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**Telephone: 503 292 4352**

• **Internet:** [www.askelm.com](http://www.askelm.com) •

**E-Mail:** [askoffice@askelm.com](mailto:askoffice@askelm.com)

# The Breakup of the Soviet Union

by Ernest L. Martin, Ph.D., September 1991 (January 1982)

Transcribed and edited by David Sielaff, March 2012

Read the accompanying [Newsletter for March 2012](#)



**Editor's Note:** Why should anyone in 2012 care about the breakup of the Soviet Union that took place in 1991? Dr. Martin's article shows how major events involving dozens of large and small nations can occur very quickly. Then he gives a sequential rundown of biblically identifiable prophetic events that are yet to occur in our future, events that do not involve the Soviet Union or Russia. DWS

[Dr. Martin:] I am making this tape in September 1991 in the wake of the declaration of a congress assembled at the Kremlin in Moscow, to declare that the political state known as the Soviet Union is no longer in existence. No one would have thought two years ago in the political circles of this country or anywhere else that such a phenomenon would take place so soon. People are and were astonished that the Soviet Union that had been around since 1917 is now no more as a political state. Of course, the Russian people are still there, the Ukrainian people are there, the Georgians are still at their place, but they are all beginning to ask for liberty and for freedom.

## *Introduction* [1991 tape]

The republics that make up the former Soviet Union are beginning to ask for independence. As of now the three Baltic states have their independence. It is in the news almost every day, how others want the same type of independence.

I gave a lecture back in January 1982 titled "The Soviet Union in Prophecy." You need to read what I said at that time, almost 10 years ago [30 years ago now in 2012, DWS]. Back then I understood, when I was studying the prophecies of the Scriptures, that there would not be a Soviet Union much longer in existence in Asia and Europe.

I saw that because anyone who reads the Bible should be able to piece the Scriptures together of the Old and New Testaments dealing with the Second Advent of our Lord back to this earth, and by looking at the political or the historical scene that the prophecies were describing, they should be able to conclude that there could not be a Soviet Union in existence as there was in 1982 when I gave this lecture.

In fact, I said that within 15 years, and certainly no more than 20, there would be no Soviet Union. Well, I had my “words” fulfilled. It was not a prophecy by me; it was simply understanding and reading the Scriptures. I am not a prophet. I never have claimed to be, and I am not one in any way. But I can read my Scripture, and see basically what it is saying. I do not understand it perfectly, none of us do, but with the aid of the Holy Spirit of God, as we get closer to the time of the end, the Bible itself says that **“knowledge shall be increased”** (Daniel 12:4), and the apostle Peter says there will be **“times of restitution of all things”** (Acts 3:20–21).

All the knowledge and understanding that the early apostles and prophets had will come back to us who have the Spirit of God. That means you. That means me. That means others who have that Spirit of God, and there are many people who do. That does not mean that the entire world does, because these things will be hidden to the world. As time gets closer to the end we shall know more and more about even the time sequences and schedules for the prophetic themes mentioned in the Old and the New Testaments as they develop, and note their conclusion or their fulfillment.

In January 1982 it was quite evident to me that what was happening in the Soviet Union, with its strong, militaristic, atheistic state at that time, could not fulfill the prophecies of the Old and the New Testaments. This was because a fundamental change had to take place there, certainly in Eastern Europe. In the last two years we have seen revolutionary changes. Hardly anyone would have imagined them, yet they are happening before our eyes.

The two Germanys are united. The Berlin Wall is now gone. The communist bloc countries in Eastern Europe are now mostly independent and free of what was the Soviet Union. These teachings that I gave back in 1982, you will find almost everything I said then is pertinent today. I said that within 15 years, or 20 at the most, there will not be a Soviet Union. What I said has now come to pass.

In fact it came a little quicker than I thought it would, about 5½ years before I thought it might occur. You see, things are going to be speeded up. The Scripture actually indicates things of that nature if we look carefully at them. The Bible shows there will be a revival of biblical truth. The Soviet Union as it was back in 1982, in 1989, until a few weeks ago, was a completely atheistic state, having no desire to allow religion to have influence in any way, and certainly not the religion of the Bible, though many people there believe in the scriptural revelation.

That union of Soviet republics was an atheistic state and in no way could the prophecies mentioned in the Scripture be fulfilled when it says that the world will come to an understanding of a biblical revelation, and the Bible will gain a new respect amongst peoples around this world. That is clear in the Scripture. It will happen. There will be **“times of restitution of all things”** (Acts 3:21), and you and I will be part of those events.

Those things could not happen with the Soviet Union being as it was in 1982. That is why I could say quite confidently, for the prophecies of the Bible to be fulfilled that there could not be a Soviet Union, an atheistic state existing as it was in 1982. It had to be dismantled. It had to break up. That is what is happening at the present time.<sup>1</sup> I gave that January 1982 lecture because there were evangelicals saying that maybe

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<sup>1</sup> Remember always Psalm 74:17; Acts 17:26, and particularly Job 12:23: **“He increases the nations, and destroys them: he enlarges the nations, and straitens them again.”**

As of March 2012, there have been 20+ years since Dr. Martin gave this 1991 introduction and 30 years since his 1982 lecture. At this moment in time Russia is becoming somewhat stronger economically. It is perhaps the world’s largest oil producer, although its delivery costs are far greater than those of the other largest oil producers. While its nuclear arsenal is considerable, it has little desire or ability to project conventional military power beyond its borders. In 1990 the Soviet Union was a country with 290 million people (“[1990 CIA World Factbook](#)”). Russia’s population in 2012 is about 138 million people.

Furthermore, Russia’s population is decreasing because its people are not bearing enough children. Russia has more deaths than births every year. The death rate is 23/1000 people per year while the birth rate is 16/1000 people per year. Furthermore, 1/1000 people move from Russia each year. Source: “[Russia, 2012 World Factbook, Population, CIA Database](#).” Most demographers believe this death/birth ratio is far below the ability of a population to recover, although some recent evidence shows fertility rates improving somewhat. See “[Ten Myths about Russia’s Demography](#).” DWS

the great tribulation would begin that year. I knew that was not going to occur. Some were saying it would occur in 1988, but that was not in the Bible either. So I had to show there was not going to be a great tribulation happening in those years. They were also saying that the Soviet Union, which they associated primarily with the great Russian Republic, would swoop down on Israel and take it over, believing that Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 would be fulfilled. I have given lectures and written for years showing that this was not the case. It was time to put into a proper historical environment what the Bible actually does say.

