HOW DO THE ELOHIM OPERATE?



"Watchman! Tell us of the night;
Higher yet that star ascends:
Trav'ller! Blessedness and light, Peace and truth-its
course portends."

"Surely the Lord will do nothing, but He revealeth (qalah, uncovers) His secret (sowed, confidential plans) unto His servants the prophets." Amos 3:7

"Confusion": a Trojan Horse.

"All the conflicting ideas cannot be true. This means that some are holding to ideas which because they are not true will not happen, and they may well be caught unawares by his coming. Others, confused by the variety of ideas, are becoming discouraged and will lapse into a disinterest in prophetic watching, and may become engrossed in the world (disillusioned), and fall away from faithfulness"

— Graham Pearce.

Praeterist school of interpretation founded by Alcazar, a Spanish Jesuit in 1614.

Futurist school of interpretation founded by Francisco Ribera and Robert Bellarmine

The fulfillment of Revelation is in the past with the Fall of Jerusalem (70 A.D.) or the Fall of Pagan Rome, before the Popes ever ruled Rome.

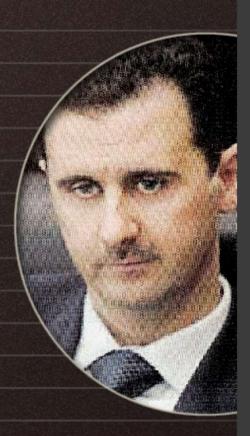
The fulfillment of Revelation is in the future with an individual man as the Antichrist, Man of Sin, and a literal rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem.

1 Cor 14:3 "But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort."

John 14:29 "And now I have told you before it come to pass, that when it comes to pass, you may believe."

Syrian "pressure"

The Ruin of Damascus



"It may be remarked here, that there will have been a considerable gathering of Israelites upon the mountains of Israel before the invasion of the country by Gog, and his capture of Jerusalem. This appears from the Spirit's address to Gog in the eight verse of this chapter (Ezek 38). In this place he says, "in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them..." this is the land taken back in 1967-Judea-the Mtns of Israel.

Bro. Thomas continues..."It is evident from these last words, that the "land brought back from the sword" is not the land according to the original Abrahamic grant; but only that "tenth part" of it which Isaiah was informed in chapter 6:13, "shall return and be grazed." The tenth in the midst of the land is the locality of Armgeddon; and not at all connected with Teman, which lies considerably to the south of it." He continues with this remarkable sentence, "The return of security and prosperity to this tenth of the land, must either precede the development of the "One Yahweh" man (the Christ community) or be concurrent with the operation in the recesses of Teman; or it may be in progress both then and before." (Eureka vol. 3).

CONDITIONS REQUIRED:

Ezek 38 requires two conditions in this area prior to Gog's invasion of the land:

- 1. The people that are gathered out of the nations (the Jews) are to be dwelling "in the midst of the land" (navel of Israel is the W.B., the Mtns of Judea), And upon the mountains of Israel (vs 8 & 12).
- 2. They are to be there "dwelling safely" or securely (vs 8, 11 and 14). Their condition is to be one of a "land of unwalled villages...at rest, that dwell safely...without walls, and having neither bars nor gates (vs 11)".

Bro. Thomas

"The colonization of Judea by Jews under the protection of a Gentile government is neither 'restitution', 'restoration' nor 'regeneration'. Nothing short of a national establishment in the land under Messiah and his brethren constitutes either of them in the scriptural sense...Restitution is not simply the return of the race, but the setting up again of institutions that once existed there..." (Herald of the Kingdom and Age to Come, J. Thomas, 1852, pg. 199).

Bro. Thomas cont...

"There must be a resettlement of the Land by the Jews to a limited extent before the battle of Armageddon" (Herald of the Kingdom..., J. Thomas, 1852, pg. 138).

Graham Pearce

"...what Dr, Thomas had written was in complete agreement with the conclusions that I had reached...he did not consider the pre-adventual colonization of Palestine by the Jews (i.e. the creation of the modern State of Israel) to be in any way the restoration spoken of by the prophets...he considered that there would be a desolation of the State of Israel by Gog's hosts, and this would be in fulfillment of Ezek 37 (causing Israel to say, "Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost" and) that Messiah and the saints will be involved in causing the bones of the nation of Israel to come together and stand up an exceeding great army."

Sir Isaac Newton (1642-1727):

"We have Moses, the Prophets, and Apostles, and the works of Christ himself; and if we will not hear them, we shall be more inexcusable than the Jews. For the Prophets and Apostles have foretold that, as Israel often revolted and brake the covenant, and upon repentance renewed it; so there should be a falling away among the Christians soon after the days of the Apostles; and that in the latter days God would destroy the impenitent revolters and make a new covenant with his people. And the giving ear to the Prophets is a fundamental character of the true Church."

Observations upon the Prophecies.

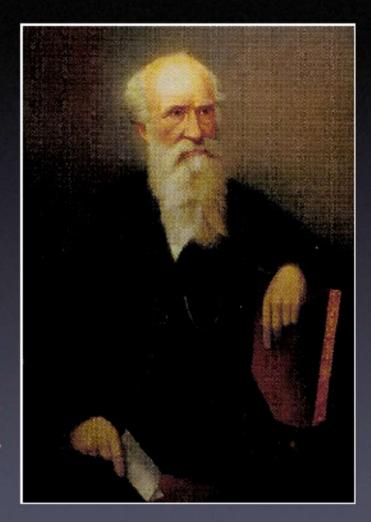
Return to Egypt:

Isa 19, Deut 28:68, Isa 11:11, Psa 68:22.

