
LAST DAYS PROPHECY SEMINAR

LESSON FIVE: “The First Battle of Gog and Magog”

The first purpose of this lesson is to scripturally define and distinguish one of the two battles/wars that is prophesied to occur in the Last Days. This lesson will focus on the First Battle of Gog and Magog (Ezekiel 38,39). We specify “The First” because there is another Battle of Gog and Magog talked about in the Bible. It is referenced once in Revelation 20:7-10. The Second Battle of Gog and Magog takes place at the end of the Millennial Reign when Satan is loosed again and brings a multitude of people against Jerusalem. They are ultimately destroyed when God rains down fire from heaven.

The second purpose of this lesson is to differentiate between the First Battle of Gog and Magog and the Battle of Armageddon. Many in the kingdom of God think the two battles happen simultaneously. The Church of God recognizes that the First Battle of Gog and Magog precedes and is separate from the Battle of Armageddon which will take place at the end of the last 7 years at the 7th trump when Jesus Christ returns as King of kings and Lord of lords.

1. Who is Gog and Magog?

A. Ezekiel 38:1-3

- [1] *“Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,*
- [2] *“Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him,*
- [3] *“and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal.”*

B. Who is Gog?

- 1) He is the ruler of the land of Magog including Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal.
- 2) These nations are the descendants of the sons of Noah.
 - a. Genesis 10:1,2
 - [1] *“Now this is the genealogy of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And sons were born to them after the flood.*
 - [2] *The sons of Japheth were Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.”*

C. Where did Noah’s Ark land?

- 1) According to Genesis 8:4, it landed on Mount Ararat.
 - [4] *“Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat.”*
- 2) Where are the mountains of Ararat located?
 - a. Mount Ararat is located in Eastern Turkey on the borders of Iran and Armenia.

REFER TO PAGE 3 - Middle East Now Map. Identify location of Mt. Ararat in Turkey.

D. Where is the land of Magog today?

- 1) The word *Gog* literally means *name of a northern nation*. The word *Magog* means *barbarous northern region*.
- 2) Some believe Magog to be Rosh or Russia.

- a. This would make sense as the descendants of Noah spread out to repopulate the world.
 - b. *“Rosh, as seen in early Greek writings, is a name which was then used for all the nations of the north. Meshech and Tubal, now believed to be Phrygia and Cappadocia were located at that time in the vicinity of Magog, clearly the area of Russia. Thus if Rosh is Russia, Magog would be the land of Russia. **The suggestion has been made that Meshech and Tubal constitute the old names for the former western and eastern capitals of Russia: Moscow and Tobolsk.**”* (www.latter-rain.com)
- 3) We know that Russia is an atheistic nation that frequently mocks the existence of God.
- a. Joseph Stalin is quoted as saying, *“We have deposed the czars of the earth and we shall now dethrone the Lord of heaven.”*
 - b. As the Russian rocket, Sputnik, observed the heavenly anomalies, this comment was heard on the radio: *“Our rocket has bypassed the moon, and is nearing the sun. We have not discovered God.”*

E. Who else is involved in the war?

- 1) Ezekiel 38:4-6
- [4] *“I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, and all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords.*
- [5] ***“Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them with shield and helmet;***
- [6] ***“Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah from the far north and all its troops—many people are with you.”***
- 2) Notice that this group is a numbered, labeled group of nations.
- a. It is not the “all nations” described in Zechariah 14:2 regarding the Battle of Armageddon.
 - b. Who are the modern-day nations listed in vs. 5,6?
 - Persia is Iran which is 98% Muslim.
 - Ethiopia is Sudan which is over 50% Muslim.
 - Libya is still Libya which is 97% Muslim.
 - Gomer and Togarmah is Turkey which is 95% Muslim.