This was done in 1982, and I am not trying to show that I am a prophet or that I know more knowledge than anybody else on these subjects. I do not. But I will tell you there is one thing unique about me, and I think it is unique about most of us who are a part of ASK. We believe the Bible when we can see from its original languages what it is really saying. We have the ability to believe what it says is true. I do not have the slightest doubt that the Bible teachings on prophecy will come to pass.

It is because of that confidence that the Bible is the Word of the Living God that I could make this lecture in 1982 to show that there would not be a Soviet Union with that type of government within a 15 or 20 year period. It had to be within that because the last 40 years of activity of life on earth is described pretty well in the biblical revelation. That 40 years is shown to be a period when people will be interested in the Bible once again, the Old Testament and the New Testament. That means people will start getting interested in what the Bible says rather than what men are saying, what popes are saying, what evangelists are saying, or what ministers of the Gospel are saying in pulpits or in literature.

Most of the teachings today called Christianity are nothing more than warmed-over paganism. They have taken the names of Christ and the apostles and some of the doctrines of the Bible and they have done nothing more than to title pagan teaching with those holy and august terms. This warmed-over paganism is a form of idolatry. It is all over this world, and it is particularly evident in the Christian world today.

The Bible says clearly there will be a return to the scriptural revelation. People will begin to believe it once more. To do that in the Soviet Union, there could not be a strong military, atheistic state in the generation prior to the second coming of Christ, as we find in the Soviet Union from 1917 to 1982, or we should say up to 1991. That state no longer exists.

The Russian people and the Ukrainian people are there. They are some of the nicest people of the world, as all people are if they can have the Gospel of Christ. They will be given the Gospel. They will be able to understand it in many cases. They cannot be given the biblical teaching if the bibles going to them are false to begin with. This world needs the complete and thorough Bible restored, the legitimate Bible, the original Bible. This is why my work, *Restoring the Original Bible* has been brought up to date [1994] so people can see the need of this revelation that left the hands of the prophets and the apostles.

The start is the Bible itself, but the teachings of the Bible are still being hidden underneath the rubbish pile of paganism over the centuries. We need to bring those essential truths back into the open so that the intellectual people of the world, the ordinary people walking the street, can understand these teachings of the Scripture clearly and plainly. We have to get rid of this paganism that has permeated Christendom. When the people of Russia and Ukraine and Georgia, and the people of Japan, China, India, and other places of the world, finally begin to see the real Scripture, they will turn back to it.

In fact, there cannot even be an Antichrist to come and take control of the earth unless people are looking for a Christ to come, and looking for the doctrines of the Bible to be put back into existence, to be important, relevant, and to be true. Then the Antichrist will take the beautiful doctrines of Scripture and he will misapply them. He will misuse them.

It will not be an atheistic type of government that will take over the world. It will not be Islam that takes over the world finally. It will be a type of what people call Christianity: biblical teaching which has been misused by people in authority. What we need to do is to get out the truth, motivated by God's Holy Spirit, so that people can really begin to understand what the Bible is all about.

We know that we are not here to convert everyone in the world. That is up to God in the first place. What we have to do is to provide to the world, to anyone who wants it, the divine truth of the Scripture. It

comes by exalting the Scripture itself. That is why I hope all of you will read *Restoring the Original Bible*.<sup>2</sup> We will have truth in this world that all will rejoice in. It will not only be ourselves, it will be the people who formerly were in the Soviet Union — the Russians, the Ukrainians, the people of the Baltic States, and all the way to the Pacific Ocean. It will also go into Japan, China, India, and places like that. We are part of something that God is doing. He is bringing to pass the restoration of all things (Acts 3:20–21). All of us together, are a part of that beginning. We ought to thank God that we can have a part in it.

I want you to consider this information that I presented in January 1982. It was titled “The Soviet Union in Prophecy.” The only thing I would change is this: at the end where I speak about Gog, the person mentioned in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39, I said that he was no doubt an Amalekite. Lately I have come to believe, though that may be true, he could come from the Amalekite territory, or he could be an Amalekite who is mimicking that he is Jewish or perhaps a Son of David. I do not know particularly on that point yet. Other than that, pay attention to this information that is as pertinent today as it was then. I said that in 15 to 20 years there would not be a Soviet Union. Here we are in September 1991 and there is no Soviet Union.

### *The Soviet Union in Prophecy* [1982 tape]

The title of this lecture is “The Soviet Union in Prophecy.” The Soviet Union will not invade the small nation of Israel in 1982. Nor will they do it, as so many are predicting, in the year 1988 or in 1997. Some people are saying 2007. [They were obviously wrong. DWS]

The reason they are saying 1988 is because of the parable of the fig tree mentioned by Christ not long before His crucifixion when he said when you see the fig tree bloom or blossom you know the summer is nigh (Matthew 24:32–33; Mark 13:28–29; Luke 21:29–30). The fig tree is normally looked upon as Israel, and there is reason for believing that. He also said that, **“This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled”** (Matthew 24:34; Mark 13:30; Luke 21:32). It is normally accepted that a generation is either 30 years or perhaps 40 years.<sup>3</sup>

Since Israel became a nation in 1948, if you go 30 years from that time, you come to 1978. Nothing happened at that time as we know. Some are saying that 1982 may be the time when Christ will come back for his church because they believe in the pre-tribulation rapture. There are great difficulties with that view.<sup>4</sup> Jesus Christ will not come back in 1982. There are too many things in prophecy that need to take place for it to happen that early. He will not even come in 1988. After that time I think we need to be looking very carefully. Since the start of the nation of Israel in 1948, if you add 40 years and you come to 1988. Perhaps that may be when He comes. However, the Israelis did not capture Jerusalem, their capital, until June 1967. Thirty years from 1967, you come to 1997. Forty years, you get 2007. That takes us out pretty far.

I am giving you these dates to show what people are calculating. We have been indicating for many years that we should not be date setting. We are not doing that. We are telling you what people are saying today, and in fact, many are saying it to their folly. They should not do it because Christ Jesus said clearly we should not set dates; no one knows when His Second Coming would take place, not even Christ Himself (when He said those words), and not the holy angels (Matthew 24:36; Mark 13:32).

