

THE GOG AND MAGOG WAR: EZEKIEL 38:16-23 PART 4 OF 4

The stage is being set, Israel is surrounded by enemies and the Russian/Islamic confederation from the North looks to be taking shape, as we look closely at what is happening in current news events. This Gog/Magog war is only a reality because of the rebirth of Israel, the United Nations, the global apostasy, the revival of Sodom and literally dozens of other prophetic events. So be sure to visit kjvbiblebelievers.com and listen to all of our past and present studies on Bible prophecy along with our expository studies through books of the Bible. Now, let's join our study in progress; part 4 of the Gog/Magog war.

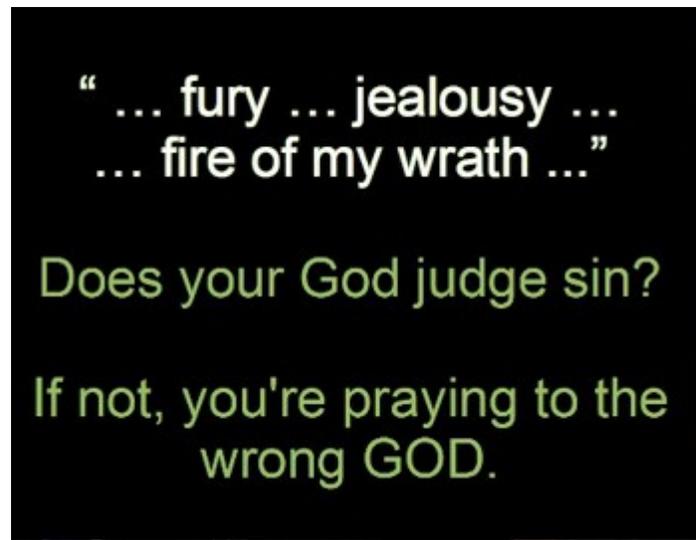
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Look at what it says in verse 17-19, read it with me:

Thus saith the Lord GOD; art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesies in those days many years that I would bring thee against them? And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that **my fury** shall come up in my face. For **in my jealousy** and **in the fire of my wrath** have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel.

Greg: (in sarcastic tone) My God wouldn't do that, my God is a God of love (pause for laughter). My God would never judge anybody...

You'd better be very careful, you are living in the last days and there is this giant sucking sound coming from pulpits today! A bunch of **fake** preachers, with their **fake** Bibles, preaching a **fake** gospel to a bunch of **fake** Christians! You go get caught up in those crowds with their big bands...I'm not saying anything against big bands, we have a big enough band and if we had a bigger building we would have a bigger band...but if that is all you've got and you are an inch deep and a mile wide, there is something wrong. Our God, said it is His fury, His jealousy...the fire of His wrath. Does your God judge sin? If not, in the words of Charlie Daniels, you're praying to the wrong GOD!



He's got a song about it; you go look it up on the internet. This is our God right here...Exodus 15:3:

The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name.

Listen, if you're saved, you don't have anything to worry about...if not, you are facing the LORD who is a man of war. There is no fear of God in the eyes of man today. They've got pictured in their mind this fruit-loop, false god...this flippy Jesus who doesn't hate or judge sin and they have no fear of Him. They think Jesus is their "home boy", and they're not afraid of anything; they don't have any fear of God. If you're not right with God, if you're not saved, you'd better have fear!

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom! If you start fearing God, maybe you'll start taking him seriously. Maybe you'll start to get right. Look what else it says in Hebrews 12:29:

For our God is a consuming fire.

That is why they'd never play any of my songs in these mega churches today. You just can't close your eyes and wave your arms in the air to lyrics like: "ohhh, our God is going to kill three and a half billion people in the tribulation..." How do you sing about that? It's in the hymn book, some of you sing and don't pay attention to the words, I know that (laughter); start paying attention to the words...it's in there!

Now look at Ezekiel 38:20:

So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.

Now, that sounds very similar to things we read about in the book of Revelation we are studying on Wednesday nights. That is why the timing of this is not 100% sure. I have read books by some guys that say that they are 100% sure and when I'm finished, I'm thinking "you left some stones unturned there pal; there are some questions unanswered."