REFER TO MAPS ON PAGES 3 & 4

F. Russia and Turkey’s relationship.

- 1) History tells us that Russia and Turkey have had a long history of wars and fighting.
- a. *“The Russo-Turkish wars were a series of wars fought between the Russian Empire and the Ottoman Empire during the 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. **It was one of the longest conflicts in European history.**”* (“History of the Russo-Turkish wars,” Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)
- 2) Today unprecedented attempts are being made to establish a peaceful and prosperous relationship between the two countries. Excerpts from article dated 02/14/09: “Russia, Turkey declare new era with ‘strategic’ document.”
- a. *“Back in December 2004, during a landmark visit to Ankara by Prime*

Minister Vladimir Putin, who was president at the time, the two countries signed a “Joint Declaration on the Intensification of Friendship and Multidimensional Partnership.” Putin’s visit was the **first presidential visit in the history of Turkish-Russian relations** ...”

- b. *“Russian is an important trade partner for Turkey, with a total annual trade volume of \$38 billion between the two countries, and has close political relations with common strategic interests, especially in Central Asia and the Caucasus.”*
- c. *“**Turkey depends on Russian energy supplies**, but it is also a transit route for Russian energy exports. Russia, Turkey’s main supplier of natural gas, is the biggest market for Turkey’s construction firms and millions of Russian tourists visit Turkey’s Mediterranean coast every year.”*
- d. Something has changed in the relationship between Russia and Turkey. They are no longer enemies, they are now working together as allies.

G. Russia supplies the Middle East nations with weapons.

- 1) While most Bible scholars predict that Russia will attack Israel in the First Battle of Gog and Magog, it seems more likely that their role will be to provide ammunition and artillery for such an attack to their Arab allies.
- 2) Excerpts from article dated 08/26/08: “Russian weapons in the Middle East.”
 - a. *“First, Moscow hosted MVSV–2008, an international show of weapons and military equipment. Then King Abdullah II of Jordan visited the show, met with designers and producers and had a discussion with President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. A few days previously, President Bashar al-Assad of Syria had flown in for talks with Dmitry Medvedev. The press and television in Amman [Jordan], Damascus [Syria] and Tel Aviv [Israel] made much of the events, especially the Syrian visit.”*
 - b. *“It is another matter that military technical cooperation between Moscow and Damascus needs re-evaluating. **Syria owes Russia \$3 billion for weapons supplied to it, and this on top of Damascus’ \$10 billion debt for armaments sold in Soviet times which Moscow forgave, incidentally, for a pledge to spend another \$2 billion on arms purchases from Russia.**”*
 - c. *“Jordan lives up to these words. In recent years it has bought from Russia two...military transport planes worth a combined \$100 million, and six light multi-role Ka-226 helicopters...other equipment includes armored personnel carriers, fighting infantry vehicles...anti-tank missile systems...ground-to-air missiles...silent sniper rifles...and silent pistols...”*
 - d. *“The target mentioned at the Russian Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation, of exporting \$8 billion worth of Russian arms and supplies in 2008, compared with \$6.2 billion in 2007, does not seem far-fetched.”*
- 2) Russia is the 2nd largest arms supplier in the world (the USA is the largest).
 - It was number one in 2005.
 - The majority of its sales were to Iran and China.

2. What happens in the First Battle of Gog and Magog?

A. Ezekiel 38:7-16

- [7] *“Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them.*
- [8] *“After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword and gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely.*
- **First, this prophecy is identified specifically as occurring in “the latter years”.**
 - **Second, notice the reference to the mountains of Israel. This is one of the key distinguishing differences between the First Battle of Gog and Magog and Armageddon.**
- [9] *“You will ascend, coming like a storm, covering the land like a cloud, you and all your troops and many peoples with you.”*
- [10] *‘Thus says the LORD GOD: “On that day it shall come to pass that thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan:*
- **God is placing thoughts inside evil people’s minds to fulfill His prophecies.**
- [11] *“You will say, ‘I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates–*
- [12] *“to take plunder and to take booty, to stretch out your hand against the waste places that are again inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land.*
- **First, note the reference to a people gathered from the nations. This is the Last Days’ prophetic return of the Jews to the land of Israel that we have already talked about.**
 - **Second, notice that the reason for this attack is to gain possessions: to take booty and to plunder.**
- [13] *“Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, ‘Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?’”*
- [14] *“Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “On that day when My people Israel dwell safely, will you not know it?*
- [15] *“Then you will come from your place out of the far north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army.*
- [16] *“You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud, to cover the land. It will be in the latter days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me, when I am hallowed in you, O Gog, before their eyes.”*
- **First, notice that a requirement for this prophecy is that Israel dwells safely in her land. That is happening today.**
 - **Second, God specified that this group will come from the far north.**
 - **Third, God again specifies that this will be an attack against Israel in the latter days.**

