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OUR FINEST HOUR

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

We're running a bit late with this edition, I do apologize. We are installing the last of the equipment needed for the completion of the studio. As a result we have been getting ready to record a number of courses that have been long overdue. One of which will be for the Last Days Training College that Jesus Ministries is building. We are living in exciting times as the last days remnant are getting brighter in a darkening world.

Stay strong and trust in the Lord.

Mark Johnson

27th April 2022

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REIGNING WITH THE LORD JESUS

JOE SWEET

If they would overcome by following His counsel, they would sit with Him on His throne! The promise is staggering

And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My

Father on His throne.

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Revelation 3:14-22

The Laodicean church may have been in the worst spiritual condition of all the churches of Asia Minor, yet the Lord gave His greatest promise to her. If they would overcome by following His counsel, they would sit with Him on His throne! The promise is staggering.

As the Lord Jesus Christ revealed His evaluation of the Laodicean church to them, He said (vs. 7) that they did not know what their present condition was in His sight (wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked) They did not know! We are the same. Unless the Lord reveals it to us, we do not know what our true present condition is in His sight.

The Lord came in His kindness to show them their poverty and give them wise counsel to escape. If they would heed His word, diligently applying it to their lives, His grace would take them from wretchedness, to the bliss and the inestimable riches of fellowship and union with the Lord Himself.



His assessment of their condition:
Wretched – Wretchedness is living
without the beauty of holiness.

*but as He who called you is holy, you
also be holy in all your conduct, 16
because it is written, "Be holy, for I am
holy."*

1 Peter 1:15-16

*Leviticus 10:3 And Moses said to
Aaron, "This is what the Lord spoke,
saying: 'By those who come near Me I
must be regarded as holy; And before
all the people I must be glorified.' " So
Aaron held his peace.*

*Give unto the Lord the glory due to His
name; Worship the Lord in the beauty
of holiness.*

Psalm 29:2

*Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of
holiness! Tremble before Him, all the
earth.*

*And what agreement has the temple
of God with idols? For you are the
temple of the living God. As God has
said:*

*"I will dwell in them and walk among
them.*

*I will be their God, and they shall be
My people."*

*Therefore "Come out from among
them and be separate, says the Lord.
Do not touch what is unclean, and I
will receive you."*

*"I will be a Father to you, and you shall
be My sons and daughters,
Says the Lord Almighty."*

*Therefore, having these promises,
beloved, let us cleanse ourselves
from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit,
perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

2 Corinthians 6:16 - 7:1

*Pursue peace with all people, and
holiness, without which no one will see
the Lord.*

Hebrews 12:14

*Holiness must return to the church as
the norm, not the exception. We must
learn to value and pursue the beauty*

*of holiness if we are to walk with the
Lord.*

Miserable

*In comparison to the far surpassing joy
of the Lord and His abiding presence,
they were miserable and did not
know it. Because they were content
with the comforts of the natural life
and were spiritually dull, they did not
know what they were missing. When
we are awakened and begin to live
"full tilt" for the Lord, His joy and His
manifest presence becomes our daily
experience. This is how we are to live.
Psalm 16:11 You will show me the path
of life; in Your presence is fullness of
joy; at Your right hand are pleasures
forevermore.*

*The Lord Jesus walked in more joy than
any man on the earth. We can also
walk in this joy when we overcome
lukewarmness.*

*You have loved righteousness and
hated lawlessness; Therefore God,
Your God, has anointed You With
the oil of gladness more than Your
companions.*

Hebrews 1:9

Poor

*The Laodicean believers were poor
because they were not rich in faith.*

*that the genuineness of your faith,
being much more precious than gold
that perishes, though it is tested by fire,
may be found to praise, honor, and
glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,*

1 Peter 1:7

*The Lord counseled them to "buy"
from Him "gold tried in the fire". This
speaks of faith that endures steadfast
through fiery trials. Obtaining strong,
persevering faith makes us rich in
God's eyes.*

*With our eyes on the eternal, fiery trials
work for our good.*

*For our light affliction, which is but
for a moment, is working for us a far
more exceeding and eternal weight
of glory, 18 while we do not look at*



the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.

Job 23:10

Lord, grant that we would become truly rich in Your eyes.

