

The End Times and Last Days – “What to Expect and How to Prepare”

Lesson 22- PART 1 “The Battle of Gog & Magog”

Although there have been many threats to Israel and the Jewish people existence, the Bible says the worst is to come.

- Even though they have the most advanced security, technology and ingenuity and military in the world, they will one day face their greatest military test that even outspans the current conflicts on all sides with Iran, Gaza, Hezbollah, and the Houthies.
- It will involve an invasion of Israel by the vast horde of nations from every direction.
- Ezek. 38-39 records the events of that attack on Israel.
- It will be a coalition of nations and forces with the desire to eliminate Israel from the land, enrich themselves, and bring all of Israel’s allies into the war.

The Western nations, led by the group of ten and the Anti-Christ, will be tied to Israel by the covenant of Dan. 9:27; so, any attack against Israel will also include an attack against those Western alliance nations.

The group of the ten’s bold move to make the peace treaty over the Middle East will result in a countermove by the nations listed in Ezek. 38-39.

The invading coalition will attack Israel as a direct challenge – a strategic power play against the Anti-Christ and the group of ten nations he controls.

Israel’s guard will be down because of the treaty with the Anti-Christ, so the attack will catch the country totally by surprise.

IT WILL ONLY BE THE SUPERNATURAL INTERVENTION OF GOD THAT WILL DELIVER ISRAEL FROM TOTAL ANNIHILATION.

There are five questions to ask about Ezek 38-39 to be able to understand this event: Who? When? Why? What? How?

1. Who? –

The prophecy of Gog & Magog begins with a list of ten proper names in Ezek. 38:1-7

“This is another message that came to me from the LORD: ²“Son of man, turn and face Gog of the land of Magog, the prince who rules over the nations of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him. ³ Give him this message from the Sovereign LORD: Gog, I am your enemy! ⁴ I will turn you around and put hooks in your jaws to lead you out with your whole army—your horses and charioteers in full armor and a great horde armed with

shields and swords. ⁵ Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya^[a] will join you, too, with all their weapons. ⁶ Gomer and all its armies will also join you, along with the armies of Beth-togarmah from the distant north, and many others.

⁷ “Get ready; be prepared! Keep all the armies around you mobilized and take command of them.” NLT

Gog - appears 11 times in Ezek. 38-39, is the name and title of the leader of the invasion.

- It appears to be an individual since he is directly addressed those several times and called a “Prince” - Ezek. 38:2, 39:1

“Son of man, turn and face Gog of the land of Magog, the prince who rules over the nations of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him.”

“Son of man, prophesy against Gog. Give him this message from the Sovereign LORD: I am your enemy, O Gog, ruler of the nations of Meshech and Tubal.”

The other nine proper names in Ezek. 38:1-7 are specific geographical locations:

- Magog, Rosh, Meshech, Tubal, Persia, Cush [Ethiopia], Put, Gomer, and Beth-togarmah.
- These are ancient names of Ezekiel’s day.
- Throughout history the names of these locations have changed as wars and conquering nations have changed them.

