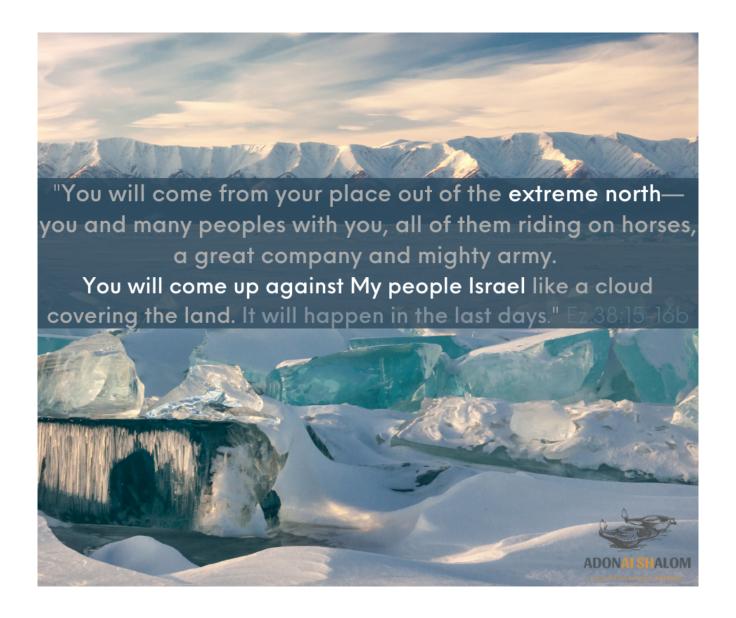
Ukraine in Ezekiel's prophecy

- Ezekiel 38 & 39 describe an invasion from the north
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Ezekiel 38 & 39 describe an invasion from the north

The <u>invasion of Ukraine under orders from the President of Russia</u> has raised many questions as to whether or not these current events relate to <u>Ezekiel</u>'s prophecies.

"You will come from your place out of the extreme north—you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and mighty army. You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud covering the land. It will happen in the last days. I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me—when I am sanctified through you, Gog, before their eyes." Ezekiel 38:15-16 (emphasis added)



Who is Gog? And Magog?

"The word of ADONAI came to me saying: 'Son of man, set your face toward Gog of the land of Magog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.'" Ezekiel 38:1-2a

Scripture does not give many details about Gog, but it is clear that Gog is allied with Magog. The Bible does not specifically state that Gog is the leader of Russia. However, most scholars reasonably interpret Gog as Russian due to Ezekiel's prophetic declaration that Gog would come from the "extreme north."

Gog is the ancient name for an historical king who was a foe of Israel. According to Tyndale's Old Testament Commentary on

Ezekiel by John B. Taylor, it is most probable that Gog was Gyges of Lydia (a portion of modern day Turkey). However, scholars do not have consensus as to his exact historic identity. Everyone can agree, though, that Gog makes unholy alliances serving hasatan's (satan's) evil purposes.

Josephus wrote about Magog

The reputable Josephus wrote about Magog and the Scythians: "Magog founded those that from him were named Magogites, but who are by the Greeks called Scythians" (Josephus, The Antiquities of the Jews, 1.6.1; emphasis added).

You may recall from history class that the Scythians were nomadic Iranians. Their tribes spread as far as Mongolia, Siberia and Ukraine. If you take out a map and look at the amount of terrain they covered, you will be astounded.

Ezekiel 38:5-6 "With them will be Persia, Cush, and Put, all of them with shield and helmet, Gomer and all his troops, the house of Togarmah from the extreme north and all his troops — many peoples with you."

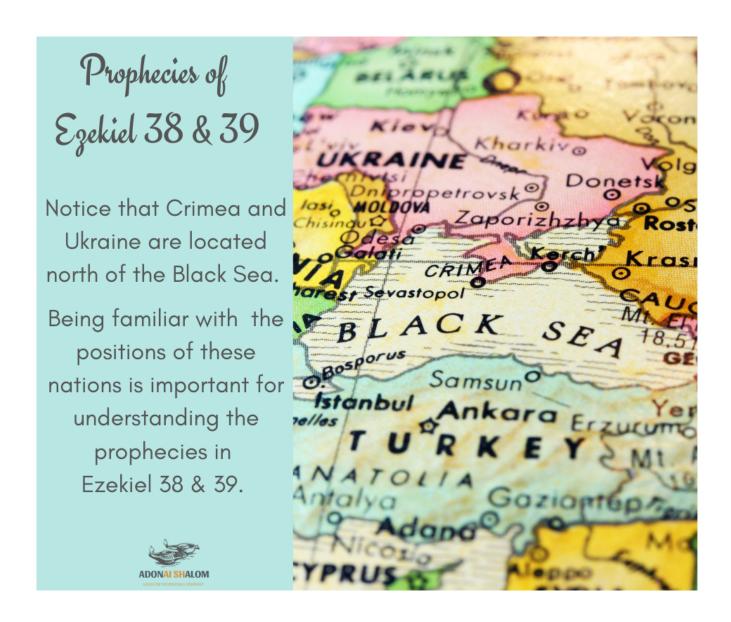
Gog's alliances with Persia (modern day Iran), Cush and Put (Northern Africa), and Togarmah (Armenia) are already formed. The Scythians (Magogites) and Gomer inhabited lands north of the Black Sea. In order for Gog to increase his alliances with Magog, the entire region north of the Black Sea will ultimately serve Gog.

