In the beginning was “The Word”… John 1:1a

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THE ROMANS AND RUSSIANS ARE COMING...OH MY!!

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EXEGETICAL NOTES: THE BOOK OF DANIEL (Edited)

A. The Dream - 2:31-36

1. The Appearance of the Image - 2:31
   a. The image was mighty - Awesome
   b. Whose brightness was excellent - Reflected light
   c. It stood before you - An erected image
   d. Aspect was terrible

2. The Composition of the Image - 2:32-33
   a. The Composition
      (1) Head - Fine gold
      (2) Breast and arms - Silver
      (3) Belly and thighs - Brass
      (4) Legs - Iron
      (5) Feet - Part iron and part clay
   b. Observations
      (1) There is a decrease in several areas
         (a) Decrease in the worth of the metals
         (b) Decrease in position from head to foot
(c) Decrease in specific gravity - The image is top heavy and weak on its feet

   i) Gold - 19
   ii) Silver - 11
   iii) Brass - 8.5
   iv) Iron - 7.8

(d) Statement of the fact - 2:39

(e) Fulfilled in the decrease in the character of authority and rule

   i) Babylon - Absolute monarchy above the law
   ii) Medo-Persia - Monarch not above the law nor had power to change its own decree
   iii) Hellenistic - No dynastic or royal right but only by force of conquest and personal gifts
   iv) Roman imperialism - Republicanism which degenerated into mob rule merging with imperial form of government

(2) There is an increase in two areas

   (a) Increase in hardness

   (b) Increase in strength

   (c) Fulfilled in the increase of strength of one empire to the other
3. The Smiting Stone - 2:34-35

a. The Stone - 2:34

(1) Cut without hands - Divine origin: It always was a stone.

(2) It smashes the image on its feet - So the smashing could only come in the last stage of the image.

b. The Results - 2:35

(1) On the image - 2:35a

(a) The whole image is broken in pieces.

(b) Becomes like the chaff of the summer threshing-floors

i) The wind carried them away so that no place was for them.

ii) The sweeping away was so complete that the dust found no visible resting place - Leupold.

(2) On the stone - 2:35b

(a) The stone became a great mountain.

(b) The mountain filled the whole earth.

B. The Interpretation - 2:36-45

1. The Declaration of the Interpretation - 2:36

a. This is the dream - The truth of this will testify to the truth of the interpretation.

b. We will tell the interpretation.

(1) We - Plural: Daniel and the three friends.

(2) Their role has not been forgotten.
2. The First Empire: Babylon - 2:37-38
   a. Nebuchadnezzar is the King of Kings - He and his kingdom are the head of gold
   b. The Grant to Nebuchadnezzar
      (1) Kingdom - The sovereignty of the First Empire
      (2) Power - Capacity to rule this kingdom
      (3) Strength - Might displayed in coping with the problems of the kingdom
      (4) Glory - The honor
   c. The Extent of Rule
      (1) Wheresoever men dwell - The whole inhabited earth
      (2) Wheresoever animals live
   d. Observations
      (1) Nebuchadnezzar was given universal reign
      (2) The fact that he did not proceed to gain the universal rule is beside the point
      (3) If he so desires, he could have continued to conquer the whole inhabited world with guaranteed success
      (4) Affirmations of this truth
         (a) Jeremiah 27:5-8
         (b) Ezekiel 26:7-14
   e. He is the Head of Gold
      (1) Absolute monarch
      (2) Affirmation - Daniel 5:18-19
3. The Second Empire: Medo-Persia - 2:39a

a. After you shall arise another kingdom

(1) Not merely after Nebuchadnezzar but after the Babylonian Empire

(2) Not king but kingdom

b. Inferior to Babylonian Empire

(1) In influence and achievement since the roots of the Babylonian Empire originated soon after the Flood - Genesis 10-11

(2) Lacked the inner unity of Babylon for the Medes and the Persians, though united, did not fuse into one people

(3) Lacked ecumenicity

(4) Type of government - Not above the mistakes of the law
4. The Third Empire: Hellenistic - 2:39b

a. Another Third Kingdom of Brass

(1) Third Kingdom that started with the belly ends in upper part of legs at the thighs

(2) Third Empire would territorially embrace both east and west

(3) Two thighs

(a) Greece and Macedonia

(b) Syria and Egypt - Though it starts with four it eventually is reduced to two which have a direct bearing on Israel

b. Which shall bear rule over all the earth

(1) Given the same extent as Babylon

(2) Like Babylon it did not take what was allowed
5. The Fourth Empire: Imperialism - 2:40-43

a. The United Stage: The Roman Empire - 2:40

(1) The Fourth Kingdom shall be strong as iron

(2) The display of the strength of iron

   (a) Breaks in pieces

   (b) Subdues all things

   (c) Crushes all the above

   (d) As iron breaks and crushes - Distinctiveness outweighs its accomplishments

(3) The Roman Empire - 63 B.C. - A.D. 285 or 364

b. The Two Division Stage - 2:41

(1) It shall be a divided kingdom

   (a) Diocletian in A.D. 285

   (b) Valentinian in A.D. 364

(2) It will still have the strength of iron in it

c. The Ten Division State - 2:42-43

(1) Represented by the ten toes

(2) Partly iron and partly clay

   (a) Partly strong and partly broken - Weak

   (b) The lack of cohesiveness especially evident in the toes
(3) They shall mingle themselves with the seed of men - But they shall not cleave unto another even as iron does not mingle with clay

(a) Authority vested in the masses as in a republic - Eventually all groups demand their rights

i) Babylon - Autocratic

ii) Medo-Persia - Oligarchic

iii) Hellenistic - Right of conquest

(b) The kingdoms will attempt to be unified but all of them fail - The one world government formed on the basis of republicanism will collapse into ten kingdoms - Daniel 7:23-24

