Nov. 1, 2023

Greeting to all . . .

Blessings to you and your family. Hope this letter finds you in good health and spirit. First of all, I would for you to join me in prayer for Israel and also for the innocent people of Gaza. We as Christians know that Satan is behind all this and we also know he will not prevail.

Could this event be what the bible calls “the beginning of pains” prior to His 2nd Coming or is this the beginning of the **“Gog and Magog Invasion”**? I don’t know but this **BSL** will be on that event. This article does not say who **Gog and Magog** is but I would like to bring your attention to the word **Gog**. It’s not a person but a title similar to Pharaoh, King etc. **Magog** is therefore the people ruled by **Gog**. I have more information on **Gog and Magog** origin but that would be for another **BSL.**

 As in the past, I included the scriptures mention in the article as part of this **BSL**.

So, let’s get started.

Your Brother in Christ, Tony Gonzalez

**1 Peter 3:15**

but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, **always being prepared to make a defense** to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

**Gog and Magog Invasion of Israel**

**Bible Scripture Letter #42**

Historically speaking, Magog was a grandson of Noah **-** [**Genesis 10:1-2**](https://www.bibleref.com/Genesis/10/Genesis-10-2.html)**.**

* **1** These are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Sons were born to them after the flood.
* The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

The descendants of Magog settled to the far north of Israel, likely in Europe and northern Asia - [**Ezekiel 38:2**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-38-2.html)**.**

* **2**  “Son of man, set your face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him

*Magog* seems to be used to refer to "northern barbarians" in general, but likely also has a connection to Magog the person. The people of Magog are described as skilled warriors - [**Ezekiel 38:15**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-38-15.html)**;**[**39:3-9**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/39/Ezekiel-39-3.html)**.**

**Ezekiel 38:15**

* **15** You will come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great host, a mighty army.

 **Ezekiel** [**39:3-9**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/39/Ezekiel-39-3.html)

* “Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go out and make fires of the weapons and burn them, shields and bucklers, bow and arrows, clubs[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ezekiel+39&version=ESV#fen-ESV-21458c)] and spears; and they will make fires of them for seven years,

Gog and Magog appear in [**Ezekiel 38—39**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-chapter-38.html)and in [**Revelation 20:7–8**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-7.html)**.**

* **7**  And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison
* **8** and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.

While these two passages use the same names, a close study of Scripture clearly demonstrates they do not refer to the same people and events. The events are separated by at least 1,000 years. In Ezekiel’s prophecy, Gog will be the leader of a great army that attacks the land of Israel, which is “peaceful and unsuspecting” at the time - [**Ezekiel 38:11**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-38-11.html)**.**

* **11** and say, ‘I will go up against the land of unwalled villages. I will fall upon the quiet people who dwell securely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having no bars or gates,’

Gog is described as *“of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal”* - [**Ezekiel 38:2–3**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-38-2.html).

* **2** “Son of man, set your face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him
* **3** and say, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.

When will Ezekiel’s battle of Gog and Magog occur? There are a couple of theories:

***Before the tribulation begins****.* This view points to the fact that, after the battle, the people of Israel will be burning the enemy’s weapons for seven years and spend over seven months burying the dead - [**Ezekiel 39:9–10**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/39/Ezekiel-39-9.html)**,**[**12–16**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/39/Ezekiel-39-12.html)**.**

* **9** “Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go out and make fires of the weapons and burn them, shields and bucklers, bow and arrows, clubs[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ezekiel+39&version=ESV#fen-ESV-21458c)] and spears; and they will make fires of them for *seven years*,
* **10**  so that they will not need to take wood out of the field or cut down any out of the forests, for they will make their fires of the weapons. They will seize the spoil of those who despoiled them, and plunder those who plundered them, declares the Lord God.
* **12** For *seven months* the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land.
* **13**  All the people of the land will bury them, and it will bring them renown on the day that I show my glory, declares the Lord God.
* **14** They will set apart men to travel through the land regularly and bury those travelers remaining on the face of the land, so as to cleanse it. At the end of *seven months* they will make their search.
* **15** And when these travel through the land and anyone sees a human bone, then he shall set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the Valley of Hamon-gog.
* **16** (Hamonah is also the name of the city.) Thus, shall they cleanse the land.

That length of time *most likely* requires the battle to be *fought before the tribulation*, and possibly even before the rapture of the church.

