

Gog
Ezekiel 38 & 39
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the truth concerning Ezekiel 38 & 39.

- Intro:
1. There is a lot of false teaching due to misunderstandings taken from Ezekiel 38 & 39.
 2. Premillennialists come to these chapters to attempt to find justification for their doctrines.
 - a. They use this section to say there will be some kind of literal, physical battle in the literal land of Israel between the forces of good and the forces of evil.
 - b. They combine this description with those in Revelation 16:12-21; 19:17-21; 20:7-10, and other similar passages, and attempt to make them apply to a great battle they call “the battle of Armageddon”
 - i. They hold that this army from the north is Russia.
 - c. However, in doing so they take passages that are all using figurative language and use them to fit a doctrine they have created themselves.
 - d. Just as the valley of dry bones was not speaking of a literal valley of dry bones neither is this passage speaking of a literal physical battle of good versus evil.
 - i. In reality the good faithful Christian battles evil on a daily basis.
 3. We will look at the events of chapters 38-39 and discuss the meaning behind them.

I. Gog in Ezekiel (Ezk 38 & 39)

A. Gog & Ezekiel 38

- 1. He is mentioned in 1 Chronicles 5:4 as an Israelite.**
- 2. He is also mentioned in Ezekiel 38,39 and Revelation 20:7.**
- 3. Gog can simply be understood as who God uses to represent Evil. (Ezk 38:1-4)**
4. Gog and all it's allies, Evil and all its companions cannot overcome God's people. (chapter 38)
 - i. Ezk 38:8-9 – Evil will try over and over to overcome the faithful.**
 - ii. Ezk 38:16 – evil will come as a cloud but God will be victorious.**
 - a. V.16 - God will over come evil in the final days through the death of Christ on the cross, sin is overcome and the 2nd death.
 - iii. Ezk 38:18-23 – Judgment comes upon workers of evil and their companions.**

B. Evil in Ezekiel 39

- 1. Evil is destroyed (v.1-10) by God**
- 2. No literal graves but God's enemies being completely defeated (v.11-16)**
- 3. (v.17-29) The people will celebrate and Israel will return to the land, in Ezekiel's time God would overcome the evil people who came against Israel and Israel return to the land, not Christ, not a physical kingdom for Christ, just the faithful of Israel of that time**

II. Why misapply Gog?

A. To fit false doctrine.

1. When a person or group teaches one false doctrine others must created in order to support this false doctrine.

2. False doctrine requires more false doctrine.
- B. Gog misapplied creates damnable doctrine.
 1. Premillennialists come to these chapters to attempt to find justification for their doctrines.
 2. The “battle of Armageddon” being taught as literal and taking place at the end of time fits only man’s doctrine.
 - a. The premillennialists doctrine include things like:
 - i. The Rapture – a 2nd chance for the unfaithful
 - ii. A 1000 year reign of Christ in Jerusalem
 - iii. A “great tribulation”
 - iv. A battle that includes Christ coming down and fighting in Himself.
 - v. And the list goes on and on.

III. Lessons for us today.

- A. Figures of speech must be looked at carefully.
 1. The Bible uses figures of speech from beginning to end.
 2. While we may not always understand every single figure or imagine we must be careful that we do not fall into the trap of allow figures to lead us to a teaching that is not supported anywhere else in the Bible.
- B. Encouragement from figurative speech.
 1. Figures of speech are often used to describe God’s power.
 2. Just think of all the figures used in the Bible to describe things like:
 - a. God’s power
 - b. God’s wisdom
 - c. God’s constant victories over evil
 - d. God’s faithfulness
 - e. God’s love for mankind, etc

Application & Conclusion:

1. We should not allow figures of speech to cause us to miss the picture they are trying reveal.
 - a. In Ezekiel’s case it was God’s power and victory over evil coming against Israel.
2. Revelation it is the Christian’s victory through obedience and our ultimate reward.
 - a. The Big picture reveals so much, things we do not want to miss.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9