

“I AM AGAINST YOU, O GOG”

Ezekiel 38-39

Introduction

- 1) The prophecy of **Ezekiel** was primarily for the Jews in Babylonian captivity
- 2) We are blessed with them to see a timeless message of how God deals with His enemies

I) The Enemies of God

- A) The enemies of God’s people are the enemies of God (Ex. 23:22)
- B) God’s wrath is reserved for His enemies (Nahum 1:2)
- C) The enemies of God will perish (Psa. 92:9)
- D) Many have set themselves as enemies of God, led by Satan (“the adversary”)
- E) In the book of Ezekiel, another enemy of God is identified as “Gog”

II) Gog and His Allies (38:1-7)

- A) Ezekiel is instructed to prophesy against “Gog, of the land of Magog”
 - 1) Also called the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal
- B) Who is “Gog”?
 - 1) Magog, Meshech, and Tubal listed among the sons of Japheth (Gen. 10:2)
 - 2) It is believed the Scythians descended from them; invaded Palestine in 630 BC
 - 3) Tubal and Meshech mentioned as trading with Tyre (Ezek. 27:13) and to be found by Pharaoh in Sheol (32:26); but no ruler is known that is called “Gog”
 - 4) “Gog” seems to be a symbolic name of an enemy that comes from out of the far north allied with other nations to attack God’s people (see 38:4-7, 15)
- C) This prophecy likely interprets as either or both of the following:
 - 1) A future invasion/attack by an enemy of Israel after they are restored back to the land
 - 2) A symbolic picture of any and all future attacks by evil forces on God’s people

III) The Attack by Gog and His Allies (38:8-17)

- A) God is overseeing their attack (vv. 4, 8, 17)
 - 1) Gog will attack Israel who is enjoying peace and safety (vv. 8-13)
 - 2) Gog is evil in heart and makes evil plans (vv. 10)
- B) God will stand against Gog even as He brings him against His land (vv. 3, 14-17; see 39:7)
 - 1) How can this be? Consider the message of the prophet **Habakkuk** – Even as God uses Babylon to punish His people, He condemns Babylon for their own sins (1:5-11; 2:5ff)

IV) The Judgment, Destruction, and Burial of Gog (38:18–39:20)

- A) God declares His judgment on Gog (38:18-23 “My fury...the fire of My wrath”)
 - 1) Great earthquake, mountains thrown down, rain, hailstone, fire, brimstone – God’s wrath
 - 2) Every man’s sword will be against his brother – fighting among themselves
- B) Gog’s armies destroyed (39:1-10)
 - 1) Slain on the mountains of Israel; weapons burned in fires – the day is coming (v. 8)!
- C) Burial of Gog (39:11-20)
 - 1) Takes seven months to bury bodies; Gog offered as a sacrificial meal for birds and wild beasts

V) The Restoration of Israel (39:21-29)

- A) “I will set My glory among the nations” (v. 21) – the nations will see God’s judgment
- B) The captivity and restoration of Israel revealed God’s glory – would pour out His Spirit

Conclusion

There is a foreshadowing of a messianic future and defeat of enemies (Lk. 1:68-71; 1 Cor. 15:24-26). Enemies who exalt themselves against God and His Christ never succeed then, now, or ever. God’s judgment will come and His people will win an eternal victory (Rev. 20:7-10)!