Isaiah 19: "The Ministry of the Prophets, Isaiah, R. Roberts & C.C. Walker."

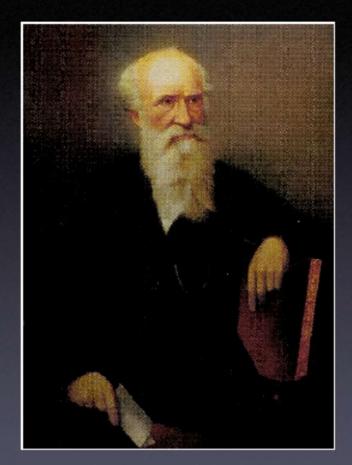
"The prophet Isaiah by the spirit reveals various matters concerning Egypt's smitings and healings at the hand of Yahweh from that day to the time of Christ. We bring our attention to the first salient point or evidence that indeed we have a relation to Christ and the time of the end. In verse I we read "Behold the Lord rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it." The manifestation of Yahweh in Egypt had been literally connected with cloud and darkness, ages before Isaiah's time."

"Let it be noted that the power does not say, "Art thou gone to take a spoil?" but "Art thou come to do so?" If it were to say, "Art thou gone?" it would show that the power was beyond the limits of the Holy Land; but in saying, Art Thou come? The conclusion is, that the Lion-power of Tarshish is in actual possession of, or at least the Protector of, the country.") Continuing with verse 13 of Ezek 38 in relation to Joel 3:5 we see the same spoiling taking place; "hast thou gathered thy company (confederacy) to take a prey? To carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?"



Exposition of Daniel pg. 92.

"At this crisis, then, of extreme peril to the Jewish population of Palestine-of that "tenth" indicated in Isa 6:13-"the fury of Adonai Yahweh comes up into his face"-his eyes become as a flame of fire, and his countenance as the sun shining in his strength (Rev 1:14, 16, & 10:1). He comes out of Egypt, as it is written, "Out of Egypt I called my son" (Hos 11:1).

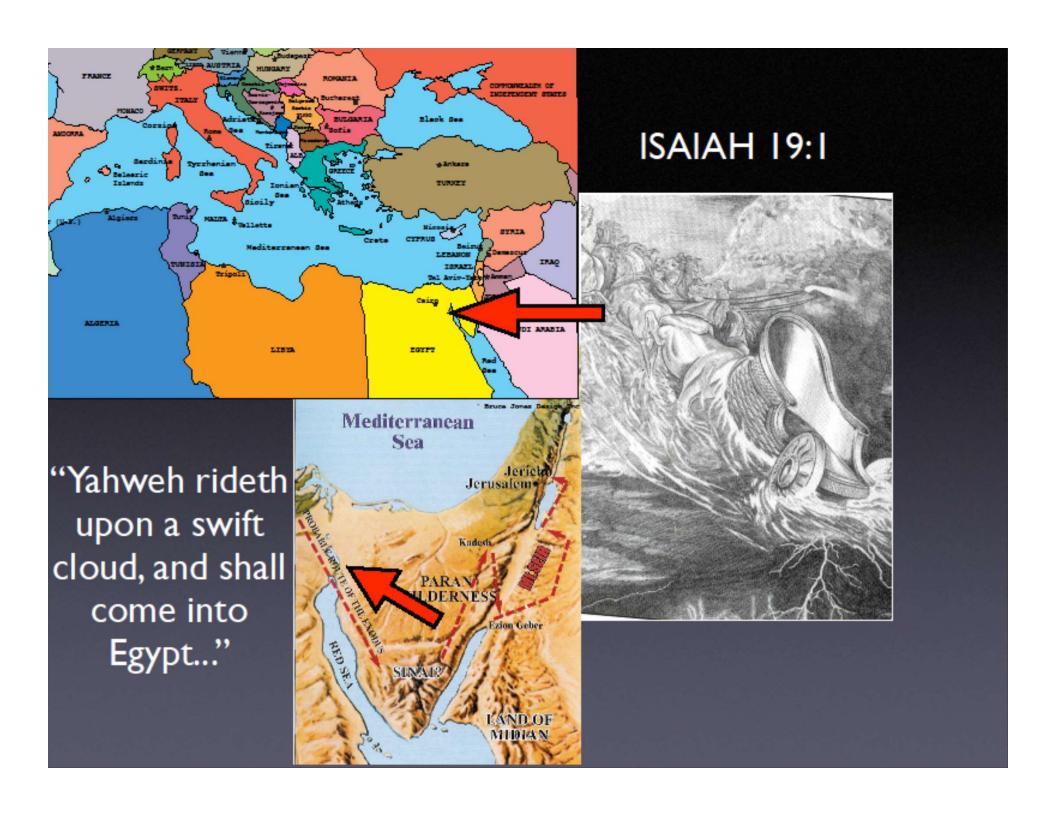


Eureka vol 2 part 2, pg. 559.