Blind

The Laodicean believers were blind to the revelation of Jesus. They were blind to eternal values. They were blind to their true spiritual condition. They were blind to the "hope of His calling". Their blindness kept them in their wretched, poor, miserable and naked condition. They were blind because of neglecting the Word of God. They were not applying the Word to their lives.

The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

Psalms 119:130

In Your light we see light.

Psalms 36:9b

Reading, meditating on and applying the Word of God causes His light to enter which enables us to see!

Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts.

Jeremiah 15:16

When we "eat" His Word we can "see". This is how we "anoint our eyes with eye salve". We spent time daily in His Word.

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

Psalms 34:8

Naked

Our garments represent the works of righteousness that we do. Believers walk "naked" when we are not doing the will of God that He has pre-ordained for our lives.

Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Revelation. 19:7-8

The garments that we will wear in eternity represent the righteous deeds that we walked in, in this life. All of our days were written in God's book before we were born. The Lord fore-ordained good works that we should walk in them

Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.

And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

Psalms 139:16

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

To "buy" white garments is to seek and discover the will of God that He has ordained for our life and to walk in it. Incorporating the prayer that Paul prayed for the Colossians into our own prayer life, we will be granted revelation knowledge, wisdom and spiritual understanding to walk in His perfect will for our lives.

"ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

The counsel of the Lord Jesus Christ
I counsel you:

- 1) buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and
- 2) buy from Me white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and
- 3) anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

These are the three things that we need to "overcome" lukewarmness and walk with the Lord. Therefore, the Lord said "be zealous and repent". To be zealous is the opposite of half-hearted or indifferent. With urgency, with zeal, may we wholeheartedly pursue repentance so that we may obey the counsel of the Lord.

The Lord gives further counsel. Doing this one thing (Rev. 3:2-21) will give us access to the "three things" mentioned above that we need. The one thing is to "hear His knock and open the door" to fellowship with Him.

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. 21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

Revelation 3:20-21

The Lord is always knocking. We must be sensitive to hear and respond. His call is to fellowship with Him.

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Corinthians 1:9

The epistle of First John was written to instruct us so that we might have fellowship with the Father and the Son.

that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with

His Son Jesus Christ. And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

1 John 1:3-4

God is light

God is light and in Him is no darkness at all'

1 John 1:5b

To fellowship with the Lord we must walk in the light

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:7

God has "called you out of darkness into His marvelous light"

1 Peter 2:9

He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. 10 He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

1 John 2:9-10

God's nature is love. His substance is light. When we walk in love, we are abiding in the light and we have fellowship with Him.

God is love. He who abides in love abides in God and God abides in him.

1 John 4:16

The Lord said that if we open the door to Him, He will come in and sup with us. The Lord, who is the Living Word, is the Supper.

I am the Living Bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever.

John 6:51a

The Lord, the Living Bread is also called "The Word of God"

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him (Word), and without Him (Word)



nothing was made that was made. In Him (Word) was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend (overcome) it.

John 1:1-5

He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

Revelation 19:3

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

JESUS IS THE WORD OF GOD.....

His written Word, when heeded, carries the LIGHT and LIFE of His SPIRIT

Jesus said "the words that I speak to you are spirit and they are life"

John 6:63b

"The entrance of Your words gives light"

Psalms 119:130a

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and light to my path

Psalms 119:105

The Lord's knock is a call to come aside and fellowship with Him by walking in the light (love) and feeding on His living Word.

To love God is to keep His Word. To fellowship with God is to walk in the light of (faith and obedience to) His Word.

He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

John 14:21,23

As we keep His Word, He promises to

manifest Himself to us and to come and make His abode with us. THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IS THE OVERCOMER. Fellowship with Him; abiding in Him and becoming His habitation is how we overcome. He overcomes in us!

This Book of the Law (the Word of God) shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Joshua 1:8

Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

1 Timothy 4:15

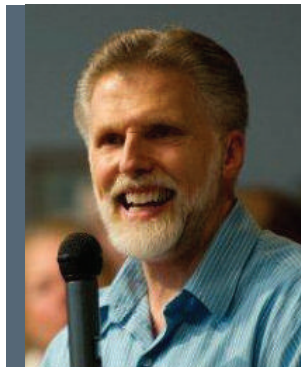
This is the counsel of the Lord to the Christian who desires to overcome lukewarmness and reign with Him. Hear His knock. Open the door. Make the time to commune with Him by meditating on and keeping His Word. He will manifest Himself to us and make His abode in us. Through Christ Jesus, in us, we will overcome.

