

ISLAM
&
THE END TIMES

PART II

STUDY GUIDE

With Author Joel Richardson

by Darren Jones

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INTRODUCTION

I would like to give a big thank you to Joel Richardson for his dedication to and study of the scriptures in general and as they pertain to these last days. This study guide is based solely on the video seminar, Islam and the End times Part 2. I take no credit for any of the teachings contained in this guide; they are all in direct reference to Joel's teachings, taken directly from the video seminars.

Although this guide is taken directly from the video seminars it does not contain Joel's every word. I did however want to include some of his thoughts to give meaning to the corresponding scriptures. In the course of preparing this guide I found that Joel tends to state and restate information in different ways. Because of this, some of the thoughts listed in this guide are not direct quotes from the seminars but my simplification of those thoughts. In order to preserve Joel's teaching I tried to use his own words, just restated more simply.

Because the sessions contained in this set are not all taught by Joel and use different translations of the Bible I chose to use one translation throughout this study guide, the New King James Version. In my own teaching I have found that it is readily accepted by those who use more modern translations and somewhat accepted by those who use only the Authorized King James Version. My hope is that the focus can be on the topic of the study and not the version of the Bible used. I also found it useful to see the texts used in the teachings, presented in a different translation for comparison.

During the course of initially watching these sessions and creating this study guide, I found I had questions of my own. Most were on the context of the scripture and/or the original meaning in the Greek or Hebrew. Because my first devotion is to God's Holy Word and His absolute truth, I would stop and dig into the scripture and the original texts in the Greek or Hebrew with their translations and word use, not just in the scripture in question but throughout the Bible. Because of this I can honestly say that I stand behind this teaching as truth. I pray that everyone that journeys down this road will be as diligent and not just listen to Joel but study for themselves. This isn't about understanding the religion and events of the End Times; it is about knowing the One who has told us about the end from the beginning. I pray this brings each of you closer to Him.

I would like to thank Joel once more to his obedience to the Lord in sharing this message with the world. I would also like to thank God, our Father, Keeper, Provider, Helper, Healer, and the Strong Tower that will shelter all of us who are sanctified in Christ and call on His name in times of trouble. I pray that we will use this information to awaken others within the church, to prepare soldiers of the cross. That we may stand boldly, glorifying the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, until the end. With Him by our side who should we fear?

Darren W Jones

SESSION I

THE SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION FOR THE POST-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

Principles for understanding scripture:

- ❖ Scriptures have to be in harmony.
- ❖ Scripture interprets scripture. (The interpretation of a scripture does not interpret scripture)

NOTE: *All scripture used in this study guide is from the New King James Version.*

Revelation 20:4-6 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment 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 worshiped 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. ⁵ But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

If the first resurrection involved those who died as martyrs, including those who died during the tribulation then how can there be a resurrection prior to the tribulation?

Is there more than one resurrection of the righteous?

Luke 14:14 And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the (*singular*) resurrection of the just."

John 6:39-40, 44, 54 This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. ⁴⁰ And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

⁴⁴ No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

⁵⁴ Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.

3 RESURRECTIONS

1 Corinthians 15:20-26 But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep^[1]. ²¹ For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. ²³ But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those *who are* Christ's at His coming^[2]. ²⁴ Then *comes* (not in the Greek) the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. ²⁶ The last enemy *that* will be destroyed *is* death.

1. Christ was the first to be resurrected (the first resurrection) 1 Corinthians 15:20

- **Revelations 1:5** and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,
- **Colossians 1:18** And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

2. The believers resurrected second, when He comes (second resurrection) 1 Corinthians 15:23

- **Matthew 24:30-31** Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.
- **1 Thessalonians 4:15-17** For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

TO LEAVE OR NOT TO LEAVE

Acts 3:20-21 and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

According to verse 21 Christ must remain in Heaven until the end (restoration of all things). So when He returns to gather His bride does He leave Heaven?

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

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MYSTERY & TRUMPET

1 Corinthians 15:51-53 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

Compare to:

Revelation 10:7 but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

Do these passages indicate that we will be here through the seven trumpets in Revelation?

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Note: The video uses the NIV and it uses the term “At that time” in the place of “then” which is found in the NKJV used in this guide. The word “then” will be underlined in the following passages to emphasis his point.

Matthew 24:29-31 Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Mark 13:24-27 “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵ the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.

Luke 21:25-28 “And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; ²⁶ men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.”

Who are the Elect?

Romans 11:7 What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded.

2 Timothy 2:10 Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Titus 1:1 Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God’s elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness,

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims (the original Greek uses *eklektōis*, which mean elect) of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

So who are the elect?

Now look back at Luke 21:28 where Christ says “Now when these things begin to happen” and let’s ask what things? Let’s look at some definitives from Jesus.

Notes _____

DEFINITIVES FROM JESUS

Luke 21:12-28 But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name’s sake. ¹³ But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony.

¹⁴ Therefore settle *it* in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer;

¹⁵ for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to

contradict or resist. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and

friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ And you will be hated by all for My name’s

sake. ²⁰ “But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is

near. ²¹ Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst

of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. ²² For these are the days of

vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. ²³ But woe to those who are

pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress

in the land and wrath upon this people. ²⁴ And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be

led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times

of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

²⁵ “And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress

of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; ²⁶ men’s hearts failing them from

fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of

the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with

power and great glory. ²⁸ **Now when these things begin to happen,** look up and lift up your

heads, because your redemption draws near.”

Has He given us a vivid picture of what things we should expect to see?

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Luke 19:12-27 Therefore He said: “A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. ¹³ So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Do business till I come.’ ¹⁴ But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We will not have this *man* to reign over us.’

¹⁵ “And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. ¹⁶ Then came the first, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned ten minas.’ ¹⁷ And he said to him, ‘Well *done*, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.’ ¹⁸ And the second came, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned five minas.’ ¹⁹ Likewise he said to him, ‘You also be over five cities.’

²⁰ “Then another came, saying, ‘Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief. ²¹ For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.’ ²² And he said to him, ‘Out of your own mouth I will judge you, *you* wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow. ²³ Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?’

²⁴ “And he said to those who stood by, ‘Take the mina from him, and give *it* to him who has ten minas.’ ²⁵ (But they said to him, ‘Master, he has ten minas.’) ²⁶ ‘For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. ²⁷ But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay *them* before me.’”

This parable parallels the true return of Christ where we reign with Him. WHEN HE COMES BACK.

Notes

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ² not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

⁵ Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? ⁶ And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. ⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way. ⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. ⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Verse 2 refers to the day of Christ as the day mentioned in verse 1, the day He returns and gathers us to Him. This passage also clearly states that the Day of Christ will not come until the Antichrist is revealed and set up in the temple. In v8 it then clearly states that Christ is going to return for us and consume the Antichrist with the breath of His mouth and the brightness of His coming.

Verse 7 mentions the one who restrains. Let's take a closer look at this.

Daniel 12:1 "At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, *Even* to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Everyone who is found written in the book.

Could Michael, who is standing watch over God's people be the restrainer? Let me ask this a different way. Could something restraining evil from hurting God's people be the very same things as something protecting God's people?

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Revelation 4:1-2 After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard *was* like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, “Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this.” ² Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and *One* sat on the throne.

These verses follow the letters to the churches. From this point on “church” is not mentioned in Revelation. Does that mean the church is gone? Saints however are mentioned. So who are the saints? Let’s look.

Romans 1:7 To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 6:1-2 Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? ² Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

Romans 8:27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Romans 16:1-2 I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea, ² that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also.

So who are the saints? As it says in 1 Corinthians 1:2 To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,

Looking back at Revelation 4:1-2, John was commanded to “come up here”, if we are to assume that the church is called up also then we would then have to assume that from that point anytime John is taken away in the spirit then the church would have to be there too. Take a look at the following verses and see if that logic makes any sense.

Revelation 17:3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast *which was* full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 10:1 I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.

If John saw an angel coming down from heaven, how was he in heaven? He wasn't in heaven but only in the spirit seeing a vision.

Revelation 18:1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory.

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ANCIENT TIMES

Isaiah 46:10
Declaring the end from the beginning,
And from ancient times *things* that are not *yet* done,
Saying, 'My counsel shall stand,
And I will do all My pleasure,'

What can He show us from ancient times?

Noah, the day he entered the ark judgment fell.

Lot, the day he left town judgment fell.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, they went through the flames and God was with them through it.

Ten plagues, the children of Israel went through it but God protected them through it.

Notes _____

1 Thessalonians 5:9 For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

We are not called to suffer the wrath of God but we will suffer man's wrath.

Psalms 7:11

God is a just judge,
And God is angry with the wicked every day.