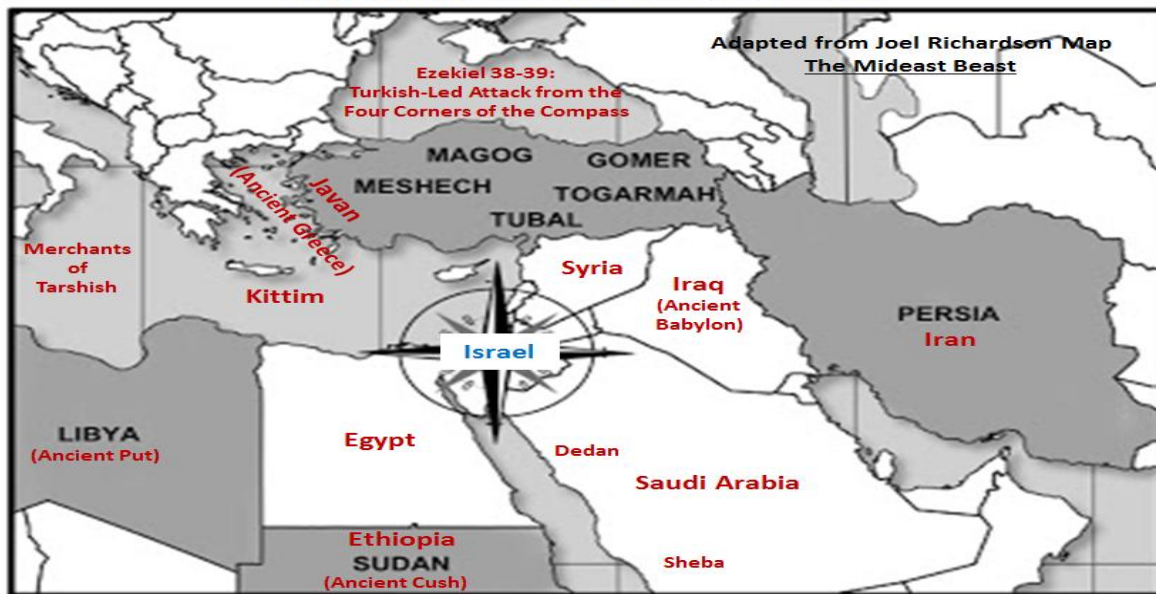
Identifying these locations:

Magog: According to Jewish historian Josephus, the ancient Scythians inhabited the land of Magog. The Scythians were northern nomadic tribes who inhabited territory from Central Asia across the southern steppes of modern Russia.

Magog today represents nations from the former Soviet Union: Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan. Afghanistan could possibly be part of this territory.

Here’s a map showing the layout of these nations in comparison to Israel.

**Muslim nations in Gog's coalition to invade Israel
Gog-Magog War of Ezekiel 38 and 39**



Daniel's 70th Week, End Time Events of Ezekiel 38 and 39

Rosh:

Bible scholars identify Rosh as Russia. There is some debate about this.'

Discussion as to Rosh being Russia:

1. Is Rosh a common noun or a proper name?
2. Does Rosh have any relation to Russia?

Rosh – means in Hebrew – “Head, top, summit, or chief.”

Used in Semitic languages and mostly interpreted as “Chief.”

The Jerusalem Bible, New English Bible, and New American Standard Bible translate Rose as a proper name indicating a geographical location.

The weight of all discussion favors translation Rose in Ezek. 38-39 as a proper name.

“The Chief of Rosh, Meshach and Tubal is a geographical region.

Where is Rosh?

Two key reasons to interpret Rosh as Russia:

1. Linguistically and historically, there is evidence that in Ezekiel's day there was a group of people know as Rash, Reshu, or Rus who live in what today is Southern Russia.
 - The word appears three times in the Septuagint, ten times in Sargon's inscriptions, once in Ashurbanipal's cylinder, once in Sennacherib's annals, and five times in Ugaritic tablets. All of these are ancient writings from civilizations of long ago.
 - This indicates that Rosh was well known in Ezekiel's day.

2. Geographically, Ezek. 38-39 emphasizes repeatedly that at the least part of this invading force will come from remote parts of the north: 38:6, 15; 39:2
“Gomer and all its armies will also join you, along with the armies of Beth-togarmah from the distant north, and many others.”
¹⁵ “You will come from your homeland in the distant north with your vast cavalry and your mighty army,”

² “I will turn you around and drive you toward the mountains of Israel, bringing you from the distant north.”

The Bible always provides directions in a reference to Israel, which on God’s compass, is the center of the earth – Ezek. 38:12 “¹² in order to seize spoil and carry off plunder, to turn your hand against the waste places now inhabited and against the people gathered from the nations, who have been acquiring livestock and property, who live in the center of the world.” TLV

Drawing a line directly north from Israel, the land most remote or distant to the north is Russia.

Meshech & Tubal:

Mentioned in Ezek. 27:13; 32:26:

¹³ Javan, Tubal and Meshech were your traffickers—they gave the lives of people and vessels of bronze for your wares.

26 - “Meshech-Tubal is there and all her throng, her graves around them—all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword, though they spread their terror in the land of the living.”

27:13 – they are listed as trading partners with ancient Tyre; and its highly unlikely Tyre [modern day Lebanon] was trading with Moscow and the Siberian city of Tobolski.