- Fourth, God says that He will bring this army against Israel.
- Fifth, what is the purpose of this battle? So that the nations of the world will recognize the hand of God. (NOTE: God does not say that the purpose of this battle is establish Jesus Christ as King of kings in the world as is the case with Armageddon.)

B. What happens to the armies that come against Israel?

1) Ezekiel 38:18-23

[18] *“And it will come to pass at the same time, when Gog comes against the land of Israel,” says the Lord GOD, “that My fury will show in My face.*

[19] *“For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: ‘Surely in that day **there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel,***

[20] *‘so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who are on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. **The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall,** and every wall shall fall to the ground.’*

[21] *“I will call for a sword against Gog, throughout all My mountains,” says the Lord GOD. **“Every man’s sword will be against his brother.***

- They shall turn against each other and kill each other.

- Notice that God specifies “throughout all My mountains”.

[22] *“And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; **I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.***

- God will rain down fire from heaven to destroy them.

[23] *“Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.”*

- Notice that God does not say that He will be known in EVERY NATION...He says “many nations.”

- This distinguishes this battle from Armageddon where every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

3. When does the battle take place?

A. The church believes that the First Battle of Gog and Magog will take place

1) as a result of the failure of the false peace treaty prophesied of in Obadiah, 2) before the Man of Sin is revealed, 3) before the last 7-year period of tribulation and indignation, and 4) at least 7 years prior to the battle of Armageddon.

B. According to Ezekiel 39:9-12, the people of Israel will burn the weapons for seven years, and for seven months they will bury the dead.

1) This coordinates perfectly with the timing of the last seven years before the return of Christ.

2) Nowhere in the Bible does it specify that the first seven years of the Millennial Reign will be used to clean up the land and bury the dead.

3) The Bible tells us that the enemies of God will be completely destroyed or consumed when Jesus returns and fights in the battle of Armageddon.

- a. II Thessalonians 2:8, *“And then the lawless one will be revealed, **whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with***

the brightness of His coming.”

- b. Zechariah 14:12, “*And this shall be the plagues with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: **Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.**”*
- c. Will we need to bury people who are dissolved? The word *dissolve* is defined as *to melt, dwindle, vanish.*

C. Ezekiel 39:9-14

[9] “*Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel **will go out and set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and bucklers, the bows and arrows, the javelins and spears; and they will make fires with them for seven years.***

[10] “*They will not take wood from the field nor cut down any from the forests, because **they will make fires with the weapons;** and they will plunder those who plundered them, and pillage those who pillaged them,” says the Lord God.*

[11] “*It will come to pass in that day that I will give Gog a burial place there in Israel, the valley of those who pass by east of the sea; and it will obstruct travelers, because there they will bury Gog and all his multitude. Therefore they will call it the Valley of Hamon Gog.”*

[12] “*For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land.*

[13] “*Indeed all the people of the land will be burying, and they will gain renown for it on the day that I am glorified,” says the Lord GOD.*

[14] “*They will set apart men regularly employed, with the help of a search party, to pass through the land and bury those bodies remaining on the ground, in order to cleanse it. At the end of seven months they will make a search.”*

D. Vs. 9 says that Israel will burn their enemies’ weapons for 7 years. Vs. 10 implies that they will use these abandoned weapons for fuel or energy to heat their homes.