John 3:36 He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

1 Peter 2:9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,

Ephesians 5:6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Ephesians 2:3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

****Revelation 15:1** Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.
God wraps up all of His wrath.

Luke 17:26-30 And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: ²⁷ They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. ²⁸ Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; ²⁹ but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. ³⁰ Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

2 Thessalonians 1:5-8 which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; ⁶ since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, ⁷ and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, ⁸ in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Wrath and Redemption on the same day.

Notes

THE CHURCH

Revelation 3:7-13 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write,

“These things says He who is holy, He who is true, “He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens”:⁸ “I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.⁹ Indeed I will make *those* of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.¹⁰ Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.¹¹ Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.¹² He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And *I will write on him* My new name.¹³ “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

If you believe that this church will be raptured because the scripture says He will keep them from the hour of trial then you have to hold to two assumptions:

1st – The hour of trial is the great tribulation.

2nd – Being kept from this trial requires being raptured out of this world.

Let’s look at the hour they are being kept from and see if it refers to something other than the seven year tribulation.

Revelation 17:12-14 “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.¹³ These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.¹⁴ These will make

war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him *are* called, chosen, and faithful.”

This one hour is the hour of Armageddon. Based on the scriptures and their harmony, is it more conceivable that the church of Philadelphia will be kept from the seven years of tribulation or the hour of the battle of Armageddon?

In the letters to all seven churches the letters end with “to those who overcome”. Based on that text, all seven churches have to overcome something together. None of them are exempt.

Looking back at Revelation 3:10, the scripture uses the phrase “keep you from”, where else in scripture is that same phrase found?

John 17:15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

Notice His prayer is not to remove them from this world?

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THE PRAYER

Luke 21:36 Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Keeping in mind the definitives that Christ said would happen to us could this mean we absolutely will escape all tribulation? If you are raptured out you WILL be standing before the Son of Man, you won't need to pray for escape from the things to come.

Notes _____

Mark 13:32 “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

While He was among us He didn’t even know the hour.

Acts 1:6-7 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.

After His resurrection His response is different, He no longer says He doesn’t know.

Luke 12:40 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

1 Thessalonians 5:4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.

Revelation 3:3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

Remember the prayer in Luke 21:36, when He said to watch and pray? This passage also implies that if we watch and pray we will have some expectation of His return, such as the season or day but not the hour.

Matthew 24:36 “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.

Matthew 24:44 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The hour will never be known but if we keep watch and pray we should know the season or day.

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THE PLACE

John 14:1-3 “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father’s house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

So according to a pre-trib view we will go to a place in Heaven for seven years that Jesus has spent two thousand years preparing?

John 14:18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Notice He doesn’t say I will come and take you back. He says “I will come to you”.

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

John 14:28 You have heard Me say to you, ‘I am going away and coming back to you.’ If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, ‘I am going to the Father,’ for My Father is greater than I.

Notes

WHO’S TAKEN

Matthew 24:37-42 But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.

Luke 17:26-30 And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: ²⁷ They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. ²⁸ Likewise as it

was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; 29 but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. 30 Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

Notice the scripture says “But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”? According to the scripture those who were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage were the one caught off guard and taken away by the flood. They were removed in an act of judgment. So if the coming of the Son of Man is just like that then who will be removed?

Notes _____

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE GREEK

Parousia

(the personal presence of one who comes and arrives)

Uses from Paul:

- “coming of Titus” 2 Cor 7:6
- “coming of Stephanas” 1 Cor 16:17
- His own “coming” to Philippi Phil 1:26

1 Thessalonians 4:15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the **coming** (parousia) of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His **coming**. (parousia)

Apokalupsis

(appearing, revelation)

1 Peter 1:13 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation (apokalupsis) of Jesus Christ;

SESSION 2

THE ISLAMIC END TIME THEORY

- A biblical teaching that contrasts the popular belief that the Anti-Christ and his empire will come out of Europe.
- A look at current events and their fulfillment of Biblical prophecy, in the light of this new understanding.
- A broader view of the end times, Revelations, and Daniel through the foundation of the Bible as a whole.

Teaching on the end times (eschatology) should not begin in Revelations. A proper foundation should be laid based on the Old Testament. The Book of Revelation is the last book of the Bible for a reason. It is thoroughly rooted and grounded in the Old Testament, with numerous references, allusions and citations and more subtle echoes of the Old Testament.

The return of Christ is clearly portrayed in Revelations but there are numerous passages throughout the Old Testament that speak about and portray the return of Christ. We have often failed to realize that when God is portrayed in the Old Testament, God the Son is the One portrayed.

1 Timothy 6:15-16 ...the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom *be* honor and everlasting power. Amen.

John 1:18 No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

According to scripture we know that we cannot look upon the Father and that the Father has been revealed to us through the Son. That means that every time we see a picture of God revealing Himself in the Old Testament, it is not the Father but the Son that is revealed. When you see Old Testament imagery of God physically present on the earth judging the nations it is a prophetic picture of Jesus, at the time of His return, judging the nations that come against His people. Let's take a look.

Note the common themes that are present in the following passages. These themes will form the foundation of Biblical eschatology.

Numbers 24:14,17-19 And now, indeed, I am going to my people. Come, I will advise you what this people will do to your people in the latter days.”

¹⁷ “I see Him, but not now;
I behold Him, but not near;
A Star shall come out of Jacob;
A Scepter shall rise out of Israel,
And batter the brow of Moab,
And destroy all the sons of tumult.

¹⁹ Out of Jacob One shall have dominion,
And destroy the remains of the city.”

Moab, Sheth, Edom and Seir are the peoples of the current areas of Jordan and Saudi Arabia, all the way down the west coast of the Saudi peninsula.

Isaiah 25:8-10

⁸ He will swallow up death forever,
And the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces;
The rebuke of His people
He will take away from all the earth;
For the LORD has spoken.

⁹ And it will be said in that day:
“Behold, this *is* our God;
We have waited for Him, and He will save us.
This *is* the LORD;
We have waited for Him;
We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.”

¹⁰ For on this mountain the hand of the LORD will rest,
And Moab shall be trampled down under Him,
As straw is trampled down for the refuse heap.

In the Jewish community, those thoroughly grounded in the Old Testament, the terms Edom and Moab represent more than a specific area. They represented the enemies of Israel who had fanned out through the Middle East.

Micah 5:2-6

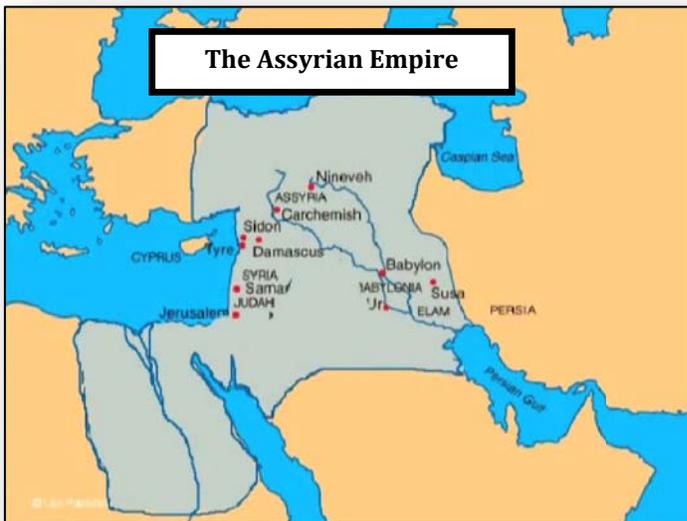
² “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Though you are little among the thousands of Judah,
Yet out of you shall come forth to Me
The One to be Ruler in Israel,
Whose goings forth *are* from of old,
From everlasting.”

³ Therefore He shall give them up,
Until the time *that* she who is in labor has given birth;
Then the remnant of His brethren
Shall return to the children of Israel.

⁴ And He shall stand and feed *His flock*
In the strength of the LORD,
In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God;
And they shall abide,
For now He shall be great
To the ends of the earth;

⁵ And this *One* shall be peace. Judgment on Israel’s Enemies

When the Assyrian comes into our land,
And when he treads in our palaces,
Then we will raise against him
Seven shepherds and eight princely men.
⁶ They shall waste with the sword the land of Assyria,
And the land of Nimrod at its entrances;
Thus He shall deliver us from the Assyrian,
When he comes into our land
And when he treads within our borders.



The Assyrian is a common name used for the Anti-Christ in Micah, Isaiah and Zephaniah.

Notes _____

In Revelation 19 you see Jesus riding out of Heaven with His armies, on the white horse with His robe soaked with blood. This passage is rooted in Isaiah 63. Let's take a look.