The preferred identification of Meshech and Tubal are the ancient Moschoi and Tibarenoi in Greek writings.

These cites are today locations in present day Turkey.

Persia:

Peris, Persian, and Persians are found thirty-five times in the O.T.

Ezek. 38:5 Persia is best understood as modern day Iran.

“With them will be Persia, Cush and Put, all of them with shield and helmet,”

The ancient land of Persia became the modern-day Iran in March 1935 with the name changing to the Islamic Republic of Iran in 1979. [current events of our today].

Ethiopia [Cush]:

Ancient Cush was called Kusu by the Assyrians and Babylonians, Kos or Kas by the Egyptians and Nubia by the Greeks.

Secular history locates Cush directly south of ancient Egypt, extending just past the modern city of Khartoum, the capital of modern Sudan.

Modern Sudan inhabits the ancient land of Cush.

Libya [Put]:

From the ancient Babylonian Chronicles, tablets record ancient Put was the “distant” land to the west of Egypt, making it modern day Libya, possibly including the regions of Algeria and Tunisia. Muslim nations of today.

Gomer:

The most common identification of Gomer is as Germany by most scholars, particularly East Germany.

- But historical references identify Biblical Gomer with the ancient Cimmerians or Kimmerioi.
- Identifying them with the Akkadian and Armenians.
- Beginning in the 8th century BC, the Cimmerians occupied territory in what is now modern Turkey.
- Historian Josephus noted the Gomerites were identified with the Galatians who inhabited what today is central Turkey.

Beth-togarmah:

The Hebrew word, “beth” mean “house”

Beth-togarmah means the house of Togarmah – Ezek. 27:14 mentions Togarmah as a nation that traded horses and mules with ancient Tyre.

¹⁴ Those from the house of Togarmah traded for your merchandise with horses, steeds, and mules.”

Ezek 38:6 states that ancient Togarmah will join in also from the distant north.

Ancient Togarmah was also known as Til-garamu – **Assyria** or Tegarman – **Hittite**, the territory in modern Turkey, north of Israel.

Heres a chart to pull the comparisons of the ancient names with the modern countries:

The Gog Coalition

Ancient Name	Modern Nation
Rosh, Rashu, Rasapu, Ros, Rus	Russia
Magog – Scythians	Central Asia and possibly Afghanistan
Meshech – Muschki & Musku	Turkey
Tubal – Tubalu	Turkey
Persia	Iran
Ethiopia – Cush	Sudan
Libya – Put or Phut	Libya
Gomer – Cimmerians	Turkey
Beth-togarmah	Turkey

Who's missing?

Where's Israel's neighboring nations on the list?

- Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, or Iraq.

Why are they omitted? Reasons:

1. Perhaps previously destroyed prior to the Battle of Gog & Magog.
War of Psalm 83 where the enemies of Israel are destroyed before the Tribulation begins.
2. These nations could be part of the treaty the Anti-Christ forges between Israel and her neighbors. These nations may be at peace with Israel and abstain from this invasion.
3. These nations could be part of the invasion even though not specifically mentioned.
Ezek. 38:6 mentions specific nations and then says: "and many others."

⁶Gomer and all his troops, the house of Togarmah from the extreme north and all his troops—many peoples/nations with you."

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Lesson 22- PART 2

“The Battle of Gog & Magog”

2. When?

This is the most debated issue as to WHEN this battle will occur.

Ezek. 38:7-11, 14-16 provide some clues.

“Be prepared, prepare yourself, you and all your company gathered around you. Be a guard for them. ⁸ After many days you will be summoned. In the latter years, you will come against the land that has been brought back from the sword and regathered from many peoples on the mountains of Israel, which had been a continual waste. But they were brought out from the peoples. When all of them are dwelling securely, ⁹ you will come up, you will come like a storm, you will be like a cloud covering the land—you and all your troops and many peoples with you.”

¹⁰ Thus says *ADONAI Elohim*: “It will come to pass in that day that things will come into your heart, and you will devise an evil plan. ¹¹ You will say, ‘I will go up against the land of unwallled villages. I will fall upon the quiet people who live securely, all of them living without walls, having no bars or gates, ¹² in order to seize spoil and carry off plunder, to turn your hand against the waste places now inhabited and against the people gathered from the nations, who have been acquiring livestock and property, who live in the center of the world.’

