

RUSSIA

IN BIBLE PROPHECY

By Dr. Stephen G. Tan | Ezekiel 38 | [Watch ▶](#)

DISCUSS

In light of what is currently happening in Ukraine, many are wondering if it has any direct bearing on the fulfillment of revealed Bible prophecy events. Read Ezekiel 38:1-23. From this passage we draw out some spiritual principles and lessons about the God we worship and how He operates, which we can apply practically in our lives.

God is sovereign over world history and world events so we can fully trust Him (v. 1-6).

- What was the prophet Ezekiel told to do? Are modern Russia and Ukraine included in the places mentioned?
- While future Gog is plotting a surprise invasion of Israel thinking that he and his allies will have a resounding victory, what does verse 4 tell us about the sovereignty of God? How will God use their evil schemes to lead them to their own destruction?
- In view of what's going on right now in Ukraine, how do you know that God is in control?
- Who are the allies of the King of the North (Gog) mentioned in verses 5-6? (Persia refers to modern-day Iran). How is the modern Russia-Iran relationship now? What is the desire of Russia and Iran (and other allies such as Turkey, Libya, and Sudan—all Islamic nations) as far as Israel is concerned?
- If you are surprised that there is war in Europe in the 21st century, how do you feel that God is not surprised about it? How does the

fact that God is in control and can accurately predict what is happening today, like the alliance of Russia and Iran, affect your trust in the Word of God, the Bible?

God's plans are beyond our comprehension and His ways will always be accomplished (v. 7-16).

- What did God tell Gog and his allies in verse 7? (The phrases “after many days” and “in the latter years” tell us that these events are still in the eschatological future such as in the 7-year Tribulation period or Millennium and did not occur in the lifetime of Ezekiel).
- What are the conditions of the land of Israel for when this invasion will happen (verse 8)? How is this being fulfilled now? What is the sign that this invasion will happen after Israel signs a peace treaty with the Antichrist and his Western confederacy? In that case, will the Christians experience these events in Ezekiel 38? Why or why not?
- How does verse 9 describe the invasion of Israel from northern coalitions led by Russia? What does the invasion of Ukraine by the Russians tell you about the future Russia? Whether Russia wins or not in Ukraine, how would it prepare them for their future invasion of Israel?
- What does verse 10 tell us about the omniscience of God? How does this future event tell us that no one escapes the judgment of God?
- In verse 11, why will the Israelites be unprepared for this invasion? What's the reason why Ukraine and other countries bordering Russia want to join a security organization like NATO?
- What will motivate Gog and his allies to invade Israel in verse 12? How do verses 14-15 solidify the identification of Gog as modern day Russia? In verse 16, how will this invasion give Glory to God? What assurance does Genesis 50:20 tell us?

No one can stand against God's divine judgments which display His glory and greatness (v. 17-23).

- What will Gog (Russia) experience when it attacks Israel? Will God allow this invasion to discipline Israel or to bring judgment upon the invading forces of Russia and her allies?

- Who can stand up against the judgment of God? How will God protect Israel? How will it draw them to place their trust in Jesus as their Messiah (39:1-7)?
- How should this future event draw you to God?

REFLECT

The chapter begins with a planned secret invasion of an unsuspecting Israel by a fearsome army led by Gog and his allies and it ends with God saving His people, wiping out the invading force, and He alone being glorified. What can you learn from this future event that should give you assurance of God's sovereignty and His ways and judgments over what's going on in the world right now?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, it is with a humble heart that I recognize who You really are in the midst of what's going on between Russia and Ukraine. I thank You that I know I can fully trust You because You are sovereign over everything that is going on. I recognize that Your plans and ways are beyond what I can comprehend. Thank You, God, that Your judgment displays Your glory and greatness. Father, please be with those who are suffering right now because of the war, whether they are Ukrainians or Russians. May You protect Your people from harm. May You provide for their needs. May You give wisdom to Ukrainians' allies on how they should help without escalating the war. Thank You that we can trust You. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.