



# Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations" (Matt 28:19)*

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A ministry of the  
**Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church**

**Lee Swor, Pastor**

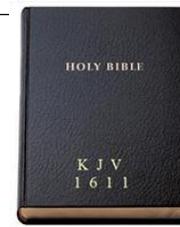


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# Bible Prophecy

*Events Before The Tribulation*

# Between The Rapture And The Tribulation



## V. The War Of Psalm 83

### 1. The condition of Israel in Ezekiel 38-39

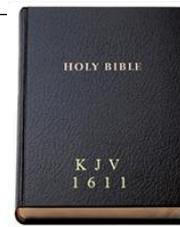
1) Israel is in an unprecedented condition of prosperity

**Eze 38:12-13**

**To take a spoil**, and **to take a prey**; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places *that are now inhabited*, and upon the people *that are gathered out of the nations*, **which have gotten cattle and goods**, that dwell in the midst of the land.

Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come **to take a spoil**? hast thou gathered thy company **to take a prey**? **to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil**?

- The purpose of the invasion in Ezekiel 38-39 is not to destroy Israel from being a nation but to take a SPOIL and PREY Cont: (Psa 83:4)
- It is not a RELIGIOUS invasion, but an ECONOMIC one- this is amazing considering most of the nations in this invasion are militant Muslims
- The scope of Israel's prosperity is both MONETARY (i.e.- **“silver and gold”**) and MATERIAL (i.e.- **“cattle and goods”**)



## Events Before The Tribulation

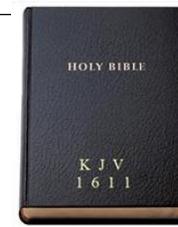
- While Israel has significantly and consistently increased their wealth since 1948, their wealth has not been the object of such envy that their enemies would risk an all-out invasion to secure it
- Between today and the time of the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39, Israel's borders will be expanded

### Eze 39:11

And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* I will give unto Gog a place there of graves **in Israel**, the valley of the passengers on the **east of the sea**: and it shall stop the *noses* of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call *it* The **valley** of Hamongog.

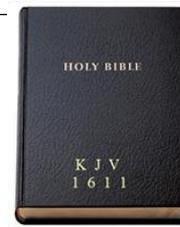
- Since all of Israel is east of the Mediterranean, the SEA must refer to either the sea of Galilee (in the north) or the Dead sea (in the south)
- At the time of the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39, the burial place east of the sea, is IN ISRAEL
- Today, the land east of the sea of Galilee is part of the disputed territories of the Golan Heights, and the land east of the Dead sea is part of Jordan

# Events Before The Tribulation



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## Between The Rapture And The Tribulation

2) Israel is in an unprecedented condition of peace

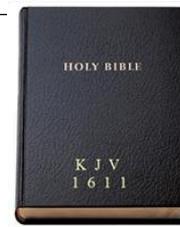
**Eze 38:8,11,14**

After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land *that is* brought back from the sword, *and is* gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and **they shall dwell safely all of them.**

And thou shalt say, I will go up to **the land of unwalled villages**; I will go to **them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates,**

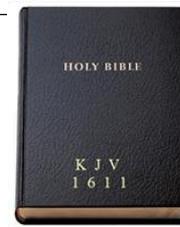
Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when **my people of Israel dwelleth safely,** shalt thou not know *it*?

- The walls, barricades, barbed wire fences, and tanks that have occupied the borders of Israel from 1948 to the present hardly describes their condition in Ezekiel 38-39
- At the time of the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39, ALL of Israel is dwelling safely and is at rest
- This condition is so secure that there are no walls, bars, or gates throughout the nation



## Events Before The Tribulation

- There are two times in the future where Israel is clearly and certainly dwelling in a condition of complete peace and safety
  - The Millennium under the reign of the Lord Jesus Christ
  - The first half of the Tribulation under the reign of the Antichrist
- The Gog/Magog invasion of Ezekiel 38-39 is not the same as the one in Revelation 20:8-9
- There are difficulties placing the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39 in any part of the Tribulation
- This implies the invasion does not take place during the Tribulation
- What could possibly create these conditions of peace and safety for Israel besides the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ and the covenant of the Antichrist?