Isaiah 63:1-4

¹Who is this who comes from Edom,
With dyed garments from Bozrah,
This *One who is* glorious in His apparel,
Traveling in the greatness of His strength?—

“I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save.”

²Why is Your apparel red,
And Your garments like one who treads in the winepress?

³“I have trodden the winepress alone,
And from the peoples no one *was* with Me.
For I have trodden them in My anger,
And trampled them in My fury;
Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments,
And I have stained all My robes.

⁴For the day of vengeance *is* in My heart,
And the year of My redeemed has come.

According to this passage, where has Christ emerged from with His robes soaked with blood?
Who's blood is it?

Habakkuk 3:3-7

³ God came from Teman,
The Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah

His glory covered the heavens,
And the earth was full of His praise.

⁴ His brightness was like the light;
He had rays flashing from His hand,
And there His power was hidden.

⁵ Before Him went pestilence,
And fever followed at His feet.

⁶ He stood and measured the earth;
He looked and startled the nations.
And the everlasting mountains were scattered,
The perpetual hills bowed.
His ways are everlasting.

⁷ I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction;
The curtains of the land of Midian trembled.

Teman is the general region of southwestern Jordan. Mt Paran is located in the Sinai /Arabian desert. Cushan is a reference to modern day Sudan, cutting all the way over into Africa, going all the way down to Somalia and then jumping across the Red Sea and the entire southern portion of Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Joel 3:2-4

² I will also gather all nations,
And bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat;
And I will enter into judgment with them there
On account of My people, My heritage Israel,
Whom they have scattered among the nations;
They have also divided up My land.

³ They have cast lots for My people,
Have given a boy as payment for a harlot,
And sold a girl for wine, that they may drink.

⁴ “Indeed, what have you to do with Me,
O Tyre and Sidon, and all the coasts of Philistia?
Will you retaliate against Me?
But if you retaliate against Me,
Swiftly and speedily I will return your retaliation upon your own head;

Tyre and Sidon are modern day Lebanon. Philistia is the Palestinian territories, where Hezbollah and Hamas currently dwell.

In reference to Christ’s return, according to these passages what theme do you see emerge? Who is He coming to destroy? There is not one literal mention anywhere in the Bible that portrays Jesus as judging a European nation. Is it clear and reasonable to see that when Jesus returns He will be coming to judge Middle Eastern nations?

Notes _____

- Daniel 2: Nebuchadnezzar's Statue
- Daniel 7: Daniel's Vision of Four Beasts
- Daniel 9: The People of the Prince to Come
- Revelation 17: The City on Seven Hills (discussed in a later seminar)

DANIEL 2: NUBUCHANDNEZZAR'S STATUE

Daniel 2: 31-44 “You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor *was* excellent, stood before you; and its form *was* awesome.³² This image's head *was* of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze,³³ its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.³⁴ You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces.³⁵ Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

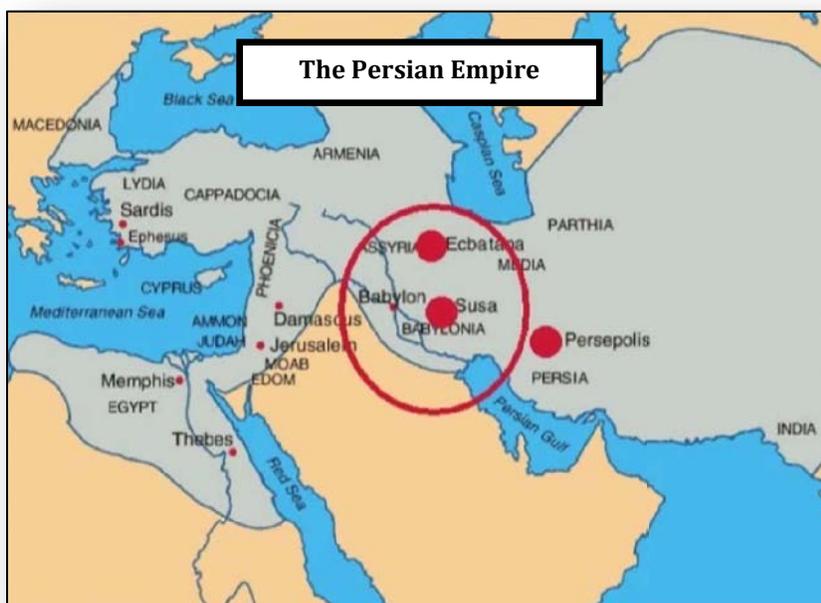
³⁶“This *is* the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.³⁷ You, O king, *are* a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;³⁸ and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given *them* into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you *are* this head of gold.³⁹ But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.⁴⁰ And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, *that kingdom* will break in pieces and crush all the others.⁴¹ Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.⁴² And *as* the toes of the feet *were* partly of iron and partly of clay, *so* the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.⁴³ As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.⁴⁴ And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.⁴⁵ Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.”

This passage is more thoroughly address in one of the video seminars included in Islam and the End Times (first series). This passage of scripture identifies four empires that will crush one another and ultimately be crushed by God’s final kingdom. These empires have been identified as (in order of scripture) the Babylonian Empire, the Persian empire, the Greek empire and then the fourth empire of iron and clay. The first empire was Nebuchadnezzar’s which historically and Biblically was destroyed by the Persian empire. The Persian empire was the next great empire which conquered this land led by Alexander the Great. Let’s take look at some maps and keep in mind that this dream originated in Babylon and that these empires were to crush one another.



The Babylonian Empire

Head of gold



The Persian Empire

Breast and arms of silver

Legs of Iron



Now according to current End Times teachings we are to believe that the Roman Empire is that fourth kingdom. Let's take a look at it on a map compared to the other kingdoms.



Now let's take a look at the Islamic empire.

History tells us that the Roman empire never fully crushed the other three empires. It did overlap some of the western edge of the original Babylonian empire but can we consider that "crushing" the Babylonina empire? The Islamic empire did crush all three empires completely and then extend into the Roman empire.



For a more thorough look at this passage please refer to Joel's earlier seminar.

Notes

DANIEL 7: DANIEL'S VISION OF FOUR BEASTS

Daniel 7:1-8 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head *while* on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts.

² Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. ³ And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other. ⁴ The first *was* like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

⁵ "And suddenly another beast, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and *had* three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'

6 “After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

7 “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.

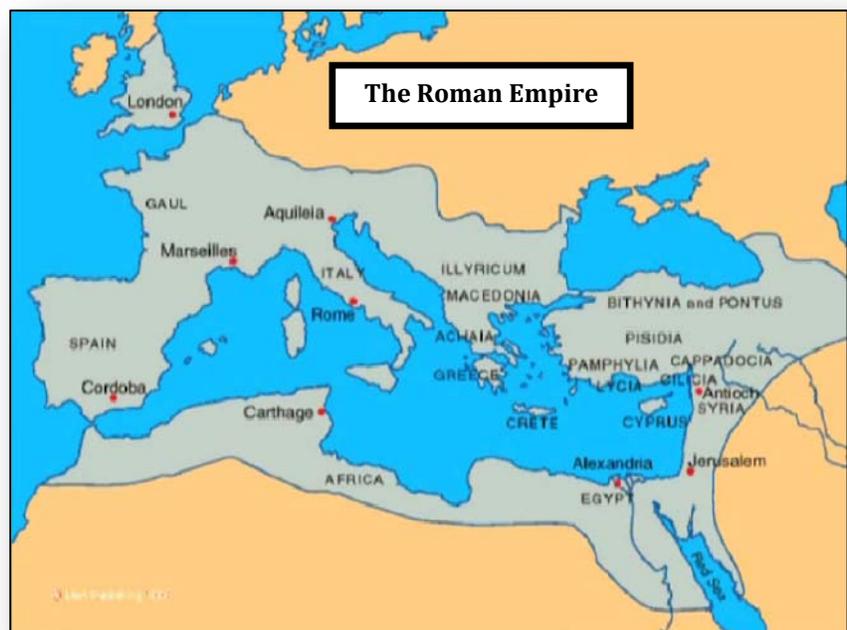
This is an identical vision to Daniel 2 with different symbolism. The four beasts represent the four kingdoms or empires discussed in Daniel 2.

DANIEL 9: THE PEOPLE OF THE PRINCE TO COME

Daniel 9:26

26 “And after the sixty-two weeks
Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself;
And the people of the prince who is to come
shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.
The end of it shall be with a flood,
And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

In 70AD General Titus came into Judea with the Roman legions and he destroyed the temple and Jerusalem. It is widely agreed that the “prince to come” is the Anti-Christ and “the people of the prince” are the ones that destroyed the temple. Current teaching therefore establishes the Anti-Christ as coming from the Roman Empire. On the surface this makes a lot of sense and this is one of the main pillars that the current European end times theory is built on. If this is true we



have to assume that the Anti-Christ will be Italian because Rome is in Italy and true Roman's were from that region. All of the other regions of the Roman Empire were conquered and not part of the original empire. Let's take a closer look.