Notice, present day Ukraine is directly north of the Black Sea.

If Ukraine is part of this future alliance, it would seem to suggest that sooner or later, Ukraine will indeed fall to Russia and will eventually adopt the spirit of Gog's hostile attitude toward Israel.



The invasion of Crimea was a precursor to all of this, as that region is now also under Russian rule.



The spirit of gog at work

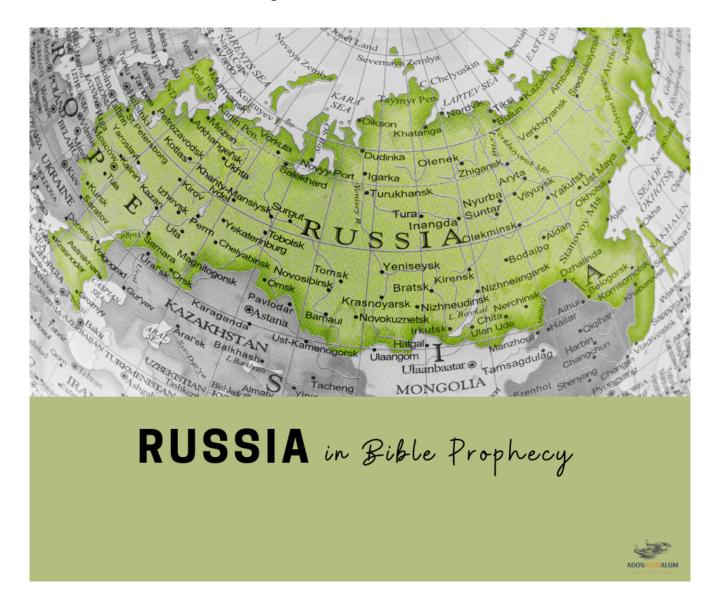
Indeed, the spirit of Gog continues to be at work in our modern world.

Remember, Gog is prophesied by Ezekiel to "come up against" the LORD's "people Israel" like a "cloud covering the land."

The Russian President has chosen to invade Ukraine. Are you aware that Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is Jewish? According to the <u>Jerusalem Channel</u>, President Zelenskyy is the grandson of a Holocaust survivor. Ukraine has a long history of being home to many Jewish families.

Russia — Gog — is coming against the LORD's people Israel. Gog has come in with tanks and missiles like a cloud covering the

land. In the future, Gog will attack the nation of Israel.



End-time battle against the nation of Israel

"When the thousand years has ended, satan shall be released from his prison, and he shall come out to deceive the nations at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for the battle. Their number is like the sand of the sea. And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the kedoshim (the saints) and the beloved city — but fire fell from heaven and consumed them." Revelation 20:7-9

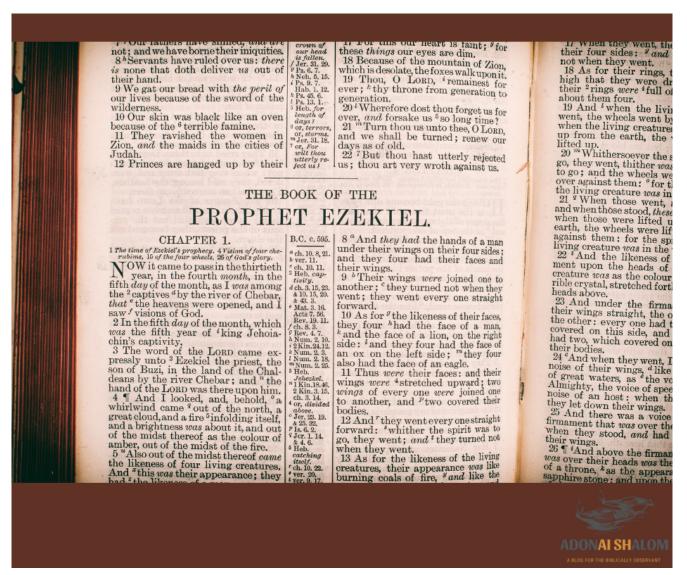
As you can see, Gog will remain an integral part of satan's

team even until armageddon. The Good News is, when Jerusalem is besieged for the last time, Gog will be no more.