### *The Soviet Union and Gog*

Some are saying the Soviet Union may soon invade Israel, perhaps in this year of 1982 or certainly before 1988 because we find in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 two prophecies about a northern horde of

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Martin’s book *Restoring the Original Bible* is **NOT** a new translation. It explains the design and development of Scripture and how God-authorized men authorized the Bible. It is a fascinating story. You will learn more about the Bible from this book than from any other. It will open your understanding about how the Bible was written and what it contains. DWS

<sup>3</sup> Before Dr. Martin died in January 2002, his research led him to change his understanding regarding the length of the special generation just before Christ’s return. See his article, [“The ‘Great Generation’ and Modern Prophecy.”](#) DWS

<sup>4</sup> See Dr. Martin’s controversial information: [“Chapter 17: The Rapture Theory - Its Surprising Origin”](#) from his book *The Essentials of New Testament Doctrine*. DWS

peoples led by a man called Gog. He will come down upon and attack a land of unwalled villages and there take them over and be finally met by the presence of God and Gog will be destroyed. After that will come a time of peace and prosperity. They mistakenly look for the Soviet Union to fulfill that prophecy in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39.

The fact is, the Soviet Union as a political government will not, nor could they, fulfill that prophecy in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39. In fact, the Soviet Union as a government will never invade Israel. Indeed, there is reason to believe that **there will not be a Soviet government around on this earth in another 15 to 20 years**. Of course, there will be the Russian people in 1997, 15 years from now, but I did not say the Russian people will not be here, I am saying there is every indication that the Soviet government as a communistic, atheistic government will not be here. I will explain shortly.

Let me tell you about Soviet communism as it exists at the present time. Do you know that the Soviet system of communism is dead as an ideological belief? When it started in 1917 many intellectuals and many people throughout Europe and even in the United States believed communism might be the answer to this world's problems. They thought it would provide a utopia so that mankind can finally live in peace and harmony and in prosperity with one another. It was put into effect in 1917 and 1918 in the Soviet Union. Since that time several other countries have taken it up. After the Second World War China also took up what they called communism.

The Soviet Union in its form of communism is militaristic. Everywhere communism has evolved in the world it finally comes down to a militarism, a kind of a dictatorship, whether it is one man in charge, as we find in Cuba, or maybe an oligarchy of individuals that we find in the Soviet Union at the present time.

As far as an ideological political system to govern mankind in an ideal way, everyone today in Western Europe, throughout the rest of the world, and certainly in our democratic republics in the western world and the United States, we know that Soviet communism is bankrupt — economically, morally, politically, and in every other way. They are a war machine and a military dictatorship hardly much different than the Nazi regime under Adolf Hitler, except that they have more power and authority at the present time.

However, what is happening in the Soviet Union itself and what is happening in the Soviet Bloc nations in Eastern Europe, in China, and in other communist nations?<sup>5</sup> We know what is occurring in Poland at this moment [January 1982]. The Russian government has insisted the Polish government crackdown on democratic processes taking place inside Poland recently. What they must do to control even the Soviet Bloc is to provide large numbers of troops to keep the people under control. This is because most people do not like to be told what to do, and the communist system is not one-for-all, it is a few at the top getting everything. People are afraid that the Soviet Union might invade Western Europe with their conventional and nuclear weapons. In no way would the Soviet Union do that. That is absolutely absurd.

### *The Weakness of the Soviet Union*

If the Soviet Union were invited into Western Europe, to come into London and control Great Britain, if they would be invited to Bonn in Germany, or Paris in France, or Rome in Italy, or wherever in the Western European countries, if they were to try to control it at the present time, they could not nor would they do it. Do you know why? It is because the people of Western Europe would not put up with it. They already know that the Soviet system is bankrupt. They know it is nothing more than a military dictatorship.

Do you think that free people who want to live in a certain amount of freedom and harmony, who want to get on with their own lives and have their own prosperity, would put up with Soviet communism which is nothing more than a dictatorship? Everyone knows that since the Second World War communism has failed absolutely and completely.

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<sup>5</sup> Dr. Martin knew that China was not under the control of the Soviet Union, he was stating that the authoritarian control in China and in the Eastern Bloc of nations of Eastern Europe was similar to that in the Soviet Union. Cuba, North Korea, and Vietnam were other examples in 1982 of authoritarian communist governments. DWS

I will tell you why the Soviet Union itself would not take over Western Europe: it would take too many Soviet communist troops to keep people under control in Western Europe, 250 million of them. The people would revolt time and time again. What would happen in the Eastern frontiers of the Soviet Union? China would seek to take over all of the territory east of the Ural Mountains in Asia. Under no circumstances would the Soviet Union do that.

There is another reason why they would not do such a thing. Do you know why the Soviet Union has so many military forces, putting the great majority of their national product into a military machine? The vast military is necessary to support the whole structure. They need it to control their own people.

Why was an "Iron Curtain" established after the Second World War around the Soviet Union and the Soviet Bloc of countries? It was to keep the Soviet people from getting out. The Soviet people and the individuals from the Soviet Bloc countries really want to be like us. They do not like to be controlled and governed like slaves, but they have been conditioned to accept it at the present time. The reason the military in the Soviet Union is so powerful is to maintain control of its own people.<sup>6</sup>

Let me tell you about the Soviet Union. It is not a homogeneous people as we have more or less in the United States. They have about 200 different ethnic groups and languages. They have quite a large number of religious groups in the area. Soviet communism espouses atheism, but most of the people do not like that, especially those on the southern fringes within the Soviet Union.

When you get down to it, if they had the chance to revolt to be themselves and be like the West where people are left relatively alone, they would take the chance immediately. On radio, on television, and even in movies in the Soviet Union, they began to see what is happening in the West. The young people in particular are very cognizant of what is happening in the West, what prosperity is, and that people can do as they want to. They copy us as much as they can. If they had the chance to revolt, they would do it. They cannot do it because the armed forces are in complete control. The people are under a dictatorship.

The Soviet Union can hardly feed themselves, let alone Poland. Yes, they will have to bail Poland out here in the early part of 1982. The rolling stock in the railways and the tractors they must have to farm the land, they are deteriorating all over. Yet they are building plenty of tanks, and submarines, and ships, and airplanes, and other weapons. The Soviet people will get fed up with this soon, and particularly you will find it in the Soviet Bloc. That is in Hungary, in Romania, and finally in Poland, where it is already happening.

So I will say that the Soviet government as it exists at the present time will be under intense pressure to give their people commodity goods like you and I have here, and like they have in Japan, Western Europe, and elsewhere. In other words, let people rejoice and be happy in their own lives. The governments will be under great pressure to allow that to occur.

If they thought for a moment to invade any other country, they would have the most difficult time to do it, especially to invade the Middle East. If they started to invade the Middle East, the Japanese would be upset, the United States would be upset, Western Europe would be upset, all Africa would be upset.

