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**Gog  
and  
Magog**

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## Gog and Magog.

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### Topics.

- Ezekiel thirty-eight.
  - Ezekiel thirty-nine.
  - Revelation twenty.
  - Snapshot of Gog and Magog.
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### EZEKIEL THIRTY-EIGHT

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The following verse shows that Gog was a son of Shemaiah and his son was Shimei.

- **1 Chronicles 5:4:** The sons of Joel: Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son.

The following verse shows that Japheth sons were Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

- **Genesis 10:2:** The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.
- **1 Chronicles 1:5:** The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

Japheth inhabited Syria, and from there, his offspring being multiplied, (as some think), established some colonies into America. The only place we read of Gog in Scripture is in (Ezek. 38:1-23): (Ezek. 39:1-29), where both Gog and Magog are mentioned as the great enemies of God's ancient Israel. Gog in (Ezek. 38:2), is named as the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. There are various ideas as to who is meant by Gog and Magog in these two chapters. Following are some that are mentioned:

- Persia, Cush, and Put
- Gomer; Beth-togarmah from the uttermost parts of the north.
- Many peoples are with them. (Ezek. 38:5-6).

This prophecy was given during Israel's seventy-years in Babylonian exile. The most common thought is that in both chapters Ezekiel's prophesy of Gog and Magog, signify a mixed collective of a very great multitude of hostile nations coming from the north typified by Gog and Magog, being the last enemies to arise against Israel, and by extension, the redeemed faithful in Christ, the true church. We are told three times in the following verses that Gog and his hordes will come from the uttermost parts of the north.

- **Ezekiel 38:1-6:** The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup> "Son of man, set your face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him <sup>3</sup> and say, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. <sup>4</sup> And I will turn you about and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you out, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed in full armor, a great host, all of them with buckler and shield, wielding swords. <sup>5</sup> Persia, Cush, and Put are with them, all of them with shield and helmet; <sup>6</sup> Gomer and all his hordes; Beth-togarmah from *the uttermost parts of the north* with all his hordes—many peoples are with you.

- **Ezekiel 38:15:** You (Gog) will come from your place out of *the uttermost parts of the north*, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great host, a mighty army.
- **Ezekiel 39:1-2:** And you, son of man, prophesy against Gog and say, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. <sup>2</sup> And I will turn you about and drive you forward, and bring you up from *the uttermost parts of the north*, and lead you against the mountains of Israel.

When God's people Israel is dwelling securely, Gog and a mighty army with him will come from the uttermost parts of the north, like a storm against Israel, as a cloud covering the land. so that through Gog, the nations will know the LORD when He vindicates His holiness before their eyes. (Ezek. 38:8-9) (Ezek.38:14-16). The imagery here is taken from the history of Israel when the inhabitants of Jerusalem, God's beloved city stood upon its walls looking out upon the cities fearful and mighty approaching enemies, such as Babylon and Egypt. Here the hostile invading host coming against Israel are pictured coming from the land of Gog and Magog, in the far northern regions. In this prophecy of Ezekiel, Gog is called the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; and in another rendering, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. Magog is mentioned in (Gen. 10:2) as one of the sons of Japheth. The name is there associated with Gomer, Madai, and Meshech. Gomer is thought to correspond with the Cimmerians, Madai with the Medes, and Meshech with the Muscovites.

**Meshech:** most reference books generally identify Meshech in Ezekiel's time as an area in modern Turkey.

**Tubal:** the far northeast of Asia (and the northeast corner of the world).

**Rosh:** modern northern Russia.

**Magog:** in the far northeast of Asia (and the northeast corner of the world).

**Gomer:** refers to the Cimmerians, who dwelt in what is now southern Russia.

**Madai:** Iran

#### **The three countries north of Israel are:**

1. **Lebanon** is directly north of Israel.
2. **Syria**, with the Golan Heights under its sovereignty as well as the rest of Syria borders on Israel's the northeast border.
3. **Russia:** is also north of Israel.

