Ezekiel 38 & 39 – Gog Destroyed and the Kingdom Restored to Israel

The House of Israel (Jews in the land at Armageddon are called "Judah")	Gogian Host (Representative of latter-day EDOM)
The Israel slain live (Ezek. 37)	Gogian living are slain (Ezek. 38)
A land "brought back from the sword" (Ezek. 38:8)	Gog's host is appointed to the sword (Ezek. 38:21)
Israel is brought out of the Valley of death (Ezek. 37)	Gogian host is led into it (Ezek. 39:11)
Israel is resurrected out of its graves (Ezek. 37:12)	Gogian host is buried in its grave (Ezek. 39:11)
The bones of Israel are brought together by a great shaking in the land (Ezek. 37:7)	Gogian host is scattered by a great shaking (Ezek. 38:19)
The Shepherd Prince of Israel leads Israel to victory (Ezek. 37:24)	Gog-prince of Rosh leads the nations to disaster (Ezek. 38:2)

Ezekiel 38

- ¹And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
- ² ¹Son of man, set thy face against Gog², the ³land of Magog, the ⁴chief prince of ⁵Meshech and ⁶Tubal, and prophesy against him,
- ³And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I *am* against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:
- ⁴And I will ⁷turn thee back, and put ⁸hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts *of armour, even* a great company *with* bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:
- ⁵ Persia, ¹⁰Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet:
- ⁶ ¹¹Gomer, and all his bands; the house of ¹²Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: *and* many people with thee.

Christ and Gog Clash on the Mountains of Israel

- 1. Title of the Lord Jesus Christ. He will fulfill the prophecy at Armageddon. Young's Literal "Son of man, set thy face unto Gog, of the land of Magog, prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy concerning him."
- 2. Signifies "a roof", "the one at the top" (The English and Hebrew Bible Students Concordance). Same as Agag see Lxx for Num. 24:7.
- 3. Identified by Josephus with the Scythians, who, according to Herodotus, "spread from the River Tanais or Don westward along the banks of the Ister, or Danube, "through the area later known as Hungary, Transylvania, and Wallachia". Diodorus Siculus (90-21 BC) traces the Scythians or Magogites to the shores of the Baltic. Gog is "of the land of Magog" (comprising central Europe including Germany, extending to the Baltic).
- 4. Should be translated "prince of Rosh". Bochart in his Sacred Geography, declares that "Ros is the most ancient form under which history makes mention of the name of Russia." The word is translated frequently "head"; a cognate word is translated "poison" in Job 20:16, "venom" in Deut. 32:33, "gall' in Deut. 29:18; 32:32. The name Rosh fittingly describes the serpent power politically manifested.
- 5. Identified with Moscovy from whence is developed the name Moscow. Bochart wrote: "It is credible that from Rhos and Mesech (that is the Rhossi and Moschi), of whom Ezekiel speaks, descended the Russians and Moscovites, nations of the greatest celebrity in European Scythia."
- 6. The river Tobol gives its name to the City Tobolium, or Tobolski, the metropolis of the extensive region of Siberia, lying immediately eastward of the territories of Moscovy, or Mosc.
- 7. RV "I will turn thee about" (see also 39:2). Translated "brought back" V.8. Divine intervention will bring Gog into the Land of Israel.
- 8. See 2 Kings 19:28 and context for the type of Gog's overthrow.
- 9. Modern Iran. Already an ally, it will come under the domination of Russia.
- 10. See Dan. 11:43. The name Cush here refers to modern Sudan (neighbor to Libya) and Ethiopia.
- 11. Josephus (Book 1, ch. 6, sec. 1) identifies these with the Galatians, or

⁷Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a ¹³guard unto them.

⁸After many days thou shalt be ¹⁴<u>visited</u>: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land *that is* brought back from the sword, *and is* gathered out of many people, against ¹⁵the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they ¹⁶shall dwell safely all of them.