- 1) It must be acknowledged that the writers of the Old Testament described what they saw or prophesied concerning the future, in the terms which they were familiar with in their day.
 - a. Such is the case with the description of the automobile in Nahum 2:4 where they are described as chariots that seem like torches and run like lightning.
 - b. The same is true with the description of the motorcycle in Joel 2:1-4 where they are described as horses that sound like a fire devouring stubble.
- 2) Is there a material in use today that can be used to provide energy and also be used as a weapon for destruction?
 - a. We know that the developed nations of the world are using nuclear technology to produce electricity and to produce very powerful weapons.
- 3) Consider the situation that is going on right now concerning Iran and its nuclear program.
 - a. On Wednesday, December 2, 2009, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad declared, “*The Zionest regime (Israel) and its (western) backers cannot do a...thing to stop Iran’s nuclear work.*”

- b. *“Iran said Wednesday that it would produce whatever nuclear fuel it needed on its own, the latest indication it was rejecting a U.N.-backed deal aimed at reining in Tehran’s nuclear program over fears it is geared to produce weapons.”*
 - c. *“I declare here that with the grace of God, the Iranian nation will produce 20 percent (enriched uranium) and anything it needs itself,” Ahmadinejad told a cheering crowd of thousands in the central city Isfahan.”*
 - d. *“While Iran maintains its nuclear program is only for peaceful purposes to produce electricity, the process of enriching uranium for fuel can be taken further, to levels around 90 percent, and produce material for a nuclear warhead.”*
- 4) Can you see here that the same materials that are used to produce weapons can also produce fuel?
- a. This is what the prophecy said in vs. 9 and 10.
 - Israel will burn the captured or discarded weapons for 7 years as fuel.
 - In 2007, approximately 14% of the world’s electricity came from nuclear fuel.

4. Comparison of the First Battle of Gog and Magog and Armageddon.

FIRST GOG AND MAGOG	ARMAGEDDON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited number of northern nations come against Israel (Ezekiel 38:1-6).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All nations come up against Israel (Zechariah 14:1,2).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Battle takes place in the mountains of Israel (Ezekiel 38:8).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Battle makes it into the cities of Israel (Zechariah 14:2).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The enemies of Israel devise a plan to attack and to plunder and take booty from Israel (Ezekiel 38:12,13).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All the nations of the world come to destroy Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:12) and God will plunder them (Zechariah 14:1,14).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enemies are destroyed by earthquake and soldiers turning on/killing each other, fire rains from heaven (Ezekiel 38:18-22).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enemies are destroyed by the brightness of Jesus Christ’s 7th trump return (II Thessalonians 2:8).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It takes seven months to bury the dead and seven years to burn their weapons (Ezekiel 39:9,12).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The enemies who are killed do not need buried because they have “dissolved” (Zechariah 14:12).

5. Are Muslims looking for a war in the Last Days?

A. Yes, they believe a severe earthquake/calamity will bring forth the Mahdi.

B. Excerpts from the Koran:

- ***“Severe calamity from the direction of their ruler will befall my people during the Last days. It will be a calamity which, in severity, shall be unprecedented. It will be so violent that the earth with injustice and corruption will shrivel for its inhabitants. The believers will not find refuge from oppression. At that time God will send a man from my family to fill the earth with justice and equity just as it is filled with injustice and tyranny...”***

- *“Listen to the good news about the Mahdi! **He will rise at the time when people will be faced with severe conflict and the earth will be hit by a violent quake.** He will fill the earth with justice and equity as it is filled with injustice and tyranny. He will fill the hearts of his followers with devotion and will spread justice everywhere.”*
- C. This is why Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is not afraid to flaunt Iran’s nuclear ambitions in front of the whole world regardless of the consequences.**
- He is looking for someone to stand up against him and start a world-wide calamity/war.
 - He thinks this will bring the promised Muslim savior—the Mahdi.