One power would be most upset. That would be the Arab group of peoples, the Islamic peoples. They believe in Allah. They believe in God. The communists do not believe in God. Do you think for a moment that all 500 million people who subscribe to Islam, Mohammedism today, who believe in God, differently than Christians, of course, but still they believe in God, that they would put up with an atheistic communist power coming and taking over those oil fields and the Middle East? Under no circumstances would they allow it. If they invaded the Middle East, China would take over the East,<sup>7</sup> and Western Europe would take over the Soviet Bloc of nations now under their control. The United States and the rest would take advantage of the whole situation.

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<sup>6</sup> They accept that condition because of the threat of deadly force by the national police and military. When the political and military will of the communist leaders began to falter, the people stopped listening and obeying their leaders. As a result the communist governments in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union collapsed. *DWS*

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Martin means the eastern portion of the Soviet Union mentioned earlier. *DWS*

## ***Why the Soviet Union Will Collapse***

From now on the Soviet Union will be retrenching. They will be going inward to themselves, and they will have to give their people more liberty. The more liberty they allow, it will be more difficult for the communist system to maintain tight control over the people. It is possible, though we are not predicting absolutely this, it is possible within 15 years there will not be a Soviet government because the people in Russia, in the Ukraine, in Georgia, Siberia, and other places, will no longer put up with this military dictatorship that has gelded them over the years.

Communism is bankrupt. It is dead ideologically and no one in the world wants communism any more. I will tell you what is on the upsurge: it is Christianity all over the world, and freedom of the individual, that type of idealism is now pervading this entire world.

The more that communications get going (and when you can even have a small radio or television set), the more it will get cheaper and cheaper. Communications will go around this world and people will want freedom and liberty. And the desire for the dignity of the individual will grow more and more in 15 to 20 years. Watch what happens to the Soviet Union. There may not be a Soviet Union in 15 or 20 years.

## ***Ezekiel and Gog***

When we get to Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39, it does say that a horde of northern powers under the leadership of a man called Gog will come against Israel at the end of the age. When will this occur? It could not possibly occur in 1982. Do you know why it could not? Anyone who reads Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 ought to see that instantly.

That one section of Scripture shows that the Soviet Union could not be the one, right now in 1982. When this northern power comes against Israel prior to the divine presence of almighty God back to this earth that is when that horde will come down. When that happens they will come against an Israel totally unlike the Israel that you and I know today. Ezekiel 38:11 gives the time when Gog and this horde of northern nations come against Israel. God through Ezekiel expresses what Gog was thinking:

***"I will go up to the land of unwallled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwel safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates."***

• ***Ezekiel 38:11***

There is the description, but read the whole prophecy, which tells you the condition of Israel when Gog and his hordes come against that nation. Israel is ***"the land of unwallled villages — that dwell safely — dwelling without walls — neither bars nor gates."*** Most people overlook this completely. There will not be an Israel of armaments protecting it, with military weapons and munitions.

It says this Gog and his horde will come against a country ***"of unwallled villages."*** Go to Israel today. Israel is an armed camp. Per capita for the 3 million Israeli citizens, Israel is the most armed nation on the surface of this earth. Is Israel presently in 1982 a ***"land of unwallled villages"*** and neither ***"dwelling without walls," "neither bars nor gates"***? Absolutely not. In no way could this prophecy take place in 1982.

Do you think that by 1988 Israel will be that way? If it is going to be that way, it still cannot happen. The land of Israel has to be, when this invasion takes place, a ***"land of unwallled villages,"*** with people ***"dwelling safely," "without walls,"*** without ***"bars nor gates."*** That is one of the benchmarks to help us to know when this prophecy will take place.<sup>8</sup>

What is Ezekiel in chapters 38 and 39 really talking about? Does it really mean that the Soviet Union or Russia sometime in the future will attack Israel? Read verses 1–3 and see who will attack these ***"unwallled villages"*** of Israel sometime in the future. These prophecies have never occurred in history, but they will occur just before a true divine presence of God onto this earth.

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<sup>8</sup> The only alternatives are (1) the prophecy is false, or (2) the prophecy is misunderstood completely. In either case, convincing biblical evidence must be presented. This prophecy has not yet happened in history, nor could it happen in 2012. DWS

**“And the word of YHWH came unto me, saying, ‘Son of man, set your face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus says the Lord YHWH; Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.’”**

• **Ezekiel 38:1–3**

The King James translation is a good one. Some people, however, who say that this word “chief” from the phrase **“the chief prince,”** comes from the Hebrew word *“rosh”* meaning it could be the “Rosh” people or the Russian people. This really is absurd. This word *rosh* which means “prince” is found over 600 times in the Old Testament, and almost always it means the head or top or the beginning or chief, but it never refers to a people in any way. The King James says it means the “chief” prince of Meshech and Tubal. That is very accurate to the Hebrew. This man’s name is Gog. We have not met with any Gog in Scripture so far; this is the first time.<sup>9</sup>

We find some indications of it later, but here he is introduced and he comes from the land Magog and he is the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. Some people say that Meshech means Moscow and Tubal means Tobolsk. There is no historical evidence to support that assertion. Meshech and Tubal when Ezekiel wrote this were not far up north at Moscow or near the Ural Mountains where Tobolsk is at the present time.

In fact, many of the nations mentioned here are clearly identified and they are near the Caucasus Mountains, going into (verse 5) Persia, Ethiopia (eastern Kush), Libya (the Hebrew is *phut*) and that probably means eastern Phut, people from Ham no doubt dwelling in India, certainly east of Persia. Gomer is with these people (verse 6). He gave rise to three children: Ashkenaz, Riphath, and the House of Togarmah (as it says in Genesis 10:3). We know that this Ashkenaz, son of Gomer, was associated with Mount Ararat. Mount Ararat in Eastern Turkey today (Asia Minor) is mentioned in Jeremiah 51:27. These nations are pretty well understood where they were. They were in the northern areas.

Some of the nations mentioned were east. In verse 13 where Sheba and Dedan are mentioned. These two nations were known as being in the Arabian Desert. It mentions the merchants of Tarshish. Tarshish was understood to be in the western part of the Mediterranean Sea basin. But most of the nations mentioned in the first verses of Ezekiel chapter 38 are located in the north area around the Black Sea and Caucasus Mountains.