(c) Unity is impossible and kingdom is vulnerable because it is seeking to unite elements which will not coalesce

6. The Kingdom of God - 2:44-45a

a. The Timing - 2:44

(1) In the days of those kings - The ten kings

(2) Theocracy: The God of Heaven will set up a Kingdom which shall never be destroyed - Eternal nature of Christ's dominion

(3) The sovereignty of this Kingdom will not be left to another people - Gentiles

(4) It will destroy the Gentile empires

(5) It shall stand forever - For an age
(6) Contra Amillennialism

(a) The establishment of this Kingdom parallels the other - On earth

(b) Established during the Ten Division Stage - Not true during the first century

(c) This kingdom brings a decisive blow to the Fourth Gentile Empire

(d) Conquers the whole world

(e) The Church is not a political organization - Even in outward organization it is to be subject to Caesar and not rule over Caesar

(f) For the church to equal this kingdom would require gradual taking of control in place of the sudden, catastrophic destruction of the Fourth Kingdom

(g) Must postulate the fact that the Church has overcome Gentile kingdoms or will overcome, yet it has not done so and will not do so

(h) "Smiting" in the spreading of the gospel is out of harmony with Christian ethics of the New Testament
b. The Stone - 2:45a

(1) It was cut without hands - The Stone is Christ
   (a) Psalm 118:22
   (b) Isaiah 8:14
   (c) Isaiah 28:16
   (d) Zechariah 3:9
   (e) Matthew 21:44
   (f) Acts 4:11
   (g) I Corinthians 10:4
   (h) I Peter 2:4-8

(2) This Stone will bring the Times of the Gentiles to an end

(3) The Mountain - The Kingdom of God
(4) Comparison

(a) Origin
   i) Gentile Empires - Human
   ii) God's Kingdom - Divine

(b) Duration
   i) Gentile Empires - Temporary
   ii) God's Kingdom - Eternal

(c) Power
   i) Gentile Empires - Overcome by each succeeding empire
   ii) God's Kingdom - Unconquerable

7. Conclusion - 2:45b
   a. The Great God has made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter
   b. The dream is certain
   c. The interpretation is sure
4. The Detailed Interpretation - 7:23-27
   
a. The Fourth Beast: Imperialism - 7:23-26

   (1) The United Stage: The Roman Empire - 7:23a

   (a) The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom upon earth

   (b) It is diverse from all the kingdoms - Imperialism

   (2) The One World Government Stage - 7:23b

   (a) It shall devour the whole earth

      i) The whole earth - Universal

         a. Genesis 8:9

         b. Genesis 9:19

         c. Genesis 11:1

         d. Isaiah 6:3

         e. Isaiah 14:26

         f. Isaiah 28:22

         g. Isaiah 54:5

         h. Jeremiah 15:10

         i. Daniel 2:39

         j. Zechariah 4:10, 14

      ii) Rome did not conquer the whole world

   2. Rome did not conquer the known world

   (b) Tread it down

   (c) Break it in pieces
(3) The Ten Division Stage - 7:24a

(a) Arises out of the one world government

(b) The ten kingdoms are world-wide

(c) Cannot be limited to Europe

(4) The Antichrist Stage - 7:24b-26

(a) His rise - 7:24b

   i) Arise only after the Ten Division Stage

   ii) He shall be diverse from the other ten kings

   iii) He shall put down three kings

(b) His activities - 7:25

   i) Speaks words against the Most High

   ii) Shall wear out the saints of the Most High

   iii) He shall think to change the times and the law

      a. Times: Jewish festivals - Like Jereboam did in I Kings 12:28-33

      b. Law - Mosaic

3. They shall be given into his hand - Times of persecution
4. Duration: Time - Times and a half a time
   a. *Times* equals years
   b. Other references
      (I) Daniel 9:27 - A half seven that is equal to 3½ years
      (II) Daniel 12:7 - A time, times, and a half a time
      (III) Revelation 11:2 - 42 months
      (IV) Revelation 11:3 - 1,260 days
      (V) Revelation 12:6 - 1,260 days
      (VI) Revelation 12:14 - A time, times, and a half a time
      (VII) Revelation 13:5 - 42 months
   c. The reference is to 3½ years
   d. The second half of the Tribulation
   
   (c) His fall - 7:26
      i) Judgment shall be set
      ii) They shall take away his dominion
      iii) To consume it
      (iv) To destroy it to the end
b. The Kingdom of God - 7:27

(1) The inheritance of the people of the saints of the Most High

(a) The Kingdom

(b) The dominion

(c) The greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven

(2) Its nature

(a) His Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom

(b) All dominions shall serve and obey Him

(3) Contra Amillennialism

(a) This Kingdom is only established after the Antichrist Stage which has not yet appeared - II Thessalonians 2:1-7

(b) The Messianic Kingdom is not contemporaneous with the fourth kingdom - It follows the fourth Gentile Empire

(c) This Kingdom replaces the Gentile Empires in the same place - The earth

(d) This Kingdom can only be established after the destruction of Gentile power

(ii) This Kingdom to be established by the Messiah is a Kingdom of power and glory - Not suffering and cross bearing

(iii) This Kingdom is Jewish with a Jewish King
C. Conclusion - 7:28

1. The Conclusion - Here is the end of the matter

2. Effects on Daniel
   a. My thoughts much troubled me
   b. My countenance was changed in me
   c. But I kept the matter in my heart

3. Comparison Between Chapters Two and Seven
   a. Chapter Two
      (1) The Babylonian Empire
      (2) The Medo-Persian Empire
      (3) The Hellenistic Empire
      (4) The Fourth Empire
         (a) The United Stage
         (b) The Two Division Stage
         (c) The Ten Division Stage
      (5) The Kingdom of God
b. Chapter Seven