Bro. Thomas in Eureka vol 2 part 2 pg. 559; "At this crisis, then, of extreme peril to the Jewish population of Palestine-of that "tenth" indicated in Isa 6:13-"the fury of Adonai Yahweh comes up into his face"-his eyes become as a flame of fire, and his countenance as the sun shining in his strength (Rev 1:14, 16, & 10:1). He comes out of Egypt, as it is written, "Out of Egypt I called my son" (Hos 11:1). This was true of "Israel my son, my first born" (Exod 4:22) in the days of Moses; of the child Jesus, prophetically named Israel in Isa 49:3, the Beloved Son of the Eternal Father, in the days of his infancy (Matt 2:15); and it is true of Israel in Egypt, and of the Rainbowed Angelic Son of Man, the Yahweh Name, their King, in the day when Gogue, in the latter-years manifestation of the Little horn of the Goat, the King of fierce countenance, "shall stand up against the Prince of princes" Dan 8:25. The Son of the Eternal Father in these several manifestations of Sonship, is called out of Egypt."

But affliction attends the Son more or less in Egypt. (They) must sojourn in Egypt because of distress in Canaan; and how can Israel sing for joy of heart in a strange land while the land of their inheritance is trampled under the foot of the spoiler! Hence the testimony, "I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon, and place shall not be found for them. And he shall pass through the sea with affliction (think of Israel's first Exodus through the Red Sea pursued by Pharaoh), and shall smite the waves of the sea, and all the deeps of the river (the Euphrates) shall dry up; and the pride of Assyria (of Gogue) shall be brought down, and the scepter of Egypt shall depart away" (Zech 10:10).

In leaving Egypt, then, the Rainbowed Angel leads Israel out as a trembling bird (Hos 11:11). He does not lead them by the Isthmus of the Suez, but after the example of Moses and the angel, his prototype, he leads them to the seashore. "Was thy wrath against the sea," saith the Spirit, "that thou didst ride upon thine horses (Rev 19: 11, 14) thy chariots of salvation? Thou didst walk through the sea with thine horses, through the heap of great waters. When I heard, says the prophet as representative of his people in the flesh, "my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice: rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble". That day so great that none is like it; even the time of Jacob's trouble, out of which he shall be saved" (Jer 30:7). Having destroyed the tongue of the Egyptian Sea and brought Israel up again from its depths, the Rainbowed Angel leads them into the wilderness of Paran."



Psa 66:5 "Come and see the doings of Elohim, terrible of deed towards the sons of men. He turned the sea to dry land; they passed through the river on foot: there did we rejoice in him."

Isaiah Says, "Yahweh shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river (Euphrates) and shall smite it into seven streams, and cause to go over in shoes...as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt," (Isa 11:15-16).

Isaiah 19: "The Ministry of the Prophets, Isaiah, R. Roberts & C.C. Walker."

"The pillar of cloud that indicated His presence in Israel and directed the movements of His camps, was a matter of notoriety in Israel's history, as also was the terrible manifestation on Mount Sinai. But the language here has to do with a future vindication of God and Israel in the land of old-time bondage. With the nature of that vindication (redemption) we are acquainted from the Scriptures, which tell us that it is to be wrought by the manifested presence of Israel's God in Jesus and the saints, with the tribes of Israel under them (in the process of being redeemed) as Israel of old was under the direction of Moses and the elders of Israel."

Isa 19:16-17

"In that day shall Egypt be like unto women, and it shall be afraid and fear because of the shaking of the hand of the Lord of hosts, which he shaketh over it. **And the land of Judah shall be a terror unto Egypt**, every one that maketh mention thereof shall be afraid in himself, because of the counsel of the Lord of hosts, which he hath determined against it." The history of the Exodus will be repeated on a grander scale under the prophet like unto Moses, as Isaiah (II) and other prophets testify.

Yahweh says by Isaiah (43:6) "I will say to the North, Give up; and to the South, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth." When the time comes for this, Egypt will be made to fear Israel's God as it was under Moses. "According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt, will I show unto him marvelous things" (Mic 7:15).

"...a city named destruction" or in the Hebrew= heres meaning "of the sun". But the Septuagint has it as Asedec as corresponding to the Hebrew-Zedek meaning righteousness.

In Hosea chapter 2:14-16 we read "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her. And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor (now healed and blessed and part of the Rainbowed Angle's march around the top of the Dead Sea across the Jordan through Jericho back into Jerusalem through the east gate) for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt. And it shall be at that day, saith the Lord that thou shalt call me Ishi (That is My Husband) and thou shall call me no more Baali (That is my lord)."

Summary of Chptr 19: What have we learned? Note: Egyptian civil war (vs 2)

- 1. Jews have been scattered into Egypt.
- 2. Egypt is a victim of Gogue's invasion (not a part of Gogue's confederacy).
- 3. Egypt is overrun and spoiled by Gogue (Egypt is smitten).
- 4. The Jews and to a lesser degree the Egyptians cry because of their oppressors.
- 5. A Saviour is sent to deliver the Jews (Christ and the saints-riding upon a swift cloud).

- 6. In response to this redemption an altar and a pillar is erected unto the Lord.
- 7.A city is dedicated to Yahweh-meaning "righteousness".
- 8.Israel experiences a second Exodus out of Egypt by the hand of Christ and the saints.
- 9. Egypt is healed and considered to be a third with Israel and Assyria (vs24-25).

10. There is to be a highway built (vs 23) through these south lands which both connects the two countries of Egypt and Assyria, and also leads to Zion, so that both countries can serve the Lord. It appears to be a permanent WAY which the pilgrims will take in the time of the kingdom. Other prophecies of Isaiah show that it is first set up at the time the people of Israel are in distress in these south lands (of their scattering), and it is for them the Way of the redeemed in their coming to Zion, the city of Yahweh, in the time of trouble, as described in Psalm 46. Isaiah 43:19 makes a brief reference to the Way; "I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert...to give drink to my people, my chosen."

