Gog and Magog Wars occur after the Tribulation

**Excerpts from Arlen Chitwood’s book *The Time of the End***

The use of “Gog” [referencing *a prince*] and “Magog” [referencing *a land*], used together in **Ezekiel 38:2**, cannot possibly refer to *Russia*, *with Russia leading armies of subsequently named nations against Israel during the Tribulation*, as is usually taught. Contextually, it is evident that the reference must be viewed in line with *the same type of reference seen in* ***Revelation 20:8***, where “*Gog and Magog*” refer to “*the nations which are in the four corners of the earth*.”

Note that there is nothing in the New Testament that is not found after some fashion in the Old Testament, with the New Testament drawing from the Old Testament in this respect. And **Revelation 20:8** can only draw from **Ezekiel 38:2**, though the time element and battle are different.

**Ezekiel 38** and **39** have to do with *the princes* [*kings*, *captains*, *mighty men*]leading *armies from the nations of the earth* against the re-gathered Jewish people, with the “*King of kings*, *and Lord of lords*” in their [Jewish people] midst. The fact that only a few Middle East nations are mentioned is immaterial [**38:5**, **6**, **13**]. That is also true relative to a mention of “*the kings of the east*” in **Revelation 16:12**, which, if one keeps reading, he finds that “*the kings of the earth and of the whole world*” [v. **14**] are in view in a larger respect.

**Ezekiel** deals extensively with the restoration of Israel (Chapters **36**, **37**), the destruction of Gentile world power (Chapters **38**, **39**), and Israel in the land during the Messianic Era (Chapters **40-48**).

The latter part of chapter **thirty-six** (vv. **17-38**) deals with the reason for the dispersion of the Jewish people, their national conversion, and their restoration to the land.  All of chapter **thirty-seven** then provides more information concerning their national conversion and restoration to the land.  Then chapters **thirty-eight** and **thirty-nine** have to do with the destruction of Gentile world power once they have been restored to the land, with these two chapters ending at the same place as the previous two chapters — Israel in the Messianic Era, as seen more in detail in chapters **forty** through **forty-eight**.

That events in chapters **thirty-eight** and **thirty-nine** can occur only after Israel has been restored to the land, following the Tribulation, is *evident* from things stated in these chapters.  For example, conditions seen in **38:8**, **11**, **12**; **39:12** (cf. **38:23**; **39:21-23**) *cannot possibly exist before that time*.  These conditions don’t exist today; nor can they exist anytime before or during the Tribulation.

And, in the parallel account in **Revelation 9:15-18** (cf. **Ezekiel 39:4-20**), the slaying of the “*third of mankind*” at the hands of the two myriads of myriads would undoubtedly have to do with *the armies themselves* rather with mankind in general (ref. **Ezekiel 38:21**; cf. **Judges 7:22**; **1 Samuel 14:20**).

Then chapters **forty** through **forty-eight** present Israel in the land during the Messianic Era, following their restoration to the land and the destruction of Gentile world power.

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