

## Timing of Gog and Magog

**Question:** I have listened to your Ezekiel 38 & 39 recording from 2017 on the website. I was curious as to what specific reason or verses lend to your reasoning of the battle of Gog from Magog occurring in the middle of the Tribulation. The timing is interesting because of the burning of weapons for seven years and it just seems weird for that action to filter on into the millennium with the curse being lifted off the Earth and Garden of Eden-like conditions. It's always puzzled me.

**Answer:**

First, let me say that I am not a prophet. I am only interpreting the Scriptures to the best of my ability. As we all know, prophecy is best interpreted in hindsight. But here is why I believe that the Battle of Gog and Magog occurs at about the three-year point of the Tribulation period.

**Point 1:** The Battle of Gog and Magog (hereinafter the Battle) happens during the Day of the Lord. Ezekiel 38:10, “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.” The phrase “On that day” refers to the Day of the Lord. That is a one-thousand-year period beginning with the Rapture/Resurrection and ending with the New Heavens and New Earth. Psalm 90:4, 2 Peter 3:8. Also, Ezekiel 38:16 says the Battle takes place “in the latter days.” The Hebrew literally says in the End of Days, meaning the Day of the Lord.

**Point 2:** The Battle must take place before the end of the Tribulation period. In the Messianic Kingdom, there will be no more war. Isaiah 2:4, Micah 4:3. So all three wars prophesied to take place in the Tribulation period – Psalm 83, Gog and Magog, and Armageddon – must be completed before Messiah establishes His kingdom on Earth.

**Point 3:** These first two points give us a seven-year window for the Battle.

**Point 4:** The Tribulation period is a seven-year period that begins with the confirmation of a seven-year treaty of peace. Daniel 9:27, Revelation 6:1-2. This is represented by the white horse of the second seal in Revelation 6:1-2. But as soon as Israel relaxes her defense posture, her enemies attack. 1 Thessalonians 5:3, “For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.” This is represented by the red horse of the second seal in Revelation 6:3-4.

**Point 5:** I believe the war described in Point 4 is the war of Psalm 83. The enemies that attack Israel all share a common border with Israel. They are listed in Psalm 83:6-8. Israel is victorious and these enemies never attack Israel again. Psalm 83:17-18, “Let them be confounded and dismayed forever; Yes, let them be put to shame and perish, that they may know that You, whose name alone *is* the Lord, *Are* the Most High over all the earth.” Israel will finally have peace – temporarily. Gog and Magog attack when Israel is at peace. Ezekiel 38:14-16, “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*? 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. 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.”

**Point 6:** The enemies that attack Israel in the Battle of Gog and Magog do not share a border with Israel. They are Russia, Iran, the Former Soviet States, Eastern Europe, Turkey, Sudan and Libya. Ezekiel 38:2-8. None of the nations mentioned share a border with Israel. If the war of Psalm 83 did not come first, we would expect the nations that share a border with Israel to be involved.

**Point 7:** When the Lord intervenes in the Battle of Gog and Magog, there is a great earthquake unlike any seen before. Ezekiel 38:18-20, “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. 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, 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.’”

**Point 8:** When the sixth seal is opened, there is a great earthquake. Revelation 6:12-17 says, “I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”” This takes place before the middle of the Tribulation period.

**Point 9:** When the Lord intervenes, many become Believers, in Israel and in other nations. 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.” Ezekiel 39:7-8 confirms this. “So I will make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel, and I will not *let them* profane My holy name anymore. Then the nations shall know that *I am* the Lord, the Holy One in Israel. Surely it is coming, and it shall be done,” says the Lord God. “This *is* the day of which I have spoken.”

**Point 10:** The False Messiah/Antichrist will set up an Abomination of Desolation in the rebuilt Temple about thirty days before the exact middle of the Tribulation period. Daniel 12:11, “And from the time *that* the daily *sacrifice* is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, *there shall be* one thousand two hundred and ninety days.” The last half of the Tribulation is exactly one thousand two hundred and sixty days. So, I believe the Abomination is set up thirty days before the exact midpoint.

**Point 11:** When Israel sees the Abomination of Desolation set up, the residents in Judea are to flee to Petra. Matthew 24:15-22, “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’

spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand), “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.”

**Point 12:** Israel must come to faith before the Abomination is set up in order to have time to study and learn Matthew 24. Why would they listen to Yeshua if they do not believe in Him? When did they come to faith? They came to faith at the Battle of Gog and Magog as said above in Point 9. My proposed timeline gives them five months to study the book of Matthew and plan to escape to Petra as soon as they see the Abomination of Desolation. It is a two-day bus ride from Jerusalem to Petra. If they have to walk, especially with children, it could take a month to get there. We know they will be protected in Petra from exactly the middle of the Tribulation to its end. Revelation 12:14, “But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.” That is exactly 1,260 days or three and a half years.

**Point 13:** What about the fact that they will burn weapons for seven years? Both Isaiah and Micah mention that they will “beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks.” Isaiah 2:4. This is converting weapons of war into civilian uses. And, this is prophesied to happen during the Messianic Kingdom. Might they need to heat homes even during the Messianic Kingdom? We will see.