"It is possible that the presence of the Tarshish (Britain and America) powers in the land at this time will help in bringing about some Great Power stability in the area. There is a phrase used twice in Ezekiel, chapters 38 and 39, that may have some bearing on this. I will turn thee back (or about, R.V.) and put hooks in thy jaws (control of policies) and bring thee forth' (38:4). 'I will turn thee about, and will lead thee on, and will cause thee to come up' (39:2) The A.V. here appears incorrect, see R.V. R.S.V. and Brother Thomas). The language suggests that there has been an arresting of Gog's progress, a driving back, in order that he can be 'turned about and brought forth.' It may be that it is during this temporary reversal of Gog's progress that the land is able to dwell safely and at rest."

Israel to Dwell in Peace

Unwalled villages = open region, hamlets. Jerusalem in the future is so described in Zec. 2:4. The same word is also used in Est. 9:19.

At rest= in peace and security. Used in Joshua and Judges and elsewhere to describe the land dwelling at rest after a period of strife, e.g. Judg 8:28. It occurs in Judg 18:7,27 "quiet". It is used to describe Israel at rest in the Kingdom, e.g. Jer 46:27.

Safely= securely, confidently. Found in many passages and again used to describe Israel dwelling safely in the Kingdom in Zec 14:11

Without walls= straightforward word for walls. Contrast in the laws of redemption in the Jubilee, between towns with walls and unwalled villages Lev. 25:31.

cont...

Without bars and gates = bolts, locks, and doors. Towns had their protective wall with doors that could be secured. Villages did not have this protection.

Having gotten cattle and goods. v13 adds to this silver and gold. Straightforward acquiring of livestock and possessions.

In the midst of the land. This is an interesting phase, it only occurs here and Jud 9:37. Strong defines midst as "from an unused root meaning to pile up; properly, accumulated; i.e. (by implication) a summit". Brown-Driver as "those dwelling upon the navel of the earth, i.e. upon the mountainous country of Israel, central and prominent in the earth".

A time-period <u>before</u> the Jews accept Messiah

"So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day forward. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name; After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid" (Eze 39:22,25,26).

State of Trespass:

Trespasses= unfaithful, treacherous acts. Often used of idolatry; e.g. Ez 14:13, 15:8; 18:24; 20:27. In Ez 17:20 it is used of trusting in Egypt to defend Israel. Whatever form the unfaithfulness takes at this time, it is evident that they are not trusting in their God to defend them. It is clear that today that they very much trust in their weapons of war and in the leagues that they have made. The terrible time of the invasion is God's punishment for their unfaithfulness.

cont...

We must also see another strand to the unfolding drama. There is to be a remnant who are purged through the fiery trials. This will be the third part of Zec 13:9 and the remnant described in Malachi ch 3. It is Malachi ch 4 that speaks of the sending of Elijah before the great and terrible day of the Lord. So out of a period of unfaithfulness when the nation trusts in the arm of the flesh and is defeated, there will emerge a remnant who will form the nucleus of the Kingdom.

The Sequence

-Jews return to Israel as our generation has witnessed-in unbelief.

-At some time they dwell safely, etc. described as a time when they are yet trespassing against God.

-In the time between the resurrection and the going forth from Sinai, Elijah is sent to sound an alarm in Israel of the coming day of judgment and to ready the remnant to receive Messiah.

-Israel is invaded by the Gogian confederacy and many are scattered out of the land, and many destroyed.



The Sequence cont...

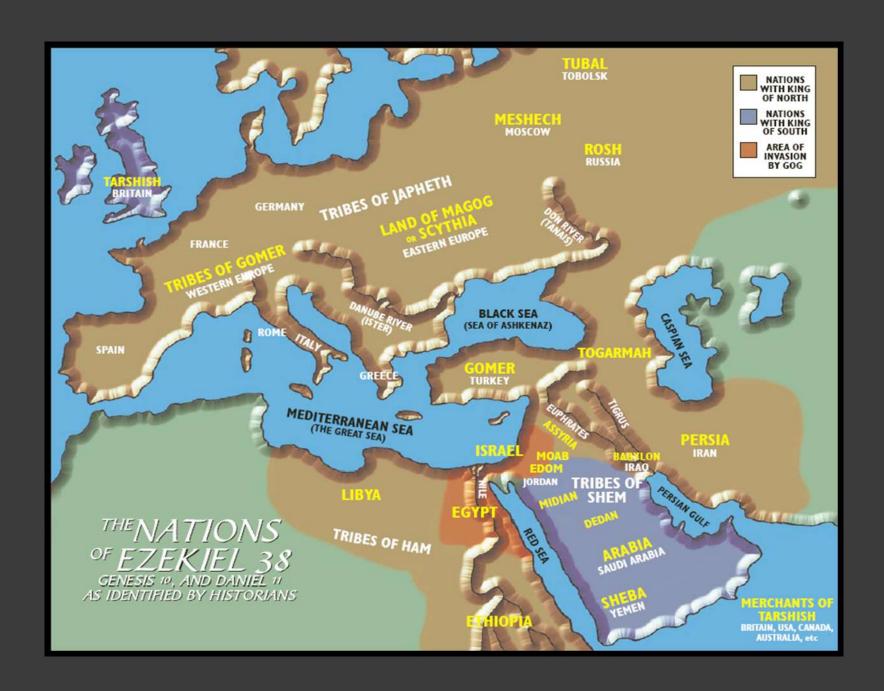
- -Yahweh manifest in Yahshua/Saints rise up in righteous anger to meet the enemy.
- -The enemy in the land destroyed: the borders of the "First Dominion" are secured.
- -A Jewish remnant survive who then recognize their Saviour-Zech 12:10



Jews brought back-the "bringing again" (for the final time) of the captivity of Jacob and Israel.