**“... Thus says the Lord YHWH; Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: ...”**

• **Ezekiel 38:3**

They were no doubt around the Black Sea at that time. The biggest problem we have, and what we should look for if we are trying to understand this prophecy, what is the identity of Gog? He leads these northern nations coming against the unwalled villages of Israel.

### **Identifiers of Gog**

There are some identifying signs in chapters 38 and 39 which help. The first identifying sign of Gog is normally overlooked by most people. It is mentioned twice, in Ezekiel 38:4 and in 39:2. If we consider this sign, we would begin to know who Gog might be. Ezekiel tells us with words from God:

**“And I will turn you back, and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you forth, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armor, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: ...”**

• **Ezekiel 38:4**

The phrase **“I will turn you back”** is important. Look at verse 39:2 which says virtually the same thing:

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<sup>9</sup> There is a Gog mentioned as a descendant of the Israelite tribe of Reuben (1 Chronicles 5:1–4). There are breaks in Reuben’s genealogy, but he probably lived during or after Ezekiel’s prophecy. He is not the Gog being talked about here. DWS

**“And I will turn you back [speaking of Gog], and leave but the sixth part of you, and will cause you to come up from the north parts, and [I, God] will bring you upon the mountains of Israel.”**

• **Ezekiel 39:2**

This clause **“I will turn you back”** mentioned in Ezekiel 38:4 and 39:2 is very helpful in leading us in the direction of his identity, because these clauses say **“I will bring you back again.”** That is what it means. This shows the one coming against the land of Israel when it is unwalled and safe, was once himself in the land of Israel. God says I will put hooks in your jaw and bring you back. Back where? To the land of Israel. That man was once in Israel. Keep that in mind; it is important.

### **Gog and the Prophets**

This man called Gog had been spoken of by many earlier prophets. Have you ever read of Gog in Isaiah, or in the Psalms of David, or in Hosea, or in Joel, or Nahum, or Obadiah, or Zephaniah, Micah? I could mention all of them. You have never met him, have you? You have, but not by that name. Read chapter 38:17–18 because Ezekiel tells us whoever this Gog is, he was once in the land of Israel.

(1) God will bring Gog back to the land of Israel, and

(2) Gog was known by earlier prophets and they actually prophesied of him going to the land of Israel.

Verse 17 is also overlooked by many prophetic interpreters today. If they would look at this one passage, it would be helpful to show that clearly the Soviet Union or Russia is not being spoken of.

**“Thus says the Lord YHWH; ‘Are you he [Gog] of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those [old] days many years that I would bring you [Gog] against them? And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, says the Lord YHWH, that my fury shall come up in my face.’”**

• **Ezekiel 38:17–18**

So this man Gog had been spoken of **“in old time,”** not just recently in Ezekiel’s time. Note also it does not say **“a prophet of Israel,”** but it says **“prophets of Israel,”** in the plural. This man has been discussed many times in the prophecies of the Old Testament long before Ezekiel came along. Gog is coming against the land of Israel. Verse 17 says that this man has been talked about many years ago in old time by the prophets of Israel. He was discussed under a different name.

Of course, one individual may have several names or titles. Take the Beast in the Book of Revelation. In certain places he is called the antichrist, and he is. At the same time he is a wild Beast. The apostle Paul called him **“the Son of perdition.”** He also called him **“the man of sin”** in 2 Thessalonians chapter 2. In the same chapter Paul called him **“the wicked one.”** Isaiah speaks about the man of sin to come in the future, calling him **“the wicked one.”** Isaiah also says he is **“the Assyrian”** who is coming from the Assyrian area north around the southern part of the Caucasus Mountains in Mesopotamia.

We have many names for one man depending on the circumstances of which you are talking about him. Jesus Christ goes by many titles. We know of the name Gog here in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39. There is one reference to these two chapters in Revelation 20:8 about an event that takes place after the Millennium is over, when Satan is released from prison. Those are the only times you read the name Gog prophetically.

Ezekiel says **“the prophets of Israel”** of old spoke many times over many years about this man coming against the land of Israel in the latter days. Do you know there is prophecy after prophecy in Isaiah, in Hosea, in Joel, in Micah and in the Book of Jeremiah (practically contemporaneous with Ezekiel), that speak about Gog under a different name. When you put all the sequences of historical events and the prophetic scenario perfectly in place, you find this man goes by several names. He will exist just prior to the Second Coming of Christ. He is coming down from the north with a horde of people against unwalled villages of Israel, prophesied not only by Ezekiel but by several other prophets in the Old Testament.

There is one other thing to consider. We will see a great war in Palestine when this man comes against Israel the second time. He and his army will then be destroyed by the presence of Almighty God when a great earthquake takes place. At the end of that war it will take seven years to cleanse the land entirely of all the dead bodies and the bones. After that will come the great and peaceful Millennium of God.

Gog will be destroyed with his armies in the land of Palestine, in Israel, and it will be done when the presence of the Eternal comes from Heaven.

**“For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking [an earthquake] in the land of Israel; So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.**

**And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains [the mountains of Israel], says the Lord YHWH: every man’s sword shall be against his brother.”**

• **Ezekiel 38:19–21**

That is exactly what is described in Isaiah about the last battle that takes place on this earth in Palestine. It also is the same thing that Joel speaks about, and it exactly parallels Revelation chapter 19 when Jesus Christ comes back from heaven with His angels to war against the final rebellion with the Beast and the False Prophet here on earth. It parallels perfectly well. After that we have universal peace coming along, and then the great Millennium.

These chapters 38 and 39 of Ezekiel are premillennial. People have some difficulties on that because how in the world can it be premillennial when it says here that this man Gog comes up against this land of unwalled villages of a peaceful existence of Israel in Palestine.<sup>10</sup> You will see how that is possible. It is one of the biggest keys to show that it occurs just prior to the millennium.

I want to give a sketch of what is prophesied for the future that you find both in the Book of Daniel very clearly expressed, and in the Book of Revelation. I will not set any dates, but what is occurring in the Middle East at the present time seems to show me that many of the actors that are to be on the scene when these end-time events take place are getting ready to have a curtain call. I do not know how far in time it will be, but the Bible speaks about a 7-year period at the end of the age.

That 7-year period will be terminated by the Second Advent of Jesus Christ. This 7-year period will be cut in two. There will be one 3½-year period and then another 3½-year period. In the middle is a transition. These periods are referred to as **“a time, times, and half a time,”** 42 months, or 1260 days. They all come to 3½ years on one side and 3½ on the other. There is one “week” of years of trauma, of trial, of difficulty that will occur before the Second Coming of Christ. Most people do not know how to interpret these two 3½-year periods.