BUT! Just because things sound similar, that doesn't mean they are the same. We've taught on this, but have you ever heard of the kingdom of God? Have you ever heard of the kingdom of Heaven? They're not the same; some of the things about them are the same, but some of the things about them are not the same. The kingdom of God is within; the kingdom of Heaven is a throne. They don't actually come together until after the tribulation and during the millennial reign they'll both be on the earth. But they still won't be the same...they will just be brought together in unison.

Right now, the kingdom of Heaven is Jesus on the throne that is to come. The kingdom of God is within you; that's Jesus in you...the hope of glory. But there are things that make them sound so similar that people just decide that they are the same. That is the same thing that we are reading about this war; you cannot make the claim that it is the exact same thing we are reading about in Revelation.

Mike: That is the point that we make about being able to rightly divide the word of God; that is so important.

Greg: That is what is getting everybody in trouble today. They are not dividing; they are not putting things in the proper context.

Getting back to the study, this is what we call REAL SHOCK AND AWE!
And then a narrative that continues in verse 21; this is God speaking.
Read this with me:

And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord GOD: every man's sword shall be against his brother.

Now look; "...the sword against him throughout all **my mountains...**" that is the Mountains of Israel...MY mountains. "...every man's sword shall be against his brother." That means that the Russians and the Islamic confederacy will turn on each other. You see, when you've got a few hundred million people, or I'd say probably closer to a hundred million people in this war...if you add up the fighting numbers of these countries today. Either way, it is a huge army compared to tiny, little Israel. So then you're wondering, how could Israel win? Well, when God pits them one against the other...that takes care of that!

This happened in the Old Testament too. The king of Assyria, was coming down against Israel to wipe them out. Then God turned one against the other and Israel didn't even have to fight! Gonna happen again! Now look at verse 22:

And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire and brimstone.

This is interesting because it is going to help you understand other verse in the Bible. Now again, very similar to what we are reading in the book of Revelation. But notice, what God says about all this destruction. God

says he will PLEAD against him. When the Bible says "God pleads", He doesn't only use words.

How many of you have been around a parent...I am giving some parental counseling here to the new parents (laughter)...and the parents say, "Now Charlie, stop that! ...Charlie, I said stop that...Charlie, I'm going to count to three...one...two...Charlie! Get over here! Charlie, I mean it this time! If I have to count to three again, you're in trouble. I'm gonna count! I mean it! One, two...Oh Charlie!" (laughter). Have you ever seen that? Just keep blabbing on and on...my Dad cracked me with his cane (more laughter). He didn't get to, one! My Dad said, "Greg!" and I got chills down my spine (laughter). He didn't have to count. He said my name and I said "Yes sir!"

That is the parents fault, not the kids fault. You can't blame the kid, if he knows he's got some wishy-washy parent who is just going to keep blabbing, he's just going to get to the point where he says, "Eh...don't pay attention to him, he's all talk...he's a dog with a bark and no bite." Kids are smart and they can catch onto that real quick.

People would ask me when the kids were growing up, how it was that they were so well behaved. I would say..."I'll tell you how to do it. You get that baby, and as soon as that baby starts to do things, smack that hand and say "NO!" They would always look at me like I was abusive. Don't let them win the battle of the wills, keep smacking that hand and telling them No. Then when they start walking, I'm gonna tell you, you

can pop that diaper and make it loud! (Laughter) I mean, it doesn't even hurt them; it just scares the snot right out of them (more laughter).

I walked up to Moriah the first time she decided she was going to do something that I told her not to do...I walked up and just went "WHOP". And man, that diaper just went "BOOM" (laughter). And she went wide-eyed and shakin...now, that didn't hurt her. There were no bruises...you could call child services on me or nothing (more laughter). But it scared...it was Shock and Awe! And it worked so well, I did it on Kaleh; and it worked so well then, I did it on Tori (quiet laughter).

Now, there was a time that we lived in a town with a front yard on park avenue, with a speed limit of 35, but everyone drove 50. There was a day when they were all playing out there and the ball they were playing with rolled out into the street. Kaleh was in a dead sprint, face forward...she was going to get that ball. Just as she was heading for that street, here comes a car going 50 miles an hour. And if I hadn't been the kind of parent that I was, you wouldn't know Kaleh today. She's running for that ball and all I said was, "KALEH!", and she stopped and froze (laughter).