⁹Thou shalt ascend and come like a ¹⁷storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy ¹⁸bands, and many people with thee. ¹⁰Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, *that* at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt ¹⁹think an evil ²⁰thought:

¹¹And thou shalt say, I will go ²¹<u>up</u> to the land of ²²<u>unwalled villages</u>; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them ²³<u>dwelling without walls</u>, and having neither bars nor gates, ¹² ²⁴To take a spoil, and to take a

prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places *that are now* inhabited, and upon the people *that are* gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the ²⁵midst of the land.

13 26Sheba, and 27Dedan, and the 28merchants of Tarshish, with all the 29young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to ³⁰take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to ³¹take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and

¹⁴Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, ³²shalt thou not know *it*?

goods, to take a great spoil?

¹⁵And thou shalt come ³³from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army:

- the Gauls, who migrated west to France, Holland, Belgium.
- 12. Son of Gomer (Gen. 10:3). A nomadic people, his posterity migrated from the mountains of Taurus and Amanus eastwards towards eastern Turkey and Armenia (Ezek. 27:14).
- 13. *mishmar* a guard, custodian. The word implies diligent observation and careful watchfulness. Suggests the dictatorial authority that will characterise Russian control of the confederacy.
- 14. paqad visit, hence oversee, muster. Roth. "shalt thou muster thy forces".
- 15. Includes the West Bank which must be in Israel's possession before Armageddon. Also indicates a latter day prophecy because "Israel" ceased to exist as a nation in 722 BC (before Ezekiel's time).
- 16. A promise made in Lev. 26:5 if only they would be faithful. Ezek 39:26 shows how they will bear their shame for dwelling with a sense of false safety and pride before their destruction. 2/3^{rds} will perish because of this Zech. 13:8.
- 17. See Dan. 11:40.
- 18. aggaph a wing of an army or crowds of troops (used V. 6,22; 39:4).
- 19. chashab to weave, plan, plot, devise.
- 20. machashabah device, plan, a mischievous purpose. This phrase is used in Esther 9:25. Haman the Agagite (Gog Lxx)) planned to exterminate the Jews out of religious hatred. So too, Gog will try to destroy the Jews for religious reasons Isa. 34:1-8; Joel 3:11-17; Ezek. 36:2
- 21. Cp. Gen. 46:3; Isa. 30:2. By contrast the direction here is "up". Gog comes to Jerusalem from Egypt after making trouble there Dan. 11:42.
- 22. *perazah* open country, unwalled settlement. See Deut. 3:5; Lev. 25:31. A land of rural settlements.
- 23. "Walled Cities" means a state of defense as in Deut. 1:28; Num. 13:28. "Unwalled" must mean the opposite.
- 24. "spoil" (*shalal*) and "prey" (*baz*) can be used interchangeably. Spoil can mean prey as in Jud. 5:30; Isa. 10:2, and a prey can mean a spoil Jer. 15:13, Ezek. 25:7. It relates therefore, to the Jews and their booty.
- 25. tabbuwr centre, navel, highest part. Points to the mountainous region of the land of Israel the West Bank. See Daniel 11:45. Requires Israel to occupy the hill country at the time of the end.
- 26. MS Encarta "Ancient kingdom of south-western Arabia (modern Republic of Yemen) mentioned in the Bible, most notably in the story about the meeting between King Solomon and the queen of Sheba (see 1 Kings 10:1-13)".
- 27. Dedan (Muscat) to the east includes Oman and the Gulf States which with Saudia Arabia are pro-western.
- 28. Tarshish as a proper name first occurs in Gen. 10:4. Descendant of Japheth, eldest son of Noah who settled the coasts of the Mediterranean, the Adriatic, and the Atlantic region above the Straits of Gibraltar. Assumed Tyre's mercantile marine power Isa. 23:6. Ezek. 27:12 links Tarshish with Britain (Baratanac the land of tin), and Jonah 1:3 shows that it lay far to the west. This power plays a dominant role at the time of the end Ps. 72:10; 48:7; Isa. 2:16; 60:9; 66:19.
- 29. Implies Tarshish symbolized by a lion, the well known heraldry of the British Empire. During her empire days Britain was the mother of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and India. As these young lions matured they began to leave their mother's protection but remain closely allied to her.
- 30. shalal root of the word "spoil" which follows (see note V.12).
- 31. bazaz root of the word "prey" which follows (see note V.12).
- 32. Will happen after Christ's return and while the household is being judged. Lxx. has "Wilt thou not rouse thyself?" A.V. suggests that Gog will recognize the vulnerability of the Middle East at that time. Israel will be dwelling safely and unsuspectingly. The "peace and safety" cry will have resounded throughout the world (1 Thess. 5:3), then "sudden destruction" shall overtake the nations.
- 33. RV "out of the uttermost parts of the north."
- 34. The period in which Daniel 11:40-45 will be fulfilled.
- 35. Youngs Lit. "In order that the nations may know Me".
- 36. Yahweh's intervention will show beyond all doubt that He is the God of Israel. Armageddon, and the national salvation of Israel will cause others to accept the Truth that will then be proclaimed in His name through

