

World News

Joel Rosenberg's Latest News

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 19, 2009 -- Turkey is a beautiful, wonderful and fascinating country. But something is amiss.

In recent months:

- * Turkey has canceled a NATO military exercise because Israel was invited to participate
- * Turkey has aired a drama on state-run TV portraying an Israeli soldier walking up to a Palestinian child and barbarically shooting her point-blank
- * Turkey has made moves to draw closer to Iran and Syria, including choosing to engage in military exercises with Syria instead of Israel
- * Turkey has made moves to draw closer to Russia

Washington, D.C., March 15, 2010 - White House trying to divide Jerusalem. With Prime Minister Netanyahu scheduled to arrive in Washington this weekend, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. Michael Oren told Israeli diplomats in a conference call over the weekend that U.S.-Israel relations face the worst crisis in 35 years.

Sacramento Bee, Friday March 19th – US Russia clash over Iranian nuclear plant.

".....the nuclear power plant is an example of Russian-Iranian economic ties and technical cooperation".

Europe - The Netherlands, France, Britain, Amsterdam:

Here are just a few highlights from the speech of Geert Wilders, Chairman, Party for Freedom, the Netherlands.(speaking in the USA)

- I come to America with a mission. All is not well in the old world.
- In a generation or two, the US will ask itself: who lost Europe?
- There is a tremendous danger looming, and it is very difficult to be optimistic. We might be in the final stages of the Islamization of Europe.
- This not only is a clear and present danger to the future of Europe itself, it is a threat to America and the sheer survival of the West.
- All throughout Europe a new reality is rising:
- There are entire Muslim neighbourhoods where women walk around in figureless tents in a world of head scarves, with baby strollers and a group of children.
- Their husbands, or slaveholders if you prefer, walk three steps ahead.
- There are mosques on many street corners.
- The shops have signs you and I cannot read. You will be hard-pressed to find any economic activity. These are Muslim ghettos controlled by religious fanatics.
- These Muslim neighbourhoods are mushrooming in every city across Europe. These are the building-blocks for territorial control of increasingly larger portions of Europe, street by street, neighbourhood by neighbourhood, city by city.
- There are now thousands of mosques throughout Europe. With larger congregations than there are in churches. And in every European city there are plans to build super-mosques that will dwarf every church in the region. Clearly, the signal is: we rule.
- Many European cities are already one-quarter Muslim: just take Amsterdam, Marseille and Malmo in Sweden. Paris is now surrounded by a ring of Muslim neighbourhoods.
- Mohammed is the most popular name among boys in many cities.
- In some elementary schools in Amsterdam, the farm can no longer be mentioned, because that would also mean mentioning the pig, and that would be an insult to Muslims.
- In France the history of the Holocaust can no longer be taught because of Muslim sensitivity.
- In England sharia courts are now officially part of the British legal system.
- Jews are fleeing France in record numbers, on the run for the worst wave of anti-Semitism since World War II.
- A total of fifty-four million Muslims now live in Europe.

Now these are just numbers. And the numbers would not be threatening if the Muslim-immigrants had a strong desire to assimilate. But there are few signs of that. **There are many French Muslims who do not object to suicide attacks.**

The public has wholeheartedly accepted the Palestinian narrative, and sees Israel as the aggressor. I have lived in this country and visited it dozens of times. I support Israel. **First, because it is the Jewish homeland after two thousand years of exile up to and including Auschwitz, second because it is a democracy, and third because Israel is our first line of defence.**

This tiny country is situated on the fault line of jihad, frustrating Islam's territorial advance. Israel is facing the front lines of jihad, and is simply in the way.

Many in Europe argue in favour of abandoning Israel in order to address the grievances of our Muslim minorities. But if Israel were, God forbid, to go down, it would not bring any solace to the West. It would not mean our Muslim minorities would all of a sudden change their behaviour, and accept our values. **On the contrary**, the end of Israel would give enormous encouragement to the forces of Islam. They would, and rightly so, see the demise of Israel as proof that the West is weak, and doomed. The end of Israel would not mean the end of our problems with Islam, but only the beginning. **It would mean the start of the final battle for world domination.** If they can get Israel, they can get everything.