That car hit its breaks and tried to stop, and it went past where she was standing. If she had taken one more step, there would have been a thud. What kills most people in that case is they hit their head on the concrete coming down. The parents that were there, this was at a birthday party, were just breathless. They were saying things like, “If that was my kid, they would be dead” and “My kid doesn’t ever listen to me like that” and I said, “That’s your fault.” (Points into audience at mother to be) I’m sorry, I don’t mean to point at you (Laughter). She’s looking at me saying...”I’m taking notes!”.

Well listen that is the way God is. When God pleads, He doesn’t just use words. This is about to happen...it says God is going to plead...but look now that you understand what it means when God pleads.

Joel 3:1-2:

For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and **will plead with them there** for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

You need to understand when you turn on the news and see them parting the land of Israel...**that** is what we are talking about. It is going to happen and God is going to judge all the nations involved in that. Amen.

I do not believe it is the same event in Joel that we are reading about here in Ezekiel 38, but it is the same God; and when He says “plead” He means the same thing. Now read verse 23 of Ezekiel 38 with me:

Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD.

Now we are going to back in a couple of weeks and pick up in Ezekiel 38; but up to this point you get the idea of what is going and how God is going to respond. He is going to magnify Himself and sanctify Himself, and be known in the eyes of many nations, “...and they shall know that I am the LORD.”

We ended the previous study in verse 16 with this same emphasis. The purpose of the Gog/Magog war is to glorify God and make Him known. And that should be **your** purpose in everything you do. In everything that you do, your goal should be to bring glory to God.

If you were bored this morning because I wasn't telling you how great you are and to glorify yourself, you've got a problem! The Bible says the purpose is to glorify God, not you. You are not the center of the universe. It's not about you. You can be a part of it, and God will use you, and you will rule and reign with Jesus Christ in glory; but you, yourself, are not the point.

I took this from various Catechisms...the Westminster, Baptist, Puritans, Spurgeons...and they all start with the same question#1:

What is the chief end of man? To be happy...right? Or, as Oprah would say..."To get you some happy" or as Dr. Phil would say..."You deserve happiness." Not according to the word of God. Look at the answer to the chief end of man:

Q: What is the chief end of man?

A: Man's chief end is to glorify God (1 Cor. 10:31), and to enjoy Him forever (Psalm 73:25-26).

Can I ask you a question; do you wake up every day and think... now, it takes me a little while before my brain functions. I wake up and walk out and Jenny is always peppy and like “HEY! How ya doin?!” and I’m just like...”Uhhhh....get outta my way” (laughter). But at some point during that first hour, I wake up. And when you wake up, do you think: here is another opportunity to serve the Lord?

Here is another opportunity for me to obey the Lord and glorify God and to enjoy Him. I’m gonna spend my day in His word, I’m gonna spend my day in prayer; praying without ceasing. And when I am not reading His word or praying, because we do have to think about our jobs, we can be singing hymns and singing His praises. And I’m not going to be singing out loud because they might arrest me (laughter). But I can sing in my heart and in my mind. And when I can’t do that, I am going to take the opportunity to talk to everybody else about Jesus.

That is the chief end of man. That is what your daily life should be made of; to glorify God. And real quick, let’s cover these verses:

1 Corinthians 10:31:

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

Amen! And one more:

Psalm 73:25-26:

Whom have I in heaven but thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee. My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

Your chief end, if you are a believer, is to glorify God and to enjoy Him. If that is not what is happening in your daily life, something is not right. I'm not saying you're going to hell, I'm not saying you're not saved; most Christians today don't seem to enjoy the Lord. You need to make some changes in your life, some changes in you walk with God. Spend more time in His word, get **addicted** to prayer, get **addicted** to praise and worship; become **addicted** to Jesus and talking to others about Him. Let Him fill your heart and your mind. Glorify and enjoy Him in your daily life. That is what it ought to be like for every Christian. Amen.

Let's pray.

Father we thank you for this message. We thank you for the truth of the future being given to us before it happens. We can see the finger prints of God, we can see the stage being set, and we can trust your promises. We know that you came to this earth in the person of Jesus Christ and shed your blood to cover all sin and you were buried and rose again, defeating death and have promised to return and receive us unto yourself. You have never lied, you're not let one promise undone. We know that we have put our souls into the hands of a faithful creator and a faithful savior, faithful Lord and God. And we look forward to the day that you bring all of these things to pass and we are in your presence for all of eternity. And we give you all the praise, honor and glory, in Jesus' name, Amen.