¹⁶And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be ³⁴in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, ³⁵that the heathen may know me, when ³⁶I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.

¹⁷Thus saith the Lord GOD; *Art* thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by ³⁷my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days *many* years that I would bring thee against them?

¹⁸And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, *that* my ³⁸fury shall come up in my ³⁹face.

¹⁹For in my ⁴⁰<u>jealousy</u> *and* in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a ⁴¹<u>great shaking in the land of Israel;</u>

²⁰So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that *are* upon the face of the earth, shall ⁴²shake at my presence, and the ⁴³mountains shall be thrown down, and ⁴⁴the steep places shall fall, and ⁴⁵every wall shall fall to the ground. ²¹And I will call for a sword ⁴⁶against him throughout all ⁴⁷my mountains, saith the Lord GOD: ⁴⁸every man's sword shall be against his brother.

²²And I will ⁴⁹<u>plead</u> against him with ⁵⁰<u>pestilence</u> and with <u>blood</u>; and I will ⁵¹<u>rain</u> upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that *are* with him, an ⁵²<u>overflowing rain</u>, and great ⁵³<u>hailstones</u>, ⁵⁴<u>fire</u>, and brimstone.

²³Thus will ⁵⁵I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and ⁵⁶they shall know that I am the LORD.

Ezekiel 39

¹Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I *am*

- Christ and the saints.
- 37. The theme of Armageddon is found in all the prophets, beginning with Moses (Gen. 14). So, Rotherham's translation goes on, "who kept on prophesying in those days for years".
- 38. *chemah* heat, rage, hot displeasure, indignation, anger, wrath. See Isa. 30:27; Ps. 149.
- 39. aph the nostril, nose.
- 40. *qinah* ardour, zeal, jealousy. This is the zeal of 2 Kings 19:31; Isa. 9:7; Ps. 69:9; Isa. 42:13; Ezek. 36:5.
- Cp. Zech. 14:4. Similar to events of Christ's death Matt. 27:50-54;
 Contrast Ezek. 37:7.
- 42. Fulfilling Hag. 2:6-7.
- 43. Roth. "torn asunder". See Zech 14:4; Mic. 1:2-4.
- 44. Cp. Zech 14:10 the earthquake splits the Mount of Olives and turns the mountainous parts near Jerusalem into a plain (Arabah).
- 45. Reminiscent of the overthrow of Jericho set forth as a type of the coming judgements of Armageddon.
- 46. Earlier Gog had announced his intention of attacking a people "called back from the sword" (v.8). Now the sword of Divine justice and wrath is used against Gog see Zech. 14:12-15.
- 47. The mountains of Israel correspond to the area of Judea and Samaria called the West Bank. See Zech. 14:2,3; Isa. 14:25; Joel 3:2.
- 48. Mutual slaughter as in the type of Gideon's overthrow of the Midianites Judges 7:21-22 (Isa. 10:24-26). See also 2 Chron. 20:23.
- 49. shaphat to enter into controversy, contend, judge. See Joel 3:12; Mic. 4:3.
- 50. Similar to what was received by Israel in the past Ezek. 5:17. Zech. 14:12 shows the type of pestilence to come upon them.
- 51. Yahweh has a huge arsenal (Jer. 50:25). These include the elements of heaven Josh. 10:11; Jud. 5:20-21; Job 38:22-23.
- 52. Cp. Ezek. 13:11. Also implied in the judgement on Sisera's forces (Jud. 5:21) typical of the coming destruction of Gog.
- 53. Literally "stones of ice." The literal hailstones of Armageddon will be matched by the figurative hailstones (the Saints) who will destroy the Catholic Harlot system over the following 40 years Rev. 16:21. Revealed in type in Josh. 10:11-14 (basis of Zech. 14:3) an extended "day" of judgement.
- 54. Cp. the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 19), and the warning of Christ (Luke17:28-29).
- 55. This is the most important outcome. Yahweh will be magnified before all flesh through this remarkable triumph. Both Jew and Gentile will be compelled to acknowledge His supremacy (Isa. 26:9), though it will take another 40 years for all to do so.
- 56. "know" is *yada* to know, perceive and see. For some this will mean submission to the Truth, but many nations will resist the evidence.