# Between The Rapture And The Tribulation

## 2. The coalition of invaders in Ezekiel 38-39

### Eze 38:2,5-6

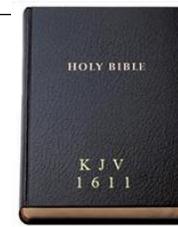
Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of **Magog**, the chief prince of **Meshech** and **Tubal**, and prophesy against him,

**Persia**, **Ethiopia**, and **Libya** with them; all of them with shield and helmet:

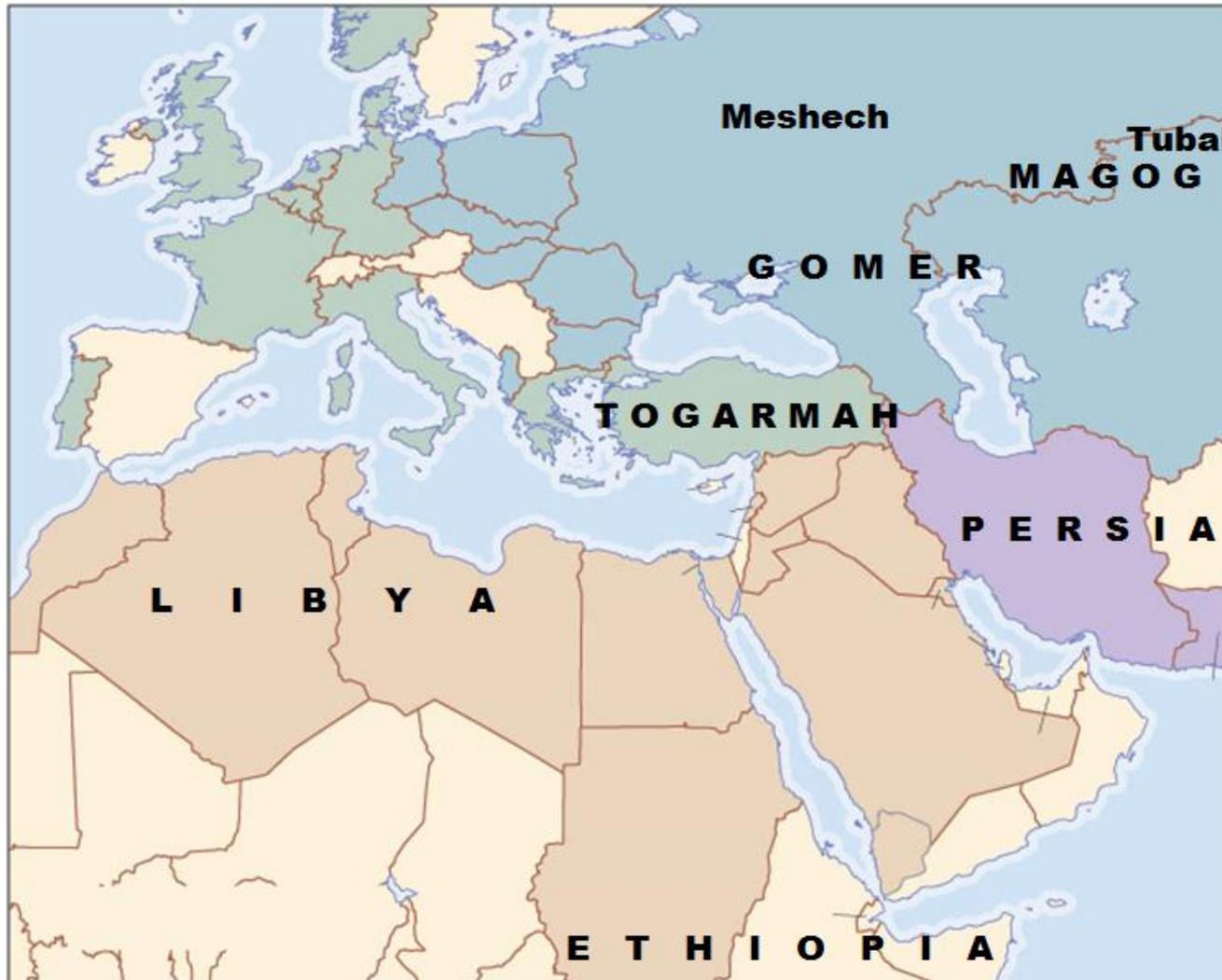
**Gomer**, and all his bands; the house of **Togarmah** of the north quarters, and all his bands: *and* many people with thee.