By the second half of the first century, at the time of the destruction of the temple, the Romans loosened up the requirements to become a Roman citizen. Acts 22:25-29 Paul himself was a Roman citizen and yet he was born outside of Rome. He says he was born in Tarsus, a city of Cilicia which is modern day Turkey. When the guard asks him about his citizenship, the guard admits that he bought his citizenship. During this time the Romans/Italians did not have enough men to fill the outer-lying garrisons or outposts. In order to fill the ranks of their legions they had to ease up on the requirements for Roman citizenship, because in order to be a Legionnaire in the Roman army you had to be a Roman citizen. So at the time Titus went into Judea, not all, but the majority of the legionnaires that were used by Titus, were the peoples that were recruited from that area. So while these people were Roman citizens, ethnically they were Syrians and Arabs. This is documented by Flavius Josephus and Tacitus, the Roman Historian.

Early in this year Titus Caesar ... found in Judaea three legions, the 5th, the 10th and the 15th... To these he added the 12th from Syria, and some men belonging to the 18th and 3rd, whom he had withdrawn from Alexandria. This force was accompanied... by a strong contingent of Arabs, who hated the Jews with the usual hatred of neighbors...

-Tacitus The History New Ed edition Book 5.1

Here is a list of the Roman legions that destroyed Jerusalem and the areas where they were garrisoned:

Legion 5: Syria/ Judea
Legion 10: Asia Minor/Syria /Judea
Legion 15: Syria /Judea
Legion 12: Asia Minor /Syria

Some from the:

Legion 18: Egypt
Legion 3: Egypt

A few years before the destruction of the temple, the Jews and the Syrian people had a dispute in Caesarea. When the Jews came out against the Syrians, the Syrians were assisted by the soldiers. Here is Josephus's recording of that time.

The greatest part of the Roman garrison was raised out of Syria; and being thus related to the Syrian part, they were ready to assist it.

-Flavius Josephus, The Wars of The Jews History of the Destruction of the Jerusalem Book II: Chapter 13

So Vespian sent his son Titus [who] came by land into Syria, where he gathered together Roman forces, with a considerable number of auxiliaries from the kings in that neighborhood.

-Flavius Josephus, The Complete Works of Josephus, The Wars of the Jews or History of the Destruction of Jerusalem Book III, Chapter 1, Paragraph 3

Malchus also, the king of Arabia, sent a thousand horsemen, besides five thousand footmen...

-Flavius Josephus, The Complete Works of Josephus, The Wars of the Jews or The History of the Destruction of Jerusalem Book III, Chapter 4, Paragraph 2

As you can see, the armies that destroyed Jerusalem were made of a very significant number of people from the areas surrounding Israel. These were people who had a hatred for the Jews and were all too eager to see them destroyed.

When Jerusalem was surrounded, the Jews were desperate to survive so they deserted the city and went out as supplicants to the Roman armies in hopes of surrendering. Many of them swallowed what little gold they had to smuggle it out of the city. As you read Josephus's account of this, notice how this speaks to the hatred between the Arabs, Syrians, and the Jews.

...the multitude of the Arabians, with the Syrians, cut up those that came as supplicants, and searched their bellies. Nor does it seem to me that any misery befell the Jews that was more terrible than this, since in one night's time about two thousand of these deserters were thus dissected.

-Flavius Josephus, The Wars of the Jews, History of the Destruction of Jerusalem Book V: Chapter 13 Para 4

The peoples that destroyed the temple were of Arab and Syrian decent. Certainly they were under Roman authority but ethnically speaking they were from that area and not Rome. Looking back at Daniel 9:26 it says "the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary" clearly emphasizing the people and not the governing body or kingdom. The Aramaic word use for people is "**am nagiyd**" which references the ethnic makeup of the people.

SESSION 3

GOG & MAGOG / EZEKIEL 38 & 39

This passage, more than most other end times passage, helps us to make a very direct connection between what the Bible tells us about end times and specific events taking place in the earth today. It helps us make a connection between specific nations and the emergence of the Antichrist empire right in front of us.

Current mainstream teaching would have you believe that the time of Gog's invasion of Israel and his armies as illustrated in Ezekiel 38 & 39 and the armies of the Antichrist and his time of invasion are two separate events and two separate armies. This study will look at the scripture and the arguments.

Overview

In the last days a large coalition of nations primarily from the Middle East gathers together and invades the land of Israel. These armies, this large gathering of nations, will be destroyed both through a series of natural and supernatural events in the land of Israel. They will be utterly decimated so much so that for seven years the Jewish people that are in the land will bury the bodies and burn their weapons. The result of the destruction of these armies is, from that time forward, the nations would know that Yahweh is the one true God. The nations come to a new knowledge of God that they had not previously known or experienced. In addition, the nation of Israel will know that Yahweh is their God. From that time forward, no longer will God allow His name to be blasphemed. It also says that after the destruction of these armies the captives of Israel will return to the land of Israel.

Primary Issue

In the last days a gathering of nations will come together. This is a story that all the prophets are telling. It is the primary prophetic burden of the Old Testament. A story told by the prophets, told through different perspectives, angles, cameras and lenses, through the various historical circumstances of their day. These prophets are ultimately prophesying about the second coming of Christ. The components or themes of this story are repeated throughout the prophets.

The Story

In the last days a large coalition of nations, an empire from the Middle East will invade the land of Israel and kill two thirds of the inhabitants of the land of Israel. A large portion of the remainder will be taken captive by the coalition that invaded them. This time is known in the Bible as "The time of Jacob's trouble". This is the final moment of the Lord's chastisement against His people; it is His final rod of discipline against His people. He uses this to bring this to himself. At that darkest moment, the Lord Himself comes down and breaks that rod of discipline against His knee and Jesus Himself physically executes vengeance against the nations that invaded the land of Israel. Jesus will return in physical form to execute judgment and deliver the captives to the land of Israel. Then He will ascend to Jerusalem and on the throne of David, on Mount Zion He will reestablish the rule of

the Davidic dynasty. He will rule the nations with an iron scepter, slaying kings, restructuring the authority of all nations, judging, pardoning and blessing nations. The people of Israel will plunder the nations that plundered them and expand their nation.

Notes _____

GOG AND ANTICHRIST, DIFFERENT PEOPLE, DIFFERENT ARMIES?

Popular current beliefs

- ❖ Gog and Antichrist are two different people with two different armies.
 - There are two different massive invasions of Israel
 - Both armies will face destruction

This belief would then have you believe that after the first invasion and the destruction of the “Gog” army and Israel coming to salvation that the Antichrist will then rise up and blaspheme God in the most significant blasphemy movement to ever exist. But the scriptures clearly say that after the destruction of the Gog armies He would no longer allow His name to be profaned.

A LOOK AT A COMMON SUPPORTING ARGUMENT BY AS ARTICULATED BY ARNOLD FRUCHTENBAUM

- ❖ In Ezekiel there are definite allies mentioned and they are limited in number while other nations stand in opposition. In the campaign of Armageddon (under the Antichrist) all nations are allied together against Jerusalem without exception.
 - Scripture clearly defines the coalition of the Antichrist as ten primary nations. Many other nations will probably support this coalition but there are only ten primary members.
 - Error #1- Attempting to establish doctrine based on isolated passages or verses. Whenever we desire to understand any subject, we must look to the broader spectrum of passages that speak about any particular subject.

- This argument is based on Ezekiel 38 & 39 compared with Revelation 16 & 19 and not all of the other scriptures that reference the last great battle, the battle of Armageddon.
- Error #2 – The Gog coalition is open ended and NOT limited. It includes far more than the nations specified by name. The Antichrist Coalition is primarily defined by a limited ten nation base and it will be resisted by other nations.

Ezekiel 38:1-9 Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ²“Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him, ³and say, “Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I *am* against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. ⁴I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company *with* bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords. ⁵Persia, Ethiopia (Sudan), and Libya are with them, all of them *with* shield and helmet; ⁶Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah *from* the far north and all its troops—many people are with you.

⁷“Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them. ⁸After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword *and* gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely. ⁹You will ascend, coming like a storm, covering the land like a cloud, you and all your troops and many peoples with you.”

Notes

THE ANTICHRIST’S EMPIRE IS PRIMARILY A TEN NATION GROUP

Ten Toes & Horns of Daniel 2, Daniel 7, Revelation 13 & 17

- ❖ And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise... Daniel 7:24
- ❖ And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. Revelation 17:12

Primary Verse Used to Conclude a Global Rule of the Antichrist

Revelation 13:7-8 He (the Antichrist) was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. ALL inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast –ALL whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.