All Flesh Humbled - Yahweh Vindicated and Glorified

Vv.1-5 - The complete destruction of Gog in the Land

- See notes on chap. 38:2.
- 2. Repeat of 38:4. Gog's invasion is a result of Yahweh's intervention to bring on the great crisis that will usher in the Kingdom of God.
- 3. RV "I will lead thee on". RSV "I will drive you forward". The Companion Bible says the root *shasha* (to lead) is used here, not *shesh* (six). Gog's army is completely destroyed in the Land V.4.
- 4. Roth. "to come up out of the remote parts of the North". Cp. 38:15.
- 5. The bow is held in the left hand and the arrows in the right. Symbolises the utter destruction of Gog's power to fight.
- May literally happen, but is also a symbol of Divine agents Isa. 46:11.
 Used of Cyrus a type of Christ (Rev. 16:12). See also Rev. 19:17.
- 7. The word "beasts" is *chay* and is translated "living creatures" in Ezek. 1 of the Cherubim the Saints in warlike manifestation.

Armageddon ("a heap of sheaves in a valley for judgement") begins a period of 40 years of Divine judgement on the nations. This commences with the complete

against thee, ¹O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:

²And ²I will turn thee back, and ³leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee ⁴to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel:

³And ⁵I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand.

⁴Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: ⁶I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the ⁷beasts of the field to be devoured.

⁵Thou shalt fall upon ⁸the open field: for ⁹I have spoken *it*, saith the Lord GOD.

⁶And ¹I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that ²dwell ³carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I *am* the LORD.

⁷So will I make my holy name known ⁴in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not *let them* ⁵pollute my holy name any more: and ⁶the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

⁸Behold, it is come, and ⁷<u>it is done,</u> saith the Lord GOD; this *is* ⁸<u>the day</u> whereof I have spoken.

⁹And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall ¹set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the handstaves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire ²seven years:

¹⁰So that they shall take no ³wood out of the field, neither cut down *any* out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and ⁴they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD.

¹¹And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* I will give unto Gog a place there of ⁵graves in Israel, the valley of the ⁶passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall ⁷stop the *noses* of the passengers: and there shall they bury

overthrow of a Eurasian confederacy (led by Russia) in the Land of Israel (Ezek. 38:1-39:5), and ends with the destruction of the Papacy and its adherents in Europe and throughout the world 40 years later (Ezek. 39:6-29).

This 40 years is divided into 2 periods, namely, 10 years for a proclamation to the nations after Armageddon, then 30 years of judgement on Catholic Europe mainly accomplished by Israel returning under Elijah in the Second Exodus.