(1) The Babylonian Empire

(2) The Medo-Persian Empire

(3) The Hellenistic Empire

(4) The Fourth Empire

   (a) The United Stage

   (b) The One World Government Stage

   (c) The Ten Division Stage

   (d) The Little Horn Stage

(5) The Kingdom of God

c. Combination of Chapters Two and Seven

(1) The Babylonian Empire

(2) The Medo-Persian Empire

(3) The Hellenistic Empire

(4) The Fourth Empire: Imperialism

   (a) The United Stage

      1. The Roman Empire

      2. Began policy of imperialism
(b) The Two Division Stage

i) Began when the Roman Empire was divided
   a. Diocletian - 285
   b. Valentinian - 364

ii) Since that time there has been a continued history of an east-west balance of power - Neither passage allows for any gaps of time

3. The Eastern Balance

   a. Remained in Constantinople until 1453 when destroyed by the Turks

   b. Scholars fled northward into Russia and infiltrated the government and Romanized it

      (I) Kings called Czars which is Russian for Caesar

      (II) Official name: The Third Roman Empire

   c. The eastern balance of power shifted to the Soviet Union and the Communist Bloc nations

   d. Today it is in the process of shifting again
4. The Western Balance
   a. Remained in Rome until 479 when sacked
   b. Eventually shifted to the Franks
      (I) Under Charlemagne in 800
      (II) Official title: The Holy Roman Empire of the Frankish Nation
   c. Later shifted to the Germans
      (I) Under Otto I in 962
      (II) Kings called Kaisers which is German for Caesar
      (III) Official title: The Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation
   d. Today the western balance of power lies with the democracies

5. At some point the east-west balance collapses
   a. When Russia attacks Israel
   b. Before the Tribulation

(c) The One World Government Stage
   i) Takes place before the Tribulation
   ii) Eventually breaks down in accordance with Daniel 2:43
(d) The Ten Division Stage

i) It will cover the whole world

ii) It will begin before the Tribulation

iii) It will continue until the middle of the Tribulation

(e) The Antichrist Stage

i) From the middle until the end of the Tribulation

ii) Kills three of the kings

iii) The other seven submit to his authority
EXEGETICAL NOTES: EZEKIEL (Edited)

H. Gog and Magog - 38:1 - 39:16

1. The Invasion and Destruction of Gog - 38:1-23

   a. The Northern Confederacy - 38:1-6

      (1) The Word of Jehovah - 38:1

      (2) The leadership of the confederacy - 38:2

         (a) Son of man (83) - Marks the beginning of a new prophecy

         (b) Set your face toward - Prophesy in opposition to

         (c) Gog

            i) Not a proper name, but a title of the ruler of Magog

            ii) Shortened form of Magog

   (d) Of the Land of Magog

      i) This is where Gog is from - He is a Magogite

      ii) Son of Japheth - Genesis 10:2

      iii) Located between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea in what today is Southern Russia

   (e) Prince of - Gog also rules three other territories

   (f) Rosh

      i) Northern Russia

      ii) Root for the word "Russia"
(g) Meshech

i) Son of Japheth - Genesis 10:2

ii) Other references

a) Ezekiel 27:13

b) Ezekiel 32:26

iii) Gave rise to the name Moscow

(h) Tubal

i) Son of Japheth - Genesis 10:2

ii) Other references

a) Ezekiel 27:13

b) Ezekiel 32:26

iii) Gave rise to the name Tobolsk in Siberia

(i) Prophesy against him

i) Same as setting one's face against

ii) The four territorial names are all part of the former Soviet Union and now the Commonwealth of Independent States covering both northern and southern parts of European Russia and Siberia, the Asian part of Russia
iii) The rabbis

a) Gog and Magog are hostile armies against Israel before the coming of the Messiah ben David

b) It is the war in which Messiah ben Joseph is killed

c) Artscroll: The Gaonim had a tradition that these countries were indeed located in Russia

d) Artscroll: Oral tradition passed down from the Vilna Gaon - When the Russian navy passes through the Bosporus (That is, on the way to the Dardanelles) it will be time to put on Sabbath clothes (In anticipation of the coming of the Messiah)

(3) The declaration - 38:3-4

(a) The declaration of divine opposition - 38:3

i) Behold, I am against you, O Gog

ii) Prince of

a) Rosh

b) Meshech

c) Tubal
(b) The preparation for the invasion - 38:4

i) I will turn you about - He will be diverted away from a planned attack

ii) I will put hooks into your jaws - So that he could do nothing else

iii) I will bring you forth - God is bringing this invasion about

iv) All thine army

a) Horses

b) Horsemen - All of them clothed in full armor

c) A great company

(I) With buckler

(II) With shield

v) All of them handling swords

(4) The allies - 38:5-6

(a) Persia

i) Son of Japheth

ii) Modern Iran

(b) Cush

i) Son of Ham - Genesis 10:6

ii) Ethiopia
(c) Put

i) Son of Ham - Genesis 10:6

ii) Somaliland or Somalia

(d) All of them with shield and helmet - All three nations prepared for war

(e) Gomer

i) Son of Japheth - Genesis 10:2

ii) Bereshit Rabbah 37:1 - Gomer is spelled as גֵרְמַנְיָא, Germania (Germany)

iii) Talmud - Germania

iv) Germany

v) All his hordes - Numerous men in his army

(f) The House of Togarmah

i) Grandson of Japheth through Gomer - Genesis 10:3

ii) Armenia and possibly Turkey

iii) All his hordes - Numerous men in his army

iv) In the uttermost parts of the north

a) In this verse it specifically refers to Togarmah

b) In 38:15 and 39:2 - To the whole invading army

(I) From Israel - The uttermost part of the north is Russia

(II) Moscow is directly north of Jerusalem
(g) Even many peoples with you

i) May refer to the numbers of peoples already mentioned

ii) May refer to other nations not mentioned

(h) Observations

i) Six Jephethite nations

ii) Two Hamite nations

iii) No Semite nations - Not a single Arab state is part of this invasion

(i) Artscroll: *Yerushalmi Megillah* 3:9 renders Magog as גוג or גוגית, the Goths, a group of nomadic tribes who destroyed the Scythians and made their homes in Scythian territory. Considering that the Goths were a Germanic people, the identification of Magog’s descendants as in accord with Targum Yonathan to Genesis 10:2, which renders מוג as גרמגיא which in *Bereshit Rabbah* is given as גרמניא.
b. The place of the invasion - 38:7-9