**Gog and the chief of the Scythians:** some suppose that Gaagi the chief of the Scythians, is the same as Gog, and that his sons are mentioned in connection with Birighudri, a chief of Madai (the Medes). The Scythian invasion lingered long in the minds of nations of Asia, and the names of those northern nations were adopted as representative of the great and undefined enemies who would in later ages attempt to wage an unprovoked war against the Lord Jesus Christ's kingdom. The Scythians were an ancient nomadic people (groups of people that regularly move), they lived primarily in the region known as Scythia, in what is today modern-day Ukraine and Southern Russia. In a broader sense, Scythians have been used to designate a large group of people from the Eurasian Steppe, which stretches through Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova, Transnistria, Ukraine, Western Russia, Siberia, Kazakhstan, Xinjiang, Mongolia, and Manchuria, and Hungary.

Ezekiel's prophecy was given during Israel's seventy-year Babylonian exile, and refers to the literal battle of Armageddon prior to the thousand years.

- **Ezekiel 38:2-3:** Son of man, set your face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him <sup>3</sup>and say, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.
- **Ezekiel 38:15-16:** You will come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great host, a mighty army. <sup>16</sup>You will come up against my people Israel, like a cloud covering the land. In the latter days I will bring you against my land, that the nations may know me, when through you, O Gog, I vindicate my holiness before their eyes.
- **Ezekiel 38:18:** But on that day, the day that Gog shall come against the land of Israel, declares the Lord GOD, my wrath will be roused in my anger.
- **Ezekiel 39:1:** And you, son of man, prophesy against Gog and say, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.
- **Ezekiel 39:9-11:** Those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go out and make fires of the weapons and burn them (Gog, Meshech and Tubal), shields and bucklers, bow and arrows, clubs and spears; and they will make fires of them for seven years, <sup>10</sup>so that they will not need to take wood out of the field or cut down any out of the forests, for they will make their fires of the weapons. They will seize the spoil of those who despoiled them, and plunder those who plundered them, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>10</sup>On that day I will give to Gog a place for burial in Israel, the Valley of the Travelers, east of the sea. It will block the travelers, for there Gog and all his multitude will be buried. It will be called the Valley of Hamon-gog.

From these verses we learn:

- Gog is the name of a prince (i.e., the head of a collective group of people).
- Gog is the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.
- Gog is an invader of the land of Israel. (Ezek. 38:2).
- The LORD will destroy Magog. (Ezek. 39:6),

Gog was the king of a people called Magog. The signification of the names is unknown, which means nothing can be determined about Gog and Magog from the meaning of their names.

#### **General facts concerning God and Magog in Ezekiel's prophecy:**

- Ezekiel gave the prophecy during Israel's seventy-years in Babylonian exile.
- The names Gog and Magog in Scripture are used to describe the nations who would rise against the reign of the Israel's Messiah the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Gog and Magog signify the great hosts of the nations, and their leaders, who rise up against the people of the LORD with unjustified hostility.
- The imagery is taken from Israel's history of standing on the walls of God's beloved city Jerusalem, and looking out upon their fearful and mighty enemies approaching, as they did when the mighty and powerful armies of Babylon and Egypt came against them.
- Gog and Magog, are pictured coming from a land in the far northern regions.

**In Ezekiel chapter thirty-eight:** God says, He is against Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal and in the latter days will bring Gog and his mighty armies from the uttermost parts of the north against Israel the land whose people are gathered from many nations and dwell securely. On the day Gog and his hordes come against the land of Israel, GOD'S wrath will be roused and a great earthquake will cover the land of Israel and the LORD will enter-into judgment with Gog, and rain upon him and his hordes, hailstones of fire and sulfur. Other than Ezekiel chapter thirty-eight and thirty-nine and the book of Revelation, Gog, Gomer, Magog and Meshech are only mentioned in the following three verses:

1. **1 Chronicles 5:4:** The sons of Joel: Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son.
2. **Genesis 10:1-2:** These are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Sons were born to them after the flood. <sup>2</sup> The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.
3. **1 Chronicles 1:5:** The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

These verses are in a list of genealogy. Other than Ezekiel chapter thirty-eight, thirty-nine and Revelation, there is no mention of Gog leading a vast army against Israel or against the Kingdom of Christ.