Error #1: Interpreting Hyperbole Hyper-Literally

Mark 1:5 And there went out unto Him ALL the land of Judea, and they of Jerusalem, and were ALL baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

Did literally every citizen from Judea and Jerusalem get baptized by John? Or only a great number of them?

Other Examples:

Daniel 2:36-38 “This *is* the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king. ³⁷You, O king, *are* a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; ³⁸and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given *them* into your hand, and has made you ruler over them ALL—you *are* this head of gold.

Ezra 1:2 Thus says Cyrus king of Persia:
ALL the kingdoms of the earth the Lord God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which *is* in Judah.

Nebuchadnezzar ruled the Babylonian empire and King Cyrus ruled the Medo-Persian Empire. Neither of these men ruled the whole world and we know that there were other empires and rulers in the world during their reigns. The statements made in scripture are hyperbole and not literal.

Error #2: Failure To Examine The Original Languages

Revelation 13:8 All who dwell on the earth(ge) will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Greek: ge: means territory, region, a land enclosed with fixed boundaries.

Other words that could have been used but were not:

Revelation 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world(kosmos) have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!”

Greek: Kosmos: means the world, universe, circle of the earth (the whole globe).

Notes

Error #3: Failure To Consider Larger Context

1. Those who are presently believers.
2. Those who will become believers.

Those who will NOT worship the Beast:

- The Believers who are on the earth during the Tribulation.
- The Jewish people who will ALL be saved when Christ returns.
- The survivors from among the nations that attack Israel

Zechariah 14:16 And it shall come to pass *that* everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Isaiah 60:14 Also the sons of those who afflicted you shall come bowing to you, And all those who despised you shall fall prostrate at the soles of your feet; And they shall call you The City of the Lord, Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Not only will there be individual resisters, there will be entire nations as well.

The Sheep and The Goats Nation:

Matthew 25:31-40 “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I *was* naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’

³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink? ³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to *You*?’ ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.’

Notes _____

Another look at Dr Fruchtenbaum’s statement:

In the campaign of Armageddon (under the Antichrist) all nations are allied together against Jerusalem without exception.

We know that the Antichrist Coalition does not include every nation on the earth because the Bible clearly states that some nations will resist the Antichrist and even fight against him:

Daniel 11:40-42 “At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm *them*, and pass through. ⁴¹ He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon. ⁴² He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

In addition, if the Antichrist is at war during the end times then that indicates that he has not conquered every nation.

Zechariah 14:2 For I will gather ALL the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

Let’s look at other passages in Zechariah that establish who *ALL the nations* are.

The Surrounding Nations

They are the Goy Cabiya:

“The surrounding Nations” or the “Nations Round About” –Israel’s neighbors.

Zechariah 12:2 “Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.

Zechariah 14:14 Judah also will fight at Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations shall be gathered together: Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance.

Joel 3:11-12 Assemble and come, all you nations, And gather together all around. Cause Your mighty ones to go down there, O LORD.

¹²“Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations.

Ezekiel 28:24-26 “And there shall no longer be a pricking brier or a painful thorn for the house of Israel from among all who are around them, who despise them. Then they shall know that I *am* the Lord GOD.”

²⁵“Thus says the Lord GOD: “When I have gathered the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and am hallowed in them in the sight of the Gentiles, then they will dwell in their own land which I gave to My servant Jacob. ²⁶And they will dwell safely there, build houses, and plant vineyards; yes, they will dwell securely, when I execute judgments on all those around them who despise them. Then they shall know that I *am* the LORD their God.””

IN CONCLUSION:

At the time of the end, every time it mentions Jesus fighting against a nation, it is a Middle Eastern nation. It is always a nation that neighbors or surrounds Israel. There are limited scriptures that state it is ALL nations and we need to look at all of the scripture and understand that not all scripture is literal. In light of the overwhelming number of scriptures that refer to His return to judge Israel’s neighbors we would have to assume that the limited use of ALL was used to stress that it would be many nations. We also know from scripture that the coalition of the Antichrist will be made up primarily of ten nations. We do not know how far his rule will extend beyond these ten nations. This leaves us a glimmer of hope that we can intercede on behalf of our nation. One of the biggest mistakes we can make is to read and study this and then have a fatalistic attitude that there is no hope. Our hope is in Him and prayer is effective. We need to pray for our nation and our families.

Notes

SESSION 4

GOG & MAGOG / EZEKIEL 38 & 39 CONTINUED

Joel's Argument Restated- Gog is the Antichrist. The description of events in Ezekiel 38 & 39 are the same events that take place in Revelation 19. Ultimately it is speaking about the Armageddon campaign. Ezekiel 38 & 39 is a very broad portrayal of these events and Revelation 19 is a very specific, zeroed in perspective of the final battle.

2ND ARGUMENT BY DR FRUCHTENBAUM

The purpose of the Gog invasion is to take spoil; the purpose of the Armageddon Campaign is to destroy all the Jews.

Ezekiel 38:10-13 “Thus says the Lord God: “On that day it shall come to pass *that* thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan: ¹¹ You will say, ‘I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates’— ¹² to take plunder and to take booty, to stretch out your hand against the waste places *that are again* inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land. ¹³ Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, ‘Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?’”

Notes

Zechariah 14:1-2 Behold, the day of the Lord is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst. ² For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

Notes

Isaiah 10:5-7 “Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger And the staff in whose hand is My indignation.

⁶ I will send him against an ungodly nation, And against the people of My wrath I will give him charge, To seize the spoil, to take the prey, And to tread them down like the mire of the

streets.⁷ Yet he does not mean so, Nor does his heart think so; But *it is* in his heart to destroy, And cut off not a few nations.

Notes

Daniel 11:24 He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province; and he shall do *what* his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but *only* for a time.

This simply states that the economics of Antichrist is to invade the rich nations and redistribute the wealth. The poor of the earth will rally to this message.

Notes

The Early Church's Understanding:

“The Antichrist pretends that he vindicates the poor.”

Ireneaus

Islam is awaiting a populous messiah

In the last-days of the Islamic community, the Mahdi will appear... He will give away wealth profusely, flocks will be in abundance, and the Muslim community will be large and honored...

Sahih Hakim Mustadrak

In those years my community will enjoy a time of happiness such as they have never experienced before. ...A man will stand and say, “Give to me Mahdi!” and he will say. “Take.”

At-Tabarani

Conclusion: Both Gog and the Antichrist come to destroy Jews and for plunder because they are one and the same.

Notes

The Ezekiel (Gog) invasion comes from the North, but the Armageddon invasion comes from the whole earth.

Ezekiel 38:14-16 “Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “On that day when My people Israel dwell safely, will you not know *it*?¹⁵ Then you will come from your place out of the far north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army.¹⁶ You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud, to cover the land. It will be in the latter days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me, when I am hallowed in you, O Gog, before their eyes.”

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, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal;² and I will turn you around and lead you on, bringing you up from the far north, and bring you against the mountains of Israel.³ Then I will knock the bow out of your left hand, and cause the arrows to fall out of your right hand.

These scriptures do tell us that the Gog invasion comes from the north but there are many Old Testament scriptures that also tell us that the Antichrist will invade from the north.

Daniel 11:40-41 “At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm *them*, and pass through.⁴¹ He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many *countries* shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.

Notes

Joel 2:20

“But I will remove far from you the northern *army*,
And will drive him away into a barren and desolate land,
With his face toward the eastern sea
And his back toward the western sea;
His stench will come up,
And his foul odor will rise,
Because he has done monstrous things.”

Jeremiah 50:9

For behold, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon
An assembly of great nations from the north country,

And they shall array themselves against her;
 From there she shall be captured.
 Their arrows *shall be* like *those* of an expert warrior;
 None shall return in vain.

Zephaniah 2:13

And He will stretch out His hand against the north,
 Destroy Assyria,
 And make Nineveh a desolation,
 As dry as the wilderness.

Notes _____

4TH ARGUMENT BY DR FRUCHTENBAUM

The Ezekiel invasion is destroyed through convulsions of nature; the Armageddon invasion is destroyed by the personal Second coming of Jesus Christ.

Because people largely focus on Revelation and not the greater wealth of passages throughout the Bible that speak about the Antichrist, it is often believed that Jesus will come forth out of Heaven and sort of snap his fingers all of His enemies will be destroyed in a flash. The fact of the matter is that numerous passages describe Him walking out the vengeance of God and literally conquering, destroying and judging the nations.