- 8. Gog plotted to conquer a "land of open country" (38:11), and will fall there.
- 9. God's word is sure. It will always come to pass Isa. 14:24-27; 55:11.

Vv.6-8 - Yahweh's judgements extend to all nations in revolt

- 1. The land of Magog (central Europe) is not subdued by the events of Armageddon and will be the centre of Catholic rebellion against Christ during the last 30 years of divine judgements.
- 2. Roth. "dwelling in the Coastlands securely". Refers to far off lands, many of whom will be in revolt against Christ's rule Mic. 4:3.
- 3. *betach* safely. Used Ezek. 38:8,11,14. This was the condition of the Jews in the Land prior to Armageddon.
- 4. Surviving Jews in the Land will be the first to be converted Zech.12&13.
- 5. chalal to profane, defile, pollute, desecrate. See Ezek. 36:22.
- Progressively over 40 years nations will be subjugated and acknowledge the supremacy of Israel's God.
- There are 3 stages in God's plan for the earth's redemption accompanied by this announcement – (1) The sacrifice of Christ saw individual victory – John 19:30; cp. Ps.22:31; (2) Establishment of the Kingdom – Rev. 16:17; (3) The end - God all in all – Rev. 21:6.
- 8. "The day of Yahweh" Zech.14:1. A 'day' of 40 years.

Vv.9-16 - The Land cleansed of weapons and death

- 1. Only things from the battlefield enduring fire could be re-used by Israel under the Law Num.31:21-23. The process of converting weapons to instruments of agriculture will begin here Isa. 2:4.
- 2. Covenant number pointing to the Millennium which will be free of carnal weapons of destruction Isa. 65:25.
- 3. Even in modern warfare, much combustible material is used.

The land of Israel is to be the prototype for the whole earth in the Kingdom Age. It has been defiled by blood and trodden down by invading armies since Israel became a nation. That blood will have been avenged at Armageddon, and invaders will no longer tread it down – Joel 3:16-21.

- 4. See Isa. 51:22-52:3. Israel will become the "first dominion" (Mic. 4:8), and the wealth of the world will flow into it Isa. 60:5,9.
- qeber grave, sepulchre, tomb. Roth. "a place of memorial for burial." Refers to a mausoleum or memorial grave to commemorate Gog's destruction in the Land.
- 6. *abar* to pass through. Roth. "the valley of those who pass through east of the sea." These are travelers going to and from the Land for worship during the Millennium.
- 7. chasam to muzzle. They will pass in silence.
- 8. *hamon* multitude (with the idea of the noise of a crowd). Gog's once tumultuous army will lie in silence while travelers pass in silence.
- "The multitude of Gog". This valley accommodates a city of the dead V.16. See Joel 3:14 where "multitudes" is hamon.
- 10. Every vestige of death and defilement must be removed to cleanse the Land Num. 19:11,22. Many millions will have perished as a result of the judgements in the Land V.4-5; Zech. 13:8.

Surviving Jews will spend 7 months burying the dead, and 7 years clearing the debris of war. Seven is the covenant number. Both Gog's mausoleum and the Temple constructed nearby will be memorials testifying to the power and glory of Israel's God.

- 11. shem name; reputation, fame, glory, memorial. There is a play on this word in the chapter. Yahweh will glorify His name (shem) by the destruction of Gog (V.7) and the redemption of Israel (V.25). Purified Judah will receive 'renown' because of the thorough cleansing of the Land. Destroyed Gog will have a 'name' in the Land at Hamonah (V.16).
- 12. badal divide, separate. These are selected for a special mission.
- 13. tamiyd continuity. This is a very important task. The land promised to Abraham is the nucleus of the Kingdom of God. It must be thoroughly cleansed.
- 14. See note V.11. These travelers include Gentiles in the Land to assist with

Gog and all his ⁸<u>multitude</u>: and they shall call *it* The valley of ⁹<u>Hamon-gog</u>.