- Magog= Russia (the land of)
- Meshech= Moscow (a city west of the Ural mountains in Europe)
- Tubal= Tobolsk (a city east of the Ural mountains in Asia)
- Persia= Iran (and possibly Afghanistan)
- Ethiopia= Ethiopia and Sudan
- Libya= Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco
- Gomer= Ukraine and Georgia
- Togarmah= Turkey and Armenia

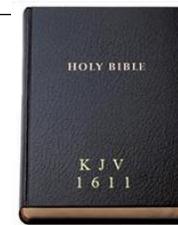
# Events Before The Tribulation



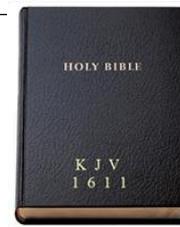
## Invading Nations Of Ezekiel 38



# Events Before The Tribulation



- What is more interesting than who IS mentioned in the invasion is who IS NOT mentioned- Israel's immediate neighbors
  - **Egypt** (neighbor to the south and west)
  - **Lebanon** (Tyre) (neighbor to the north)
  - **Syria** (neighbor to the north and east)
  - **Jordan** (Ammon, Moab, Edom) (neighbor to the east)
- Ezekiel mentions all of these nations by name except Syria in preceding chapters, so he would have included them if they were part of the invasion
- The reason he does not include them is because they are not part of the invasion
- They are not part of the invasion because they are completely incapacitated before the invasion takes place



## Events Before The Tribulation

- The condition of being “**at rest**” specifically refers to being at rest from their ENEMIES ROUND ABOUT them
- The expression is used numerous times in Israel’s history to describe the rest resulting from the Lord giving them victory in WAR

### Jos 23:1

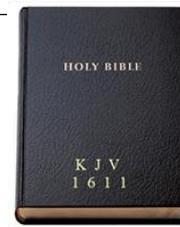
And it came to pass a long time after that the LORD had given **rest** unto Israel **from all their enemies round about**, that Joshua waxed old *and* stricken in age.

### 2 Sam 7:1

And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him **rest round about from all his enemies**;

### Est 9:16

But the other Jews that *were* in the king's provinces gathered themselves together, and stood for their lives, and had **rest from their enemies**, and slew of their foes seventy and five thousand, but they laid not their hands on the prey,



## Events Before The Tribulation

- Peace and safety can come by virtue of COVENANT, but it can also come by virtue of CONQUEST
- It appears that after Israel is re-gathered, there is a period of time they dwell in the land that is not characterized by “safety”, but when the Lord executes judgment upon the nations round about them then they dwell in safety and confidence

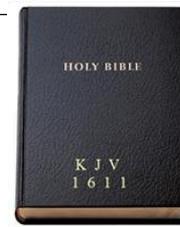
### Eze 28:24-26

And there shall be no more a pricking brier unto the house of Israel, nor *any* grieving thorn of all that are round about them, that despised them; and they shall know that I *am* the Lord GOD.

Thus saith the Lord GOD; When I shall have gathered the house of Israel from the people among whom they are scattered, and shall be sanctified in them in the sight of the heathen, then shall they dwell in their land that I have given to my servant Jacob.

And they shall dwell safely therein, and shall build houses, and plant vineyards; yea, they shall dwell with confidence, when I have executed judgments upon all those that despise them round about them; and they shall know that I am the LORD their God.

- Ezekiel specifies the nations round about Israel and their corresponding judgments in chapters 25 through 32, and the information is strikingly similar to Psalm 83



# Events Before The Tribulation

- An often repeated purpose of the judgments in Ezekiel is that these nations, “**know that I am the LORD**” (Eze 25:5,7,11,17; 26:6; 28:22-24,26; 29:6,9,16,21; 30:8,19,25-26; 32:15)
- Psalm 83:18 cites the same purpose for the war of Psalm 83

## Psa 83:5-8,14-15,17-18

For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee:

The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah.

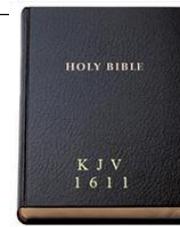
As the fire burneth a wood, and as the flame setteth the mountains on fire;

So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm.

Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish:

That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth.

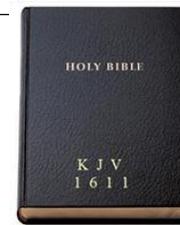
<b>Ammon</b>	Eze 25:1-7	Psa 83:7	<b>Philistia</b>	Eze 25:15-17	Psa 83:7
<b>Moab</b>	Eze 25:8-11	Psa 83:6	<b>Tyre</b>	Eze 26:1-28:19	Psa 83:7
<b>Edom</b>	Eze 25:12-14	Psa 83:6	<b>Egypt</b>	Eze 29:1-32:32	Psa 83:6?



