

**YHWH's Guarantee of Israel's Future
A Satire on Gog of Magog and His Allies: Part 2**

Veritas Adult Community

College Church Commons

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Preamble to the Second Panel

Frame 6

⁹ Then the residents of Israel's cities will go out and burn up the weapons completely: hand shields and body shields, bows and arrows, clubs and spears. For seven years they will fuel their fires with them. ¹⁰ They will have no need to carry wood in from the field nor cut down any [tree] in the forests because they will use the weapons as fuel for [their] fires. They will seize the spoil of those who despoiled them, and plunder those who plundered them—the declaration of the Lord YHWH.

Frame 7

¹¹ On that day I will assign a burial site for Gog right within Israel—the valley of those who have passed on, east of the sea. It will block off those who pass on. There they shall bury Gog and all his hordes, and they shall name the place, “The Valley of Hamon Gog.” ¹² Then the house of Israel shall spend seven months burying them, so the land may be cleansed. ¹³ All the people of the land shall join in burying them, and their fame will spread on the day that I display my glory—the declaration of the Lord YHWH—¹⁴ And they shall set apart a standing commission of men who shall pass through the land and bury any who have passed on, who[se corpses] remain on the surface of the ground, in order to cleanse it. They shall conduct their search for a period of seven complete months. ¹⁵ As the commissioners tour the land, if anyone spots a human bone, he shall erect a marker beside it, until those responsible for the burials have buried it in the Valley of Hamon Gog. ¹⁶ (Hamonah is actually a city name.) Thus they shall cleanse the land.

Frame 8

¹⁷ As for you, human, thus has the Lord YHWH declared: Proclaim to every kind of scavenging bird and to every wild animal:

Assemble and come! Gather from all around to my sacrificial feast that I am preparing for you—a huge sacrificial feast—on the mountains of Israel. You may eat flesh and drink blood. ¹⁸ The flesh of valiant men you may devour, and the blood of the princes of the earth you may drink: rams, lambs, and male goats; bulls and fatlings of Bashan, all of them. ¹⁹ You may devour fat until you are satisfied and drink blood until you are intoxicated, at the sacrificial feast that I have prepared for you. ²⁰ You may gorge yourself at my table with horses and charioteers, valiant men and all the men of war.

The declaration of the Lord YHWH.

Interpretive Conclusion

²¹ Thus I will establish my glory among the nations, and all the nations will see my justice that I have executed, and my power that I have imposed upon them. ²² Then the house of Israel will know that I am YHWH their God from that day onwards. ²³ And the nations will recognize that the house of Israel went off into exile on account of their own iniquity. Because they had acted faithlessly against me, I hid my face from them. When I delivered them into the power of their adversaries, they fell to the sword, all of them. ²⁴ I dealt with them according to their defilement and according to their treachery. There-fore I hid my face from them.

²⁵ Assuredly, thus has the Lord YHWH declared: Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob; I will have compassion on the whole house of Israel and demonstrate passion for my holy name. ²⁶ They will bear their disgrace and all their acts of infidelity that they have perpetrated against me when they dwell securely on their own land, with no one frightening them. ²⁷ When I bring them back from the peoples and regather them from the countries of their enemies, then I will display my holiness among them in the sight of many nations. ²⁸ And they will know that I am YHWH their God in that, having sent them off into exile to the nations, I will gather them to their own land. I will never again leave any of them out there. ²⁹ Nor will I ever again hide my face from them, for I will have poured out my Spirit upon the house of Israel.

The declaration of the Lord YHWH.

Exposition

A. The Nature and Design of the Gog Oracle

Panel A: The Defeat of Gog (38:2–23)

Frame 1: The Conscription of Gog (38:2–9)

Frame 2: The Motives of Gog (38:10–13)

Frame 3: The Advance of Gog (38:14–16)

Frame 4: The Judgment of Gog (38:17–22)

Interpretative Conclusion (38:23)

Panel B: The Disposal of Gog (39:1–29)

Frame 5: The Slaughter of Gog (39:1–8)

Frame 6: The Spoiling of Gog (39:9–10)

Frame 7: The Burial of Gog (39:11–16)

Frame 8: The Devouring of Gog (39:17–20)

Interpretative Conclusion (39:21–29)

B. Summary Exposition of the Eight Frames

C. The Final Word: Interpretive Conclusion (vv. 21–29)

1. The Structure of Verses 21–29

Topic	39:21–24	39:25–29
A The Actions of YHWH	21a	25
B The Response of the Objects of his Action	21b	26–27
B' The Recognition Formula (tied to Israel's exile)	22–23a	28
A' The Hiding of YHWH's Face	23b–24	29

2. Commentary

- a. The Impact of YHWH's Judgmental Activity against Israel/Judah (vv. 21–24)
- b. Then Impact of YHWH's Saving Activity (vv. 25–29)

D. What then Shall We Do with Gog?**1. What have people done with Gog?****2. My Precommitments**

- (a) Beginning my study of any biblical text by asking what meaning the author intended the original author to get.
- (b) Paying close attention to the literary and rhetorical forms and genres in which those messages are cast.

3. The Afterlife of the Notions of God of Magog (Rev 39:17–20):

¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, shouting to the vultures flying high in the sky: “Come! Gather together for the great banquet God has prepared. ¹⁸ Come and eat the flesh of kings, generals, and strong warriors; of horses and their riders; and of all humanity, both free and slave, small and great.”

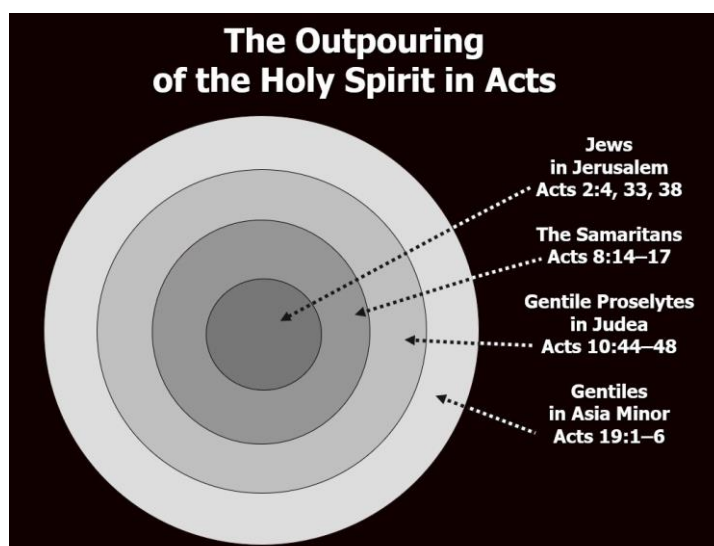
¹⁹ Then I saw the beast and the kings of the world and their armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army.

²⁰ And the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who did mighty miracles on behalf of the beast—miracles that deceived all who had accepted the mark of the beast and who worshiped his statue. Both the beast and his false prophet were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

²¹ Their entire army was killed by the sharp sword that came from the mouth of the one riding the white horse. And the vultures all gorged themselves on the dead bodies.

4. Lessons from the Gog of Magog Prophecy

- a. YHWH is the unrivaled Lord of history.
- b. YHWH’s reputation is tied to the status and well-being of his people.
- c. YHWH keeps his covenant.



- d. YHWH is a God of grace and mercy.
- e. The experience of God’s grace leads not to arrogance or a misguided and inflated self-esteem, but an intense sense of unworthiness