Comparison of Ezekiel to Revelation

Ezekiel 38:19-20	Revelation 16:18-20
in the land of Israel;	the place called armageddon ...
Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking	and there was a great earth quake, such as was not since men were upon the earth

<p>and the mountains shall be thrown down,</p>	<p>and the mountains were not found</p>
<p>and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.</p>	<p>and the cities of the nations fell ... And every island fled away,</p>

Notes _____

<p>Ezekiel 38:22</p>	<p>Revelation 16:18-20</p>
<p>I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hail stones, fire, and brimstone.</p>	<p>Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon ... Then there came ... From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men.</p>

Notes _____

Both are stricken with plagues

Ezekiel 38:21-22 I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains,” says the Lord GOD. “Every man’s sword will be against his brother. ²² And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who *are* with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

Zechariah 14:12-13 And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem:

Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet,
Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets,
And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

¹³ It shall come to pass in that day
That a great panic from the LORD will be among them.
Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbor,
And raise his hand against his neighbor’s hand;

5TH ARGUMENT BY DR FRUCHTENBAUM

The Ezekiel invasion is destroyed on the mountains of Israel; the Armageddon Campaign is destroyed in the area between Petra and Jerusalem.

The problem with this is that “The Mountains of Israel” is simply an expression.

This would be as if America was invaded, and we said that her invaders would be killed and strewn out “all across the fruited plains”.

Would anyone read this to indicate that the enemies would only be killed specifically on the plains of America?

Ezekiel 36:1-6 “And you, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel, and say, ‘Q mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD! ² Thus says the Lord GOD: “Because the enemy has said of you, ‘Aha! The ancient heights have become our possession,’”³ therefore prophesy, and say, “Thus says the Lord GOD: “Because they made *you* desolate and swallowed you up on every side, so that you became the possession of the rest of the nations, and you are taken up by the lips of talkers and slandered by the people”—
⁴ therefore, O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD! Thus says the Lord GOD to the mountains, the hills, the rivers, the valleys, the desolate wastes, and the cities that have been forsaken, which became plunder and mockery to the rest of the nations all around—
⁵ therefore thus says the Lord GOD: “Surely I have spoken in My burning jealousy against the

rest of the nations and against all Edom, who gave My land to themselves as a possession, with wholehearted joy *and* spiteful minds, in order to plunder its open country.”

⁶“Therefore prophesy concerning the land of Israel, and say to the mountains, the hills, the rivers, and the valleys, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “Behold, I have spoken in My jealousy and My fury, because you have borne the shame of the nations.”’

Notes

6TH ARGUMENT BY DR FRUCHTENBAUM

The Gog Magog invasion takes place while Israel is living securely in the land; but the Armageddon Campaign takes place while Israel is in flight and hiding.

We need to take in to consideration the fact that the Ezekiel passage is a very general perspective on the coming of the Antichrist leading up to the time when he invades Israel. The Armageddon Campaign is a specific, directed, and zoomed in perspective, just on the final battle. In the beginning of the seven years he initiates a false peace treaty with the Jewish people and they are living securely. In the middle, three and a half years later he violates the treaty and invades Israel.

GOG

Ezekiel 38:12-13 to take plunder and to take booty, to stretch out your hand against the waste places *that are again* inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land. ¹³ Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, ‘Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?’”

ANTICHRIST

Daniel 11:24 He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province; and he shall do *what* his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but *only* for a time.

Daniel 8:25 “Through his cunning
He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule,
And he shall exalt *himself* in his heart.

He shall destroy many in *their* prosperity.
He shall even rise against the Prince of princes;
But he shall be broken without *human* means.

The descriptions are the same because they are the same person.

Notes _____

FURTHER PROOFS THAT GOG AND THE ANTICHRIST ARE THE SAME

REASON #1 THE NUMEROUS COMMONALITIES

BOTH PASSAGES FEATURE THE “FEAST OF GOD”



Notes _____

BOTH GOG'S ARMIES & THE ANTICHRIST'S ARMIES ATTACK EACH OTHER

Antichrist

Zechariah 14:12-13

And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem:

Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet,
Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets,
And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

¹³ It shall come to pass in that day
That a great panic from the LORD will be among them.
Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbor,
And raise his hand against his neighbor's hand;

Gog

Ezekiel 38:21-22 I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains," says the Lord GOD. "Every man's sword will be against his brother. ²² And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who *are* with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

Notes _____

BOTH COALITIONS CONSIST OF THE SAME NATIONS

Ezekiel 38:5 Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them *with* shield and helmet;

Daniel 11:43 He shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians *shall follow* at his heels.

Notes _____

REASON #2 CONTRADICTS EXTERNAL EVIDENCE

The Bible teaches that Israel will be shattered and nearly wiped out just prior to the return of Christ, by Muslim nations. When Jesus returns He is seen to be fighting against Muslim nations and delivering Jews from captivity from the surrounding Muslim nations.

Any claim that the Muslim World will be rendered irrelevant prior to the return of Christ must ignore vast tracts of scripture and is unbiblical.

Notes

REASON #3 CHRIST IS PRESENT. THIS PASSAGE PORTRAYS THE PAROUSIA

Ezekiel 38:19-20 For in My jealousy *and* in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: ‘Surely in that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel, ²⁰ so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who *are* on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.’

Presence: Hebrew: Panim: Face, or in front of. Actual presence. The actual face of God.

Genesis 32:30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: “For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.” (face to face, panim to panim)

Ezekiel 39:7 So I will make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel, and I will not *let them* profane My holy name anymore. Then the nations shall know that *I am* the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

Kaddosh Yisrael:

Used 32 times in scriptures

Every time the translation is “The Holy One of Israel”, except in this one passage.

This is describing Jesus’ actual presence here.

Notes

REASON #4 IT IS THE DAY OF THE LORD

After the defeat of Gog and Magog, God's name will no longer be profaned.

Both Israel and the Gentile nations will all know God from that day forward.

Ezekiel 38:23 & 39:7-8 Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I *am* the LORD.”

⁷ So I will make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel, and I will not *let them* profane My holy name anymore. Then the nations shall know that I *am* the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. ⁸ Surely it is coming, and it shall be done,” says the Lord GOD. “**This is the day of which I have spoken.**”

Ezekiel 39:22 So the house of Israel shall know that I *am* the LORD their God from that day forward.

Matthew 23:39 or I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!’ ”

Everything about the events and the language in this passage indicates that this ‘battle’ is not merely the opening act leading to the Great Tribulation, but rather it is the magnificent capstone of that period.

Notes

REASON #5 GOD DIRECTLY DECLARES THAT GOG IS THE ANTICHRIST

Ezekiel 38:17 Thus says the Lord GOD: “Are *you* he of whom I have spoken in former days by My servants the prophets of Israel, who prophesied for years in those days that I would bring you against them?”

Conclusion:

- All the prophets speak of this same event.
- Through the Messiah, God steps in to save them.
- Israel returns to God forever.
- Messiah rules from Jerusalem.

Notes

SESSION 5

IDENTIFYING THE BEAST EMPIRE, REVELATION 17

Purpose of this session- To identify the heads and the horns of the beast as portrayed in Revelation 17.

Revelation 17:9-11 “Here *is* the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.¹⁰ There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, *and* the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time. The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

1ST POINT

Some Claim that this passage is pointing us to Rome (The City on Seven Hills).

PROBLEM #1

“The seven heads are seven mountains (Kingdoms or Empires) on which the woman sits. There are also seven kings.”

How can we have seven literal hills correspond to seven kings?

“Since the hills represent kings, then they do not refer to the seven hill so f Rome.”

John Walvoord, All The Prophecies of the Bible, pp 607-608

Kings and Kingdoms clearly correspond.

But this is not the case with seven literal mountains or hills.

Notes

PROBLEM #2

How can literal hills “fall”?

“Further, a statement is made, ‘Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, but when he does come, he must remain for a little while’ (v.10). This could not refer to hills.”

*John Walvoord, All The Prophecies of the Bible,
pp 607-608*

Notes _____

PROBLEM #3

The word hill used to refer this passage to the Seven Hills of Rome does not mean hill.

Onos = Greek for “mountain”

Bounos = Greek for “hill”

Luke 3:5

Every	πᾶς pas
valley	φθαγγξ pharagx
shall be	ἔσομαι esomai
filled,	πληρωῶ plērōō
and	καὶ kai
every	πᾶς pas
mountain	ὄρος oros
and	καὶ kai
hill	βουνός bounos
shall be brought low	ταπεινώω tapeinoō

Notes _____

PROBLEM #4

Rome has more than seven hills. At one time it had seven hills, but later grew to sit on at least nine hills.

This passage is speaking about the End Times and not the past. Today, Rome has at least nine hills.

