

## Second Coming: What Does It Mean For Us

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### 1) Purpose

- a) Not to sound alarmist or to raise fear. But to see the mighty hand of God. To focus on the question, “Are we prepared spiritually?”
- b) Bush meeting Putin: “I believe I have met a man I can deal with.”
- c) McCain: “I have met a man and only three words came to mind KGB.”

### 2) TEXT

(Matthew 24:1-51) Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. <sup>2</sup>“Do you see all these things?” he asked. “I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.”

<sup>3</sup>As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”

<sup>4</sup>Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you. <sup>5</sup>For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. <sup>6</sup>You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. <sup>7</sup>Nation will rise

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against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. <sup>8</sup>All these are the beginning of birth pains.

<sup>9</sup>"Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. <sup>10</sup>At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, <sup>11</sup>and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. <sup>12</sup>Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, <sup>13</sup>but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

<sup>14</sup>And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. <sup>15</sup>"So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel--let the reader understand--<sup>16</sup>then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

<sup>17</sup>Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. <sup>18</sup>Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak. <sup>19</sup>How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers!

<sup>20</sup>Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. <sup>21</sup>For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now--and never to be equaled again. <sup>22</sup>If those days had not been cut short, no

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one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened.

<sup>23</sup>At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. <sup>24</sup>For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect--if that were possible.

<sup>25</sup>See, I have told you ahead of time. <sup>26</sup>"So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. <sup>27</sup>For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

<sup>28</sup>Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather. <sup>29</sup>"Immediately after the distress of those days "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'

<sup>30</sup>"At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup>And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

<sup>32</sup>"Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that

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summer is near. <sup>33</sup>Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. <sup>34</sup>I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.

<sup>35</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. <sup>36</sup>"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

<sup>40</sup>Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. <sup>42</sup>"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into.

<sup>44</sup>So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. <sup>45</sup>"Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put

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in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? <sup>46</sup>It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns.

<sup>47</sup>I tell you the truth, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. <sup>48</sup>But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, 'My master is staying away a long time,' <sup>49</sup>and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards.

<sup>50</sup>The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. <sup>51</sup>He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

### 3) INTRODUCTION

- a) Is there a second coming? The scripture is clear.
- b) Will it be bad? The scripture is clear.
- c) Jesus does not tell the hour, but he does tell us there will be signs.
- d) Some believed the different World Wars were the sign. What makes this time different?
  - i) It has to do with the strength of the United States, and other countries for that matter.

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- e) The prophet had been raised in the Temple, studying to be a priest.
- f) Why the warning? So we as a people of God are prepared!
  - i) Prepared Spiritually.
  - ii) Prepared mentally.
  - iii) Prepared materially.

### 4) THE SIGNS –

- a) Just as the prophecies of the Christ are throughout the Old Testament, so are the signs covered throughout scripture but most notably in Ezekiel, Daniel, and Revelation. We will look at Ezekiel for the most part.
- b) Ezekiel 36-29 are a continuum of prophesy regarding Israel.

**(Ezekiel 1:1)** In the thirtieth year, in the fourth month on the fifth day, while I was among the exiles by the Kebar River, the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.

- i) Nebuchadnezzar had taken the Jews into exile.
- ii) God chose the prophet Ezekiel to reveal this truth.
- iii) Written well over 2500 years ago. 500 years before Christ.

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iv) The prophet had been raised in the Temple, studying to be a priest.

(1) Prophecy written while in captivity.

v) Prophecy regarding Israel in the last days.

(1) Some say this really is dealing with only the people being restored from the captivity. But some things don't jive.

### 5) RESTORATION OF ISREAL

(a) **(Ezekiel 37:1-2)** The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry.

(i) Holocaust! I believe that is what Ezekiel saw. Think of the many images of Jews who had been put to death. Only their bones remained.

(ii) 6 Million Jews were annihilated.

(iii) Ahmadinejad, President of Iran, states the holocaust is a hoax.

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1. A critic of the US and Israel, and backs strengthening Iran's relations with Russia, Venezuela, Syria, and the Persian Gulf states.
  - a. Stated "Israel should be wiped off the face of the earth."
    - i. On 26 October 2005 Ahmadinejad gave a speech at a conference in Tehran entitled "World Without Zionism". According to widely published translations, he agreed with a statement he attributed to Ayatollah Khomeini that the "occupying regime" had to be removed, and referred to it as a "disgraceful stain [on] the Islamic world", that needed to be "wiped from the pages of history."
  - b. Remember Jesus' warning---
    - i. Matthew 24:4-5, "Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Christ, ' and will deceive many.
  - c. Many in Iran believe Ahmadinejad is the one who will lead the Muslim world into great power. He is considered the messiah by many.

**(Ezekiel 37:3-10)** He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to

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these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD." So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet--a vast army.

b) God breathed upon them.

c) May, 1948.

i) Over half of the UN resolutions have been directed towards the State of Israel.

ii) Israel has indeed become a vast army.

(1) They are the second most powerful military in the world.

