



Where Is Gog, the Land of Magog?

by Pastor F.M. Riley

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Introduction

I'm glad you asked!

Where is the land of ***“God and Magog”***? What is its exact location on this earth? Can its location actually be determined? Or.....is its location hidden by the Lord, not to be revealed until the fulfillment of the prophecies set forth in ***Ezekiel 38 – 39?***

The Debate

These questions, and other similar questions, have probably been debated ever since Ezekiel was given the prophecies set forth in ***Ezekiel 38 – 39***. At the present time the location of ***“Gog and Magog”*** are once again the subject of debate on the Five Doves website [Internet]. All sorts of ideas, opinions, theories, and “guesses” have been put forth, with, of course, supposed evidence why each proposed location just has to be the right one. Sic!

Some dogmatically contend that ***“Gog and Magog”*** have nothing to do with Russia, and that ***“Meschech and Tubal”*** have nothing to do with Moscow and Tobolsk. These people insist that ***“Gog and Magog”*** can be identified with peoples and nations other than Russia and the Russian people. Among the places [and peoples] that have been suggested are Germany or other parts of Europe, or parts of Iran, Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and even a small area in the land of Israel. Wow! Observing all the debate about the location of ***“Gog and Magog”*** brings to mind ***1 Corinthians 14:33***. Read it for yourself.

The Map

Then there is “the map.” A map was recently introduced into the debate that supposedly reveals the exact location of ***“Gog and Magog.”*** This highly touted map is part of a collection of ancient maps called “The Walker collection.” This collection of old and rare maps is now in the hands of the University of Melbourne in Australia, and is available for viewing via computer. Supposedly this ancient map “proves” that ***“Gog and Magog”*** is not located in Russia, but is somewhere south of the Caucasus mountains. Oh my! Is that so?

There is only one little problem with this theory. I used my computer to “blow up” the map large enough to read every word written on the map. No where does the map state or even suggest that **“Gog and Magog”** is located south of the Caucasus mountains. What is actually stated on the map is, and I quote, *“Magog, Gomer, Tvbal, and Togorma were the first planters of Syria before Libanus & Cilicia.”* What this actually says is that

the area now known as Syria was colonized in ancient times by people from Magog, Gomer, Tubal, and Togormah. People from those nations were the *“planters”* of Syria. The map in no way indicates that such was the location of **“Gog and Magog.”** In fact, in reading over the entire map, it is obvious that the map was originally designed to reveal the genealogical origin of peoples of various nations as colonists immigrated to those places from their original homes to *“plant”* new nations. This highly touted map is no proof at all that **“Gog and Magog”** were [and are] located south of the Caucasus mountains. Study the map for yourself.

The Truth

But since this ancient map fails to reveal the actual location of **“Gog and Magog,”** then where is the real location? Where should God’s people look?

Folks, why not just look in the Word of God, like God’s people [*those truly saved*] are supposed to do? ***“Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path,” Psalm 119:105. “The entrance of Thy Words giveth light....,” Psalm 119:130.*** Read again ***John 16:12-14***, and this time believe it.

The *inspired Word* tells us exactly where **“Gog and Magog”** are located, just as it has done since the day the prophecies were given to Ezekiel. Just because some don’t want to believe the Word doesn’t change the truth of it one iota.

In ***Ezekiel 38:1-3*** and ***39:1*** the Lord specifically directs His prophecy against ***“Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meschech and Tubal.”*** Throughout chapter ***38*** the Lord speaks directly to **“Gog”** and indirectly about **“Gog.”** In chapter ***39:1-5*** the Lord again speaks directly to **“Gog,”** and then in verses ***6-20*** the Lord speaks about ***“Gog and all his multitude,”*** verse ***11***. It should be obvious to any *honest* reader that the whole context of these two chapters [*through 39:20*] is about **“Gog”** and the other nations allied with him. This point is plainly established in these two chapters, and is therefore undeniable.

Now notice ***38:15***, ***“And thou [Gog] shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army.”*** According to this verse, where is Gog’s **“place”**? Doesn’t the verse specifically state that it is in ***“the north parts”***? Well...?

Now look at ***39:2***, ***“And I will turn thee back, and leave but a sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon***

the mountains of Israel." Doesn't this verse state a second time that "**Gog**" is coming "*from the north parts*"? You know it does! The verse does not say that "**Gog**" is coming from the south, the east, or the west. Some of Gog's allies may come from those directions, but the inspired Word specifically states that "**Gog**" is coming from his "*place out of the north parts,*" **38:15; 39:2**. Is this plain enough?

Conclusion

Folks, the only large "superpower" nation north of Israel that is even capable of bringing together the coalition of nations listed in **Ezekiel 38:5-7** is Russia. Further, history itself repeatedly verifies that the "**land of Magog**" is the land we know today as southern Russia; the area north of the Caucasus mountains. Hesiod specifically identified

"**Magog**" with the Scythians and southern Russia in the 7th century before Christ. Herodotus, writing in the 5th century before Christ, also identified the descendants of "**Magog**" with the Scythians and southern Russia. The historian, Flavius Josephus, [who was an eye witness to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.] clearly stated in his history

that the descendants of "**Magog**" were known as the Scythians. Philo, writing in the 1st century of the Christian Era, identified "**Magog**" with southern Russia. Bible believing Christians right through the centuries of this present dispensation have always identified the land of "**Gog and Magog**" with southern Russia, the area on the north of the Caucasus mountains. Thus the location of "**Gog and Magog**" is established by both Scripture and history. There are numerous other Scripture passages that support this truth, so where is the Scriptural justification for locating the "**land of Magog**" elsewhere?

Folks, after 53 years in the Christian ministry I am absolutely convinced that many "professing Christians" would rather spend their time debating the Scriptures than to spend time seriously studying them. This is sad! Such an attitude does not reveal the Spirit of Christ at work. I am personally grieved at the sad state of apostasy in the ranks of "Christianity" today. Most of the apostasy in the churches is due to a lack of real, serious Bible study [and Biblical preaching] on the part of many who claim to be "Christians." When those claiming to be "Christians" do not take God's Word seriously, then it holds no real authority over their lives. Apostasy always follows such a departure from the light of God's Word. May the Lord have mercy on us all. Judgment always follows apostasy. Figure it out for yourself.

Over the past 12 years I have written three Bible studies about the prophecies of **Ezekiel 38 – 39**. As time has passed I have had no reason to change any of those studies. They are as timely today as when they were first written. The studies point out WHO is under consideration when the Scriptures speak of "**Gog and Magog**," WHERE "**Gog and Magog**" are located, and WHEN the invasion of Israel will take

place. The points made in each of the studies are referenced by book, chapter, and verse, from the ***"rightly divided"*** Word of God, so that our readers can study the subject for themselves, **1 Thessalonians 5:21**. I will be glad to send copies of these studies to anyone requesting them.

May God bless the truth of His Word to the hearts of every reader is my prayer.



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NOTE FROM PEGGY: If you wish to donate to Pastor Riley to help him spread the Word of the Most High, please mail your contributions to him [at the above address](#). I know Pastor well enough to know that he is way too humble to ask for help, but trust me, he could use it! Pastor is in his 70's, and not only pastors a church near his home, but also works an extra job to make ends meet AND writes all these marvelous articles for the glory of the Lord and for our pleasure. Thanks goes to Yahweh El Shaddai, and to KC of 5 Doves for giving me the idea to put this note here in the first place. And please drop me a note at peggym@his-forever.com and let me know you're helping?