

## "Immediately after the distress

of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken" (Matthew 24:29).

"For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not flash forth their light; the sun will be dark when it rises and the moon will not shed its light" (Isaiah 13:10).

"Before them the earth quakes, the heavens tremble, the sun and the moon grow dark and the stars lose their brightness" (Joel 2:10).

"And when I extinguish you [Pharaoh king of Egypt], I will cover the heavens and darken their stars; I will cover the sun with a cloud and the moon will not give its light" (Ezekiel 32:7).

"The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood **before the great and awesome day of the LORD** comes" (Joel 2:31).

"Will not **the day of the LORD be darkness instead of light**, even gloom with no brightness in it?" (Amos 5:20).

"Then Yahusha (Christ) will go forth and fight against those nations, like when he fights on a day of battle. On that day **his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives**, which faces Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in half, from east to west, by a very great valley; and half of the mountain will withdraw toward the north, and the other half toward the south. And you will flee by the valley of my mountains, because the valley of the mountains will reach to Azal, and you will flee like you fled from the earthquake in the days of King Uzziah of Judah. And **the Lord my God will come, and all the holy ones with him**" (Zechariah 14:3–5).

## The critical battle of good against evil, God against gods reaches a raging climax

"And **there was war in heaven**. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The **great dragon was hurled down**—that ancient serpent called the devil or Satan, who leads the whole world astray" (Revelation 12:79).

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and the one seated on it was called 'Faithful' and 'True' and with justice He judges and makes war. Now his eyes were a flame of fire, and on His head were many royal headbands having a name written that no one except He himself knows. And He was dressed in an outer garment dipped in blood, and **His name is**



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**called the Word of God.** And **the armies that are in heaven, dressed in clean, white fine linen, were following him on white horses.** And out of his mouth came a sharp sword, so that with it he could strike the nations. And he will shepherd them with an iron rod, and **he stomps the winepress of the wine of the furious wrath of God, the All-Powerful.** And he has a name written on his outer garment and on his thigh: **‘King of kings and Lord of lords’**” (Revelation 19:11–16).

### **Christ will return with his divine army AND THE RESURRECTED SAINTS**

“So that your hearts may be established blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus **WITH ALL HIS SAINTS**” (1 Thessalonians 3:13).

“And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and **THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER HIS ELECT** from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other” (Matthew 24:30-31).

“They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast. **They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them** because **He is Lord of lords and King of kings**—and **with Him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers**” (Revelation 17:13-14).

“**Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!** She has become a home for demons and a haunt for every evil spirit” (Revelation 18:2).

“Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army. But **the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet** who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. **The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. The rest of them were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the rider on the horse,** and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh” (Revelation 19:19-21).

### **Then, comes a time of Judgment**

**The rogue sons of God and the kings of the world will be punished:** “So it will happen in that day, that the LORD will **punish the host of heaven on high,** and the **kings of the earth on earth.** They will be gathered together like prisoners in the dungeon, and will be confined in prison; and **after MANY DAYS they will be punished**” (Isaiah 24:21-22). [Note: the rogue sons of God are **not punished immediately** rather **after MANY DAYS. The punishment against Gog occurs yet in the future.**] The Millennial period of 1,000 years begins after the return of Christ. The complete punishment of the rogue sons of God occurs after ‘many days’ – hence, possibly during the early part of the Millennial period and after the final 100 years.

“You are ‘gods’; **you are all sons of the Most High**. But **you will die like mere men**; you will fall like every other ruler” (Psalm 82:6-7). These rogue gods will be made mortal, stripped of eternal life and die like every other wicked leader.

### **Punishment of the wicked people:**

"Therefore, wait for Me," declares the LORD, "For the day when I rise up as a witness indeed, my decision is to gather nations, to assemble kingdoms, to pour out on them **my indignation, all my burning anger**; for all the earth will be devoured by the fire of my zeal" (Zephaniah 3:8).

### **A day of reckoning against the proud, lofty, arrogant evildoers:**

“For the LORD of hosts will have a day of reckoning against everyone who is proud and lofty and against everyone who is lifted up, that **he may be abased**” (Isaiah 2:12). [Note: These people are not necessarily killed but abased.]