¹²And ¹⁰seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land.

¹³Yea, all the people of the land shall bury *them*; and it shall be to them a ¹¹renown the day that I shall be glorified, saith the Lord GOD.

¹⁴And they shall ¹²sever out men of ¹³continual employment, passing through the land to bury with the ¹⁴passengers those that remain upon the face of the earth, to cleanse it: ¹⁵after the end of seven months shall they ¹⁶search.

¹⁵And the passengers *that* pass through the land, when *any* seeth a man's bone, then shall he ¹⁷set up a ¹⁸sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the valley of Hamon-gog. ¹⁶And also the ¹⁹name of ²⁰the city shall be ²¹Hamonah. Thus shall they cleanse the land.

¹⁷And, ¹thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; ²Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; ³gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even ⁴a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood.

¹⁸Ye shall eat ⁵the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of ⁶Bashan.

¹⁹And ⁷ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have ⁸sacrificed for you.

²⁰Thus ye shall be filled ⁹at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD.

²¹And ¹⁰I will set my glory among the heathen, and ¹¹all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them.

- the building of the Temple Isa. 60:10.
- 15. The special mission of this group is to check the Land for any evidence of death after the people had spent 7 months burying the dead (V.12).
- 16. chagar penetrate; examine intimately.
- 17. banah build.
- 18. tsiyun signpost, monument.
- 19. shem see note V.13.
- Not a city for habitation, but a mausoleum for Gog's fallen army (Ps. 9:17). Contrast Yahweh-Shammah (Ezek. 48:30-35) which will be city of life used by pilgrims visiting the Land.
- 21. "Multitudes", i.e. of Gog Joel 3:14.

Vv.17-22 - The Nations invited to Yahweh's Sacrifice

- Ezekiel as a type of Christ is instructed to call on the nations to acknowledge Yahweh's righteousness in destroying Gog. This proclamation is made in the 10 years following Armageddon (Rev. 14:6-7) before the "hour" (30 years) of judgement on Catholic Europe.
- Symbolic language for the nations (Dan. 4:12,20-22; Ps. 8:6-8; Jer. 12:9; Ezek. 31:6; 34:5,31). Cp. Rev. 19:17-21 which deals with the same period of time God's judgements on Catholic Europe in the 40 years following Armageddon.
- 3. Figurative language for the nations who submit to Christ after Armageddon. They are called upon to endorse God's judgements.
- 4. Beginning with the overthrow of Gog on the mountains of Israel, the judgements will go on for another 40 years Rev. 14:20.
- 5. Cp. Rev. 19:18. Not literal as Land has been cleansed of bodies (V.12).
- 6. "Fruitful". Men from this region east of Jordan were tough and hardy. Used to symbolize strong enemies of Christ Ps. 22:12.
- 7. See Rev. 19:21. God's judgements will continue until all enemies have been destroyed.
- 8. zabach slaughter. This not an altar sacrifice, but a slaughter of Yahweh's enemies in order to save as many who will submit to His rule.
- Symbolic imagery of submissive peoples sitting down to a fellowship meal to indicate their agreement with God's righteous judgements.

This great sacrifice begins on the mountains of Israel (V.17), but culminates in the subjugation of all the nations (V.21). This means it spans the entire 40 year period of judgement. The subject here is the same as the symbolic picture presented in Rev. 19:17-21 of the crushing of Catholic resistance to Christ's rule after Armageddon.

- 10. Indicates progression in the subjugation of nations outside the Land.
- 11. All nations will eventually be subdued and acknowledge Yahweh's supremacy. This will take 40 years to accomplish (see Eureka Vol. 5 pgs. 34, 38-39, 74-75 Logos Edition).
- 12. This is the whole house of Israel Ezek. 37:21-22; Rom. 11:26. The redemption of Israel will not be accomplished until Elijah returns with scattered Jewry at the end of the Second Exodus (Isa. 11:11-12) 40 years (Mic. 7:15). It will be the judgements in the Land and upon Catholic Europe that will convince all Israel that Yahweh is their redeemer.

