**Nations' Destructions at Ends of Tribulation and Millennium**

**Arlen Chitwood in his book *The Time of the End* explains the biblical picture.**

**Excerpts**:

Bible students viewing this end-time sequence of events often see the armies of the earth being gathered to the Middle East and coming against the Jewish people before the end of the Tribulation. Once they are gathered, Christ then returns and destroys the armies of the earth in the land of Israel, delivering His people through this means.

However, that is *not* the biblical picture at all. Such a sequence of events is completely *out of line* with anything seen in the Old Testament — in biblical typology or in the Prophets.

One thing that would preclude such a sequence of events is the fact that the Jewish people in the land *during* the time covered by Daniel’s seventieth week will be *uprooted* from their land in the middle of the Tribulation and *driven* back out *among* the nations. Aside from a possible *small* scattering of Jews, there will be *no* Jewish people in the land of Israel during the *latter* part of the Tribulation for Gentile armies under Antichrist to come against near the *end* of the Tribulation. Jerusalem will be *trodden* down of the Gentiles *throughout* this time [[Luke 21:24](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.24&t=NKJV); [Revelation 11:2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.2&t=NKJV)].

The *correct* sequence is Christ returning *before* the armies are gathered to the Middle East, with an unconverted Jewish people *still* scattered throughout the Gentile nations. The national conversion of Israel will occur *following* Christ’s return while they are *still* scattered among the nations [the order seen in Old Testament typology, the Prophets, and the Jewish festivals of [Leviticus 23](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23&t=NKJV)], and Christ will *then* send His angels out to re-gather His people back to the land [[Matthew 24:30-31](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.30-31&t=NKJV)].

*Then*, the armies of the earth will be gathered into the Middle East. And *once* they have been gathered, Christ, beginning His march into battle from the Mount of Olives, will *go* forth and destroy these invading armies, *delivering* His people [[Zechariah 14:1-9](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Zechariah+14.1-9&t=NKJV)].

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Immediately *following* the Tribulation, the armies from the nations of the earth, gathered to the land of Israel, are referred to as “Gog, of the land of Magog” ([Ezekiel 38:2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38.2&t=NKJV)). And the matter is expressed the *same* way in [Revelation 20:8](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.8&t=NKJV) relative to the nations of the earth gathered to the land of Israel once *again* at the end of the Millennium (worded, “Gog and Magog,” *followed* by an explanation concerning the land, as seen *preceding* the name “Magog” in [Ezekiel 38:2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38.2&t=NKJV)).

The reason for the *gathering* of these nations into the Middle East both times will be the *same*, and this reason is echoed in verses from Psalms chapters two and eighty-three (verses having to do with the *first* gathering, but the reason for the nations being gathered is the *same* both times):

*Why do the nations* [Gentiles] *rage, and the people plot* [KJV: imagine] *a vain thing?*

*The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying,*

*“Let us break their bonds in pieces and cast away their cords from us.* [the restraining and authoritative power of the Father and Son].”

*He who sits in the heavens shall laugh* [a contemptible laughter]; *the Lord shall hold them in derision.*

*Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure:*

*“Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.”* ([Psalm 2:1-6](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2.1-6&t=NKJV)).

*For behold, Your enemies make a tumult; and those who hate You have lifted up their head* [they carry their head high, exalt themselves].

*They have taken crafty counsel against Your people, and consulted together against Your sheltered ones [the latter is a parallel part of the verse, referring to the Jewish people previously mentioned, those protected by God;* cf. [Psalm 27:5](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+27.5&t=NKJV)].

*They have said, “Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, that the name of Israel may be remembered no more.”*

*For they have consulted together with one consent; they form a confederacy against You.* ([Psalm 83:2-5](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+83.2-5&t=NKJV))

Both *before* and *after* the Millennium, the *reason* for such an endeavor by the nations under Satan will be the *same*; and the *end* result will, as well, be the *same*. The nations of the earth, under Satan, *will* march into the Middle East against Christ and Israel. *Then*, the leadership will be taken and dealt with, and those under their command will be destroyed.

The first destruction of the nations coming *against* Christ and Israel *will* occur by and through a treading of the winepress. And this destruction will be *followed* by the great supper of God and by Satan *subsequently being* bound and cast into the abyss, which will *then* be sealed over, for 1,000 years.

The second destruction of the nations coming *against* Christ and Israel *follows* Satan being loosed and deceiving the nations. And this destruction *will* occur by and through fire coming down from God out of heaven (note that fire from heaven is also associated with the *first* destruction as well [[Ezekiel 38:22](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38.22&t=NKJV); [39:6](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+39.6&t=NKJV); cf. [2 Peter 3:10](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Peter+3.10&t=NKJV)]).

Comparing the *manner* in which the reference to “Gog and Magog” is *used* in both [Ezekiel 38:2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38.2&t=NKJV) and [Revelation 20:8](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.8&t=NKJV), understanding exactly what is meant by these two names used *together* is a simple matter (cf. [Genesis 10:2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+10.2&t=NKJV); [1 Chronicles 1:5](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Chronicles+1.5&t=NKJV); [5:4](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Chronicles+5.4&t=NKJV)). In [Ezekiel 38:2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38.2&t=NKJV), “Gog” *refers* to a people (other than Israel — the Gentiles, with the leadership of the nations particularly in view), and “Magog,” as seen in the text, *refers* to a *land* (Hebrews *erets*, understood as one or more “lands” or the whole “earth,” depending on the context). In [Revelation 20:8](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.8&t=NKJV), that which is *referred* to by *both* words is the *same* as seen in Ezekiel — *“the nations* [referenced by ‘Gog’] *in the four quarters of the earth* [referenced by ‘Magog’].”

It is *evident* that “Magog” in [Ezekiel 38:2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38.2&t=NKJV) should be thought of in the *same* sense seen in [Revelation 20:8](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.8&t=NKJV) — *more* than just the land of one or more named countries; rather, contextually, the *reference* is to the lands of countries worldwide, the *entire* earth.

The battle seen in Ezekiel chapters thirty-eight and thirty-nine ([Ezekiel 38-39](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38-39&t=NKJV)) *occurs* after Israel has been restored to the land, *following* Messiah’s return at the *end* of the Tribulation. Thus, these two chapters simply form *another* description of the *same* battle seen in [Revelation 14:14-20](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.14-20&t=NKJV); [19:17-21](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19.17-21&t=NKJV), the Battle of Armageddon.

[**The Time of the End by Arlen Chitwood**](http://lampbroadcast.org/Books/TOE.pdf), Ch. 34 and [**Bible One - Arlen Chitwood's The Time of the End, Ch. 34**](http://bibleone.net/TOTE_34.htm)

(For additional information on how “Gog and Magog” is used in [Ezekiel 38:2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38.2&t=NKJV), along with an overall view of [Ezekiel 38-39](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38-39&t=NKJV) in this respect, refer to [Bible One - Arlen Chitwood's The Time of the End, Ch. 32](http://bibleone.net/TOTE_32.htm).)

**As an aside, the following document in *table format* may be of interest:**

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| Judgments - Seal, Trumpet and Vial Judgments.docx | [Judgments - Seal, Trumpet and Vial Judgments.docx](http://www.koffeekupkandor.com/resources/Judgments%20-%20Seal%2C%20Trumpet%20and%20Vial%20Judgments.docx) Size : 90.877 Kb  Type : docx |