

Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

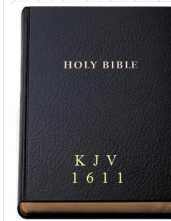
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Study to shew thyself approved unto God" (2 Tim 2:15)

Dr. Joseph Speciale, Instructor

A ministry of the
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

Lee Swor, Pastor

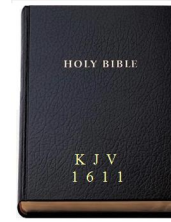


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Bible Prophecy

The Invasion Of Ezekiel 38-39

The Invasion Of Ezekiel 38-39



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Reasons Supporting The Invasion Taking Place Before The Tribulation

1. At least two nations in the invasion were part of the Roman empire

Eze 38:3-6

And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I *am* against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:

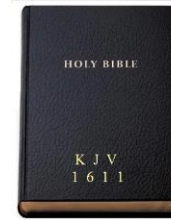
And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts *of armour, even* a great company *with* bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:

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.

- *Libya* consists of present day Libya and the rest of the North African nations west of Libya (i.e.- Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco)
- *Togarmah* likely consists of present day Turkey and Armenia

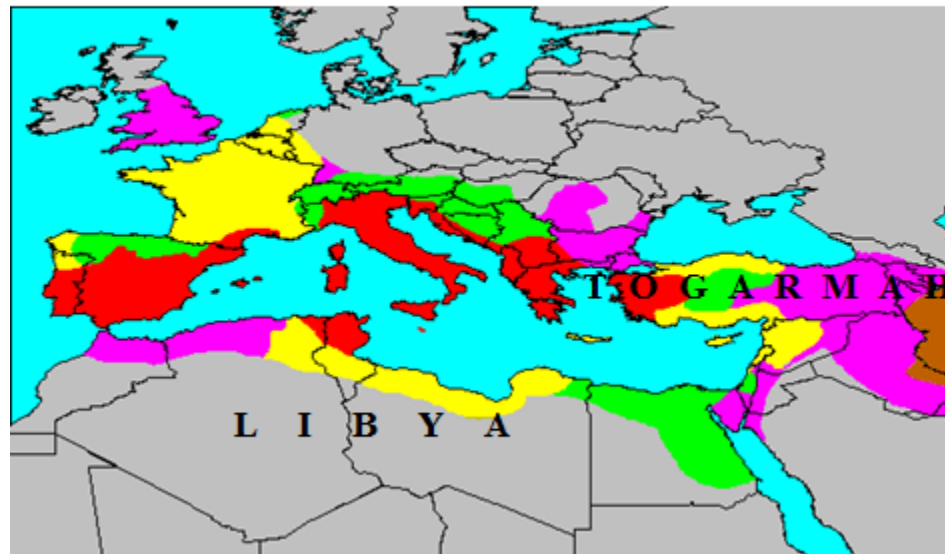
The Invasion Of Ezekiel 38-39



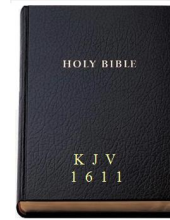
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- Libya and the nations of north Africa, as well as Turkey and Armenia, were part of the Roman empire but are Muslim today
- Turkey has repeatedly applied for membership in the European Union but has been denied each time
- If the Roman Empire will be revived **before** the Tribulation and include the nations within it's old borders, then Libya and Turkey's participation in the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39 indicates the invasion will take place before the revival of the Roman Empire; therefore, **before** the Tribulation

The Roman Empire



The Invasion Of Ezekiel 38-39



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2. Israel will burn the weapons of their defeated foes as a source of fuel for seven years

Eze 39:9-10

And **they that dwell in the cities of Israel** shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the handstaves, and the spears, and **they shall burn them with fire seven years:**

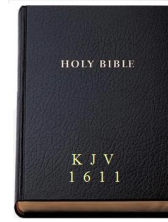
So that **they shall take no wood out of the field**, neither cut down *any* out of the forests; for **they shall burn the weapons with fire:** and **they shall spoil those that spoiled them**, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD.

- THEY that burn the weapons for fuel are THEY that dwell in the cities of Israel, which are THEY that shall spoil those that spoiled them
- THEY who the invaders attempt to spoil are MY PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

Eze 38:13,16

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?**

And **thou shalt come up against my people of Israel**, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.



The Invasion Of Ezekiel 38-39

- If the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39 takes place anytime **during** the Tribulation, then the seven years of burning weapons for fuel includes at least part of the last half of the Tribulation and/or the Millennium
- The Jews **will not** burn any weapons for fuel during the last half of the Tribulation because they will flee the cities of Israel for the wilderness in order to escape the wrath of the Antichrist

Matt 24:15-16,21

When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

Then let **them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:**

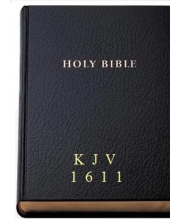
For **then shall be great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Rev 12:6,14

And **the woman fled into the wilderness**, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there **a thousand two hundred and threescore days.**

And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that **she might fly into the wilderness**, into her place, where she is nourished **for a time, and times, and half a time**, from the face of the serpent.