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(2) Their information gathering capabilities surpass that of even the United States.

d) Ezekiel 36 – THE RESTORATION OF ISRAEL AS A NATION.

e) Ezekiel 37 – DEALS WITH THEIR SPIRITUAL REFORMATION.

i) They shall dwell in the land I gave my servant Jacob.

### 6) SIGNS ON THE FIG TREE

a) Ezekiel 38-39 speak of the great attack on Israel.

**(Ezekiel 38:1-6, KJV)** And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, “Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, <sup>3</sup>And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: <sup>4</sup>And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armor, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: <sup>5</sup>Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: <sup>6</sup>Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee. <sup>7</sup>Be thou prepared, and prepare for

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thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them.

- (1) Ezekiel names the descendants of Noah and the land that they settled. **Genesis 10:1-7** ---  
Descendants of Noah.

This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, Noah's sons, who themselves had sons after the flood. The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech and Tiras. The sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Riphath and Togarmah. The sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, the Kittim and the Rodanim. The sons of Ham: Cush, Mizraim, Put and Canaan. The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah and Sabteca. The sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan.

Names listed in Ezekiel

- (2) The identity of Gog and Magog has been the subject of an extraordinary amount of speculation. In general, however, attempts to relate these figures to modern individuals or states have been unconvincing. But the region in which they live is not.
- (3) Many scholars look at these lands as encompassing Russia, Persia, Ethiopia, Libya, and

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others. In effect, these lands are Muslim with the exception of Russia. Russia is in alliance with them.

ii) God will protect the nation of Israel. Not the United States of America.

(1) America will not be the same nation when Israel is attacked.

(a) Nuclear attack? I don't think so.

(b) Most probable is economic inability to respond and an unwilling spirit.

(i) The present government for the first time is leaning in support of the Palestinians. Why? To build relations with "Syria and Iran for common mutual interests." (Secretary of State Hillary Clinton)

(ii) Mutual interest? Oil.

(c) Former President Jimmy Carter told the "Today Show" that sure, Hamas can be trusted. The former Democratic president also said that "*some people*" think Hamas is a terrorist group.

(d) "I do believe Miss Clinton will have a more balanced policy when it comes to how to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict," Yousuf told Klein. "And I don't think she is going to give to the Israelis this

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unlimited military and diplomatic support that they are actually enjoying now; so ... the future politics in the region will [see] a very drastic change when it comes to how to handle the Palestinian question." (Ahmed Yousuf, the top adviser to the Hamas leader in Gaza, speaking to World Net Daily Jerusalem bureau chief Aaron Klein, November 14, 2009)

- (e) Bible prophecy – all eyes will shift to Europe. The revised Roman empire.
- (f) The eyes will not be on America for prophecy to be fulfilled.

### (2) Locations

- (a) Persia number one ally. (Iran was known as Persia up to 1935)
- (b) Persia also took in the area of:
- (c) Afghanistan
- (d) Pakistan
- (e) Iraq
- (f) Part of Saudi Arabia
- (g) Iran – even before they have developed nuclear bomb they talk of how they will destroy Israel.

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- (i) “If a day comes when the world of Islam is duly equipped with the arms Israel has in possession, the strategy of colonialism would face a stalemate because application of an atomic bomb would not leave any thing in Israel but the same thing would just produce damages in the Muslim world”, Ayatollah Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the crowd at the traditional Friday prayers in Tehran. Source: Iran Press Services, December 14, 2008)
  
- (h) Cush and Put are:
  - (i) Black Muslim nations:
    - (ii) Ethiopia
    - (iii) Morocco
    - (iv) Sudan
    - (v) Libya
    - (vi) Algeria
    - (vii) Tanzania
  
- (3) Gomer settled on the northern part of the Black Sea and spread out into the Slovak countries. Gomer and all of its hoards:
  
- (4) Eastern Europe

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### (5) Former Iron Curtain countries

#### iii) Togarmah

(1) Settled in Southern part of Israel. Cossack nations. World's best horseman.

iv) Russians need Iran due to topography. Turkey is too mountainous.

(1) Major invasion can occur on horseback.?

v) Other nations listed that Ezekiel either did not know the names of or they were not major in participation.

vi) Georgia, Turkey?

b) Israel is surrounded by Jehovah haters.

**Ezekiel 38:11** And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates...

c) Ancient Israel had walled villages as the protection scheme of the times.

d) Modern Israel does not have the protective walls because they live under the safety of their military might.

e) This attack will be swift and secretive. Not like the planning the world watched before our attack

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**Ezekiel 38:13** Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?

f) “*Young Lions*” many scholars believe refers to nations such as America, Great Britain, and others. We idly watch and use diplomatic words.

g) They are unable or unwilling to defend Israel.

**7) *This will be the greatest victory of God to be seen. God receives the glory! No one else. No other country.***

a) Read through the rest of Chapter 38 and you will see God’s hand, including earthquakes.

b) *No man knows the day or hour. Will we recognize the fruits of God in defending Israel? Remember the fig tree. How does this end? **God is in control. God wins. We will be okay.***