Vv.23-29 - Israel redeemed and Yahweh glorified among the nations

 Finally all nations will understand that Israel suffered, not because Yahweh was powerless to save them, but because they deserved it – Deut. 31:17; Lev. 26:25. Cp. Ezek. 37:28 – this can only happen when all Israel is restored and the Sanctuary is in their midst.

In the prophetic scriptures it is critical for accurate interpretation to understand that the Jews in the Land at Christ's return are called "Judah" regardless of their tribal origin (Zech. 12:7; Joel 3:1 etc), while Jews outside the Land are termed variously Israel, Ephraim, the remnant of Jacob, Joseph (Jer. 3:12,18; Ezek. 20; Mic. 5:7-8; Jer. 31:7-8, etc). Hence, the contrast in passages such as Isa. 11:13 and Jer. 3:18. It should be noted that Ezek. 38:8 is a reference to the land and its mountains, not to the people.

- 2. God caused His face to shine on Israel when they obeyed (Num. 6:25; 2 Chron. 15:2; 16:9), but turned away from them when they rebelled (Ps. 80:1-3).
- 3. Elijah's mission will take 40 years to accomplish (Mic. 7:15). The Second Exodus will see a new generation of Jews return to the Land to join their converted and settled brethren.

- ²²So ¹²the house of Israel shall know that I *am* the LORD their God from that day and forward.
- ²³And ¹the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: because they trespassed against me, therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies: so fell they all by the sword.
- ²⁴According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions have I done unto them, and ²hid my face from them.
- ²⁵Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; ³Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon ⁴the whole house of Israel, and ⁵will be jealous for my holy name;
- ²⁶After that they have borne their ⁶shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, ⁷when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made *them* afraid.
- ^{27 8}When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations;
- the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.
- 29 10 Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have 11 poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

- 4. "All Israel" will be saved (Rom. 11:26). In fulfillment of Ezek. 37:22-24; 2 Sam. 7:10.
- 5. Yahweh's zeal for His name will not rest until the covenants made to the fathers of Israel have been fulfilled for He swore by His own existence Gen. 22:16; Heb. 6:13; Ezek. 36:21-24.
- 6. *kelimmah* disgrace, reproach, shame. This shame was experienced when Israel was cut off from its heritage and land and Gentiles ruled over them Ezek. 34:29; Jer. 51:51.
- 7. Israel's time of peace and security in the Land prior to Armageddon (38:8) is singled out as one of the worst examples of their waywardness.
- 8. Roth. "peoples". Refers to all nations from which scattered Jewry is gathered by Elijah Ezek. 20:34. This refers to the end of the Second Exodus.

The Second Exodus of Israel effectively commences before Armageddon with the mission of Elijah to warn of the imminence of "the sign of the Son of man in heaven" (Matt. 24:30), namely, Armageddon, which will be the signal for Jews to leave the countries of their dispersion. 40 years later they will arrive at the borders of the Land and be settled therein.

9. This implies repentance is complete. Scattered Israel will then be in the bonds of the covenant – Ezek. 20:37-38. Cp. V.23.

The redemption of Israel is fundamental to the fulfillment of Yahweh's covenants of promise. His promise to Abraham (Gen. 13:14-17; 17:8), and to David (2 Sam. 7:10) will now be fulfilled for all the world to see.

- See note V.24. Fellowship is restored on the basis of Israel's complete conversion.
- 11. God's spirit here is the power of His word to convert and build faith as in Ezek. 36:25-27.

<u>Abbreviations</u>

Roth. – J.B. Rotherham's Translation Young's Lit. – Young's Literal Translation Lxx – Septuagint (Greek version of O.T.) A.V. – Authorised Version RV – Revised Version RSV – Revised Standard Version Cp. – Compare V. - Verse

Synchronisation of Events from the Return of Christ to the Establishment of His Universal Rule Over All Nations