To them (His saints) God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:27

For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11:36



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TOO MUCH BAGGAGE

BOBBY CONNOR



God is glad to carry your burdens
and give you the daily strength you need

Sometimes life feels loaded down with too much excess baggage! Life can be at times tough, and the burdens can be so difficult to bear. But you don't need to carry them alone.

CHRIST JESUS HAS WONDERFUL
ADVICE FOR US.

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

Matthew 11:28–30

Come to Christ Jesus HE will remove your heavy burdens of guilt and hopelessness and give you true rest in Him you are free indeed (see John 8:36).

"Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved."

Psalms 55:22

You do not need to carry your

burdens alone! God is glad to carry your burdens and give you the daily strength you need. Never forget God is a very present help in the time of need (see Nahum 1:7).

"Is this not the fact that I have chosen: To lose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?"

Isaiah 58:6

It's not God's will that you should be crushed down with excessive burdens; let Him free you today.

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

In God, we are unstoppable and invincible (see Romans 8:37)! Through faith His strength becomes yours, and He reaches out to keep you from falling.

"For I, the Lord your God, will hold your



right hand, saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you'"

Isaiah 41:13

God promises to support and help you through every trial. "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."

1 Peter 5:6-7

Just knowing your heavenly Father cares about you personally can make any load seem lighter. Knowing you are never facing any issue alone.

"So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the LORD your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you."

Deuteronomy 31:6 NLT

"He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom."

Isaiah 40:11

The Good Shepherd will gladly bear you in His gentle arms right now (see Psalms 23:1-6).

"The righteous cry out, and the Lord

hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles."

Psalms 34:17

If you belong to Him, God will always listen when you call to Him for help (see 1 John 5:14).

When Father God has lightened your burdens, He asks you to do the same for others.

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:2

"Even to your old age, I am He, and even to gray hairs I will carry you! I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you."

Isaiah 46:4

The Lord will constantly support you throughout your life and will save you eternally. Remember the pathway to peace is: Keep your focus upon the Lord (see Isaiah 26:3).

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will ease and relieve and refresh your souls.]

Matthew 11:28 (AMPC)



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Mark Johnson

Spiritual Survival

Rule of three's

The Rule takes the number three and asks how we can survive 3 minutes, 3 hours, 3 days, 3 weeks

There is a rule of 3's that we can apply to survive in a wilderness situation. The Rule takes the number three and asks how we can survive 3 minutes, 3 hours, 3 days, 3 weeks and so on. Let's take a look at that concept and see how we can apply that to our lives spiritually.

3 Minutes - Air

Our physical body can survive 3 minutes without air. It is the Breath of God that brought Adam to life, so we need to ask what is the breath of God? The Word of God likens the Holy Spirit to a wind, or breath.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like a mighty rushing wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw tongues like flames of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Acts 2:1-4

The word "Spirit" as in Holy Spirit in

Greek is Pneuma.

Greek: Pneuma - wind, spirit, breath

The Holy Spirit is the Breath of God, which brought Adam to life. It is through praying in the Spirit that we edifieth ourself.

He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself

1 Corinthians 14:4

We need the Holy spirit in our lives daily. Praying in the Spirit is not optional but a requirement, and we should be praying at least 1 hour a day. We can break that up into for example; 10 minutes, + 20 minutes, + 30 minutes during the day. Finding 1 hour a day is not hard if we remember to put this into practice.

When we come before a King, we bow and wait for the King to say "Rise, speak". When we come before our King upon His throne we need to approach Him the same way. In fact the word Worship is often described in the Word of God as being in a prone position (lying face down). Then we wait for the command to rise



and speak. During our quiet worship towards God (praying in the Spirit) we wait for the Holy Spirit to rise within us, then we speak the Word of God, our petition, prayers.

How do we hear the voice of the Holy Spirit? By being still in spirit, soul, body. We focus on Jesus and pray quietly in the Spirit, listening for the quiet voice within us is the Holy Spirit.

3 Hours - Shelter

To survive in a hostile environment (winter snow) our bodies can only last about 3 hours without protection. Scripture is very clear, that God is our shelter.