¹⁴ “Therefore, son of man, prophesy, say to Gog, thus says *ADONAI Elohim*: ‘In that day when My people Israel dwell safely, will you not know? You will come from your place out of the extreme north—you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and mighty army. ¹⁶ You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud covering the land. It will happen in the last days. I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me—when I am sanctified through you, Gog, before their eyes.’”

When? Some speculate that because of the mention of the use of swords, spears, horses, that the battle must have already occurred using these old war implements.

How does one account for the use of these types of weapons if this invasion is at the end of future events?

Two plausible answers:

1. These events could be that the nations will have to resort back to archaic weapons and means of transportation due to the depleted resources or a sweeping disarmament agreement between the nations.

2. Ezekiel could be describing weapons in the language of his day the people could understand.
- The focus is not so much on the weapons as the point is the invaders will use weapons of destruction in an all-out warfare to attempt to destroy Israel.
- There has never been such an event to have occurred in Israel's history – although the recent events of Gaza, the 12-day war with Iran can be viewed as a precursor to the end time battle.

In The Future:

When in the future is what Ezek 38-39 attempt to time the invasion.

There are several opinions as to when and all the views have problems with them.

Some scholars place the invasion at almost every point in the end times; either before the Rapture, between the Rapture and the Tribulation; in conjunction with the Battle of Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation, at the end of the Millennium, the middle of the Tribulation.

Seven Views of the timing of Ezekiel 38-39

1. Before the Rapture
2. Between the Rapture and the beginning of the Tribulation
3. First half of the Tribulation or midpoint
4. End of the Tribulation – equates Ezek, 38-39 with Armageddon
5. Two phases: Ezek. 38 at the midpoint; Ezek. 39 at the end
6. Beginning of the Millennium
7. End of the Millennium

Are there any Theological clues as to the time of Ezk. 38-39?

1. Placement of the battle between the national and spiritual rebirths of Israel. – between the regathering of Israel of Ezek, 37 and the restoration of the Jewish people as they worship in the millennial Temple of Ezek. 40-48.
2. Places the battle at a time when Israel is at rest in its ancient homeland – Ezek. 38:8, 11, 14

⁸ “A long time from now you will be called into action. In the distant future you will swoop down on the land of Israel, which will be enjoying peace after recovering from war and after its people have returned from many lands to the mountains of Israel.

¹¹ You will say, ‘Israel is an unprotected land filled with unwalled villages! I will march against her and destroy these people who live in such confidence! “Therefore, son of man, prophesy against Gog. Give him this message from the Sovereign LORD: When my people are living in peace in their land, then you will rouse yourself.”

There have not been many times when Israel was at rest in its ancient homeland. The Jewish people have been scattered over the face of the earth and persecuted in many places.

When will they be at Rest?

Israel has never had a time of rest in its existence.

There has always been a movement of the enemy to unseat and remove them from existence.

Most suggest Israel will only be at rest [although a temporary and false one] when the league is made with the Anti-Christ during the Tribulation.

This belief also places the prophecy of Gog & Magog with the final battle of Armageddon. It equates this also with Rev. 19.

The similarities of these scriptures are found to favor this view because both mention the birds feeding on the carnage of the fallen warriors – Ezek. 39:17-19; Rev. 19:17-18.

¹⁷ “Son of man, I have appointed you as a watchman for Israel. Whenever you receive a message from me, warn people immediately. ¹⁸ If I warn the wicked, saying, ‘You are under the penalty of death,’ but you fail to deliver the warning, they will die in their sins. And I will hold you responsible for their deaths. ¹⁹ If you warn them and they refuse to repent and keep on sinning; they will die in their sins. But you will have saved yourself because you obeyed me.

¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, shouting to the vultures flying high in the sky: “Come! Gather together for the great banquet God has prepared. ¹⁸ Come and eat the flesh of kings, generals, and strong warriors; of horses and their riders; and of all humanity, both free and slave, small and great.”