Ezekiel has prophesied these events and we are seeing them come to pass.

Look straight at the enemy and do not fear

Did you notice in <u>Ezekiel 38:2</u> the LORD tells Ezekiel to set his face **toward** Gog?



Ezekiel is to stand firm and look at the reality of Gog's ambitions. Gog devises evil in his heart to invade the unwalled villages and the quiet people living securely. The prophet is told to prophesy against him that God the Most High

will "put hooks into [their] jaws."

Yikes. It is a lot of violence. But the LORD's people are to confront evil and remain strong in their faith. We are not to look away. We are to look forward and look toward the enemy, recognizing that victory will come.

The LORD says the purpose of all of this is "I will make Myself known in the eyes of many nations, and they will know that I am ADONAI." (Ezekiel 38:23).

Meanwhile, while the war in Ukraine is so hard to watch, we must pray for all of the innocent families and especially the children. We must remain confident in the LORD.

The LORD's people are to confront evil and be strong in their faith.

"Though an army camp besieges me, my heart will not fear.

Though war breaks out against me, even then will I be confident." Psalm 27:3



Psalm 27:3

We pray for a <u>Purim victory</u>. That Haman's plan would fail and God's people would prevail!

Please pray for the people of Ukraine. I hope that through Biblical prophecy, you can find hope that even when it doesn't seem like it, the LORD is in control and there is hope. Please leave a comment so we know you are praying with us and we can pray for you, too!

How to pray for Ukraine and Russia

Updated 2/24/22

The Invasion of Ukraine by Russia

As we hear rumors of war and so many nations set themselves on a course to rage against one another once again, we must remember Yeshua's (Jesus') words: "Do not let your heart be troubled or afraid." John 14:27. Update 2/24/22 — Today, the Russian military has invaded Ukraine. We must urgently pray for the vulnerable! Pray for BOTH sides — both Ukrainians and Russians desperately need the LORD right now.

The LORD gives us His divine *shalom*, His peace, and we must find our peace in Him alone. Placing our confidence in anything else will result only in distress and anxiety.

The aggressions overseas are certainly unnerving to us. How much more so to the people directly affected! Ordinary civilians wanting to live an ordinary life are now facing threats and unrest, and a very uncertain future.



Keep praying for the people of Ukraine and Russia

Praying for Ukrainians and Russians

Alas, it is easy to talk about *shalom* when we aren't the ones facing missile attacks in our own neighborhoods. Yet all who would believe can find security in the depths of His love and peace. I pray today for the children of Eastern Europe, Ukraine, and Russia, that they would be able to grow up in a free society. Pray for their safety. And pray for those who need medicines. I pray that there would be an awakening to salvation.

We must pray for all of the people of Ukraine and Russia.



Psalm 56:4 "What time I am afraid, I will trust in You."

We are in the last days

The Bible is clear that these nations, particularly Russia, will be involved in the final events of the last days, so we should not be shocked or alarmed by what is unfolding.

The Good News of our Messiah can still reach people who live there, and we must pray for them.

Jesurd said: "DO NOT LET YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED OR AFRAID." JOHN 14:27





Pray for people to be reached with the warmth of Messiah's love

Eastern Europeans and Russians are frequently stereotyped as being as cold of heart as the Siberian tundra. I do not believe this is true. I do believe many people from these regions have endured much hardship and their demeanor often reflects it. Most importantly, it is not too late to reach them with the warmth of the love of Messiah Yeshua (Jesus the Christ). We must pray that they would come to know His love and His peace.



An excellent resource on how to pray during the Ukraine crisis & war

SEND International ministries has compiled an excellent resource on how to pray for Ukrainians and Russians that I found helpful. You may like to refer to this during your personal devotions or with your congregational group: 15 Ways to Pray During the Crisis in Ukraine.

The LORD works miracles even in the midst of great crises, so let us fervently pray that *Ruach haKodesh* (the Holy Spirit) touches hearts and lives in miraculous, saving ways. There are established evangelical churches and Messianic congregations in Ukraine.

May they be strengthened and righteously emboldened to continue to witness to their friends and neighbors even while sheltering. Let us pray that they will be protected from persecution and poverty. May they be filled with genuine peace.

The Light of Messiah shines in the darkness, and the darkness will never overcome it.

If you will join us in praying for Ukraine and Russia, please leave a comment below. We would love to know that so many of you are uniting in prayer with us!





PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF

Ukraine & Russia





Haman's wife Zeresh was right about this 1 thing

From Haman to Hamas, Israel is all too often surrounded and attacked by enemies, but fear not, the enemy will never prevail! Baruch HaShem Adonai, the Guardian of Israel, who never slumbers nor sleeps.