At the beginning of the first 3½ years a covenant will be made between the Jews of Palestine and this man who will become the Beast or the antichrist. He will not show himself as the Beast at first. It will be a 7-year covenant which is pretty clear when you go to the 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> chapters of the Book of Daniel.

The first 3½ years is when the two witnesses will be in Jerusalem. A new Temple will be built there. Finally at the end of their 3½ years, the two witnesses will be killed. After they are killed two other people then emerge. These two are called in the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Book of Revelation the Beast and the False Prophet. It says that the False Prophet will cause the entire world (save the small exception of those who have their name written in the Book of Life) to worship that Beast. The apostle Paul says he will sit in the Temple calling himself God. He will say that he is none other than the God of the universe, or Christ Jesus returned to this earth.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>10</sup> They mistakenly connect Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 with Revelation 20:8 which occur after the Millennium. DWS

<sup>11</sup> See Dr. Martin’s 1992 articles, [“The Life and Times of the Antichrist Part 1](#) and [The Life and Times of the Antichrist Part 2.”](#)  
DWS

It says in Revelation chapter 13 that the vast majority of people on this earth shall willingly want to worship him, because he will bring peace and tranquility to this world. The merchants, the entertainers, and others, as it says in Revelation chapters 17 and 18, will rejoice tremendously in this new Mystery Babylon that is coming on this earth. Peace and prosperity will come along because this man called the Beast will be supported by many miracles performed by the False Prophet. The joy of the world for these 3½ years will cause people to say that this man is divine. When Satan the Devil in the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of Revelation is expelled from heaven with his angels, he will come with a glorious display back to this earth. Most people will feel that this must be the Second Coming of Christ.

The Beast will be right on the scene and Satan the Devil will take him over [possess him]. He will go into the Temple proclaiming himself to be God. He will bring in what he will say is the great Millennium of God where control will be worldwide coming from Jerusalem. He will inaugurate almost all the things Jesus Christ is supposed to introduce when He returns to the earth. It will only last for 3½ years.

It will be so clever, as Christ told the apostles during the Olivet Prophecy, that even the very elect will almost accept this if they did not know better. He was talking to his apostles at the time. When this man, this Beast, this Antichrist comes on the scene he will introduce things that will make him seem he is indeed the Christ — God. People will believe him to be so.

When Jesus Christ does come back to earth, what will He introduce to this world after the war is over? He will cause armaments to be put into plowshares and pruning hooks, peace and prosperity and every man under his fig tree, and all that will come to pass when the true Christ comes back to earth.

Do you know what the false Christ will do? To get the world to worship him and believe he is Christ, he will do the same. The only ones he will war with are those who dispute his authority to rule and will not give him the obeisance or worship he demands. God can help us survive during that 3½-year period when the Beast will supposedly bring universal peace and prosperity into this world.<sup>12</sup>

Here is what this means. The last 7 years of existence on this earth before the Second Coming of Christ will be split into two:

- 3½ years on one side, the time of the two witnesses, a time of trouble and difficulty on earth as far as the world is concerned, then
- 3½ years of the Beast and the False Prophet.

The world will think that Beast is Christ, and the False Prophet is the Elijah to come. At that time there will be peace and prosperity. There will be disarmament all over the world. The only one controlling armaments, supposedly, will be this Beast himself.

Revelation chapter 13 says he will control the entirety of this world, because there will be 10 kings over this world [more on them below], who will give power to the Beast to support him in his activities. This Beast will bring in peace, prosperity, and disarmament. There will be no need for war any more.

### ***Unwalled Villages Become a Reality***

When the Beast will rule in Jerusalem as the Christ from the Temple, do you know what he will cause to happen to Palestine and the little nation of Israel as it exists today? Israel today is a camp armed for war, armed to the hilt. When they accept this covenant with this Beast and he portrays himself as the Christ (really the antichrist), he will cause peace and prosperity to come into the world and everyone will rejoice in it.

Look at Revelation chapters 17 and 18 again. For 3½ years people will like this Beast. The merchants will like him. The music people will like him. Cultural leaders will like him. The economists and politicians will like him. Everyone will seem to like him. This will seem to be the true Millennium that is beautiful and

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<sup>12</sup> See Dr. Martin's 1997 article, "[The Place of Safety](#)," his 1999 article, "[Personal Safety During End-Time Prophecy](#)," and his 2001 article, "[How to Fully Escape the Great Tribulation](#)." DWS

wonderful. But it is the wrong person. The Beast will supposedly introduce, as antichrist, the Millennium. Remember what the apostle Paul calls this time?

**“But of the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, ‘Peace and safety’; then sudden destruction comes upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.”**

• *1 Thessalonians 5:1–4*

There is coming a time of peace and safety before the Day of the Lord comes with the introduction of Jesus Christ back to this earth.

Remember Daniel 11:44: **“But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him,”** meaning this Beast, this man here called the king, **“therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.”** He establishes himself in the land of Palestine, but when he receives disturbing news in the north and the east, do you know what he does? This man discussed in Daniel leaves Jerusalem and he goes east and north to **“destroy”** and **“to make away many.”** It means he is going forth to conquer because of a revolt somewhere in the north.

Why would there be a revolt in the north and to the east at the end of this 3½-year period of peace before the Second Coming of Christ? The answer is in Revelation chapter 17. Associated with this man who will be the antichrist in Jerusalem will be 10 kings called 10 horns in Revelation 17:12:

**“And the ten horns which you saw are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour [a figure, meaning 3½ years] with the beast.”**

• *Revelation 17:12*

These 10 kings are part of his world system to bring peace to this world, a time of real prosperity, but then what happens? Toward the end of that 3½-year period, look at verse 16:

**“And the ten horns which you saw upon the beast, these shall hate the whore [the Beast and his system out of Jerusalem], and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.”**

• *Revelation 17:16*

In other words a revolt will take place at the end of this 3½-year period. Why does this happen?

**“For God has put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. And the woman which you saw is that great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth.”**

• *Revelation 17:17–18*

That city is Mystery Babylon, which is Jerusalem.<sup>13</sup> The 10 kings will revolt against the Beast who hears a noise out of the east and the north. He departs Jerusalem and goes to the east and the north areas to put down rebellion. He leaves Palestine unsupervised. For 3½ years Palestine will have been a country with unwalled villages, of safety and peace, with no walls and no bars on the gates. After all, it is a time when “Christ” supposedly is on earth.

