

~MAGOG 2 (140)

(Ma'gog)

.. Symbolic Use

- A name that occurs in Ezekiel's prophecy concerning the storm-like attack by, Gog of the land of **Magog**, against Yehowah's regathered people.
- It appears to be used by the prophet to indicate a land or region in the remotest parts of the north, out of which Gog's host comes forth, his plundering forces described as riding on horses, a great congregation, even a numerous military force employing sword and bow.
- Son of man, set your face against Gog of the land of **Magog**, the head chieftain of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him. (**Ezekiel 38:2**)
- And you must say; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am against you, O Gog, you head chieftain of Meshech and Tubal. (**Ezekiel 38:3**)
- And I shall certainly turn you around and put hooks in your jaws and bring you forth with all your military force, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed in perfect taste, a numerous congregation, with large shield and buckler, all of them handling swords. (**Ezekiel 38:4**)
- After many days you will be given attention. In the final part of the years you will come to the land of people brought back from the sword, collected together out of many peoples, onto the mountains of Israel, that have proved to be a constantly devastated place, even a land that has been brought forth from the peoples, where they have dwelt in security, all of them. (**Ezekiel 38:8**)
- And you will be bound to come up. Like a storm you will come in. Like clouds to cover the land you will become, you and all your bands and many peoples with you. (**Ezekiel 38:9**)
- Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish and all its maned young lions, they will say to you; Is it to get a big spoil

that you are coming in? Is it to do much plundering that you have congregated your congregation, in order to carry off silver and gold, to take wealth and property, to get a very great spoil? (**Ezekiel 38:13**)

- Therefore prophesy, O son of man, and you must say to Gog; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Will it not be in that day when my people Israel are dwelling in security that you will know it. (**Ezekiel 38:14**)
- And you will certainly come from your place, from the remotest parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great congregation, even a numerous military force. (**Ezekiel 38:15**)
- And you will be bound to come up against my people Israel, like clouds to cover the land. In the final part of the days it will occur, and I shall certainly bring you against my land, for the purpose that the nations may know me when I sanctify myself in you before their eyes, O Gog. (**Ezekiel 38:16**)
- And as regards you, O son of man, prophesy against Gog, and you must say; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am against you, O Gog, you head chieftain of Meshech and Tubal. (**Ezekiel 39:1**)
- And I will turn you around and lead you on and cause you to come up from the remotest parts of the north and bring you in upon the mountains of Israel. (**Ezekiel 39:2**)
- And I will strike your bow out of your left hand, and your arrows I shall cause to fall out of your own right hand. (**Ezekiel 39:3**)
- And I will send fire upon **Magog** and upon those who are inhabiting the islands in security, and people will have to know that I am Yehowah. (**Ezekiel 39:6**)
- From the time of the Jewish historian Josephus, it has been suggested that the land of **Magog**, related to the Scythian tribes found in Northeast Europe and Central Asia. [**Jewish Antiquities, I, 123, vi, 1**]
- Classical writers of Greek and Roman times described the Scythians as northern barbarians, rapacious and warlike, equipped with large cavalry forces, well armored, and skilled with the bow.

While the name Scythian may originally have been derived from Ashkenaz, another descendant of Japheth

- The sons of Japheth were Gomer and **Magog** and Madai and Javan and Tubal and Meshech and Tiras. (**Genesis 10:2**)
- And the sons of Gomer were Ashkenaz and Riphath and Togarmah. (**Genesis 10:3**)
- The **1959** edition of the **Encyclopaedia Britannica** (Vol. 20, p. 235) states that throughout classical literature Scythia generally meant all regions to the north and northeast of the Black sea, and a Scythian or *Skuthes* any barbarian coming from those parts.
- Other reference works likewise show that the term, Scythian, was used rather flexibly to embrace generally the nomadic tribes North of the Caucasus, the region between the Black and Caspian Seas, similar to the modern use of the term, Tartar.
- Hence **The New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge** comments: **The name Scythians was among the ancients an elastic appellation, and so was the Hebrew Magog.** [Edited by S. Jackson, 1956, Vol. V, p. 14]

.. Symbolic Use

- The fact that the definite location of the land of **Magog** is left uncertain and indeterminate to us in the Bible, as well as in secular history, along with the prophets reference to the final part of the years
- After many days you will be given attention. In the final part of the years you will come to the land of people brought back from the sword, collected together out of many peoples, onto the mountains of Israel, that have proved to be a constantly devastated place, even a land that has been brought forth from the peoples, where they have dwelt in security, all of them. (**Ezekiel 38:8**)
- And the fact that the described invasion is not known to have taken place literally upon Israel, provide the basis for viewing the prophecy concerning **Magog** as relating to a future time in the Biblical time of the end.

- Because of this, many commentators see in it a forecast of the final attack of the world powers upon the Kingdom of God, and they see the land of **Magog** as representing the world as hostile to God's people and kingdom. [Funk and Wagnall's New Standard Bible Dictionary, 1936, p. 307]

See Also GOG 2