(1) The preparation - 38:7

(a) Be you prepared

i) Yea, prepare yourself

ii) You - Emphatic

iii) And all your companies - פאחד - Play on words

iv) That are assembled unto you - לנכנל - Play on words

(b) Be you a guard unto them

i) מִשְמָר - Guard, protector, security

ii) To take command

iii) To be a security and to take general responsibility for the whole army and for the well-being of the soldiers
(2) The object of the invasion - 38:8

(a) The time
   i) After many days you shall be visited
   ii) I in the latter years
   iii) It will occur during the time of the last days

(b) The object
   i) You shall come into the Land
      a) That is brought back from the sword
      b) That is gathered out of many peoples
   ii) Upon the mountains of Israel - Which have been a continual waste
   iii) But it is brought forth out of the peoples
   iv) And they shall dwell securely, all of them

(c) After the first world-wide regathering in unbelie in preparation for the Tribulation
(3) The massiveness of the invasion - 38:9

(a) You shall ascend

(b) Similes - To show the massiveness
   i) You shall come like a storm
   ii) You shall be like a cloud - To cover the Land

(c) Those involved
   i) You - Gog and Magog
   ii) All your hordes - The nations of which he is prince
   iii) Many peoples with you - Numerous allies

(4) Observations

(a) Prophecy presupposes that Israel is back in the Land

(b) This return is in unbelief for Israel is saved only after this invasion

(c) This return in unbelief was already intimated in 36:24-27 and in the vision of the dry bones in 37:1-14

(d) The restoration in unbelief is described in four ways
   i) A Land brought back from the sword - Jews gained it by war
   ii) A Land that is gathered out of many peoples - Jews have returned from 90 different nations
   iii) A Land with mountains that have been a continual waste - For two millennia
   iv) A Land that is brought forth out of the peoples

(e) All of these statements are true of present day Israel

(f) Waste places have been rebuilt and resettled
c. The purpose for the invasion - 38:10-12

(1) Gog's planning - 38:10

(a) It shall come to pass in that day - The time of the invasion

(b) That things shall come into your mind

(c) You shall devise an evil device

(d) The invasion is premeditated and carefully planned

(2) The plan – 38:11

(a) I will go up to the land of unwalled villages

(b) I will go to them – The Jews

   i) That are at rest

   ii) That dwell securely

      a) All of them dwelling without walls

      b) Having neither bars nor gates
(3) The purpose – 38:12

(a) To take the spoil
   i) לִשְלֹל שָלָל
   ii) To spoil the spoil

(b) To take the prey
   i) לָבֹז בַז
   ii) To prey the prey

(c) To turn your hand against
   i) The waste places that are now inhabited
   ii) Against the people
      a) That are gathered out of the nations
      b) Have gotten
         (I) Cattle – Livestock
         (II) Goods – Material wealth
   c) That dwell in the middle of the earth

(4) Observations

(a) Key purpose is spoil

(b) Test is silent on the content of the spoil, for “cattle and goods” and “silver and gold” are all general terms for the spoils of war

(c) It is all for Gog’s self-interest
d. The protest - 38:13

(1) The protestors

(a) Sheba

i) Grandson of Abraham through Keturah – Genesis 25:3

ii) In Saudi Arabia

(b) Dedan

i) Grandson of Abraham through Keturah – Genesis 25:3

ii) In Saudi Arabia

(c) The merchants of Tarshish

i) East coast of Africa - Not likely

ii) England - Possibly

iii) Spain - Probably

(d) With all the young lions thereof - Those nations which arose out of Tarshish

i) Africa - Spawned no nations

ii) England - United States, Canada, Australia, British Commonwealth of Nations

iii) Spain - Central and South America with the exception of Brazil
(2) The protest: They shall say unto you

(a) Are you come to take the spoil?
   i) דני רפלו
   ii) To spoil the spoil

(b) Have you assembled your company to take the prey?
   i) Assembled - קהל
   ii) זוב - To prey the prey

(c) To carry away?
   i) Silver
   ii) Gold

(d) To take away?
   i) Cattle
   ii) Goods

(e) To take great spoil? - The real aim

(3) Observations

(a) Semite nations (Arabs) will not favor the Russian invasion

(b) The protestors recognize that Russia invades for her own self-interest

(c) They do not go beyond the protest stage
e. The invasion - 38:14-16

(1) God's challenge - 38:14

(a) And you, son of man (84)

i) Prophesy

ii) Say unto Gog

iii) Introduces a new section

(b) In that day when My people Israel dwell securely, shall you not know it?

i) Gog has studied the Israeli situation very carefully

ii) Now he feels Israel is ripe for invasion

(2) The departure from the north - 38:15

(a) You shall come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the north - Not limited to Togarmah