The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
Psalms 18:2

When we abide in God we have protection, but sometimes we are tested as in Job.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing? Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

Job 1: 7-9

Sometimes we have dry seasons, we don't hear God's voice. Will you continue to do what the Lord has asked you to do, holding onto the last word He gave you? What did the Lord say to you, hold onto that word until you hear His voice again.

3 Days - Water

Our bodies can only survive around 3 days without water.

But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst;

but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

John 4:14

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

John 7:37

Jesus is the water that is ever lasting. Now you might say these scriptures are talking about salvation, and yes this is true. But all scripture is used for our understanding, we have to move on from the Peshat (plain or simple meaning) level of scripture and go deeper into the Sod (deeper spiritual meaning). Jesus said "Come to Me". We need to come to Jesus in the spirit.

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

Matthew 18:20

When we gather in Jesus' name, Jesus is with us, in the spirit realm. The question to ask the next time you gather is "where are you Jesus?". Isn't it interesting that we are made up of 3 bodies: spirit, soul and body. When our spirit, soul and body come into alignment with Jesus we are gathered in His name.

God requires us to go to Him, to enter into His realm. We do that through daily prayer, waiting on Him. Being silent and still in spirit, soul and body. How long should we wait on Him in prayer? 5 minutes, 10, 20? How thirsty are you?

3 Weeks - Food

We can last around 3 weeks without food. What does scripture tell us food is? The Word of God.

And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:35

But he answered and said, It is written,



Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Matthew 4:4

Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts.

Jeremiah 15:16

Reading the Bible is of the utmost importance. What more can I say, read until you get revelation from the Holy Spirit. If you don't receive revelation, re-read the passage of scripture until you do. Ask the Holy

Spirit to give you revelation.

How much more important is it to live a spiritual life. If you do not breathe in the Holy Spirit, you are spiritually suffocating. If you have not come to Jesus in over 3 days you are spiritual dying of thirst. If you have not read and received revelation from the Word of God in over 3 weeks you are spiritually starving.

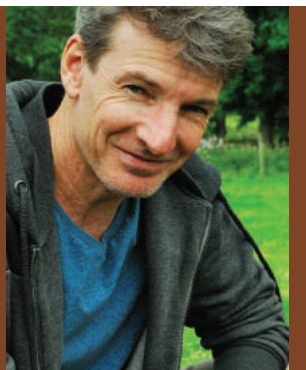
Do you breathe every day?

Do you drink every day?

Do you eat every day?

Let's follow this rule of 3's to live a healthy spiritual life.

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He's Behind You

PART 2

ANDY TIPLADY

If it's in the Word we have to deal with it'

In my last article I presented my case for the Bride of Christ remaining on Earth during the final seven years and suggested that Rome may not be the Legs of Iron from Daniel 2. I explained how the Scriptures point towards a revived Kingdom rising from the region of modern day Turkey, Macedonia and parts of Syria. (Part 1 can be found in the Dec 2021 edition).

In this article I'd like to continue on this theme focusing on the identity and location of Gog and Magog, both of which reveal the area/areas that the Antichrist and his initial army will emerge from to attack Israel. This subject matter seems particularly pertinent as the world is watching the most horrific invasion of Ukraine, led by Russia, raising much debate on the topic of Ezekiel 38-39, Russia, Gog and Magog. Has much of the church been looking in the wrong direction for the rise of the Antichrist?

So let's jump right in, and take a closer look at the nations/regions listed in Ezekiel 38, over which Gog is named as the prince. Let's also see if Russia

could be included as one of them. This following passage lists the areas from where the Antichrist and his initial army will arise from and invade Israel during the last three and half years of the final seven years as spoken in Scripture.