6. What happens after the First Battle of Gog and Magog?

A. The birds of the air and the beasts of the field will feast on the carcasses of the dead in the mountains of Israel.

1) Ezekiel 39:17-20

[17] *“And as for you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Speak to every sort of bird and to every beast of the field: “Assemble yourselves and come; gather together from all sides to My sacrificial meal which I am sacrificing on the mountains of Israel,*

[18] *You shall eat the flesh of the mighty, drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams and lambs, of goats and bulls, all of them fatlings of Bashan.*

[19] *You shall eat fat till you are full, and drink blood till you are drunk, at My sacrificial meal which I am sacrificing for you.*

[20] *You shall be filled at My table with horses and riders, with mighty men and with all the men of war,” says the Lord GOD.”*

B. The stage will be set for the Man of Sin to declare a 7-year worldwide peace treaty.

- 1) What better time to negotiate worldwide peace then after a major war?
- 2) Most of our current peace treaties were established and implemented after World War II ended in 1945.
 - a. On April 25, 1945 delegates from 50 countries assembled in San Francisco to endorse a charter which officially created the United Nations.
 - b. The UN’s mission statement: *“We the peoples of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind...”*
- 3) The world will demand peace at any price...including allowing the Man of Sin to establish a one-world government (Rev. 13:7, *“...And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.”*).

C. Because of the First Battle of Gog and Magog, God will be made known among the nations of the earth.

- 1) Ezekiel 38:23, *“Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, **and I will be known in the eyes of many nations.** Then they shall know that I am the LORD.”*
- 2) It’s a proven fact that people turn to God in the midst of trouble.
- 3) Is it possible that this could be the beginning of the scales being removed from the Jewish people’s eyes?

- a. When they see God move on their behalf?
 - b. Of course many people will not recognize or acknowledge God's role...of that we can be sure.
- 4) We must acknowledge that many people think that God is nonexistent today. They have not seen—or at least not recognized—the hand of God moving in their lifetime.
- a. Such is the state of many Jewish people. They feel that God has abandoned them, or that He does not exist at all.
 - b. Just imagine the awakening that will take place when they witness fire, great hailstones and brimstone raining down from heaven to defeat their enemies.
 - c. The prophecy says at that time God will be known among many nations and they shall acknowledge that He is the Lord.

7. Conclusion

The church believes that the failure of the false peace treaty of Obadiah will bring about the First Battle of Gog and Magog making it one of the next prophetic events to take place. It will happen when a group of nations in the Middle East attack the nation of Israel in the mountains. The Bible says that it will be a great multitude coming against Israel.

Yahweh God will intervene by 1) causing a great earthquake in Israel, 2) raining down fire and brimstone from heaven, and 3) causing the attacking armies to turn on and kill each other. The attacking armies will not advance into the cities of Israel (as they do in Armageddon) and it will take 7 months to bury the dead and 7 years to burn their weapons.

At the completion of the First Battle of Gog and Magog, the world stage will be set for the Man of Sin to step up and declare a 7-year worldwide peace treaty. Seven years after this declaration, Jesus Christ will return to this earth as King of kings and Lord of lords!

LAST DAYS PROPHECY SEMINAR

LESSON FIVE • SUPPLEMENT #1: “The Beast that was Mortally Wounded but was Healed”

In at least three passages in the book of Revelation a reference is made to a beast that was mortally wounded but was ultimately healed. The references are vague at best; however, it must be accepted that this particular description is important to properly understand Last Days prophecy.

Here are the characteristics given concerning this particular beast:

1. It was mortally wounded.
2. Its deadly wound was healed.
3. It is referred to as the “first beast.”
4. It was wounded by the sword.
5. Despite its wounds, it still lived.
6. Once its wounds were healed, it received great power.