(b) The confederacy

i) You - Gog and Magog

ii) Many peoples with you - The allies

a) All of them riding upon horses

b) A great company

c) A mighty army
(3) The arrival in Israel - 38:16

(a) You shall come against My people Israel

   i) The object of the invasion
   
   ii) My people - Israel is God's people

(b) As a cloud to cover the land - The massiveness of the invasion

(c) The time: It shall come to pass in the latter days - Eschatological times

(d) I will bring you against My Land

   i) My Land - God's land

   ii) God is bringing this invasion about

(e) God's purpose

   i) That the nations may know Me - That the Gentiles may realize who is God indeed

   ii) Means: When I shall be sanctified in you, O Gog, before their eyes - God will be set apart by what He will do to Gog

(4) Observations

(a) There is initial success and the invaders do enter the Land

(b) While Gog has his purpose (To take the spoil), God has His purpose (To be sanctified among the Gentiles)
f. The destruction of the invaders - 38:17-23

(1) The declaration and accusation - 38:17

(a) Are you he of whom I spake in old times by My servants the prophets of Israel

(b) That prophesied in those days for many years that I would bring you against them?

(c) The previous prophecies

   i) Nothing in the writing prophets spoke of an invasion from Magog

   ii) Perhaps prophesied by vocal prophets who did not record their prophecies

(2) The basis of the judgment - 38:18-19a

(a) It shall come to pass in that day - The day of the invasion

(b) When Gog shall come against the Land of Israel

   i) Against God's Land - Anti-Israel

   ii) Against God's people - Anti-Semitism

(c) The wrath of God

   i) That My wrath shall come up into My nostrils

   ii) For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath have I spoken
iii) The invasion against God's people and land will cause God to move for two reasons

a) God's jealousy

(I) The right of protection and exercise of ownership

(II) Gog is trying to violate the Wife of Jehovah

b) God's wrath

(I) This will destroy the invader

(II) The cursing aspect of the Abrahamic Covenant

(3) The means of destruction - 38:19b-22

(a) Earthquake - 38:19b-20

i) The shaking - 38:19b

a) Surely in that day - At the time of the invasion

b) There shall be a great shaking in the Land of Israel
ii) The results - 38:20

a) Upon life - They shall shake at My presence

(I) The fishes of the sea

(II) The birds of the heavens

(III) The beasts of the field

(IV) All creeping things that creep upon the earth

(V) All the men that are upon the face of the earth

( ) שֶׁלֶשׁ

( ) Should be land

b) Upon the land

(I) The mountains shall be thrown down

(II) The steep places shall fall

(III) Every wall shall fall to the ground

( ) חוֹמָה

( ) Not walls of buildings but city walls
(b) Mutual killing - 38:21

i) I will call for a sword against him unto all My mountains

a) Sword - Killing by war

b) My mountains - The place of Gog's destruction

ii) The means: Every man's sword shall be against his brother

a) The different nationalities will start fighting among themselves

b) Previous examples

(I) Judges 7:22

(II) I Samuel 14:20

(III) II Chronicles 20:23

(c) Other means - 38:22

i) I will enter into judgment with him

a) With pestilence - Plagues

b) With blood

ii) Flood

a) I will rain an overflowing shower

b) The objects

(I) Upon him

(II) Upon his hordes

(III) Upon the many peoples that are with him
iii) Accompaniments to the raining
   a) Hailstones
   b) Fire
   c) Brimstone

(4) The divine purpose - 38:23

(a) The purpose
   i) I will magnify Myself
   ii) I will sanctify Myself
   iii) I will make Myself known in the eyes of many nations - The Gentiles

(b) The result: They shall know that I am Jehovah

(5) Observations

(a) God totally destroys the invaders by both natural and supernatural means

(b) No other nation is used to destroy the invaders

(c) In this way God will indeed get the glory
2. The Overthrow of Gog - 39:1-16


   (1) The addressee - 39:1

      (a) And you, son of man (85)

      (b) Prophesy against Gog

         i) And say - Thus says the Lord Jehovah

         ii) Law or recurrence

            a) Ezekiel 38:1-23 gave a complete outline of the invasion and subsequent destruction of the invading army

            b) Ezekiel 39:1-16 covers the same material but provides more details

            c) The "son of man" begins a new section

      (c) Behold, I am against you, O Gog

      (d) Prince of

         i) Rosh

         ii) Meshech

         iii) Tubal
(2) The invasion - 39:2

(a) I will turn you about - From a planned attack elsewhere

(b) I will lead you on

i) שִׁשֹּׁה - *Hapax*
   a) To proceed
   b) To climb
   c) To lean on

ii) I will seduce you

iii) Not - I will leave but a sixth part of you

(c) I will cause you to come up from the uttermost parts of the north - The source of the invasion

(d) I will bring you up on the mountains of Israel

i) The invaders will enter the central mountain range

ii) This will be the place of their destruction

iii) These mountains have been part of Israel only since the Six Day War

(e) Emphasis is on what God causes to be done

(3) The destruction of the invading army - 39:3-5

(a) The failure of the weapons - 39:3

i) I will smite your bow out of your left hand

ii) I will cause your arrows to fall out of your right hand
The Book of Ezekiel

(b) The fall of the armies - 39:4

i) The place - You shall fall upon the mountains of Israel

ii) The people
   
   a) You - Gog
   
   b) All your hordes - The soldiers
   
   c) The peoples that are with you - The allies

iii) The spoilers become the spoil

   a) I will give you unto the ravenous birds of every sort
   
   b) To the beasts of the field to be devoured

(c) The declaration - 39:5

i) You shall fall upon the open field - Finale

ii) For I have spoken it, says the Lord Jehovah - Guarantee

(4) The destruction of the Land of Magog - 39:6

(a) I will send a fire on Magog - While the armies are destroyed in Israel, the country of origin itself is destroyed

(b) And on them that dwell securely in the isles - Even islands off the coast of the countries from where the invaders came will also suffer a destructive judgment