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## EZEKIEL THIRTY-NINE

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### In Ezekiel chapter thirty-nine God says:

- **Ezekiel 39:2-8:** He will bring Gog, Meshech and Tubal from the uttermost parts of the north, and lead them against Israel and give them to the birds of prey on the mountains of Israel and all nations will know that He is the LORD.
- **Ezekiel 39:9-10:** Israel will turn weapons of war into farm equipment.
- **Ezekiel 39:22-23:** He will set his glory among the nations and they will know that God sent Israel into captivity for their iniquity.
- **Ezekiel 39:26-29:** He brought them back from their exile into their own land, after which He will pour out His Spirit upon all the house of Israel and not hide His face from them.

The name Gog and Magog can be viewed as prophetic symbolic names that can be applied to any mighty and vast hostile collection of nations that come up against God's people with the intention to destroy them, especially to the vast hostile armies that at the beginning of the millennial age are prophetically said to come against Christ and his government at Jerusalem at the battle of Armageddon, and to the hostile invasion that comes against Christ and his kingdom.

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## REVELATION TWENTY

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Both Gog and Magog, are spoken of in Ezekiel's prophecy recorded in chapter thirty-eight and thirty-nine, signify a great host of nations, and their leaders, arising up against the people of the LORD with unjustified hostility. John in this chapter uses the same names that the prophet Ezekiel spoke of to signify the final great and undefined enemy innumerable as the sand of the sea (Rev. 20:8), made up of a collective mixed multitude of a very great number of hostile nations marching toward Jerusalem to wage war against Christ's kingdom at the end of his millennial reign.

- In the book of Revelation Gog and Magog are not the same as mentioned in Ezekiel thirty-eight and thirty-nine, but there is an allusion to them.

The reference to Gog and Magog in the book of Revelation refers to the end of the thousand years.

- **Revelation 20:7-9:** When the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison <sup>8</sup>and 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. <sup>9</sup>And 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.

It appears John is saying, after this long period of millennial tranquillity and peace, there will be a state of things which can be compared with the invasion of the Holy Land by the formidable dreaded barbarians of Gog and Magog. It is not necessary to suppose that any particular-country is referred to, all that is necessary to know is, that even though Christ's reign and the Gospel will greatly prevail over the earth, there will still, remain those whose inward being is unchanged and therefore rise-up against Christ's government when the opportunity arises. Why, this will be permitted and what events cause and allow it to come about we are not told. Gog and Magog, are described as coming from the four corners of the world:

- **Revelation 20:8:** And 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.

The fact they are said to come from "four corners of the earth," show that the names Gog and Magog are to be taken figuratively since no single nation could be spoken of as being in the corner of the earth. The idea is that a multitude of nations gathered-together will go up against Christ who is ruling as King of kings and Lord of lords from Jerusalem.

**Gather them for battle:** (v8) this event will bring an end all things concerning the history of the world as we know it. Since God will supernaturally destroy these hostile nations, it will be a brief period, especially compared to the long period of prosperity that preceded it. There is no way of determining the exact length of this time, but we are told, "Satan must be loosed a little season," (Rev. 20:3), which implies it will not be long. What the exact state of things will be we can only speculate; however, since we are told, during the thousand-year period Christ will have destroyed all forms of weapons of war, we can be sure that it will not be a literal bloody war fought with weapons of warfare as we know them today.

- **Isaiah 2:4:** He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift-up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

The words, 'Gog and Magog will to gather the nations for battle,' (Rev. 20:8) signify that certain nations will gather against Christ and his government. It is not necessary to know the detail, all that is necessary is to know that there will be a literal gathering of hostile nations (symbolised by the titles Gog and Magog), that will rise up against the Christ and his global Kingdom, but will be supernaturally destroyed by God, before they are able to bring harm and hurt upon Christ, and those united with him.

- **Revelation 20:7-8:** When the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison <sup>8</sup>and 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.