The beast that was wounded was none other than the Islamic Nation. They receive a mortal wound during the First Battle of Gog and Magog when all but one-sixth of the Islamic armies that come against Israel are destroyed. The Islamic Nation re-emerges with its deadly wound healed and is given great power by Satan to continue his last-ditch effort to destroy the people of God and rule the earth unchallenged.

(NOTE: The passages in Revelation 13 intermittently refer to this particular beast as one of the seven heads, and other times as a beast. For the purpose of this paper we will refer to this seventh head as a beast.)

1. The beast that had a mortal wound.

A. Revelation 13:1,2

[1] *“Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, **having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.**”*

[2] *Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth was like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.”*

B. The events that the Apostle John wrote about in verse 1 represent an overview of historical events that have taken place over thousands of years along with future prophecies yet to be fulfilled.

- 1) The Bible student should not construe John’s words to mean that all of the events will take place during the Last Days.
- 2) The Apostle John was writing about a series of events that started being fulfilled even before the Garden of Eden was created.

C. Let’s breakdown verse 1 and define each element.

1) Who/what is the beast rising up out of the sea?

- a. **This beast is the Babylonian system of confusion that was authored by Satan** when he allowed pride to arise in his heart in heaven (Isaiah 14:12-15). He subsequently deceived one-third of the angels of heaven out of paradise never to be reunited with their Creator (Jude vs. 6). Obviously this process of the beast rising out of the sea began before

Creation when Satan deceived the angels. It was through deception/confusion that Satan corrupted Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

- b. While the Roman Catholic Church is part of the Babylonian system defined in Revelation 18, it is just a part—not the whole. This Babylonian system includes everything that is contrary to the Gospel of Jesus Christ—including the Islamic faith—and that seeks to pollute the truths of God’s Word through deception.

2) The seven heads represent seven kings with empires.

- a. Rev. 17:10, ***“There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time.”***
- b. Each of these seven kingdoms represent a defined era of time starting with the Egyptian Empire which started approximately 1600 BC.
- c. Again, for the sake of clarity, the seven kingdoms are empires that ruled over Israel and Jerusalem. There have been other huge empires in the world (example: Asian, etc.) that have not ruled over God’s Holy land.

3) The ten horns with crowns represent 10 kings that receive authority for one hour—or seven years—with the beast.

- a. Rev. 17:12, ***“The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.”***
- b. These ten kings have not received their kingdoms as of yet. Their reign will last for 7 years which is the amount of time that the Man of Sin will be on the world stage.

4) The horn with the blasphemous name is none other than the Man of Sin.

- a. Daniel 7:24,25b
[24] *“The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall arise after them; he shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings.”*
[25] ***“He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High...”***

5) The dragon is the Devil.

- a. Rev. 12:9a, ***“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan...”***

D. Who is the seventh king to arise?

- 1) The Apostle John wrote Revelation 17:10 during the Roman Empire and he stated that five had been, one was, and that there was one more kingdom to come.
- 2) The Roman Empire ended 476 AD.
- 3) In 638 AD, the city of Jerusalem came under the control of Caliph Omar (or Umar), a Muslim, after a 2-year siege.
 - a. *“Muslims first entered Jerusalem in 638 AD and since then more or less they have been in control of the temple mount and its platform except for a brief period of seventy years when crusaders became victorious in the land; therefore the entire covered structures one sees at the temple mount bear the signatures of Muslim architects. The two readily visible structures are “Dome of the Rock” located in the middle and northern part*

of the platform and “Al-Aqsa mosque” located at its southern corner.”
(“Jerusalem and the True Legacy of Caliph Umar (RA),” by Dr. Mohiuddin Waseem, www.abrahamicfaiths.com)