(c) The result

   i) They shall know that I am Jehovah
   
   ii) The invaders will recognize who is God indeed
(5) The sanctification of God's name - 39:7

(a) Among the Jews

i) My holy name will I make known in the midst of My people Israel

a) Stronger than "they shall know that I am Jehovah"

b) This is salvation knowledge

c) The destruction of the invaders will cause a revival in Israel

d) My people Israel - Now become God's people spiritually as well as positionally

ii) Neither will I suffer My holy name to be profaned any more - Common problem in the past

a) Ezekiel 20:9, 14, 39

b) Ezekiel 36:20-23

(b) Among the Gentiles

i) The nations shall know that I am Jehovah - They will learn who is God indeed

ii) The Holy One in Israel - They will learn that Jehovah is Israel's God

(6) The declaration of the certainty - 39:8

(a) Behold, it comes - The time for the prophecy to arrive will come

(b) It shall be done - The prophecy will be fulfilled

(c) This is the day whereof I have spoken
b. The seven years of burning - 39:9-10

(1) The burning - 39:9

(a) The burners - They that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth

(b) Shall make fires of the weapons and burn them

i) Shields

ii) Bucklers

iii) The bows

iv) The arrows

v) The handstaves

   a) Usually used for driving animals

   b) Here used as weapons

vi) Spears

(c) Duration - They shall make fires of them seven years

(2) The provision of fuel - 39:10a

(a) So that - Because of verse nine

   i) They shall take no wood out of the field

   ii) Neither cut down any out of the trees of the forests

(b) For they shall make fires out of the weapons
(3) Curse for curse in kind - 39:10b

(a) They shall plunder those that plundered them

i) שָלְלוּ אֶת־שֹׁלְלֵיהֶם

ii) They shall spoil their spoilers

(b) They shall rob those that robbed them

i) בָזְזוּ אֶת־בֹזְזֵיהֶם

ii) They shall prey their preyers

c. The seven months of burial - 39:11-16

(1) The place of burial - 39:11

(a) In that day - The time of Gog's destruction

(b) I will give unto Gog a place for burial in Israel - The country they sought to take over becomes their graveyard

(c) The location

i) The valley of them that pass through on the east of the sea

a) East of the Dead Sea

b) The Jordan Valley above the Dead Sea

ii) Result - It shall stop them that pass through

iii) There shall they bury Gog and his multitude

(d) The new name

i) They shall call it the Valley of Hamon-Gog

ii) Multitudes - הֲמוֹנֹה

iii) The name - גֵיא הֲמוֹן גוֹג
(2) The duration of burial - 39:12

(a) Seven months shall the House of Israel be burying them

(b) Purpose
   
   i) That they may cleanse the Land
   
   ii) In keeping with Numbers 35:33-34

(3) The buriers - 39:13

(a) Yea, all the people of the land shall bury them - The Jews will do the burying

(b) It shall be to them a renown in the day that I shall be glorified - It will result in a new Jewish holy day

(4) The search for bodies - 39:14-15

(a) The search - 39:14

   i) They shall set apart men of continual employment
      
      a) That shall pass through the Land
      
      b) Men will be hired for the specific purpose of passing through the Land in order to find hidden bodies
      
   ii) And with them that pass through
      
      a) Those that bury them that remain upon the face of the Land
      
      b) Following the scouts who are responsible for searching and locating the bodies will be the burial detail that bury those bodies found
      
   iii) Purpose: To cleanse it - The Land
   
   iv) Duration - After the end of seven months shall they search
39:15

(b) The procedure - 39:15

i) First step: They that pass through the Land shall pass through - Scout

ii) Second step: When any sees a man's bones then shall he set up a sign by it - A visible marker

iii) Third step: Till the buriers have buried it in the Valley of Hamon-Gog

39:16

(5) The new city - 39:16

(a) And Hamonah shall also be the name of a city

i) Hamonah - The multitude

ii) A new Jewish city will be built, perhaps overlooking the valley of burial

iii) Would put this city in occupied territory

(b) The result: Thus shall they cleanse the Land

3. The Time of the Invasion

a. Textual clues - 38:8, 11-12, 14

(1) When Israel is a state

(2) When Jews are regathered out of many nations

(3) When the waste places of many countries are inhabited again

(4) Israel is dwelling in unwalled villages - As present-day kibbutzim

(5) Israel is dwelling securely - Not in peace, but in confidence

(6) All descriptions of Israel in the text are true of present-day Israel
b. The Mid-Tribulation View

(1) Support

(a) Israel's dwelling securely is a time of peace resulting from Israel's covenant with the Antichrist

(b) This invasion is the same as that of the "king of the north" in Daniel 11:40, which is a mid-Tribulational event

(2) Refutation

(a) To dwell securely does not require a dwelling in peace

(b) Why would God intervene to save Israel and immediately allow the events of the second half of the Tribulation to occur with the massive persecution of the Jews?

(c) While it is true that Daniel 11:40 is a mid-tribulational event, it is not the same invasion, for the king of the north in Daniel is always Syria

(d) The seven months - Would extend into the second half when Jews are fleeing with no time to bury their own dead or to build a new city

(e) The seven years

   i) Would include the second half of the Tribulation when the Jews are in flight

   ii) Would continue for 3½ years into the Kingdom

(f) Inconsistent with Messiah's cleansing and renovation of the Land - Isaiah 65:17-25

c. The End of the Tribulation View

(1) Support: This invasion is the same as that of the Campaign of Armageddon
(2) Refutation