Dr Walvoord then suggests that:

“[The Mountains] refer to the great nations of the past who were empires. This would include Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and ancient Rome. As John viewed it, ancient Rome would be the sixth king, but later in history Rome would be revived and would be considered the seventh king. (v. 10).”

*John F. Walvoord, Every Prophecy of the Bible, 1999
Chariot Victor Publishing (pp.607-608)*

THE HEADS

We have identified what the Bible is referring to by the beast with seven heads. The heads represent the seven biblical and historical empires baring the same commonalities and traits, they were anti-Semitic, opposing Israel and they were pagan nations with pagan gods

The Traditional Position

Egypt	Greece
Assyria	Rome
Babylon	The Revived Roman Empire
Medo-Persia	

PROBLEM #1

This position however also has one major fatal flaw:
There are not merely seven but in fact eight empires:

Revelation 17:11 The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

Islamic Position

Egypt
Assyria
Babylon
Medo-Persia

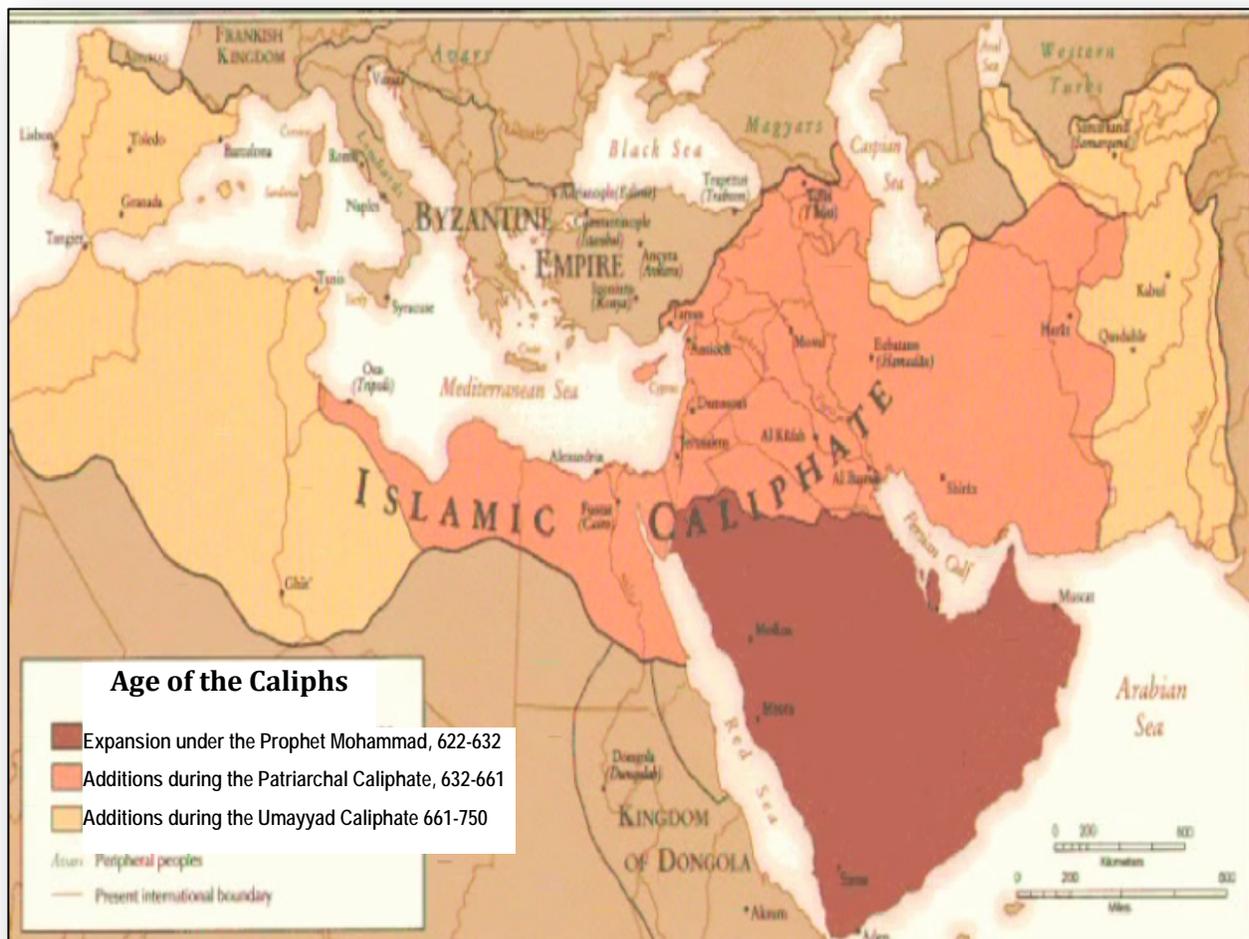
Greece
Rome
The Islamic Empire
Revived Islamic Empire

The Fatal Head Wound

Revelation 13:3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

Revelation 17:11 The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

Notes





In 1924, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, abolished the office of the Caliph. The Ottoman Islamic Empire was effectively beheaded.

Notes

THE TEN HORNS

The specific nations that will remerge in the last days to form the revived beast. The ten primary nations of the Antichrists coalition.

Revelation 17:12-13 “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. ¹³ These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.

The “ten kings” are the primary nations and their leaders that comprise the coming and final Beast Empire.

Identifying The Nations of Ezekiel 38:An Islamic Coalition

Gog – The Leader of the Coalition

Magog – The land of Gog

Meshech

Tubal

Gomer

Togormah

Persia

Put

Two Methods of Identification

- ❖ The Geographical Correlation Method
- ❖ The Ancestral / Migration Method

Rosh

Some Prophecy teachers say that this word is to be interpreted as a proper noun / name and is referring to Russia.

Many other scholars say that it should simply be translated as a simple noun or adjective: “head or chief, foremost, top”

ROSH PROBLEM #1 - RELIANCE ON THE SEPTUAGINT

Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him. – KJV

Son of man, set they face against Gog, and the land of Magog, Rhos, prince of Mesoch and Thobel, and prophesy against him – Septuagint

Son of man, set your face toward Gog of the land of Magog, te prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him. – NASB

Notes

ROSH PROBLEM #2 - LINGUISTIC LIBERTIES

Rosh is used 598 times in the Authorized Version (KJV).

Every time it is used to mean head, chief, top, or something similar. Never once is it used as a proper name.

It is the same “rosh” that we find in Rosh Hashana – “The head or chief day of the year” – the Jewish New Year)

“Linguistic evidence for the equation [of Rosh with Russia] is confessedly only presumptive.”

*Dr. Merrill F. Unger, Beyond the Crystal Ball
(Chicago: Moody Press, 1974) p. 81*

Notes

ROSH PROBLEM #3 - INCONSISTENT METHODOLOGY

Switching from the geographical method to the bloodline migration method.

Even if Rosh were a proper name, it would be referring to the Ukraine, and not Russia.

Notes

ROSH PROBLEM #4 - INTERNAL INCONSISTENCIES

“Gog of Magog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal” - Ezekiel 38:2

Magog, Mesheck & Tubal are all located in Asia Minor.

This would be akin to saying, “You, Obama of the US, Russia, President of Washington and New York.”

This simply doesn’t make any sense.

Notes

ROSH PROBLEM #5 – ANAMALOUS PASSAGE

The overwhelming emphasis of all end time passages points us to the Middle East.

To find Russia in this one passage is clearly an anomaly with no further Biblical support anywhere in the Bible.

Yet, the Lord says that the other prophets spoke of Gog. (Ezekiel 38:17)

Show me where other prophets spoke of Russia.

Notes

ROSH PROBLEM #6 – NEWSPAPER ESCHATOLOGY

Russia arms Arab nations that are at enmity with Israel.

The United States virtually created the Taliban, placed Saddam Hussein in power, and supplies the Saudis with billions in defense.

None of these things means that either nation is spoken of in Biblical prophecy.

ROSH : CONCLUSION

The prophetic imagination of the Church is captured with the notion that Russia is prophesied in the Bible to soon invade Israel and to be utterly destroyed.

Yet the Biblical evidence for this is primarily based on one word.

The Arguments in favor of a Russian invasion are fraught with significant problems.

Notes

WHO IS GOG?

During Ezekiel's day, Gog was the name given to the King of Lydia who was called Gyges by the Greeks and Gu-gu by the Assyrians.

Thus Gog (Antichrist) is associated with Lydia which is modern day Turkey.



CLUE #2

Gog is the ruler over the land of Magog:

“Gog of Magog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal” -Ezekiel 38

Magog: Two Options

The first is that it refers to the Scythians.

The second is that it refers to Asia Minor and the Lydians (modern day Turkey).