Composition of Gog's Army

JAPHETH	HAM	SHEM
Rosh Meshech Tubal	Ethiopia Libya	
Gomer Togarmah Persia		



Two Views

 Christ returns to Jerusalem with literal angels (Matt 25:30-31)

In dramatic fashion to the world.

- "Coming with the clouds of heaven-literal not symbolic
- "Before him are gathered all nations...as a shepherd divideth the sheep from the goats."

Judgment happens at Jerusalem vs Sinai.

 The mourning tribes are the Jews redeemed from the Arabsround-about.

The Arabs are the facilitator that force the Jews to cry to Yahweh.

• The "peace and safety" is facilitated by Christ which then entices Gog to come down.

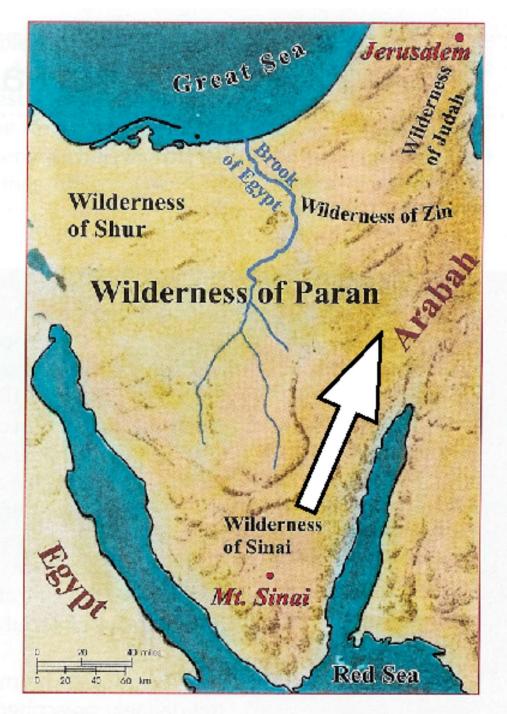
Yet they still trespass against the Almighty Ezek 39:22-26

Two Views

- Christ returns as a thief to the world-Rev 16:15, some of the household will be caught unawares.
- Judgment in Sinai (Psa 68:17, Deut 33:1-3)
- The March of the Rainbowed Angel-the Multitudeness Man (Hab 3:1-3)
- "Honour of the Saints" to bind kings with fetters of iron and to execute judgment. (PSa 149).
- The saints are with Christ when they arrive in Jerusalem-Mt. of Olives. (Zech 14:5).
- All nations gathered against Israel not just the Arabs (Joel 3:2, Zech 14:2, Zech 12:2-3, 6)

Two Views cont...

- The saints are to <u>take</u> the kingdom in Dan 7-not literal angels.
- What about the God
 Manifestation aspect in Joel, Isa
 30 and the Cheribum aspect in
 Ezek 1:12-13?



Deut 33:2 "The Lord 'is to come' (Hebrew) from Sinai..."

Hab 3:3 "Yahweh 'is to come' (Hebrew) from Teman and the Holy One from mount Paran."

Psa 68:17 "The chariots of Yahweh are twenty thousands of changed ones' the Lord is among them from Sinai into the sanctuary' (Hebrew)."

Man of the wildernesses

Israel's Scattering-Future

- Jeremiah says, "Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble...(30:7).
- Likewise Zechariah speaks of these days saying that Jerusalem "shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished…"(14:2).
- Habakkuk too writes of the time when Gog will "invade them with his troops", and the subsequent desolation is described in the words, "the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines" (3:16,17).
- And Joel describes the scattering of Israel by the nations, the parting of "My land" and "they have cast lots for my people" Tyre, Zidon and the coasts of Palestine-Gaza (Joel 3:2-4).

Insightful References:

- 1. Ezek 11. Here the prophet speaks of the time of Israel's restoration when the people would be regathered (vs 17) and "they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence. And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you...that they may walk in my statutes, and...they shall be my people, and I will be their God" (v. 18-20).
- Ezek 36 vs 24-27, and then "a new new spirit will I put within you...I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes".
- 3. Ezek 39 speaking after the overthrow of Gog "Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord God" (vs 29).

Scriptural Forks in the Road

- I. Israel back in Egypt, Isa 19:20 & Deut 28:68, Zech 10:10-12, Isa 11:15, Hos 11:11.
- 2. Jersusalem "the city" taken, the Jews scattered, Zech 14:2 (Edom, Moab and Egypt) Isa 16:3-5.
- 3. Christ with the Saints come to Jerusalem from the south (Sinai), Deut 33:2, Isa 34, Isa 63:1, Zech 14:4-5, Hab 3, Psa 68:17.
- 4. When and how does Elijah come and for how long prior to Armaggedon? Mal 4:4-6. Will forty years encompass both the saving of Judah and the return of Ephraim?
- Invasion by Gogian confederacy (Russia/Europe with Persia, Libya, Ethiopia) not Confederate Arabs "round about", i.e. literal Iraq/Babylon and/or literal Syria.



cont...