- b. Proof of the Muslim’s control of Jerusalem is the Dome of the Rock mosque which was built in 692 AD. To this day, the mosque sits undisturbed on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.
 - c. The other mosque on the Temple Mount, Al -Aqsa, was built approximately 705 AD. It is believed to be the site where Muhammad was supernaturally transported from Mecca during a “night journey.” It is considered one of Islam’s most holy places.
- 4) The Ottoman/Turkish Empire (1299 - 1923 AD) followed the Roman Empire.
 - 5) It has been stated that the Ottoman/Turkish Empire was in many respects, an Islamic successor to the Roman (Christian) Empire.
 - a. The Ottoman/Turkish Empire was dominated by the Islamic faith and their flag used the crescent moon and five-pointed star—the same symbols used by Muslims today.
 - b. Because of the overspread of the Islamic faith during the Ottoman/Turkish Empire, we subsequently refer to it as the Islamic Empire/Nation.
 - 6) Thus, the seventh king is the Islamic Empire (or nation).

E. One of the seven heads (or kingdoms) is mortally wounded, but later is healed.

- 1) Revelation 13:3

[3] **“And I saw one of its heads as it is was mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.”**

- 2) This mortal wound to the Islamic Nation occurs during the attack on Israel in the First Battle of Gog and Magog.
 - a. It is an Islamic Confederacy army that attacks Israel—not all Muslims come up against Israel.
 - b. However, the confederacy is symbolic of all the Islamic Nation’s desire to see Israel annihilated and the land returned to the Muslims.
 - c. Ezekiel 38:4-6 lists the modern-day countries of Iran, Sudan, Libya and Turkey as the attackers of Israel.

F. What is the wound inflicted on the seventh head/beast—the Islamic Nation?

- 1) Ezekiel 39:1,2,

[1] *“Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:*

[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.”**

- 2) In Ezekiel 38 we read that a large army from a group of Islamic Nations comes up against Israel. God says of this number *“You will ascend, coming like a storm, covering the land like a cloud, **you and all your troops and many peoples with you**”* (Ezekiel 38:9).
- 3) God supernaturally destroys the Islamic armies in the mountains of Israel. Ezekiel 38:21, *“I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains,” says the Lord GOD. **“Every man’s sword will be against his***

brother.”

- a. Notice the reference to the sword in this passage.
 - b. In Revelation 13:14 it says that the beast's wound was inflicted by a sword.
- 4) All but one-sixth of the attackers are killed; thus the mortal wound is inflicted.
- 5) A point of interest: Six is the number of man.
- a. Revelation 13:18, *“Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, **for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.**”*
 - b. It is from the one-sixth that is left, which is later healed and strengthened, that the ultimate rebellion of mankind is made against his Creator—the Man of Sin.

G. Who can make war with the healed beast?

- 1) Revelation 13:4
[4] *“So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worship the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast? **Who is able to make war with him?**”*
- 2) Notice the reference to war in this passage.
 - a. They are talking about the beast who once had a deadly wound.
- 3) Now the question is: Who is able to make war with such an expanded and immense army now that its wound has been healed?

H. The beast is wounded by the sword.

- 1) Revelation 13:12-14
[12] *“And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship **the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.**”*
[13] *“He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.”*
[14] *“And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image of **the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.**”*
- 2) The beast was *“wounded by the sword and lived.”*
 - a. The word “sword” implies that there was a battle that took place.
 - b. The Greek word for sword (*machaira*—*makh-ahee-rah*) means a knife, dirk, figuratively war, judicial punishment, sword.
 - c. The Greek word for wound (*plege*—*play-gay*) means a stroke, by implication a wound; a calamity.
 - The word *calamity* means an event causing great and sudden damage or distress.
- 3) In this battle, the beast (Islamic Nation) was wounded, but it still lived on (1/6 of it).
 - a. The phrase *“the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived”* could be interpreted *“the beast who suffered a great calamity by war and lived.”*

2. God's remnant principle.

- A. God has always used the principle of allowing a remnant of people to remain so that His promises/curses would be continued to succeeding generations.**

B. While God often shows the remnant principle regarding Israel—how He would always preserve a remnant amongst His people—He also uses the same principle concerning Israel’s enemies.