The Modern Day Antichrist Army

I'm quoting from the English Standard Version:

The word of the LORD came to me: "Son of man, set your face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him and say, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. And I will turn you about and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you out, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed in full armor, a great host, all of them with buckler and shield, wielding swords. Persia, Cush, and Put are with them, all of them with shield and helmet; Gomer and all his hordes; Beth-togarmah from the uttermost parts of the north with all his

hordes—many peoples are with you.
Ezekiel 38:1-6

The nations/regions listed here are:

1. Meshech
2. Tubal
3. Persia – modern day Iran and Iraq
4. Cush – modern day Ethiopia / northern Sudan
5. Put - Libya
6. Gomer
7. Beth-Togarmah

You may have noticed that Rosh is not included in the above list of nations/regions. The word 'Rosh' literally means chief or head. Rosh is not a location, and it never was a place name in the entire Old Testament. The word rosh means 'chief', same as 'Rosh Hashanah' means head/chief of the year. If you use the New King James Version however, Ezekiel 38:2 will list rosh as a place name, alongside Meshech and Tubal. This originates from two Hebrew scholars, Gesenius and Keil who's lives spanned between (1786 – 1888) and decided that 'rosh' may have been a noun, a place name, even though in Ezekiel's time and through the Old Testament there was no Rosh. Much debate has been had over this subject over the centuries, and even in their day it was not agreed upon. (You can find out more by looking up a renowned scholar of Hebrew and Old Testament, Daniel I. Block, known for his work on the Book of Ezekiel and his commentary published 1998, 'The New International Commentary on the Old Testament on Ezekiel.)

Most translations of Ezekiel 38:2 read 'the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal...' which is more accurate and really helps us focus on the regions from which the Antichrist will raise his

army. So no, Russia isn't mentioned in the Bible.

We know that Persia is modern day Iran and Iraq, Cush – modern day Ethiopia/ northern Sudan, Put – Libya and Sheba and Dedan – in the Saudi Peninsular. But where are the nations/regions Magog, Meshech, Tubal, Gomer, Togarmah? For this is the region from which the Antichrist will raise up an army and advance against Israel in the last days.

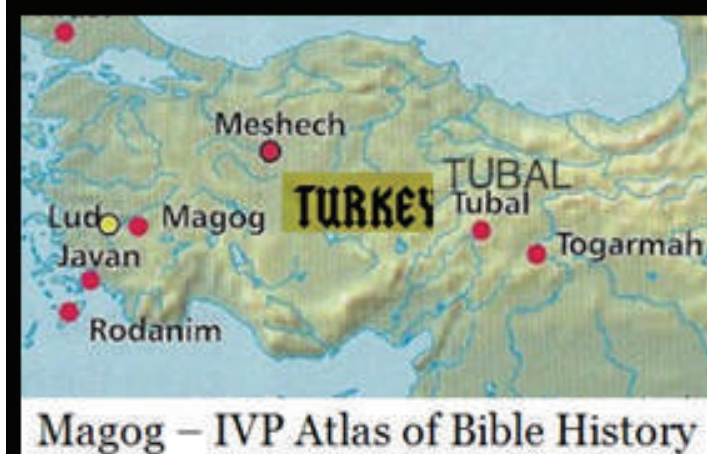
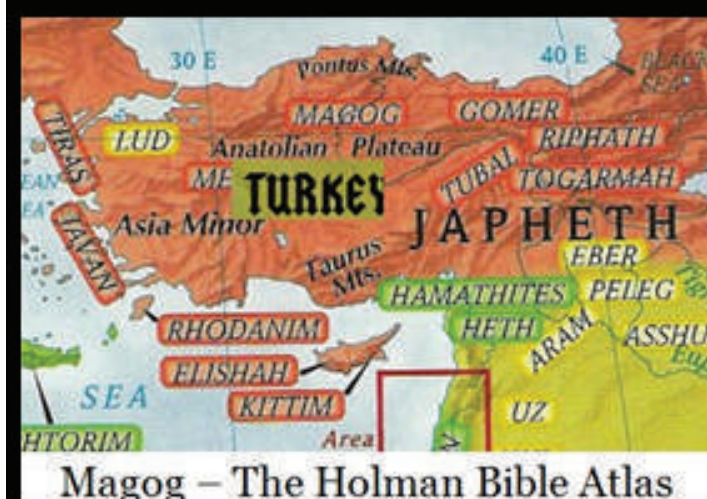
Many theologians agree these areas are in Asia Minor, including Herodotus, a Greek historian writing 150 so years after Ezekiel; Hippolytus of Rome, a third century theologian, and John Wesley linked Magog to the Galatians in Asia Minor. More modern-day theologians such as G.H. Pember, G.H. Lang and Bullinger all agree these areas are in Asia Minor, modern day Turkey. The late brilliant Bible scholar Chuck Missler also agrees that these areas are in Asia Minor.