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming I will set them ablaze so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall. **You will trample down the wicked**; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet..." (Malachi 4:1-3). [Note: It will be the saints who destroy the wicked.]

“But **because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself** in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God” (Romans 2:5).

### **The unrighteous will try to hide from the wrath of the Lamb:**

“Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?’” (Revelation 6:15-17)

### **How to be saved from His wrath:**

“Gather yourselves together, yes, gather, O nation without shame, before the decree takes effect. The day passes like the chaff. Before the burning anger of the LORD comes upon you, before the day of the LORD'S anger comes upon you. **Seek the LORD, all you humble of the earth** who have carried out His ordinances; **seek righteousness, seek humility** perhaps you will be hidden in the day of the LORD'S anger” (Zephaniah 2:1-3).

### **The survivors of the houses of Israel—Judah and Israel will repent:**

“Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king; and **they will come trembling to the LORD and to His goodness IN THE LAST DAYS**” (Hosea 3:5).

“Shout for joy, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! **The LORD has taken away His judgments against you, He has**

cleared away your enemies **The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst**; You will fear disaster no more" (Zephaniah 3:14-20).

"In that day you will feel no shame because of all your deeds by which you have rebelled against Me; for then **I will remove from your midst your proud, exulting ones, and you will never again be haughty on My holy mountain.** But **I will leave among you a humble and lowly people,** and they will take refuge in the name of the LORD. The remnant of Israel will do no wrong and tell no lies, nor will a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths; for they will feed and lie down with no one to make them tremble" (Zephaniah 3:11-13).

## The First Resurrection

"Behold! I tell you a mystery. **We shall not all sleep,** but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **AT THE LAST TRUMPET.** [Note: The trumpets are blown on the Feast of Trumpets. Christ returns when the last trumpet is blown on that day.] For the trumpet will sound, and **the dead will be raised imperishable,** and we shall be changed" (Corinthians 15:51-52).

"For the **Lord himself shall descend from heaven** with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the **dead in Christ shall rise first. Then, we which are alive** and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonian 4:16-17). [Note: The dead in Christ are resurrected first, then those who are alive ascend to meet Christ in the clouds, then together they battle the enemy. Then Christ and His resurrected saints/Bride overtake wickedness and establish God's kingdom on earth to rule during the Millennial period and final 100 years.]

"Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise and there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, **everyone who is found written in the book,** will be rescued. **Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt"** (Daniel 12:1-2).

"For this is the will of My Father, that **everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life,** and **I Myself will raise him up on the last day"** (John 6:40).

The better resurrection is the first resurrection. "Women received their dead raised to life again: and **others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection"** (Hebrews 11:35).

## Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal

The prophetic war against the re-united house of Israel by Gog of the land of Magog has been a burning topic since ancient times. King David wrote, "With cunning they conspire against your people; they plot against those you cherish. 'Come,' they say, 'let us destroy them as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more'" (Psalm 83:3-4). Ezekiel detailed this event in great detail.

### **God prophesied this encounter in ancient times.**

“Thus, says the Lord God: Are you he of whom I spoke **in former days by my servants the prophets of Israel, who in those days prophesied for years that I would bring you against them?**” (Ezekiel 38:17).

**God is always in control.** When one group of people go up against another, it is always God using these people to punish the other, declaring His power over all principalities, powers, and authorities.

“In the latter days I will bring you against my land, that **the nations may know me**, when through you, **O Gog, I vindicate my holiness before their eyes**” (Ezekiel 38:16).

### **Israel when re-unified and obeying God, will live in peace.**

The **house of Judah** and **Israel** are punished during the time of Jacob’s trouble for their continual disobedience. They will be invaded and many will die. The survivors will be taken captive, sold and scattered **again**. They will cry out and God will hear them. His great love for them cannot be snuffed out; He will choose Jacob again. “The LORD will have compassion on Jacob; **once again He will choose Israel** and will settle them in their own land. **Foreigners will join them and unite with the descendants of Jacob**” (Isaiah 14:1).