C. Such is the case found in II Kings 17 and 18 concerning the siege of Jerusalem by the wicked King Sennacherib.

- 1) Sennacherib was the king of Assyria.
- 2) The majority of Israel was conquered and Sennacherib came up against Jerusalem to lay siege on it to conquer it.
- 3) Sennacherib was so certain of his victory that he made frequent and loud boasts against the God of the Israelites.
- 4) Finally, God had enough of Sennacherib’s boasts.
- 5) In II Kings 19:28 God says to Sennacherib, *“Because your rage against me and your tumult have come up to My ears, therefore **I will put My hook in your lips, and I will turn you back by the way which you came.**”*
- 6) Notice the similarity to the passage in Ezekiel 38:4a concerning Gog and Magog: *“**I will turn you around, put hooks in your jaws, and lead you out,** with all your army...”*

D. God supernaturally destroyed the Assyrian army encamped about Jerusalem, however, He allowed a remnant—including King Sennacherib—to return home to Nineveh to tell of their defeat at the hand of God.

- 1) II Kings 19:35,36
[35] *“And it came to pass on a certain night that **the angel of the LORD went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand;** and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead.”*
[36] *So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh.”*

E. Why did God permit a remnant of the Assyrians to escape and return home?

- 1) Because He had not fulfilled all of the prophecies concerning King Sennacherib and the Assyrians.
- 2) God allowed them to escape because He had plans to use them in the future.
- 3) In II Kings 19:7 God had prophesied the following about King Sennacherib: *“Surely I will send a spirit upon him, and he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land; **and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.**”*

F. God’s prophecy against Sennacherib was fulfilled years later.

- 1) We find the account in II Kings 19:37, *“Now it came to pass, as he was worshiping in the temple of Nisroch his god, **that his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer struck him down with the sword;** and they escaped into the land of Ararat. Then Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.”*

G. This account in the Old Testament shows that God uses the principle of preserving a remnant—including those of Israel’s enemies—because He intends to further use the enemy remnant to fulfill Bible prophecy.

- 1) God uses this same principle in the First Battle of Gog and Magog when He allows one-sixth of the Islamic Confederacy armies to return home to regroup and ultimately come up against God again in the battle of Armageddon (along with all of the other nations of the world).

CONCLUSION

The beast that was mortally wounded—but was later healed—is none other than the Islamic Nation/Kingdom that received a deadly wound when it attacked Israel during the First Battle of Gog and Magog. While only a numbered group of Islamic Nations attacked Israel, it was representative of the entire Islamic Nation's desire to see Israel annihilated and "wiped off the face of the map."

The beast's wound was later healed and the Bible says that the whole world eventually bowed down to this beast saying, "*Who is able to make war with the beast?*" The understanding of the beast that was wounded and later healed substantiates the church's doctrine that the Islamic Nation/Kingdom is indeed the 7th world empire prophesied of in Revelation 17:10.

While the Ottoman Empire—the successor to the Roman Empire—ended in 1923, this too was in fulfillment of Bible prophecy. According to Revelation 17:8b ("*...the beast that was, and is not, and yet is*") the 7th world empire would exist, stop existing, then exist again. Also, the 8th beast was prophesied to come from the 7th beast (Revelation 17:11).

What does that mean? While the Ottoman/Islamic Empire does not technically exist anymore, there are approximately 1.5 billion Muslims worldwide making it the second largest religion on the planet. According to Bible prophecy, the Islamic Nation will come to power again in the form of the Man of Sin—remember Revelation 13:7 tells us that he will have authority over every nation thus making him a world ruler. It's interesting to note that the official motto of the Ottoman Empire was: "The Eternal State".

God's Word is very precise. He gives us landmarks or markers to ascertain where we are according to His prophetic timetable. As the time of the fulfillment of these prophecies draws near, He is revealing His Word to us so that we can be children of the light. We can be watchmen who see and understand as God's prophetic Word unfolds in front of us.