So how do these world events plus other events closer to home tie into future conflicts as recorded in the scriptures?

Ezekiel & Revelation Comparisons of the Battle of Gog & Magog,

Recap – THE PROMISE:

God makes an unconditional promise that the land be an everlasting possession. Gen 48:3-4; 17:7-8;

Gen 48:3-4

Then Jacob said to Joseph: "God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me, 4 and said to me, 'Behold, I will make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will make of you a multitude of people, and give this land to your descendants after you as an everlasting possession.'

Modern Day Israel

When Israel declared her independence on May 14, 1948 the country's population was only 806,000. By the end of 2009 there were 7.4 million living in Israel of which 5.6 million were Jews. Thousands more arrive every year. It will not be long before more Jews live in Israel than Jews who live elsewhere in the world.

Ezek 38 & 39 is A storm warning (it's like a biblical intelligence report) – from a loving God to the enemies of Israel

So what's new since last my presentation last September?

Last year, I presented a modern day plausible scenario about the Ezekiel 38 & 39 account of the battle of Gog and Magog playing out in the near future, possibly in our lifetime. There are however, others who believe the Ezekiel and Revelation accounts of The battle of Gog and Magog are one of the same, therefore the battle recorded in Ezekiel could be part of (a) the battle of Armageddon which precedes the millennium period or (b) part of the final battle after the 1000 year reign of Christ on earth, when Satan is finally defeated and cast into the lake of fire and brimstone.

The alternative view to mine may well be correct, however, I was so intrigued to see today's world events shaping up to mirror the Ezekiel prophecy that I decided to look at the three prophecies side by side to get a better understanding of end time events.

So let's look at three events referencing the end time battles of Gog and Magog.

1. Ezekiel 38, 39 - The battle of Gog and Magog
2. Rev 16 - The Battle of Armageddon (pre millennium with no reference to Gog and Magog).
3. Revelation 20. – Post Millennium Final battle with reference to Gog & Magog

The Battle of GOG & MAGOG NATIONS - Ezek 38:1-2 Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 2 Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, 3 And say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: 4 And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great

company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: 5 *Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya* with them; all of them with shield and helmet: 6 *Gomer and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands and many people with thee.*

Ezek 38:15-16, 18 And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army: 16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.

18 And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord God, that my fury shall come up in my face.

*Post Millennium Rev 20:7-10 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, **Gog and Magog**, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. 9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. 10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*

*Battle of Armageddon - Rev 16:13-21 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the **earth and of the whole world**, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. 16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the **Hebrew tongue Armageddon.***

So let's compare the Ezekiel and two Revelation accounts of End Times Battles

Ezekiel describes THE COALITION *Modern Day* FORCES in verses 38:2-6

- "Gog" is a title – like a dictator. (It's well known that Putin wants to be President for life. He wants to be the Czar of Russia).
- Magog, Rosh, Meshech and Tubal – Russia and the former Soviet republics
- Persia - Iran
- "Cush" is south of Egypt – Sudan and Ethiopia
- "Put" is Libya, Algeria, and Tunisia.
- Beth-togarmth – Armenia, and the Turkish speaking peoples of Asia Minor and central Asia
- Gomer - Turkey & possibly Germany & Austria
- Sheba & Dedan – Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman and the Gulf States
- Countries with mountainous borders – Syria, Lebanon and northern Jordan
- "Many peoples with you" – Possible additional Russian Islamic allies
- Watch the "...stans" - a mixture of Persia and Turkey.
- It's interesting that neither Iraq or Egypt are mentioned as coalition members

What do these nations have in common – they are either Muslim Nations or prefer to be allied with Muslim nations

So the world stage is being set for the next major conflict and our generation may well witness what the prophet says will happen.