In their time of great distress, they come weeping and trembling back to God. Their desperate plea will be heard. God will rescue them and re-gather them back into **the land—His land, the Promised Land—a second, greater Exodus will take place**. Before entering the land, He will talk to them face-to-face ‘in the desert of the nations’ (Ezekiel 20:35) as He did in ancient times through the cloud by day and fire by night.

He will judge them for their sins and as they approach the land, they will walk under His staff, where God will sift out the unrepentant; they will not go into the land. Resettled in the land, they will obey Him and He will bless them lavishly. Their relationship with God will blossom and become strong. God will use the long-prophesied attack by Gog of the land of Magog (in the far north—of heaven), to strengthen His bond with Israel. He will protect them and show His love for them; He truly will be showcased as the Supreme God. The heavenly rogue Gog and his massive rogue coalition will be a significantly inferior force before the Almighty God, the Great Creator. The world will watch in amazement and at the end of the battle, all the nations will come to know Israel’s Great God and the re-united 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will fully understand the power and the love He has for them.

### **On the day of the attack...**

**After many days** you [Gog] will be mustered. In **the latter years** you [Gog] will go against the land that is **restored from war**, the land whose **people were gathered from many peoples** [the two houses of Israel re-united] upon the mountains [governments] of Israel, which had been a continual waste. Its **people were brought out from the peoples and now dwell securely, all of them** [all 12 tribes]. You [Gog] will advance, coming on like a storm” (Ezekiel 38:8-9).

“But on that day, the day that Gog shall come against the land of Israel,’ declares the Lord God, ‘my wrath will be roused in my anger.’ For in my jealousy and in my blazing wrath I declare, ‘On that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel!’” (Ezekiel 38:18-19).

“I will summon a sword against Gog on all my mountains,’ declares the Lord God. Every man's sword will be against his brother. With pestilence and bloodshed, I will enter into judgment with him, and I will rain upon him and his hordes and the many peoples who are with him torrential rains and hailstones, fire and sulfur. **So, I will show my greatness and my holiness and make myself known in the eyes of many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord**” (Ezekiel 38:21-23).

“I will strike your bow from your left hand, and will make your arrows drop out of your right hand. **You shall fall on the mountains [governments] of Israel**, you and all your hordes and the peoples who are with you” (Ezekiel 39:3). “And **my holy name I will make known in the midst of my people Israel**, and I will not let my holy name be profaned anymore. And **the nations shall know that I am the Lord, the Holy One in Israel**” (Ezekiel 39:7).

Gog will have a place of burial in Israel, the Valley of the Travelers which will be blocked and then called Valley of Hamon-gog... “thus says the Lord God: Speak to the birds of every sort and to all beasts of the field, ‘Assemble and come, gather from all around to the sacrificial feast that I am preparing for you, a **great sacrificial feast** on the mountains of Israel, and you shall eat flesh and drink blood. You shall eat the **flesh of the mighty**, and drink the **blood of the princes** of the earth—of rams, of lambs, and of he-goats, of bulls, **all of them fat beasts of Bashan**” (Ezekiel 39:17-18). These are not ordinary men.

### **Who are the fat beasts of Bashan?**

Dr. Michael Heiser puts the connections together. Moses leading the Israelites to the promised land asks permission to pass through, “But Sihon the king of Heshbon **would not let us pass** by him, **for the Lord your God hardened his spirit and made his heart obstinate, that he might give him into your hand**, as he is this day” (Deuteronomy 2:30).

The day had arrived when the iniquity of the Amorites reached the point of judgment. Now, it was time. Sihon was an Amorite king (Deuteronomy 3:2). But why the Amorites?