***During the first part of the seven-year tribulation****.* This view hinges on the fact that Israel is at peace when the attack begins - [**Ezekiel 38:8**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-38-8.html)**,**[**11**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-38-11.html)**.**

* **8** After many days you will be mustered. In the latter years, you will go against the land that is restored from war, the land whose people were gathered from many peoples upon the mountains of Israel, which had been a continual waste. Its people were brought out from the peoples and now dwell securely, all of them.
* **11** and say, ‘I will go up against the land of unwalled villages. I will fall upon the quiet people who dwell securely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having no bars or gates,’

The security Israel enjoys is assumed to be the result of Israel’s covenant with the Antichrist at the beginning of the tribulation, Daniel’s 70th Week - **Daniel 9:27.**

* **27**  And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

According to Ezekiel, Magog will not win. God will intervene to preserve Israel. *“There shall be a great earthquake”* - [**Ezekiel 38:19**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-38-19.html), *“every man’s sword will be against his brother”* (verse **21**), and God *“will pour down torrents of rain, hailstones and burning sulfur on [Gog] and on his troops and on the many nations with him”* (verse **22**). The result is that the nations will see *God’s greatness and holiness* (verse **23**).

 Gog and Magog are mentioned again in [**Revelation 20:7-8**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-7.html)**.**

* **7** And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison
* **8** and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.

The duplicated use of the names Gog and Magog in[**Revelation 20:8-9**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-8.html) is to show that these people demonstrate the same rebellion against God and antagonism toward God as those in [**Ezekiel 38-39**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-chapter-38.html). It is similar to someone today calling a person "the devil" because he or she is sinful and evil. We know that person is not really Satan, but because that person shares similar characteristics, he or she might be referred to as "the devil."

 The book of Revelation uses Ezekiel’s prophecy about Magog to portray a final end-times attack on the nation of Israel [**Revelation 20:8-9**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-8.html)**.** The result of this battle is that all are destroyed, and Satan will find his final place in the *lake of fir*e [**Revelation 20:10**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-10.html)**.**

**Revelation 20:8-10**

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

It is important to recognize that the Gog and Magog of [**Ezekiel 38-39**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-chapter-38.html) is quite different from the one in [**Revelation 20:7-8**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-7.html). Below are some of the more obvious reasons why these refer to different people and battles.

1. In the battle of [**Ezekiel 38-39**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-chapter-38.html), the armies come primarily from the north and involve only a few nations of the earth **-** [**Ezekiel 38:6**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-38-6.html)**,**[**15**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-38-15.html)**;**[**39:2**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/39/Ezekiel-39-2.html)**.** The battle in [**Revelation 20:7-9**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-7.html) will involve **All Nations**, so armies will come from all directions, not just from the north. **Ezekiel 38:6,15 and 39:2**

* **6**  Gomer and all his hordes; Beth-togarmah from the uttermost parts of the *north* with all his hordes—many peoples are with you.
* **15** You will come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the *north*, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great host, a mighty army.

**Ezekiel 39:2**

* **2** And I will turn you about and drive you forward, and bring you up from the uttermost parts of the *north*, and lead you against the mountains of Israel.

2. There is no mention of Satan in the context of [**Ezekiel 38-39**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-chapter-38.html). In [**Revelation 20:7**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-7.html)the context clearly places the battle at the end of the millennium with Satan as the primary character.

3. [**Ezekiel 39:11–12**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/39/Ezekiel-39-11.html) states that the dead will be buried for *seven months*. There would be no need to bury the dead if the battle in [**Ezekiel 38—39**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-chapter-38.html)is the one described in [**Revelation 20:8–9**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-8.html)**,** for immediately following [**Revelation 20:8–9**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-8.html)is the *Great White Throne judgment* **– Revelation 20:11–15**

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

and then the present heaven and earth are destroyed, replaced by a new heaven and earth

[**Revelation 21:1**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/21/Revelation-21-1.html)**.**

* **1** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

There obviously will be a need to bury the dead if the battle takes place before or in the early part of the tribulation, for the land of Israel will be occupied for another 1,000 years, the length of the millennial kingdom [**Revelation 20:4–6**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-4.html).

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

4. The battle in [**Ezekiel 38-39**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/38/Ezekiel-chapter-38.html)is used by God to bring Israel back to Him **-** [**Ezekiel 39:21-29**](https://www.bibleref.com/Ezekiel/39/Ezekiel-39-21.html)**.** In [**Revelation 20**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-chapter-20.html), Israel has been faithful to God for 1,000 years (the millennial kingdom). Those in [**Revelation 20:7-10**](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/20/Revelation-20-7.html)who are rebellious are destroyed without any more opportunity for repentance.

*Source : gotquestions.org/Gog-Magog.html*