## Events Before The Tribulation

- The nations involved in the war of Psalm 83 are completely different than those involved in the invasion of Ezekiel 38
- The only nation directly bordering Israel or bordering a nation that directly borders Israel that is NOT mentioned in either conflict is **Syria**
- Syria is defeated and Damascus destroyed in a conflict described in Isaiah 17 that takes place before (and may actually cause) the war of Psalm 83

# Events Before The Tribulation



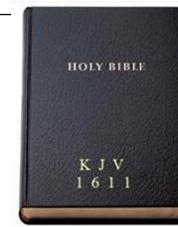
## Invading Nations Of Ezekiel 38



## Warring Nations Of Psalm 83

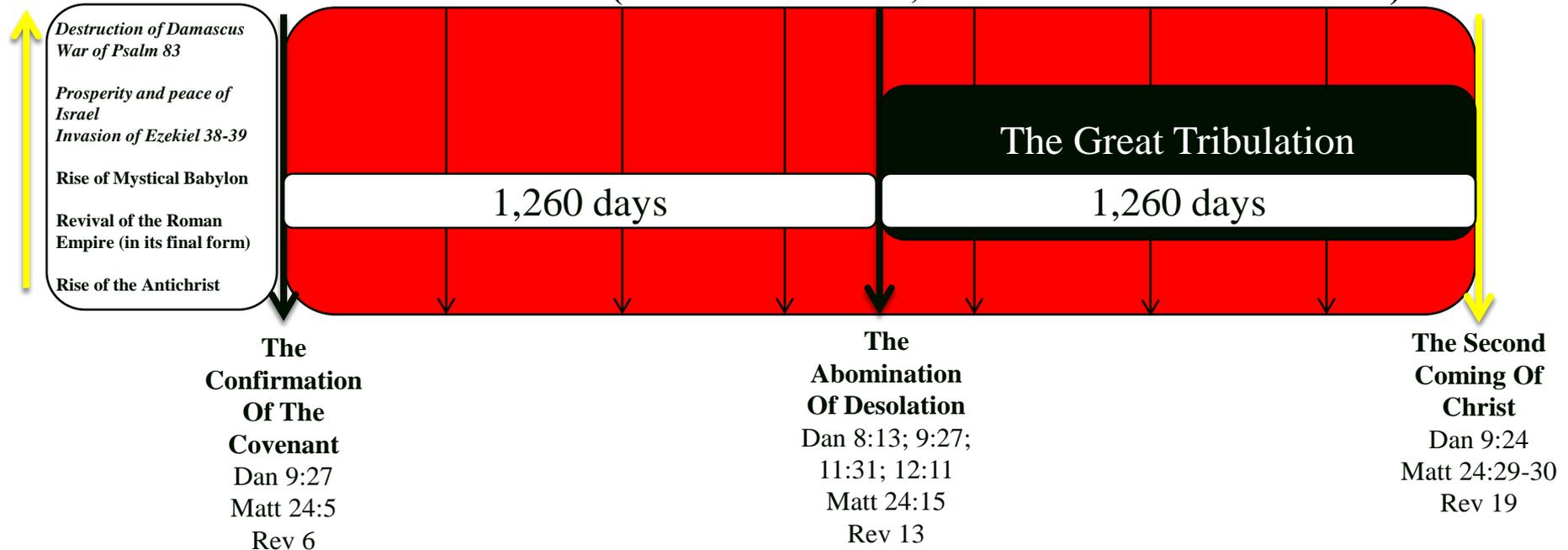


# Events Before The Tribulation

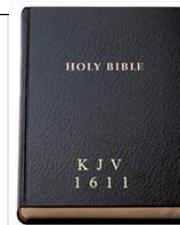


## The Rapture

## The Tribulation (Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week; The time of JACOB'S trouble)



- *Italics* indicates events that may take place **before** the Rapture
- The fact any of these events **could** occur before the Rapture in no way undermines the doctrine of Imminency
- The same can be said of the prophecies related to the rebirth of Israel as a nation (Eze 37:7-8; Matt 24:32) fulfilled before the Rapture on May 14, 1948
- The Bible does not state any of these events **must** occur before the Rapture



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