Though some believe this is the one and the same war, there are enough differences to suggest it is two separate wars:

Gog & Magog

Armageddon

Gog leads invasion	The Anti-Christ leads invasion
Gog is destroyed	The Anti-Christ and the false prophet are destroyed. No mention of Gog
Israel is at peace at the time of the invasion	There is no mention of Israel’s peace
Armies gather to plunder Israel	Armies gather to fight against Christ
Occurs during the first half of the Tribulation	Occurs at the end of the Tribulation
Russia and her allies invade Israel	All nations invade Israel

Occurs so that all the nations will know that He is God	Occurs to destroy the nations.
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Israel will not be at rest during the Great Tribulation; Christ told them to flee to the mountains to escape the persecution – Matt. 24:15-16

It seems the best of the views is that this battle will happen in the last days for Israel before the Millennium while Israel is at rest just after the Rapture when they sign the agreement with Anti-Christ.

- This is known as the first half of the Tribulation or the 70th week of Danile 9 prophecy.
- The seven-year peace treaty will guarantee a time of peace for Israel to be able to relax and be in safety [temporarily].

3. **Why?** **The Purpose Ezek. 38:9-12**

The purpose of this invasion is the subject of Ezek. 38:9-12.

There are both divine and human reasons for the invasion with four main goals:

1. **The land** The invaders are desiring to acquire more territory – Ezek. 38:8
“A long time from now you will be called into action. In the distant future you will swoop down on the land of Israel, which will be enjoying peace after recovering from war and after its people have returned from many lands to the mountains of Israel.”
 - Any military invasion of this magnitude and scope always includes land.
2. **The money** The invaders will come to plunder Israel and amass wealth – Ezek 38:12 “²I will go to those formerly desolate cities that are now filled with people who have returned from exile in many nations. I will capture vast amounts of plunder, for the people are rich with livestock and other possessions now. They think the entire world revolves around them!”
 - Gas & oil reserves off the coast of Israel. Greed will be the motivation for the invasion.
3. **Racism** Motivated to destroy Israel just because of hatred – Ezek 38:10, 16
¹⁰ “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: At that time evil thoughts will come to your mind, and you will devise a wicked scheme. ¹⁶ and you will attack my people Israel, covering their land like a cloud. At that time in the distant future, I will bring you against my land as everyone watches, and my holiness will be displayed by what happens to you, Gog. Then all the nations will know that I am the LORD.”
4. **Power** The attack will be to unseat the Anti-Christ who is in world dominance and ally with Israel at this time.

Dan. 9:27 “²⁷ The ruler will make a treaty with the people for a period of one set of seven, but after half this time, he will put an end to the sacrifices and offerings. And as a climax to all his terrible deeds, he will set up a sacrilegious object that causes desecration, until the fate decreed for this defiler is finally poured out on him.”

- This will be an attack against the Western Confederacy of nations ruling the world.
5. The evil invaders have their intentions, BUT GOD has His motivation.
- Ezek. 38:16 “At that time in the distant future, I will bring you against my land as everyone watches, and my holiness will be displayed by what happens to you, Gog. Then all the nations will know that I am the LORD.”
- The Lord will be glorified through the attack and His defense of Israel, and the known world will know that He is God.

End of Lesson 22- Part 2

The End Times and Last Days – “What to Expect and How to Prepare”

Lesson 22- **PART 3**

“The Battle of Gog & Magog”

4. **What?** The product – Ezek. 38:13-23

¹³ Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish and all her villages will say to you, “Have you come to plunder? Have you gathered your hordes to loot, to carry off silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods and to seize much plunder?”

¹⁴ “Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: In that day, when my people Israel are living in safety, will you not take notice of it? ¹⁵ You will come from your place in the far north, you, and many nations with you, all of them riding on horses, a great horde, a mighty army. ¹⁶ You will advance against my people Israel like a cloud that covers the land. In days to come, Gog, I will bring you against my land, so that the nations may know me when I am proved holy through you before their eyes.