(a) Allies

i) Ezekiel - Only some nations which are in turn opposed by others

ii) Armageddon - All nations without exception are opposed to Israel

(b) Direction

i) Ezekiel - Only from the north

ii) Armageddon - From the whole earth

(c) Purpose

i) Ezekiel - To take the spoil

ii) Armageddon - To destroy the Jews

(d) Opposition

i) Ezekiel - Others protest the invasion

ii) Armageddon - No protest, for all nations are involved

(e) Destruction

i) Ezekiel - Destroyed by convulsions of nature and fire and brimstone out of Heaven

ii) Armageddon - Destroyed by the Second Coming

(f) Place of destruction

i) Ezekiel - The Mountains of Israel

ii) Armageddon - Between Bozrah and the Valley of Jehoshaphat
(g) Timing

i) Ezekiel - When Israel is dwelling securely in the Land

ii) Armageddon - While Israel is in flight and in hiding

(h) The seven months - Would have to continue into the Kingdom

(i) The seven years - Would have to continue into the Kingdom

d. The Interlude View: Between the end of the Tribulation and the start of the Kingdom

(1) Support: Assumption that there will be a period of time after the Second Coming and after Israel is restored but before the actual Kingdom is set up

(2) Refutation

(a) This interlude is only 75 days long - Daniel 12:12

(b) The seven months

i) Total of 210 days

ii) Burial would have to continue for at least 135 days into the Kingdom

(c) The seven years - Unto the Kingdom
e. The End of the Millennium View

(1) Support: This invasion is the same as the Gog and Magog of Revelation 20:7-9

(2) Refutation

(a) Origin of the invasion
   i) Ezekiel - From the north
   ii) Revelation - From the four corners of the earth

(b) The seven months
   i) Into the Eternal Order
   ii) Earth is done away with after this invasion leaving no time or place for burying
   iii) Why bother burying when the unsaved are resurrected after this invasion

(c) The seven years
   i) Into the Eternal Order
   ii) The old earth is destroyed

f. The Pre-Tribulational View

(1) The position

   (a) Israel is established in the Land before the Tribulation and is dwelling securely

   (b) The Northern Confederacy invades Israel during this time of security before the Tribulation

   (c) The confederacy is destroyed in Israel before the Tribulation
(2) Support

(a) The description of Israel fits the nation as it now exists before the Tribulation

i) Israel is a Land brought back from the sword (38:8)
   
   a) The War of Independence
   
   b) The Six Day War

ii) It is a nation gathered out of many nations and peoples (38:8, 12) - The Jews have come back from 80-90 different nations

iii) The continual waste places are now inhabited (38:8, 12) - Israelis are rebuilding the ancient places and turning them into modern towns and cities

iv) They are dwelling securely (38:11, 14)
   
   a) This does not mean in peace
   
   b) בטח - Security not because of a state of peace, but because of a state of confidence in its own strength
   
   c) Israel is confident in her army

v) They are dwelling in unwalled villages (38:11) - Kibbutzim and moshavim

(b) Russia today is a super power before the Tribulation

i) Rise to a global power coincided with the establishment of Israel

ii) Russia today has the wherewithal to launch an invasion of this nature
(c) Best answer to the seven months and seven years

i) Beginning of the Tribulation
   a) No problem with seven months
   b) But the seven years would extend into the second half of the Tribulation when Israel is again outside the Land

ii) Mid-Tribulation
   a) The seven months would extend into the second half of the Tribulation
   b) The seven years would extend into the second half and into the Kingdom

iii) End of the Tribulation - Both the seven months and seven years would extend into the Kingdom

iv) The Interlude - Both the seven months and seven years would extend into the Kingdom

v) End of the Millennium - Both the seven months and seven years would extend into the Eternal Order

vi) Pre-Tribulation by at least 3½ years or more
   a) No problem with the seven months of burial
   b) No problem with the seven years of burning which could extend through the first half of the Tribulation
(3) Objections and answers

(a) The first objection: Ezekiel 38-39 are in the restoration section of Ezekiel

i) True, but which restoration? Ezekiel intertwined the first and second restorations

ii) The one here is the restoration in unbelief, for it is after the invasion that Israel comes to faith

iii) Preceding Ezekiel 38-39, Ezekiel spoke of a regathering before salvation

   a) Ezekiel 36:24-28

   b) Ezekiel 37:1-15

iv) The restoration in faith is covered by Ezekiel 40-48

v) The chronology of the Book of Ezekiel presents no problem

(b) The second objection: To dwell "securely" as used in the Old Testament refers to millennial peace and safety

i) Not always true that בֶטַח always refers to Millennial Period and only in the minority of cases is it true

   a) Leviticus 25:18-19

   b) Leviticus 26:5

   c) Deuteronomy 12:10

   d) I Samuel 12:11

   e) I Kings 4:25

   f) Psalm 4:8

   g) Psalm 16:9
h) Proverbs 1:33

i) Proverbs 3:23, 29

j) Isaiah 47:8

k) Jeremiah 49:31 - Used same phrases in Ezekiel 38:11

l) Zephaniah 2:15

ii) Most of the time it is a non-Kingdom context

(c) The third objection: It destroys the doctrine of immanency

i) This view only states that the invasion is pre-Tribulational and not pre-Rapture

ii) This objection is based on the false assumption that it is the Rapture that begins the Tribulation

(d) The fourth objection: How could Israel apostatize so soon again after the nation has had a revival?

i) But this has happened before

ii) Examples

a) Israel apostatized soon after the miracles of the Exodus and the revelation of God at Mount Sinai

b) Nineveh apostatized soon after the city repented under Jonah
(e) The fifth objection: This event is said to occur in the latter days and years

i) True, but these terms apply to the whole eschatological period, including the closing days of the Church Age

   a) I Timothy 4:1

   b) II Timothy 3:1

   c) II Peter 3:3

   d) Jude 18

ii) This objection is also based on the faulty assumption that the pre-Tribulation position is the same as saying pre-Rapture