The Invasion Of Ezekiel 38-39



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3. Israel, with the aid of a full-time dedicated team of specialists, will bury the bones of the invaders for seven months

Eze 39:12-14

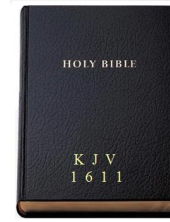
And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land.

Yea, all the people of the land shall bury *them*; and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, saith the Lord GOD.

And they shall sever out men of continual employment, passing through the land to bury with the passengers those that remain upon the face of the earth, to cleanse it: after the end of seven months shall they search.

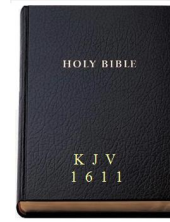
- Israel will not be able to bury any bodies during the second half of the Tribulation because they will have fled into the wilderness to escape the wrath of the Antichrist (Rev 12:6,14)
- The world will not be able to dedicate resources to bury these bodies for seven months during the first half of the Tribulation due to the fact ½ of the world's population will die during this time (Rev 6:8; 9:18)

The Invasion Of Ezekiel 38-39



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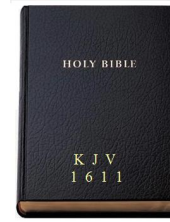
4. There is no mention of the Antichrist, revived Roman empire (i.e.- the ten horns on the fourth beast of Daniel 7), and/or the covenant the Antichrist confirms with Israel
 - If the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39 takes place during the Tribulation, then it is at a time when Israel is under covenant with the Antichrist and the revived Roman empire
 - If the Antichrist has guaranteed Israel's safety and security as part of the covenant, then why would Gog and his allies be so emboldened to challenge this covenant in light of the world's perception of the Antichrist (Rev 13:4)?
 - If it is argued that **“the merchants of Tarshish”** (Eze 38:13) represent the Antichrist and the Roman empire, then why do they only issue a minor protest of the invasion rather than protect Israel, as likely pledged in the covenant?



The Invasion Of Ezekiel 38-39

- If it is argued that “**Gog**” is the Antichrist, then the invasion takes place at the end of the Tribulation as part of Armageddon, and that means Israel will burn weapons as a fuel source and bury dead bodies (Eze 39:9,12) months and years into the Millennium
5. There is no mention of the two witnesses and/or the 144,000
- If the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39 takes place during the first half of the Tribulation, then it is at a time when the two witnesses are preaching at Jerusalem (Rev 11:3) and the 144,000 are preaching throughout the world (Matt 24:14; Rev 7:4-17)
 - Why wouldn't the two witnesses at least be mentioned as issuing a protest of the invasion or a prophetic declaration that the invaders will be destroyed, much like Isaiah did with the imminent Assyrian invasion of Jerusalem (Isa 37:6-7,21-35)?

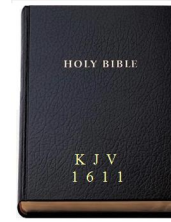
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6. There is no mention of the Tribulation temple
 - If the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39 takes place during the Tribulation, then it is at a time when the temple is being rebuilt or has been rebuilt (Rev 11:1-2)
 - There is an earthquake in the land of Israel during the invasion that causes every wall to fall to the ground (Eze 38:19-20), this would include the walls of any rebuilt temple or temple in the process of being rebuilt
 - The most logical explanation for these things KNOWN to be part of the Tribulation not being mentioned in Ezekiel 38-39 is that the invasion of Ezekiel 38-39 does not take place DURING the Tribulation but BEFORE the Tribulation
7. There is no protest of the invasion made by born again Christians
 - If the invasion takes place before the Rapture or during the first half of the Tribulation, why is there no protest from the Church or Tribulation saints (Rev 7:9)?
 - True Christians would know about the invasion and vocally protest it, there is no protest because they are not present when the invasion takes place

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Ezekiel 38:1

And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The word of the Lord came.

- This is the last of 47x this exact phrase appears in Ezekiel
- The expanded phrase, **the word of the Lord came unto me** appears 46x in the Bible (37x in Ezekiel; 7x in Jeremiah; and 2x in Zechariah).

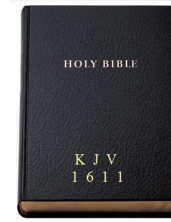
Ezekiel 38:2

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

Son of man.

- This phrase appears 197x in the Bible; it refers to to the Lord Jesus Christ 91x (he referred to himself by this name 79x) and Ezekiel 93x

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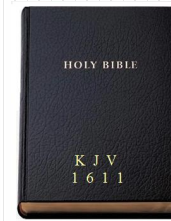
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Ezekiel As A Type Of Christ

1. Both are called the son of man
2. Both began their prophetic ministries when they were about 30 years old (1:1; Luke 3:23)
3. Both were SIGNS to the nation of Israel (12:6; Matt 12:38-40; Luke 2:34)

Set thy face against.

- This phrase appears 7x in the Bible and all of them are in Ezekiel (v.2; 4:3; 13:17; 25:2; 28:21; 29:2; 35:2)
- The phrase, **prophecy against** follows in all but one of these appearances (4:3), indicating it is an expression of JUDGMENT



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