Another fact linking the areas Magog, Meshech, Tubal, Gomer and Togarmah to modern day Turkey is the publishers of various World Atlases, listed below, who have nothing to prove in the Christian world and are merely stating the facts.

- IVP Atlas of the Bible
- New Moody Atlas
- Harper and Collins Atlas of Bible History
- Bakers Bible Atlas
- Zondervan Atlas
- ESV Bible Atlas
- Holman Bible Atlas
- Oxford Bible Atlas

These nations are clearly not in Europe, but are in modern day Turkey.





The Seven Heads

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 like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. 4 So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

Revelation 13:1-4

This is describing the Antichrist's rise to power. The language is very much the same as Daniel 7:4-7 with lion, leopard and bear being mentioned again.

Rev 13:3 refers to one of the beast's seven heads having been mortally wounded and yet healed. Some interpret this verse as a 'revived Roman Empire' being this particular head. Could this be?

Let's look further, as this beast has seven heads, not just the one that was mortally wounded.

John tells us more in Revelation 17, adding more detail to it:

The Meaning of the Woman and the Beast

But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

"Here is the mind which has wisdom:

The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. 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. The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

Revelation 17:7-11

Seven Hills or Mountains

Let's point a couple of things out from this passage. There are seven mountains, not hills so that counts out Rome, since Rome has seven hills and not mountains. Places like Sheffield, Bath, Bristol, Durham, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Torquay all in the UK sit on seven hills so, if we follow the theory through, why can't one of these places be where the Antichrist will come from? They also qualify to be cities on seven hills, like those who suggest it must be Rome because it also has seven hills. All those listed above, apart from Rome, are cities in the UK and as we will see Great Britain had one of the largest empires ever seen.

Revelation 17:9-10 clearly states that, "the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. There are also seven kings."

The reference to mountains here relates to nations over which seven kings rule.

Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house. Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it.

Isaiah 2:2

This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands—a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces.

Daniel 2: 45

However, John and Daniel give us a

massive clue from this passage where this nation might come from as we can see here:

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. 11 The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

Revelation 17:10b

The Seven Heads/Kings/Mountains:

1st – 5th heads: 'Five have fallen.' Historically the first five heads / kings / mountains are:

- 1) Egypt
- 2) Assyria
- 3) Babylon
- 4) Medes & Persia
- 5) Greece

6th head: 'One is' this must be Rome, as Rome was the dominant power at the time of John receiving this revelation.

7th head: 'And one has not yet come' It's worth mentioning that if we interpret the 7th head as the revived Roman Empire (Revelation 13:3), and if we are of the belief that the final Antichrist comes from Rome, then it would mean that the final three heads are all of Roman origin, namely the 6th, 7th & 8th heads are all of the Roman Empire.

8th head: This is described as 'The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven,'

If we follow this theory, then we would have a 'revived, revived Roman Empire. Scripturally, this does not fit. The eighth head is the Antichrists kingdom in the last seven years of the Tribulation.

This tells us the Antichrist comes out of one of the **seven**. It's of my opinion that he will come out of the seventh. Why? Because Daniel 11 tells us: The Kingdom of the North.



The Seventh Kingdom

So, who is the seventh kingdom? There are a few good contenders. But as I have been saying to my tribe, remember 'location, location, location.' And 'context, context, context.' Location is Asia Minor, modern day Turkey. Context is Magog, Meshech, Tubal, Gomer, Togarmah as well as Persia, Put, Cush, Dedan and Sheba. All in Asia Minor/Middle East and North Africa.

Now let's look at the top contenders of this seventh kingdom from history, I've used the good old Encyclopaedia Britannia, a long tried and tested resource of facts and figures. Here are the first seven. I only went as far as seven because one would think this seventh kingdom would be in the top seven. Right?

Top of the list in empire size is:

1. Great Britain – 26.35% of the World. Ended in 1920
2. Mongol – 17.81% of the World. Ended in 1309
3. Russia – 16.92% of the World. Ended in 1895
4. Qing Dynasty – 10.91% of the World. Ended in 1790
5. Spanish – 10.17% of the World. Ended in 1810
6. 2nd French Empire – 8.53% of the World. Ended in 1920
7. The 4 Muslim Caliphate's – 8.24% of the World. Ended in 1923-24 with the Ottoman Turkish Caliphate

If we were deciding who the seventh kingdom was, depending on size, then why couldn't the seventh kingdom originate from Great Britain, which features at the top of the list? Why do people think it is a revived Roman Empire? They are not even in the top seven. They only come in at lowly placed 26th and controlled

only 3.71% of land mass. So why not a revived Russian Empire? Or even a Spanish Empire with the revival of the 'Spanish Inquisition' where millions were persecuted and died for their faith in Jesus Christ?