The end of the first 3½ years is when the revolt starts because God puts it in the hearts of these kings to do so (Revelation 17:17). The Beast leaves Jerusalem empty. He goes to war with these kings. He gathers them (Daniel 11:44) and he is able to secure most of these kings. Once they are secured, he looks to his capital in Jerusalem left empty. Palestine is a land now of unwalled villages, having been so for 3½ years.

<sup>13</sup> Dr. Martin’s article, [“Mystery Babylon the Great,”](#) fully explains this identification. DWS

At this time he sees what is happening. This is when Christ Jesus will be introduced to this world, come down to Jerusalem and establish His government there. The Beast knows he has but a short time so he gathers the forces in the north and the east, the very regions where Gog gets his forces as mentioned in Ezekiel. Gog comes down upon Israel, a land of unwallled villages but he is coming now against the true Christ Jesus. He assembles his armies at Armageddon. He will make a pincer movement around Jerusalem, but that is where Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 come in. He will be utterly destroyed when Jesus Christ comes on the scene.

This is clearly the answer to Ezekiel chapter 38. This Gog was mentioned many times before. This word Gog probably means “Eminence.” It means someone very high. When the antichrist portrays himself as Christ, he will be the top man, which is what Gog means. He goes by many names, but when he comes back to Jerusalem, that is when he finally orders the world armies to take over in Jerusalem. He will be coming as top man against Jesus Christ come back from heaven.

### *Moses, Gog, and Amalek*

Ezekiel chapter 38:17 said that many of the prophets of old spoke of Gog. When the children of Israel came out of Egypt, before they arrived at Mount Sinai, they came in contact with a group of people known as the Amalekites. Moses had to hold up his hands, and Aaron and Joshua had to hold up his hands to make sure that Israel would prevail in battle. The Amalekites in the desert tried to wipe out Israel as a nation before they ever got out of Sinai. You will find that in 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Book of Exodus.

The Amalekites came from a man named Amalek. Genesis chapter 36 says Amalek was a grandson of Esau, the twin brother of Jacob. Jacob gave rise to Israel and the House of David. Esau, Jacob’s twin brother, had one characteristic that distinguished him from Jacob. Esau had hair like that of an animal. That was not bad because that was a symbol not only of royalty but it was a symbol of prophetic powers.

Esau had power over all the promises given to Abraham and Isaac, but they came to Jacob. Esau from that time forward felt that he was jilted, and no doubt he probably was. His descendant Amalek tried from that time to extinguish Israel from taking over all the promises.

The kings of the Amalekites had a most important title, something like Caesar or Pharaoh that we use today. Look at Numbers chapter 24. Balaam was the priest of Baal, but at this time he was under the spirit of God to give proper prophecies. He says that the name Agag was very high title (Numbers 24:7) and it is connected in verse 20 with the Amalekites.<sup>14</sup> This is made clear in 1 Samuel 15:8–9 and verses 32–33 where the Amalekite kings were known by the term Agag. Agag is very close to Gog. In fact, most commentators and theologians today connect Agag and Gog.

The first people to war with Israel after they left Egypt were the Amalekites. They determined to extinguish Israel at that time, but God helped Israel and the Amalekites were not able to do it. Israel finally went into the land of Canaan. After one or two wars with the Canaanites and Amalekites, the last people that King Saul was supposed to extinguish in the southern part of Judea (in 1 Samuel chapter 15) were the Amalekites with a king called Agag. Saul defeated the Amalekites and killed them off as Samuel the Prophet instructed him to do, but he saved some of the cattle and the king called Agag. Samuel was upset that Saul had not killed Agag. Samuel took the sword and he hewed Agag in two because of all the crimes that Agag had done against humanity and against Israel (1 Samuel 15:32–33).

That was not the end of the Amalekites. That was the end of them only in the south of Judea. The Amalekites were also in the north. After the Babylonian captivity was over, we find Queen Esther and her uncle Mordecai coming on the scene in Persia. But a man had been promoted in Esther 3:1, to be prime minister over all Persian territories. This man was called Haman. Haman was an Agagite, a takeoff on Gog.

<sup>14</sup> Numbers 24:20:

**“And when he [Balaam] looked on Amalek, he took up his parable, and said, ‘Amalek was the first of the nations; but his latter end shall be that he perish for ever [perpetually].”**

Where did Haman live? He lived in the north part in Persia. There were Amalekites living there and this Haman was from Amalek. Look at the scheme this Amalekite tried to pull upon the Jews at that time. I am sure you know the story about Esther, how the whole nation of Israel was to be wiped out to the last man, woman, and child, like at the time of the Exodus. They were foiled from doing it back then and they were foiled in the time of Queen Esther because of her acts and help from her uncle Mordecai. Israel was saved, and instead of the Jews being killed, it was Haman and his 12 sons, the Amalekites, who were hanged upon the gallows. God won and the Jews were not exterminated.

When Christ came into the world, you know who was king of the Jews at the time? King Herod. He also was from Esau. Do you know what he tried to do with our Lord as soon as He was born into this world? He tried to kill him. He killed the innocents around Bethlehem, but Christ Jesus was spared.

There is one verse I think might be important and it has to do with Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 which describe the last war when Gog tries to overcome Israel and Israel's prince, Jesus Christ. In chapter 17 of Exodus after the battle with Amalek was over and the Israelites under Moses and Aaron won, here is what God said concerning these Amalekites, led by this leader called Agag, or Gog if you wish. The two are very similar.

**“For he said, ‘Because YHWH has sworn that YHWH will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.’”**

• ***Exodus 17:16***

At the end of that battle, unlike any other generation that God will make peace with, there is one nation that He will never make peace with **“from generation to generation”** while they are on this earth. That nation is Amalek. Who is the king of the Amalekite nation and what is their leader called? He is called Agag. A takeoff of that is Gog. God **“will have war with Amalek,”** a descendant of Esau, from Edom, from generation to generation. In Isaiah, the last nation that God deals with in his judgment is Edom.

When all the nations of the world assemble on the mountains of Israel and make the final pincer movement around Jerusalem, the last battles will take place in Jerusalem and in Edom.<sup>15</sup> The whole of Edom will become a desolation. The Edomites have always wanted to take over the land of Palestine for their ancient ancestor Esau. Amalek has been the power of the Edomites to try to take over. They have tried and tried, and have failed.

But for a 3½-year period at the end of the age, one of their descendants who will claim, surreptitiously and falsely, to be a Son of David, a proper Son of God all down the line, but ~~he will be none other than a Gog, that is Agog, an Amalekite,~~<sup>16</sup> someone who will confuse the world into believing that he is a Jew and none other than Christ returned to this earth.