I still believe the following scenario of the Ezekiel Prophecy is plausible event in our day:

- Ezek 38: 4-5 - Russia (Magog) will build an alliance with Iran (Persia). Many believe that its already been built.
- Iran continues to defy the West and proceeds to make a nuclear bomb capable of destroying Israel and the west. Recent news suggests they are not going to stop.
- Iran continues to arm Islamic terrorists for a possible major attack on the U.S.
- Israel-US relations continue to deteriorate so much that she has no allies to stop Iran so has to take out their nuclear facilities alone
- The world leaders condemn Israel's actions (which is a typical response)
- An Israeli attack would cause a world wide Islamic uprising against Israel & the U.S.
- A weak U.S administration (which we have now), may break ties with Israel bringing about God's wrath on the US instead of blessing as stated in Genesis. *I will bless those who bless Israel and curse those who curse Israel*

In the Ezekiel and Revelation texts, I see not one or two, but three major battles which are to come,

1. The Ezekiel 38 & 39 account of the battle of Gog and Magog with many nations involved, but not all nations.
2. The Revelation 16 account of the Battle of Armageddon where all the nations are involved but Gog & Magog are not mentioned.
3. The Revelation 20 account of the post millennium period where Satan is been loosed for a short time to gather nations of the earth for battle. This final battle is where Satan, Gog and Magog are defeated.

In the Ezekiel battle of Gog & Magog, only Russia and at least five other nations are involved:

1. Magog (Russia),
2. Meshech & Tubal (Russian republics),
3. Persia (Iran),
4. Ethiopia,
5. Libya
6. Gomer (Turkey)

In the Revelation Battle of Armageddon and the final battle, the text suggests that all the nations are involved:

Armageddon - Rev 16:13-14, 16 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

Armageddon - Joel 3:1-2 For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, 2 I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Final Battle - Rev 20:7-9 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea

In the Ezekiel battle of Gog & Magog, the Lord brings them to battle

Ez 38:4 And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:

In the Final Battle, Satan gathers them to battle

Rev 20:7-9 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. (Suggests world wide)

In the Ezekiel battle of Gog & Magog, invaders will attack from the north.

Ezek 38:6 Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee.

Ezek 38:15 And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army:

Ezek 39:2 And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel:

In the Battle of Armageddon, the invaders come from the north, south, east and west:

Dan 11:40 & 45

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.

Zech 14:2 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.

Rev 16:12-14

And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. 13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

In the Ezekiel battle of Gog & Magog, the purpose of the armies is to “take a spoil, and to take a prey”

Ezek 38:12 To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.

In the Battle of Armageddon, the purpose is to annihilate the Jews and to fight Christ and His army

Rev 19:19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army

Zech 14:2 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.

In the Ezekiel battle of Gog & Magog, Russia will be the leader of the nations

Ezek 38:16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog (dictator, leader Czar), before their eyes.

In the battle of Armageddon, the Antichrist will be the leader

Rev 19:19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

In the Ezekiel battle of Gog & Magog, God defeats the Northern invaders with the convulsions of the earth, the confusion of the troops, diseases and calamities from the sky

Ezek 38:18-23 and it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord God, that my fury shall come up in my face. 21 And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord God: every man's sword shall be against his brother. 22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. 23 Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord.

In the Battle of Armageddon, the armies are defeated by the word of Christ – “a sharp sword”

Rev 19:15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

After the Ezekiel battle of Gog & Magog, the dead will be buried

Ezek 39:11-13 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamon-gog. 12 And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may

cleanse the land. 13 Yea, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, saith the Lord God

After the Ezekiel battle of Gog & Magog, it will take seven months to bury the dead.

Ezek 39:14-15 And they shall sever out men of continual employment, passing through the land to bury with the passengers those that remain upon the face of the earth, to cleanse it: after the end of seven months shall they search. 15 And the passengers that pass through the land, when any seeth a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the valley of Hamon-gog.

After the Battle of Armageddon, the dead will not be buried, but their carcasses will be totally consumed by the birds.