The Babylonian Empire only controlled 0.19% of land mass with the Assyrian Empire coming in at 0.11% and both although mentioned, were near the bottom of a long list.

Gog and the Antichrist

Having mentioned at the outset that the Antichrist spoken of in the New Testament is the same as Gog, spoken of in Ezekiel 38 and 39, it's worth mentioning that there are various opinions about this, but to help clarify this point, I'd like to include this excerpt from a fellow brother in the Lord, Joel Richardson (joelstrumpet.com), who sums it up beautifully in an article named "Six Reasons why Gog is the Antichrist":

In modern times, many teachers of Bible prophecy have claimed that, "Gog," spoken of in Ezekiel 38 and 39, cannot be the same as the Antichrist spoken of in the New Testament.

A careful examination of the text however, establishes that Gog is simply another biblical term used to describe the Antichrist, the great final enemy of God's people. If this is the case however, this changes much within the world of popular biblical prophecy. For example, if it can be shown that Gog is the Antichrist, then it is also clear that the Antichrist and his armies are primarily Middle Eastern armies and not European, as is popularly taught. More importantly, it would also indicate that until Jesus returns, Islam is not going away. Instead of being a system of belief that is about to be "wiped out," as so many claim, Islam may very well represent the greatest challenge the church face before Jesus returns. Needless to say, the strategic intercessory and missiological implications would be

absolutely profound.

Gog is not only a place, but also a title to the person of that place. A bit like our beautiful Queen. She is the Queen of Great Britain. A title of a person and a place. So, to reiterate, Gog is a geographical place and a title to a person, the Antichrist.

Remember, 'location, location, location' – The Middle East and North Africa. 'Context, context, context' from Daniel, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Joel, Zechariah just to name a few, they are referring to the '**Am Sabib**' the surrounding people and the '**Goy Sabib**', the surrounding nations. The only empire that historically and biblically fits number seven on the list, in my understanding, is a revived Muslim Caliphate. It's the only one that truly fits to Scripture, location, the context of the Scripture and History and all have a common hatred for the nation of Israel. The commonly popular teaching of Rome does not hold water.

In Conclusion

In conclusion, what we are seeing in the invasion of Ukraine by Russia is **not** the Ezekiel 38-39 war. Maybe Russia might be included in this, as a part of this massive Antichrist army, but Russia is not mentioned in the bible. And Russia is geographically not in the region of the nations described in Ezekiel. As stated earlier, the term 'Rosh', meaning chief was never a place name throughout the Old Testament.

The main body of the Antichrist army will arise out of the surrounding nations and the surrounding peoples that surround Israel. How can we say that with absolute certainty? Because the Bible points to it. Remember, "let's shout out what the Bible shouts, whisper where it whispers and tread very carefully where it is silent."

This invasion, I believe, is not the breaking of the seals yet, but we are close to it and at any time this could very easily escalate into the White Horse rider riding out to conquer. I however do believe it is what Jesus tells us in Matthew 24:6

"And you will hear of wars and rumors of war. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the time is not yet. For nation will arise against nation (ethnos-ethnic) and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."

Matthew 24:6

We must be the watchers on the towers. This is the start, and yes, I do believe **we will see** the first four Seals being broken, and the 4 horses riding forth. This is the start. Jesus tells us it is the beginning of sorrows. Like Moses and Aaron, we must be the voice leading and proclaiming these events as they happen.

Jesus never taught us that we would escape or have an exemption from these events but the opposite. He taught us we must 'endure' and 'embrace'. As the 'Body' we must prepare and be prepared to go through these events both physically and spiritually. We are this 'Fig Tree Generation' of Matt 24:32 that we see the Lord's return be we must shout out the Maranatha cry of "Come Lord Jesus come." Let's be watchful and be of sober mind as we observe these days that are on us but be assured, this **Gospel of the Kingdom will advance** in these last few years.

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