infiltration is used through jobs in all levels of government and little by little policies and laws are changed to provide easier continued mass immigration and "special rights" for Muslims.

All Moslems are fully aware that given another twenty to thirty years they will dominate the majority of the earth worldwide just by birth rate since Moslem culture is for women to give birth too many children whereas women in the west are mostly restricting their families to one or two children. Once the population is large enough Muslim leaders will be voted into governments, counsels and positions of authority and laws will be changed to conform to the Islamic faith. Muslims today (2012) make up a majority of the population in 49 countries around the world and compose of over 23% of the earth's population, 1.6 billion making Islam the second-largest religion after Christianity.

SUMMARY: the dragon, the serpent, the devil and satan and the names Gog and Magog are names for the cumulative evil in the world. At the beginning of the thousand years the dragon, the serpent, the devil and satan is bound because of the corruption it caused and because it deceived the nations.

In the widest sense this evil and corrupt entity called the dragon, the serpent, the devil and satan and the titles Gog and Magog can be seen as the metal man of Nebuchadnezzar's dream in the book of Daniel (Dan. 2:29-45) which in simplistic terms are names for powerful worldly rulers, who have great influence over nations and multitudes of people worldwide, and the nations and governments aligned to them that oppose God and His plans and His purposes and are aggressively against those who belong to His Kingdom. Also embraced within the names the dragon, the serpent, the devil and satan and Gog and Magog is the entire world system and its governments, politics, wealth, power, monetary and banking system and its oppression of the masses (especially the poor) and opposition to God.

Following are the four events still to come to pass before ETERNITY begins in all its majestic royal fullness and eternal glory.

1. At the end of our present age and prior to the millennial age Gog and Magog will come up against God's people Israel and God will destroy them with torrential rains and hailstones of fire (Ezek. 38:18-23) and the dragon that old serpent which is the devil and satan are bound for a thousand years.
2. The first resurrection of all who died in Christ (Old and New Testament) and all who are alive when he returns takes place. Those that died outside of Christ remain in the grave until the end of new millennial age. (Rev. 20:4-6).
3. At the end of Christ's millennial reign on earth satan is released from his prison he immediately gathers Gog and Magog once again and they gather the nations of the world together for battle against Christ at Jerusalem and God from heaven destroys them with fire from heaven (Rev. 20:7-8).
4. God appears on a Great White Throne and death, hades (the grave) and the sea give up the dead and they stand before God and are judged, not according to faith, but by what they have done and how they have lived on earth (Rev. 20:11-13). Finally those who are judged unworthy are cast into the lake of fire with death and the grave and destroyed forever (eternal death) called the second death (Rev. 20:14-15) (i.e., utter and total extinction).

Key thoughts: -

- The purpose of salvation is that those saved prior to Christ's return will be priests and kings of God and of Christ during the glorious new millennial age, they will form the world government with Christ ruling and reigning from Jerusalem the Holy City of God to establish God's Kingdom on earth.
- Revelations is not always written in chronological order, John is saying what he saw, but sometimes what he sees in the vision does not immediately follow what has been written. Therefore the first resurrection and judgment at Christ's return does not necessarily have to be immediately after satan has been bound for a thousand years it is more likely to be prior to this (much of Old Testament prophecy is not written in chronological order).
- The mark of the beast must be in place before the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4) because it says those who were resurrected in the first resurrection and reigned with Christ a thousand years had not received the mark of the beast.
- Gog and Magog in this chapter are different entities to the beast and the false prophet, because the beast and the false prophet are in the lake of fire prior to Gog and Magog appearing.
- The defeat of Gog and Magog in (Ezek. 38 & 39) at the end of our present age ushers in Christ's Kingdom Age, while the defeat of Gog and Magog in (Rev. 20) ushers in the ETERNITY at the end of Christ's Kingdom Age when God will be ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its majestic royal fullness and eternal glory.

Christs return: the events of Christ's return in glory are very similar to when he first appeared. The false prideful and controlling religious system feared they were losing their power and control over the people to Christ, so they enticed Rome to have him killed.

When Jesus returns the second time the false religious system, called the prostitute woman or harlot will entice the ten horned beast nations being Rome and her allied nations to send their armies against Christ. The difference this time is that Christ is not returning as the Lamb of God to be slain, but as King of Kings and Lord of Lords to establish God's Kingdom on earth. Christ will defeat the ten horned beast nations and establish God's Kingdom on earth during the new millennial age period.

End.