“Amorites” is a label for the entire population of Canaan (Joshua 7:7). In that sense, “Amorites” and “Canaanites” are interchangeable, both denoting non-Israelite in the land of Canaan. In other passages its use is more specific to one people group among several within Canaan (Genesis 15:19–21). “Canaanites” and “Amorites” were therefore generic terms used to describe the enemies of Israel. One passage **in Scripture specifically connects the Amorites (Canaanites) to the giants that were derivative of the Nephilim**. God says through the prophet Amos: “Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorite before them, **whose height was like the height of the cedars and who was as strong as the oaks; I destroyed his fruit above and his roots beneath**. Also it was I who brought you up out of the land of Egypt and led you forty years in the wilderness, to possess

the land of the Amorite (Amos 2:9–10).

Sihon was allied to a fellow named Og, another king of the Amorites who ruled in the **region of Bashan**. **Og was a giant**, Deuteronomy 3. Then we turned and went up the way to Bashan. And Og the king of Bashan came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei. But the Lord said to me, ‘Do not fear him, for I have given him and all his people and his land into your hand. And you shall do to him as you did to Sihon the king of the Amorites, who lived at Heshbon.’ So the Lord our God gave into our hand Og also, the king of Bashan, and all his people, and we struck him down until he had no survivor left.... **(For only Og the king of Bashan was left of the remnant of the Rephaim**. Behold, his bed was a bed of iron. Is it not in Rabbah of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length, and four cubits its breadth, according to the common cubit) (Deuteronomy 3:1–11).

**The Rephaim were giants**. Deuteronomy informed us that the Anakim were considered Rephaim (Deuteronomy 2:11), as were the Zamzummim (Deuteronomy 2:20). Og of Bashan “was left from the remnant of the Rephaim” (Deuteronomy 3:11), so that “Bashan was called the land of the Rephaim” (Deuteronomy 3:13).

Deuteronomy 3 mentions Og’s reign over the city of Edrei (v. 10). Joshua 12:4–5, which looks back on the battle with Og, refers to him as the **king of Bashan and living at Ashtaroth and Edrei**. These terms—Ashtaroth, Edrei, and Bashan—were theologically loaded terms for an Israelite, and even for their neighbors who worshiped other gods.

Ashtaroth, Edrei, and the Rephaim are mentioned by name in Ugaritic texts. The Rephaim of Ugarit are not described as giants. Rather, they are **quasi-divine dead warrior kings** who inhabit the underworld—the Gates of Hell.”

Written by Michael Heiser, *Unseen Realm*.

God sacrifices **all** of them—a fitting end to those who mandated human sacrifice. They are buried in Israel—as if consumed by God’s firstborn nation, the very nation they swore to totally destroy. It could possibly be thought that the offspring of the evil one is finally overthrown by the offspring of the woman. In any case, these ghoulish hybrids finally come to an end once and for all.

**Revelation tells the same story.**

“**When the thousand years are over**, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to **gather them for battle**. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God’s people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever” (Revelation 20:7-10).

**Christ will demonstrate His power and glory for the nations to see.**

“And I will set my glory among the nations, and all the nations shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid on them. **The house of Israel shall know that I am the Lord their God, from that day forward**” (Ezekiel 39:21-22).

**The nations come to know why Israel was punished.**

“And the nations shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity, because they dealt so treacherously with me that I hid my face from them and gave them into the hand of their adversaries, and they all fell by the sword. I dealt with them according to their uncleanness and their transgressions, and hid my face from them” (Ezekiel 39:23-24).

**The whole house of Israel is forgiven.**

“Now, I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel, and I will be jealous for my holy name” (Ezekiel 39:25).

## **The Final Resurrection**

“Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and **books were opened**, which is the book of life. **The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.** The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and **each person was judged according to what he had done... If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire**” (Revelation 20:11-15).

**God will create a new heaven and earth.**

“The I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the **new Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, **prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband**. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘**Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.** He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away” (Revelation 21:1-4).

Christ will marry his bride, the New Jerusalem, and they will co-rule as a monarchy over the two realms—Christ as king from the heavenly realm and the saints as queen from the earthly realm. Our Heavenly Father then, will come down from heaven and dwell with **His newly resurrected sons of God** on the new earth—and then, there will be

*Peace — total unity with God.*

*Compiled by Janette Andrejowich with segments from Dr. Michael Heiser’s book, the Unseen Realm.*