¹⁷ “‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: You are the one I spoke of in former days by my servants the prophets of Israel. At that time, they prophesied for years that I would bring you against them. ¹⁸ **This is what will happen in that day: When Gog attacks the land of Israel, my hot anger will be aroused, declares the Sovereign LORD.** ¹⁹ **In my zeal and fiery wrath I declare that at that time there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel.** ²⁰ **The fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the beasts of the field, every creature that moves along the ground, and all the people on the face of the earth will tremble at my presence. The mountains will be overturned, the cliffs will crumble, and every wall will fall to the ground.** ²¹ **I will summon a sword against Gog on all my mountains, declares the Sovereign LORD. Every man’s sword will be against his brother.** ²² **I will execute judgment on him with plague and bloodshed; I will pour down torrents of rain, hailstones and burning sulfur on him and on his troops and on the many nations with him.** ²³ **And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD.”**

The Arab invasion of 1967 and 1973 and Oct 7, 2024, will pale in comparison to this battle of Gog & Magog.

- The Jewish people with all their military might and intelligence will not be able to stand against these enemies by their own strength.
- The Lord God Almighty will have to come to the rescue of His people and supernaturally rescue them.

Ezek 38-39 describe what could be called “A One Day War or When Gog meets God.”

1. A great earthquake – Ezek. 38:19-20 “In my zeal and fiery wrath I declare that at that time there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel. ²⁰ The fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the beasts of the field, every creature that moves along the ground, and all the people on the face of the earth will tremble at my presence. The mountains will be overturned, the cliffs will crumble, and every wall will fall to the ground.”
 - The Lord will use His creation to confuse and conquer the enemy as He did in days of old.
2. Infighting among the troops – Ezek 38:21 ²¹ I will summon a sword against Gog on all my mountains, declares the Sovereign LORD. Every man’s sword will be against his brother.”
 - Chaos among the enemy as they turn on one another, due to miscommunication of varied languages.
3. Disease – Ezek 38:22 “²² I will execute judgment on him with plague and bloodshed; I will pour down torrents of rain, hailstones and burning sulfur on him and on his troops and on the many nations with him.”
 - The enemy will experience horrible plagues adding to their misery and defeat.
4. Torrential rain, hailstones, fire and burning sulfur – Ezek 38:22 ²² I will execute judgment on him with plague and bloodshed; I will pour down torrents of rain, hailstones and burning sulfur on him and on his troops and on the many nations with him.”

In their arrogance and defiance to the Lord God Almighty and their hatred for Him and His Israel they will be emboldened to attack, but will find their own burial plots among the land of Israel – Ezek. 39:12 ¹² The house of Israel will bury them for seven months, in order to cleanse the land.”

5. How? The Prophetic Significance –

The world’s stage is now being set for fulfillment of this prophecy.

There are three elements that stand out:

1. The Jewish people must be back in the land fulfilling the major pre-condition for this invasion.
 - Already happening and still in process through ALIYA.
2. The nations predicted in Ezekiel 38 must unite in their effort to eliminate Israel by forming an alliance with one another.
 - This has happened to a measure and is increasing.
 - Zech 12:3 predicts that Jerusalem will become a burdensome stone.”

³”Moreover, in that day I will make Jerusalem a massive stone for all the people. All who try to lift it will be cut to pieces. Nevertheless, all the nations of the earth will be gathered against her.”

- Meaning: It’s existence in the Middle East is a source of contention and conflict making it hard to impossible to resolve the tensions surrounding it.

3. Ezek. 39:2, 4 “²I will turn you around, drive you along, and lead you up from the extreme north. I will bring you upon the mountains of Israel. ⁴You will fall on the mountains of Israel—you, all your troops and the people that are with you. I will give you as food to all kinds of birds of prey and to the beasts of the field.”

- Israel will possess the mountains: up until the 6-day war of 1967 the mountains of Israel were in the hands of the Jordanian Arabs.
- Only since that war have the mountains of Israel been in Israel domain.
- Many pieces of the prophetic puzzle are in place with a few left remaining.

The continual events happening in Israel today foreshadow this coming invasion.

- Continued unrest among the Middle East nations simply because Israel exists.
- Nations are rising and falling, still the world is daily focused on the Middle East with Israel in the crosshairs.
- On one knows when the Lord will come or how much time remains before the Battle of Gog & Magog plunges the Middle East into total war.

**But God’s Word is clear – when the world stage is set,
this invasion will occur right on time in the unfolding of God’s end times script.**