(f) The sixth objection: Israel will not gain any title to the land nor have the right to return until she signs the covenant with the Antichrist

i) The whole premise is faulty - Israel's title deed is based on the Abrahamic Covenant

ii) Israel already has U.N. recognition, so who needs the Antichrist?

iii) This objection is also based on the assumption that this verse says pre-Rapture which it does not
B. The Campaign of Armageddon - 39:17-29

1. The Great Feast - 39:17-20

a. The call - 39:17

(1) And you, son of man (86)

(a) Thus says the Lord Jehovah

(b) Introduction of a new prophecy not connected with 38:1 - 39:16, for here Gog is not mentioned with the introductory "son of man"

i) 38:2 - Son of man: Set your face toward Gog

ii) 38:14 - Son of man: Prophesy and say unto Gog

iii) 39:1 - Son of man: Prophesy against Gog

(c) By the end of 39:16 the armies of Gog have been buried but here bodies are still exposed

(d) Other passages place this scene with Armageddon

i) Isaiah 34:6-7

ii) Zephaniah 1:7-8

iii) Revelation 19:17-18, 21

(e) This is followed by Israel's final salvation and restoration which is something that follows Armageddon

(2) The objects of the call: Speak

(a) Unto the birds of every sort

(b) And to every beast of the field
(3) The message

(a) Assemble yourselves and come

(b) Gather yourselves on every side to My sacrifice

   i) That I do sacrifice for you

   ii) Even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel

(c) Purpose - That ye may

   i) Eat flesh

   ii) Drink blood

b. The feast - 39:18

(1) Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty

(2) And drink the blood of the princes of the earth

(3) Specifics - Figures of ranks of soldiers

   (a) Rams

   (b) Lambs

   (c) Goats

   (d) Bullocks

(4) All of them fatlings of Bashan - Famous for fine pastures and well-fed cattle

   (a) Deuteronomy 32:14

   (b) Psalm 22:12

   (c) Amos 4:1
c. The satisfaction - 39:19-20

(1) Fat and blood - 39:19

(a) Ye shall eat fat till ye be full

(b) Ye shall drink the blood until ye be drunken

(c) The place - Of My sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you

(d) Fat and blood - Normally holy portions always reserved for God

   i) Leviticus 3:16
   ii) Leviticus 7:22-27
   iii) Leviticus 17:10-14
   iv) Ezekiel 44:15

(2) The soldiers - 39:20

(a) Ye shall be filled at My table

   i) My table - God's table
   ii) God provides for this feast

(b) The courses of the feast

   i) Horses
   ii) Chariots
   iii) Mighty men
   iv) All of the men of war
2. The Reasons for Israel's Judgment - 39:21-24

a. The first reason: To reveal the glory of God - 39:21-22

(1) Among the Gentiles - 39:21

(a) I will set My glory among the nations - The Gentiles

(b) All the nations shall see

   i) My judgment that I have executed

   ii) My hand that I have laid upon them

(c) The Gentiles will recognize the glory of God in the way God has dealt with Israel both in judgment and in blessing

(2) Among the Jews - 39:22

(a) So the House of Israel shall know that I am Jehovah their God from that day forward

(b) By means of the Great Tribulation and the Campaign of Armageddon, Israel will come to know the Lord

(c) From that day forward - Once the nation has recognized the glory of God, they will not depart from it

b. The second reason: The sins of Israel - 39:23-24

(1) The understanding of the Gentiles - 39:23

(a) And the nations shall know that the House of Israel went into captivity

   i) For their iniquity

   ii) Because they trespassed against Me
(b) I hid My face from them
   i) Deuteronomy 31:17-18
   ii) When God hides His face, Israel is open to attack by their enemies

(c) The result of the hiding of the face
   i) So I gave them into the hand of their adversaries
   ii) They fell: All of them by the sword

(2) The basis for the hiding of the face - 39:24
   (a) According to their uncleanness
   (b) According to their transgressions
   (c) Did I unto them - Open them for punishment

3. The Restoration of Israel - 39:25-29
   a. The return - 39:25
      (1) Therefore - Because of verses 23-24
      (2) Now will I bring back the captivity of Jacob - Almost a technical term for the restoration of blessings upon a person or a nation
         (a) Deuteronomy 30:3 - Israel
         (b) Job 42:10 - Job
         (c) Psalm 14:7 - Israel
         (d) Psalm 53:6 - Israel
         (e) Psalm 85:1 - Israel (Jacob)
         (f) Jeremiah 30:3, 18 - Israel
I will have mercy upon the whole House of Israel

The basis: I will be jealous for My holy name

(a) Israel's very dispersion profanes the name of God - Ezekiel 36:20-21

(b) So the jealousy of God for His name will force Him to restore Israel

b. Israel's state in their restoration - 39:26-27

(1) Israel will bear her guilt - 39:26a

(a) They shall bear their shame

(b) All their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against Me
(c) Israel will remember her past sins

i) Ezekiel 6:9

ii) Ezekiel 16:61

iii) Ezekiel 20:43

iv) Ezekiel 36:31

(2) Time: At the return - 39:26b-27

(a) When they shall dwell securely in their Land - And none shall make them afraid

(b) When I have brought them back from the peoples and gathered them out of their enemies' lands

(c) When I am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations

(1) They shall know that I am Jehovah their God

(2) The means

(a) In that I caused them to go into captivity among the nations

(b) And have gathered them into their own Land

(c) Neither will I leave none of them any more there

(3) The same God who dispersed them will also gather them - The Final Restoration
d. The salvation of Israel - 39:29

(1) Neither will I hide My face any more from them - No longer will Israel be open to Gentile attack

(2) For I have poured out My Spirit upon the House of Israel - National salvation

(a) Isaiah 32:15

(b) Isaiah 44:3

(c) Joel 2:28