When Christ's millennial reign comes to its end, an enormously hostile army (symbolized by the titles Gog and Magog) come against Christ and his Kingdom. Though armies usually go to war for worldly purposes (i.e., riches, power, and land etc.), the titles, 'Gog and Magog,' seem to carry the idea that worldly gain is not their primary goal, but rather that Gog, Magog, and their armies are influenced by Satan for one purpose, which is to utterly-destroy Christ and his Kingdom and end all things concerning the history of the world. God then descends on a Great White throne, the sea, death, and hades give up the dead, they are judged, those counted unworthy are thrown into the lake of fire, a symbol of eternal death, (i.e., total extinction and annihilation), and eternity begins in all its perfections of wonder and glory.

**Jerusalem the beloved city:** Paul tells us the beloved city, Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother (Gal. 4:26). This carries the idea that she is the head of all the faithful redeemed in Christ, and as the mother and head of the faithful, also symbolizes the faithful church, and can therefore carry the idea of Gog and Magog not just coming against the literal beloved city Jerusalem, but also against all Christ's governments and churches that he has established wherever they maybe in the world.

**God's judgment on Gog and Magog:** on the day that Gog does come against the land of Israel, God's wrath will be so roused that He will judge and destroy Gog and his host by a great earthquake, war, pestilence, bloodshed, torrential rain, hailstones, fire, and sulfur and all people on earth will quake at God's presence. (v17-20). By this judgment upon Gog the LORD will show His greatness and Holiness, and many nations will know that He is the LORD. (v21-23).

**Gog and Magog in Ezekiel and Revelation:** it should be mentioned Gog and Magog here in Revelation are not the same as Gog and Magog mentioned in Ezekiel chapter 38 & 39, though there is an allusion to them, and from Ezekiel the names and much of the symbolism can be applied, because of this the Jews speak of, Gog and Magog coming up against Jerusalem in the days of the Messiah, who they expect to destroy.

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINAL WAR:** The millennial reign is not a period in which the rule of Christ is universally and sincerely accepted. Though all forms of rebellion and wickedness will be restrained during his reign, they will not be fully extinguished. There will be powers at work which compete for human affections and power, but the gracious rule, wisdom and strength of Christ, and the general acceptance of Christian principles will keep the power of the archenemy and his evil forces in abeyance, until these restraints are removed at the end of Christ's millennial reign. Then at God's appointed time all restraints will be removed, and the long-suppressed evil of the rebellious forces competing for human affections and power, will gather-together to make war against Christ and his government. Satan is loosed, the devil goes forth and the last stage of the long war between good and evil, between Christ and Belial, will be entered-into.

**Fire from Heaven consumes those who surround the beloved city.**

- **Revelation 20:9:** And 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,

The image here is of an invading army that in its march spreads all over the land. The reference here is to the hosts assembled from the regions of Gog and Magog, signifying hostile enemies of Israel and the Gospel that gathers-together at the close of the millennial age. It is not necessary to

suppose that there would be literal armies from lands called Gog and Magog, since these titles signify invading ungodly nations hostile to Christ and his government. The words, "surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city," may imply that it is not only Jerusalem these hostile armies come against, but also the governments and churches Christ has established, wherever they maybe on earth. This idea can be supported by the fact, Jerusalem, God's beloved city, is at times taken in Scripture to symbolise the faithful church.

The word, 'saints' refer to the faithful (Old and New Testament); who have part in the first resurrection, these will be gathered-together, to dwell with Christ their King in the Beloved City. The holy city, the New Jerusalem will stand on the same spot of ground where the Old Jerusalem stood, a city highly honoured, and distinguished by God from all other cities, and the only city God put His name on. It is fitting, the place where Jesus suffered great reproach, and a most brutal and cruel death, will be the very ground where he will be highly exalted and glorified, and live in triumph with his faithful people.

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### SNAPSHOT OF GOG AND MAGOG

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The name Gog and Magog can be viewed as symbolic prophetic names that signify any vast hostile powerful collection of ungodly nations that come up against Israel and God's people with the intention to utterly-destroy them. The two names especially apply to the vast number of hostile nations and their armies' that come against Christ and his government at Jerusalem at the beginning of his millennial reign, and the ungodly hostile nations that comes against him and his government, and those united to him at the end of his millennial reign.

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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