OPTION #1: SCYTHIA

Highly unlikely.

Scythia was a vague term that referred to any number of barbaric northern peoples.

To identify Magog as the Scythians is without support from historical anthropology.



Scythia:

Kazakhstan
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan
Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan
Afghanistan

Pakistan
Ukraine
Russia
Georgia
Azerbaijan

If Russia is only one of the roughly twelve countries that Scythia might include, then why do virtually all of the popular prophecy teachers almost exclusively focus on Russia but virtually none on the Ukraine, Kazakhstan or any other major nations that a Scythian identification would entail?

Further Problems

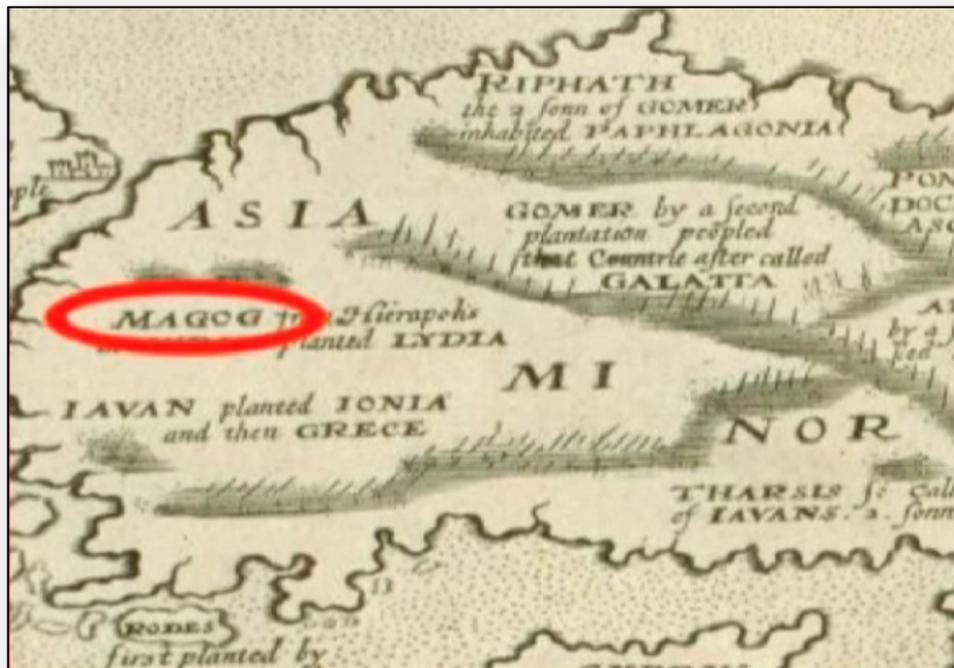
If Magog is Scythia, then the verse makes very little sense:

Gog of Russia and Central Asia, chief prince of Turkey?

Notes

OPTION #2: LYDIANS

Ancient Map of Asia Minor



CLUE #3

Gog is the head or ruler of Meshech and Tubal.

Meshech and Tubal = Modern Day Turkey



GOMER

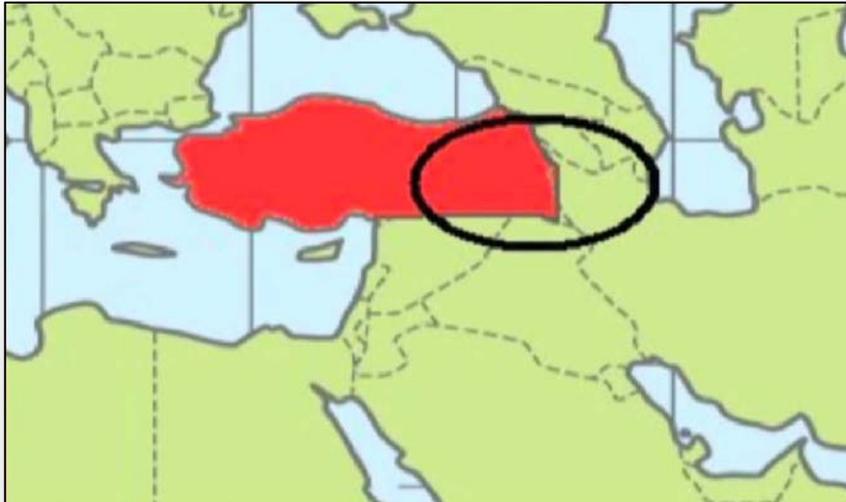
Gomer is Gimarra is Cimmeria is Cappadocia: Central turkey.



BETH TOGORMAH

Primarily Southeastern Turkey

Could include: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq and Syria.



PERSIA

Primarily Iran

Could include Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Turkmenistan.



CUSH

Primarily Sudan

Could include: Ethiopia / Somalia / Djibouti



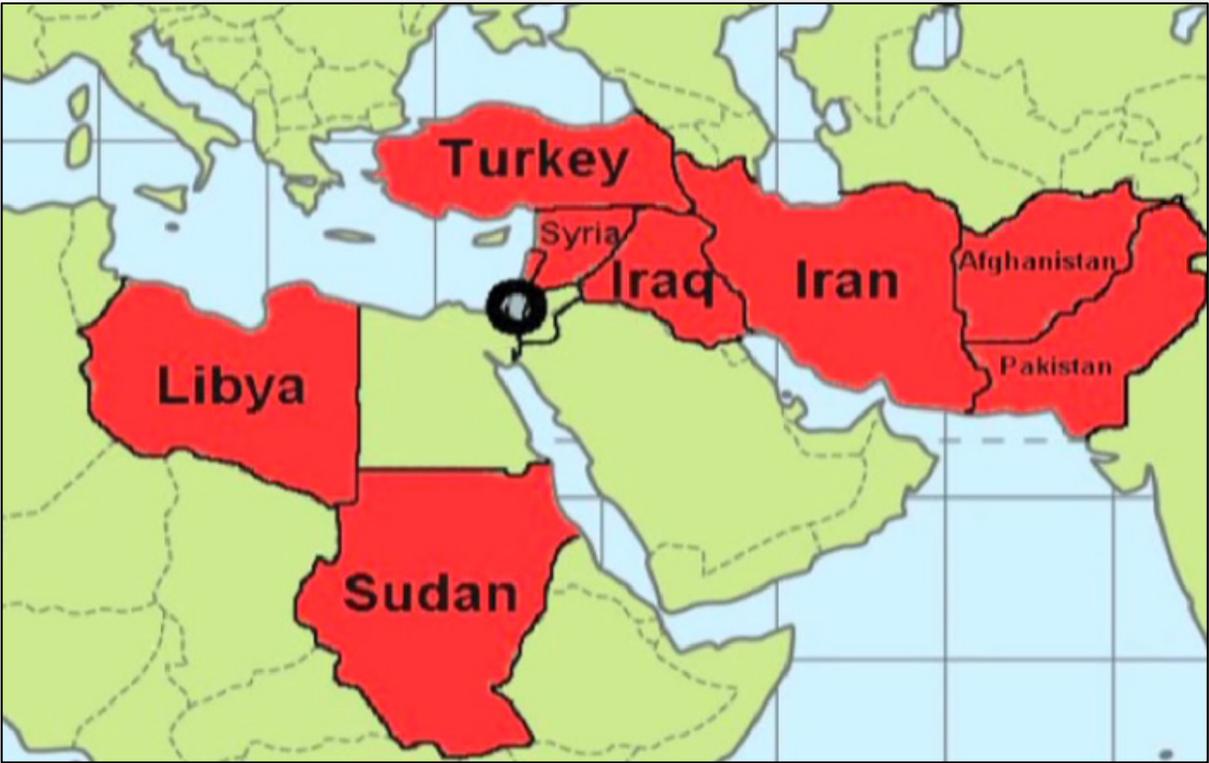
PUT

Primarily Libya

Could include: Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco



THE COMING REVIVED ISLAMIC EMPIRE



Ezekiel 38 told us that the coming revived Islamic Union would be led by Turkey.

Not only is the Islamic World calling for a revived Caliphate, but many are specifically calling for a Turkish led Caliphate, exactly as the Bible said it would happen.

Biblical Prophecy says that there will be a revived Caliphate.

The Islamic World is rallying for a revived Caliphate.

American Intelligence is predicting a revived Caliphate.

Notes _____

THE RESISTOR NATIONS

3 Middle Eastern Nations that will not willingly join the Antichrist kingdom:

Saudi Arabia

Egypt

Jordan

Saudi Arabia

Ezekiel 38:13 Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, 'Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?'"

Jordan & Egypt

Daniel 11:41 He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many *countries* shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.

Daniel 11:40 "At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm *them*, and pass through.

Resistor Nations