- Christ returns as a "thief" (Rev 16:15) to Sinai for Judgment of the Saints, not Jerusalem in dramatic appearance to the world with an Angelic Host with Judgment following.
- 7. Israel (natural) dwells in self-made "peace" while trespassing against the Almighty prior to the Invasion of the Land. Isa 17:10, Ezek 39:23-29, Ezek 38:11-12, & 14
- 8. The Jews in great distress "cry" to Yahweh, Isa 19:20, Isa 41:14, & 17,
- 9. The city taken captive Zech 14:2
- 10. The purging of the one third, Zech 13:8-9, Joel :2 & 6



"Here is the setting of history's greatest battle: Armageddon (Rev 16:16)! It was in Jerusalem that Jew and Gentile, as the Seed of the Serpent, killed God's holy Son; it will be at Jerusalem that the final chapter will be written, as the Seed of the Woman crushes the power of the Serpent. But firstly, Jerusalem will feel the full effects of fleshly dominance. All nations will be represented in the initial clash, and it will seem that Russia is successful over its enemies, for Jerusalem is sacked and her people greatly distressed (Zech 14:1-2). Britain and the West are humiliated (Psa 48:7) and driven back from Jerusalem (Isa 16:4-7), so that Gogue stands supreme."

Yet he shall come to his end:-He is destroyed, but not by the Tarshish power, but by the immortalized army of Christ, which has moved northwards in answer to the anguished cry of Israel (Ezek 37:11). Divine vengeance is exacted against Gogue (Zech 14:3), and saviours come to the aid of Zion (Joel 3:16; Obad 21). The "great fury" of Gogue (Dan 11:44) is met with the "fierce anger" of Yahweh (Zeph 3:8), and the "fire of his wrath" (Ezek 38:18-19), so that the political Seed of the serpent is crushed."

Daniel Expositor: pg. 343 HPM.

Catherine the Great

"The sovereign must be autocratic, for no other form of government but that which concentrates all power in his person is compatible with the dimensions of a state as great as ours...Any other form of government would be not only harmful, but utterly ruinous for Russia."



4 | 4

"In the name of the most holy and indivisible Trinity, we, Peter the Great, unto all our descendants and successors to the throne and government of the Russian nation. The All-Powerful, from who we hold our life and our throne, after having revealed unto us his wishes and intentions, and after being our support, permits us to look upon Russia as called upon to establish rule over all Europe... We look upon our invasion of the West and the East as a decree of Divine Providence, which has already once re-generated the Roman empire by an invasion of barbarians...We found Russia a small rivulet, we leave it an immense river. Our successors will make it an ocean, destined to fertilize the whole of Europe."





END

10.





The Mood of the new nation of Israel expressed by Ben Gurion 1948:

"Always we shall demand of the world what is justly ours. But morning and evening, day in and day out, we must remind ourselves that our existence, our freedom and our future, are in our own hands. Our own exertions, our own capacity, our own will, they are the key."

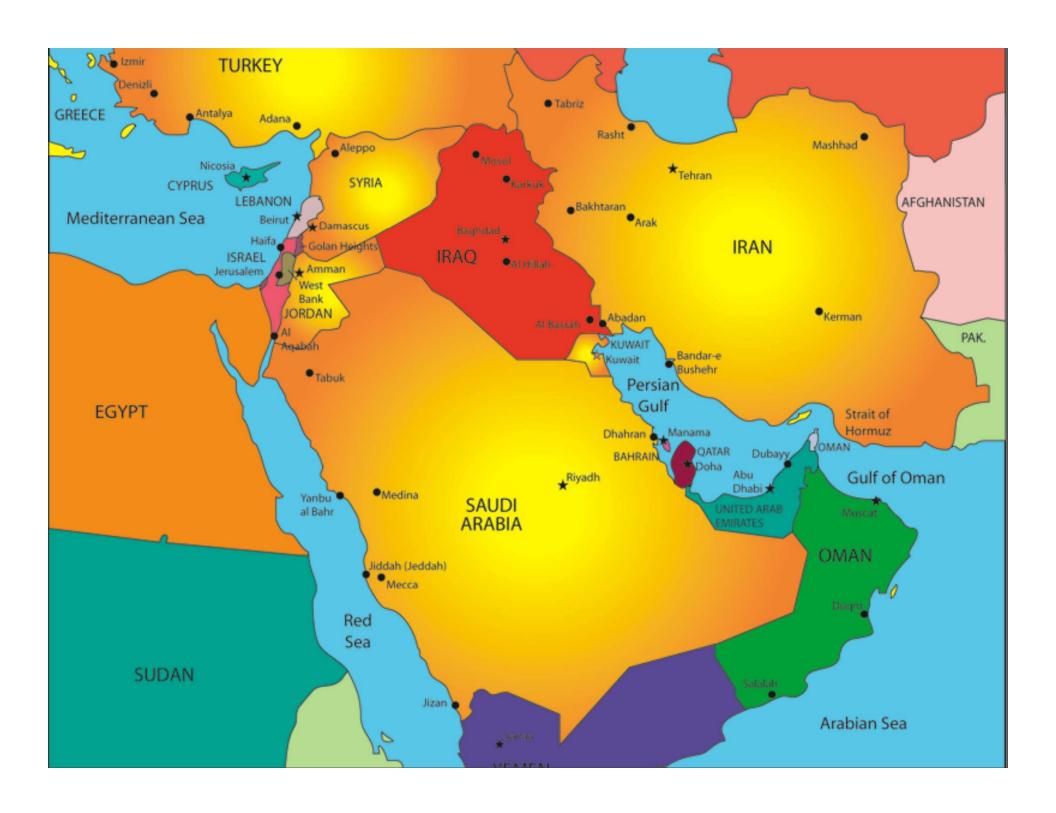
Contrast these words to Jer 31:10 "He (Yahweh) who scattered Israel will gather him."

cont...

