



# THE PROPHECY OF EZEKIEL 38

*A special teaching by Pat Robertson*

According to a CBN News report by Jerusalem Bureau Chief Chris Mitchell, some Israeli rabbis believe the ancient prophecies of Ezekiel 38 are unfolding in today's headlines.

Last year, when Israel stopped a Turkish flotilla to keep weapons out of Hamas-controlled Gaza, it created an international rush to judgment. This year, to commemorate the anniversary of that incident, pro-Palestinian activists from many countries are organizing a new flotilla to sail to Gaza.

These incidents reveal Turkey as a major new player in the Middle East. Turkey's Prime Minister Erdogan vehemently attacked Israel—shifting his allegiance toward Iran, Syria, and their axis of power.

This represented a major realignment in the Middle East. Turkey, once a close ally of Israel and the West, is now openly courting the likes of Iranian President Ahmadinejad, Syrian President al-Assad, and, ultimately, Russia's Vladimir Putin.

So what does this shift of power and increasing isolation of Israel mean? Some in Israel, and around the world, believe it reflects biblical prophecy.

Following the flotilla incident, the Rabbinical Council of Judea and Samaria issued a statement saying the aftermath seemed to “place us at the beginning of the Gog and Magog process where the world

is against us, but which ends with the third and final redemption.”

Gog and Magog is a biblical reference found in chapters 38 and 39 of the book of Ezekiel, when a coalition of nations attacks the land of Israel.

Whether or not this will happen soon, many believe war in the Middle East is looming. U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates warned that Iran could launch an attack against Europe with “scores or hundreds of missiles.”

Let me explain how the specific lineup of nations in Ezekiel 38 corresponds to our twenty-first century map.

In the 38th chapter of Ezekiel, there is an amazing prophecy about an attack on Israel by a combined group of nations.

### **Ezekiel 38:1-9 NASB**

*And the word of the LORD came to me saying, “Son of man, set your face toward Gog of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against you, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal.*

*“I will turn you about and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you out, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them splendidly attired, a great company with buckler and shield, all of them wielding swords; Persia, Ethiopia and Put with them, all of them with shield and helmet; Gomer*

with all its troops; Beth-togarmah from the remote parts of the north with all its troops—many peoples with you.

“Be prepared, and prepare yourself, you and all your companies that are assembled about you, and be a guard for them.

“After many days you will be summoned; in the latter years you will come into the land that is restored from the sword, whose inhabitants have been gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel which had been a continual waste; but its people were brought out from the nations, and they are living securely, all of them.

“You will go up, you will come like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land, you and all your troops, and many peoples with you.”

It’s going to be in the latter days—this means the end of things. The nation of Israel will be regathered into the land and living in peace. And coming against Israel will be the nations of Rosh, Meshech, Tubal, Magog, Gomer, Beth-togarmah, Persia, and Put.

What are those ancient lands called today? *Put* is most likely Libya, and *Cush* is Sudan. Both are Muslim. *Persia* is Iran. It used to be an ally of Israel, but it’s now in the hands of radicals who want to destroy her.

Iran has publicly declared its desire to see Israel annihilated. Iran would have to cross Iraq and perhaps come down through Syria on its way to the border of Israel. Just

as Ezekiel has prophesied, these nations will gather together against the chosen people of God.

*Gomer*, to the best of my knowledge, is Turkey. As you may know, Turkey is at the center of what was the Ottoman Empire. *Meshech* and *Tubal* are up in the Russian Federation. And *Rosh* seems clearly to be talking about Russia. So this band of nations will come against Israel in the latter days.

It will be when Israel is regathered from the nations, living at peace in the land. Suddenly this confederation will come against her, and God Himself said, “I am going to deal against Gog and Magog. I’m going to bring judgment on them and I will destroy them, in the latter days.”

Some of the rabbis in modern-day Judea and Samaria say this could be the beginning of Gog and Magog. Is it going to happen? I think it’s shaping up before our eyes: Russia allies with Iran, Iran is allying with the enemies of Israel—Libya and Sudan in the Muslim camp, the Muslim people in the region of the Caucasus—and now Turkey. It’s all getting ready to happen.

As we begin to see the lineup of nations conforming to the prophecies of the Bible, we can be very sure of the outcome: God has promised that He will destroy the enemies of Israel and bring glory to Himself.

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