Jer 25:33 And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.

Rev 19:21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

The purpose of the Ezekiel battle of Gog & Magog, is for God to reveal Himself to the peoples of the earth and to be Glorified

Ezek 38:23 - Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord.

Ezek 39:7 - So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen (unsaved people still in the land) shall know that I am the Lord, the Holy One in Israel.

The purpose of the Battle of Armageddon is to defeat the beast, the Antichrist and to bind Satan for 1000 yrs.

Rev 20:1-3, 7-10 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

In summary, the Ezekiel passage is very descriptive over two chapters where Gog and Magog appear to lead certain specific nations to attack Israel. This could be prior to, or during the tribulation period as life appears to go on after their defeat.

The Revelation 16, Daniel, Joel, Zechariah and Jeremiah passages all appear to point to the battle of Armageddon where there's lot of detail but **Gog and Magog are not referenced**. Satan is bound for 1000 yrs after this battle.

The millennium period follows the battle of Armageddon and Satan is loosed after the 1000 year reign of Christ on earth. Satan is allowed to gather the nations in one last final attempt to destroy Christ and His army. **Gog and Magog are referenced in one verse only** but many link this verse to the Ezekiel chapters and call it the Battle of Gog and Magog.

*Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, 8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, **Gog and Magog**, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. 9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. 10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*

I believe the Ezekiel passage points to an earlier battle that's coming soon as world events appear to be heading in this direction. **You could call it the battle of Gog and Magog #1**. It's no coincidence that immediately after chapter 39, the next 4 chapters are all about the building of the third Temple which the Muslims fear the most and could be the cause for the next major conflict.

I believe the battle of Armageddon follows the battle of Gog & Magog and is battle #2.

I believe the Revelation 20 verses all referencing Satan, Gog, Magog and nations of the earth, is the **final Battle** and not associated with the Ezekiel Battle of Gog and Magog. Chapter 21 is about the New Heaven & Earth and the New Jerusalem, not about people taking 7 months to bury the dead as quoted in the Ezekiel option.

Breaking news received on Thursday:

- **WHAT HAPPENED BEHIND THE SCENES IN THE OBAMA-NETANYAHU MEETINGS THIS WEEK? NETANYAHU STOOD HIS GROUND.**
- One advisor who has been briefed on the talks told Joel Rosenberg "President Obama is insisting that Israel sign a document that specifies Israel's commitment to a peace deal with the Palestinians that will be based on 1967 lines.
- The source, one that I trust a great deal, also noted that President Obama spoke by phone with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Nicolas Sarkozy, and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown to make sure each of them are on board with pressuring the Israelis to make such unprecedented unilateral concessions.
- The good news: Netanyahu had a very good week. He looked strong and principled. He was gracious and diplomatic. And he stood his ground. He did not cave into the intense pressure from the White House and State Department. **He refused to divide Jerusalem**
- He sent the U.S. and the world a straightforward and sobering message that if they don't move quickly and decisively to stop Iran from getting the Bomb, then Israel will do it herself. He didn't threaten. He didn't swagger. He simply stated the facts.

So, the plausible scenario of Israel going alone against Iran and the Muslim world is drawing close.

Applications:

1. People like to talk politics and world events. Could you use the Ezekiel Option as a storm warning of a coming major conflict for our unsaved friends to see?
2. We all have our priorities in ministry and that is good. For example, last week, Jenny shared a little of her passion for APC and walk for life, Marilyn is passionate about her work at the Boys Ranch, Judy teaches unsaved neighbors and new Christians. Rick & Dianne have a passion for missions in Jamaica. Some in our class are Chaplains, others Bible study teachers. Praise the Lord that we have so many members involved in various behind the scenes ministries.
3. American evangelical Christians are Israel's greatest friends and many Jews are beginning to see this, so if you don't have a niche yet, there are many opportunities to support Israel. If this grabs your attention, let me know and I will send you a great web link where you can be kept up to date and be involved.
4. What ministry do you have a love for?