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cont...

We must also see another strand to the unfolding drama. There is to be a remnant who are purged through the fiery trials. This will be the third part of Zec 13:9 and the remnant described in Malachi ch 3. It is Malachi ch 4 that speaks of the sending of Elijah before the great and terrible day of the Lord. So out of a period of unfaithfulness when the nation trusts in the arm of the flesh and is defeated, there will emerge a remnant who will form the nucleus of the Kingdom.



Arab-Muslim Approach:

- 1. That view holds that an Arab confederacy overruns/scatters Israel.
- 2. Christ returns (in dramatic appearance to the world) with his angles to Jerusalem to redeem Israel and establish the Kingdom.
- 3. Judgment of the Saints then follows. The unwalled villages and the peace and safety is established.
- 4. Gog is enticed down to Zion because of the peace and safety, and is opposed and defeated by Christ and the Saints/Israel on the mountains of Israel in the battle of Armagheddon.

Ezek 39:25-26

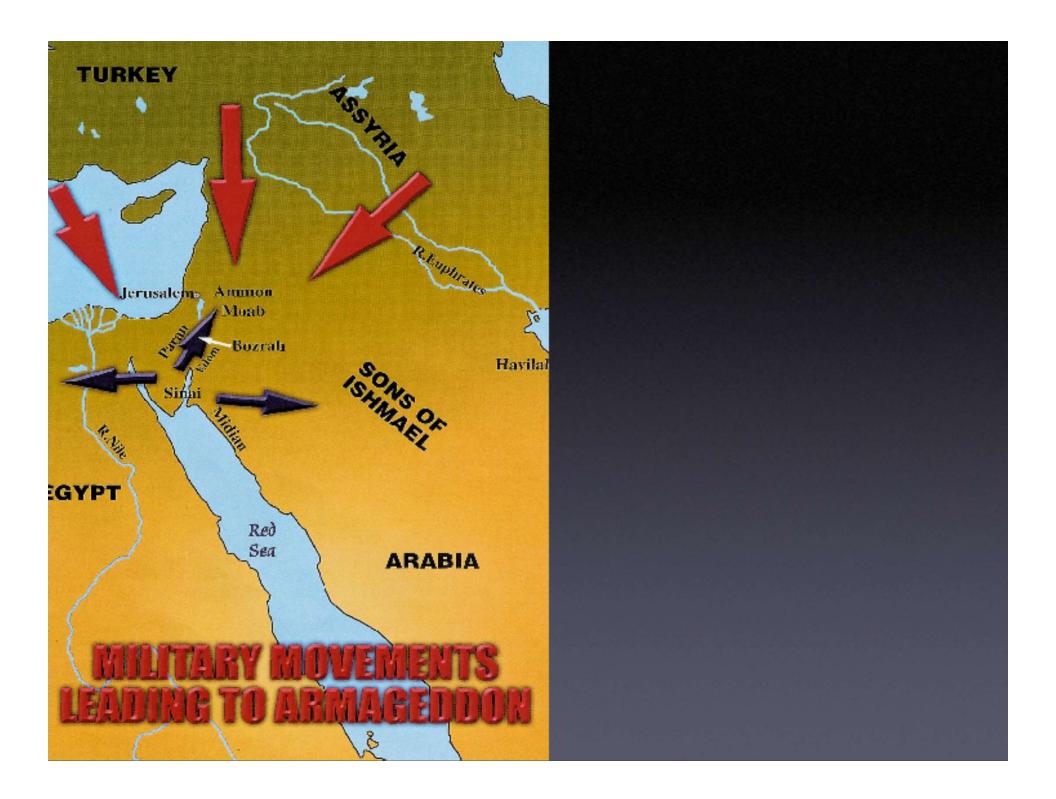
"Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name; After that they have borne their shame [the chastening of the Gogian invasion] and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid."

Conditions Required prior to Gog's Descent:

- I. The people that are gathered out of the nations (the Jews) are to be dwelling "in the midst of the land" (the navel of the land is the translation from Ezek 38:12 "midst of the land", this is the West bank, the Mountains of Judea & Samaria), And upon the mountains of Israel (Ezek 38 vs 8 & 12). This location is also described as being "the land of Israel" (vs 18). It is the West Bank. So the land identified corresponds to the W.B., the area taken back by Israel in 1967!
- 2. They are to be there "dwelling safely" or securely or confidently (vs 8, 11 and 14). Their condition is to be one of a "land of unwalled villages...at rest, that dwell safely (or carelessly)...without walls, and having neither bars nor gates (vs 11)".
- 3. They are a "wealthy nation", a "hypocritical nation" (Isa 10:6), having gotten cattle and goods (economic prosperity, self-dependence/reliance). Yet this "peace and safety" is considered a trespass against the Almighty and is to their shame (Ezek 39:26).

Cont...

- 4. The unwalled villages and the peace and safety of Ezekiel's prophecy is then believed to have been established as a result of Christ and the saints present in the Land.
- 5. Gog is then enticed down to Zion because of the peace and safety, and is opposed and defeated by Christ and the Saints/Israel on the northern mountains of Israel in the battle of Armageddon. Additionally, Gog never enters into Jersusalem.