What comes after chapters 38 and 39 of Ezekiel? We have chapters 40 to 48 which are Millennial. The fact is, the cities of Jerusalem and Israel are unwalled cities, and have been that way for 3½ years under Gog. For a full rundown of how this will occur, go to Zechariah chapters 12, 13, and 14 because these chapters go along with what Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 are saying.

### ***Zechariah and Ezekiel***

I will give a synopsis of what will occur as far as Zechariah chapters 12 to 14 say and it will bring us up to the time of Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39. Read Zechariah chapter 12 because I can only refer to it briefly. It talks about Israel as it is right now in 1982. It describes Israel as a powerful nation in the Middle East. In

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<sup>15</sup> Dr. Martin's article, [“New Prophetic Discoveries Concerning the End Time,”](#) explains and maps out the final maneuvers of the armies in the end-time battle. For more information about the people of Edom, see Dr. Martin's article, [“The Most Significant Gentile Nation in the Bible.”](#) DWS

<sup>16</sup> As indicated above in the last paragraph before the introduction to this 1982 lecture, Dr. Martin came to believe by 1991 the antichrist will not necessarily be an Amalekite, but will be from Amalekite territory and be known as Gog. DWS

fact, all its neighbors round about tremble, although Israel is like David surrounded by Goliaths. You find that in the first verses of chapter 12 of Zechariah.

Then something happens which is most amazing. In verse 10 God acts:

**“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.”**

• **Zechariah 12:10**

Do you know what this means? There will be in the next few years in advance of us, and it may sound incredible, but there will be a national repentance of the Jews to finally accept Jesus Christ generally as their Messiah and Savior. Look at Revelation chapter 17 where it speaks of 144,000 Israelites, 12,000 from each tribe, who shall be sealed, and that is not including non-Israelites who will begin to accept Christianity as the basic teaching. Who will do this, and why will it be done? Look at Ezekiel again because the prophecies of chapters 38 and 39 of Ezekiel really start in Ezekiel 33:21. Read it all through, and even there it says that God will bring His spirit out to inform the Jews and the Israelites, united as a nation, of His ways. He says, **“not because of their sakes, but because of His sake He will do it”** (Ezekiel 36:22).

The apostle Peter talked about this national repentance in Acts chapter 3 where he said there will be a restoration of all things before the Second Coming of Christ, because there will come an Elijah on the scene. He will turn the fathers to the children and the children to the fathers, like John the Baptist did before Jesus’ first coming. There is coming a national repentance, and it says further in Zechariah:

**“And the land shall mourn, the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; ...”**

• **Zechariah 12:12–13**

All of them shall mourn for the One whom they have pierced, the One who has the wounds in His hands. After the national repentance is over and they are ready to accept the New Testament, do you know what that does? People who accept the New Testament — that is beautiful, wonderful, and right, and good — but people then can be ready to accept even a false Christ if he also comes along with lots of credentials.

There is coming a time, the Book of Daniel says, when there will be a covenant made with this man for a 7-year period, and peace is going to come along. At that time the Jewish people who have had a national repentance will believe that this man coming up is no other than Jesus Christ Himself. They will make a mistake, that is true, but they will have a national repentance first to accept basic Christianity. After that occurs, we find in the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of Zechariah, going in chronological flow, in verses 7, 8, and 9 that a great tribulation will take place upon the Jews. Two thirds of the people will be wiped out, and only one third will be left.

After that takes place, in the middle of the 7-year period, at the end of the first 3½ years, then in chapter 14 of Zechariah:

**“Behold, the day of YHWH comes, and your spoil shall be divided in the midst of you. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.**

**Then [later] shall YHWH go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.”**

• **Zechariah 14:1–3**

**“The Day of Battle”** was a time of a great earthquake when people began to fight against themselves, the same thing that Ezekiel says will take place in chapters 38 and 39 when Gog comes down, the very same

thing that Joel chapter 3 speaks about on the Day of the Lord in the Battle of Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20:1–30). The same thing. It all blends together beautifully.

**“And his [Messiah’s] feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west ...”**

• **Zechariah 14:4**

After this destruction universal peace and the real Millennium then comes on the scene.

Do you know what Zechariah chapter 14 is talking about here? It covers the same events as Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 that say Gog, this Agag, the man of Amalek, who will claim to be the Eminent one, the Messiah with false credentials that people will accept, including the Jews, they will accept him as the Christ because they will have had a national repentance. They will be deceived like the rest of the world in this intermediate period. A great tribulation will take place: Zechariah 13:7–9, and then some time after, we will find Gog departs to the north and to the east, and then he comes back against Christ. Christ will put him down like in the Day of Battle, and then Christ’s feet that very day will stand on the Mount of Olives.

It all makes sense. We need to keep our eyes open for the future. A number of very important events are on the horizon. That is why Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 and Zechariah chapters 12 to 14 cannot happen this year in 1982.<sup>17</sup> There are too many things that need to take place. Here is a partial list:

- The national repentance of Israel must take place.
- Then a 7 year covenant must be made.
- The two witnesses must come.
- The great tribulation must happen.
- A 3½-year period of peace and prosperity, and
- then the 10 kings revolt,
- Gog and the rest leave Jerusalem to go north and east, and
- finally, Gog comes back to meet Jesus Christ in the final battle at the end of the 7 years.

All these things must take place first as the Bible makes it clear.

Do we have long to wait? I do not know. I am not a date setter. We do not do that, but I will tell you, things are beginning to set up in the Middle East right now where Zechariah chapter 12 is very much on the scene at the present time. Sooner or later (and it probably will not be too much later) look for more people of the Jews beginning to accept Christ. Something will happen very soon when many in Israel will begin to accept Him.

A number of things need to take place, so Christ will not come in 1982 and not in 1988, I am certain of that. A little bit later, let us keep our eyes open, because Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 are not talking about the Soviet Union at all. It is talking about someone entirely different coming from the general area, maybe, but under entirely different circumstances.

Let the Bible keep its way before us and not try to interpret into the text things as we see them around us at the present time. There may not be a Soviet Union government in 15 to 20 years. The Russian people will be there, and others will be there, but there is coming a Gog who will take over the unwallled villages of Palestine. He will soon be destroyed after that by Jesus Christ when He comes again.

Ernest L. Martin, 1982, 1991  
 Edited by David Sielaff, March 2012

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<sup>17</sup> Or, even soon to March 2012 when this is being republished. DWS