Israel to Dwell in Peace

Unwalled villages = open region, hamlets. Jerusalem in the future is so described in Zec. 2:4. The same word is also used in Est. 9:19.

At rest= in peace and security. Used in Joshua and Judges and elsewhere to describe the land dwelling at rest after a period of strife, e.g. Judg 8:28. It occurs in Judg 18:7,27 "quiet". It is used to describe Israel at rest in the Kingdom, e.g. Jer 46:27.

Safely= securely, confidently. Found in many passages and again used to describe Israel dwelling safely in the Kingdom in Zec 14:11

Without walls= straightforward word for walls. Contrast in the laws of redemption in the Jubilee, between towns with walls and unwalled villages Lev. 25:31.

cont...

Without bars and gates = bolts, locks, and doors. Towns had their protective wall with doors that could be secured. Villages did not have this protection.

Having gotten cattle and goods. v13 adds to this silver and gold. Straightforward acquiring of livestock and possessions.

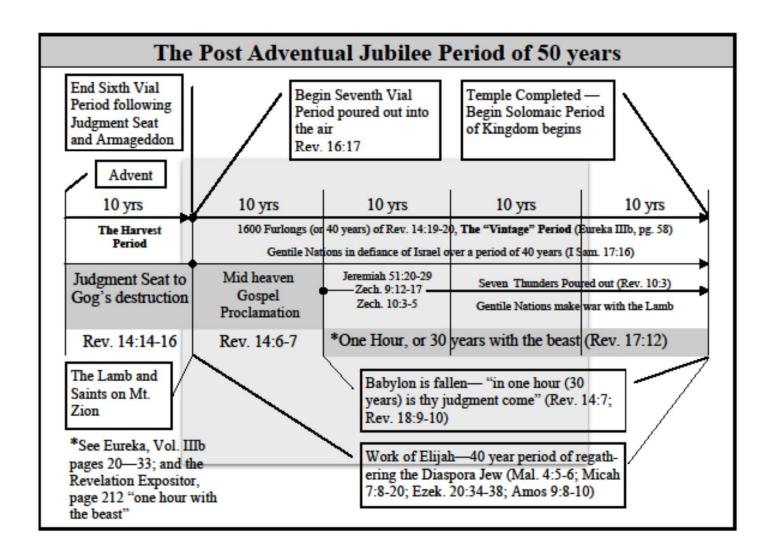
In the midst of the land. This is an interesting phase, it only occurs here and Jud 9:37. Strong defines midst as "from an unused root meaning to pile up; properly, accumulated; i.e. (by implication) a summit". Brown-Driver as "those dwelling upon the navel of the earth, i.e. upon the mountainous country of Israel, central and prominent in the earth".

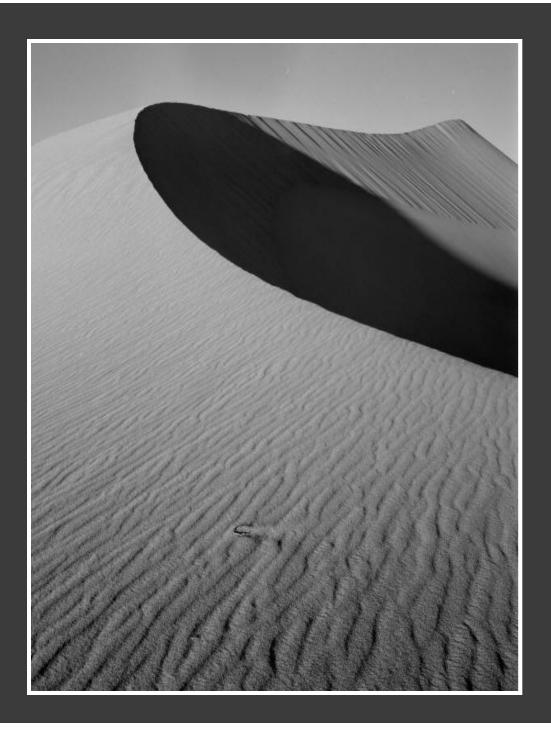
A time-period <u>before</u> the Jews accept Messiah

"So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day forward. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name; After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid" (Ezek 39:22,25,26).

Bro. Bernard Burt:

-"It appears clear from researches into these published expositions that the view that the return of the Jews to the land, which began with the Zionist movement in 1897 was the fulfillment of the prophecy of the valley of dry bones, was the interpretation given to the prophecy by some leading Zionists and non-Christadelphian students of the day and that the brethren adopted this interpretation and publicized it despite the existence of quite different exposition of the prophecy in the writings of Dr. Thomas." "By no stretch of the imagination can the spirit of independence and self-reliance which pervades modern Israel (identified as the trespass while dwelling in peace and safety) be correctly styled God's spirit, as some maintain." (J. Allfree).









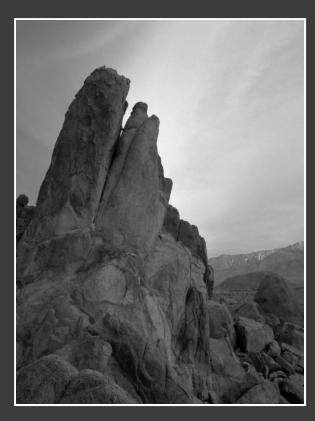


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