

What a week is before you! The timing of these two chapters has been hotly debated. When will God bring Gog to Israel? You are going to start by reading and familiarizing yourself with these two chapters. As you read and observe, there will be pieces of information that will begin to fall together. Don't get overwhelmed, just allow Scripture to speak. God wants His children to understand what He is doing on earth because then they will know that He is God!

Are you ready for a great study? Begin with prayer and dive on in.

DAY 1

As you begin, remember that as a believer, you have been given the Spirit who leads you into truth. Approach this week by asking Him to reveal truth to you. If you come to Him with a teachable spirit, in humbleness, He will help you to handle His Word accurately. Study well!

1. Start by reading Ezekiel 38 and 39. Don't mark anything at this time. Just read thoughtfully and carefully.
2. Read through these chapters again. This time, you are going to mark just two words.
 - a. *Ezekiel (son of man)*
 - b. *Prophesy*
3. Who is the son of man to prophesy to or against?
4. Now let's work on some observations. Complete your observation on Ezekiel 38. Read and mark the key words that are on your Bible marking card. There are a couple of things to mark that may already be on your card. I just wanted to mention them to you so they were fresh on your mind as you read.
 - a. *Gog (and all pronouns)*
 - b. *Living (dwelling) securely*
 - c. *Sanctifies (any form of the word)*

d. Mark the “*who’s*” in this chapter as well as the “*when’s*.”

DAY 2

1. Read through Ezekiel 38 to start the day. As you do, make sure that you haven’t missed any markings. Also, as you read, look at the map on page 150 and find the locations that are mentioned.
2. You are going to go through this chapter paragraph by paragraph as you have done in the past with just a little bit of a twist. Continue to mark your paragraph themes on your Observation Worksheets, but here in your lesson, record exactly what happens in each paragraph. Be detailed. Don’t miss a thing. This is your only other assignment for today, so take your time and give it some thought.

a. 38:1-6

b. 38:7-9

c. 38:10-13

d. 38:14-16

e. 38:17-23

3. Was there anything in this chapter that related to something you have already read and studied in the last several chapters?

Remember that you are spending a large amount of time observing this passage. Thorough observation will lead you into correct application. Your labor is not in vain so keep plugging away. Be a diligent workman who need not be ashamed!

d. 39:11-16

e. 39:17-20

f. 39:21-24

g. 39:25-29

- c. Using your colored pencils find the “many peoples” who came with them according to Ezekiel 38:6, and outline them with different colors. Using the same color as you used to outline the “people” draw an arrow from them toward Israel. What parts of the world do they come from?

- d. Ezekiel 38:13 mentions Sheba, Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish.
 - 1) Where are they on your map?

 - 2) How do they respond to Gog’s move against Israel?

5. Read Ezekiel 27 and record what you learn about the people that are mentioned in Ezekiel 38.

6. “Gog” is only used two other times in the Bible apart from the book of Ezekiel. Let’s take a look at those verses and record what you learn and how that applies to Ezekiel 38-39.
 - a. I Chronicles 5:1-4

 - b. Revelation 20:8

7. Let's take the time to put Revelation 20:8 into its proper context. Read the following passages and list the main events that happen in each.
 - a. Revelation 19:11-16
 - b. Revelation 19:17-18
 - c. Revelation 19:19-21
 - d. Revelation 20:1-3
 - e. Revelation 20:4-6
 - f. Revelation 20:7-10
 - g. Revelation 20:11-15
 - h. Revelation 21:1-4

8. How does the event in Revelation 20:8 line up with what you studied in Ezekiel 38-39?

DAY FIVE

What does all this mean? When is this going to happen? Has it happened already? Is it something that happens in the future? The *when* of this event has been disputed by many. We will walk carefully through the reasoning process and see what sense we can make out of these questions. Sometimes it isn't always a matter of knowing what Scripture says but knowing what it doesn't say. We want to be cautious of running out ahead without careful thought and consideration. Let's see what careful observation can show us.

1. Let's start off with the question of has Ezekiel 38-39 already happened? If so, when? Answer the following questions to help guide you through the thinking process.
 - a. Is there anything in history that matches the attack on Israel by Gog mentioned in Ezekiel 38-39. If so, what and when?
 - b. Is there any historical record of burning weapons and burying foreign soldiers in the land of Israel? Again, if so, what and when?
 - c. Now draw a conclusion to your first question. Have these events happened yet?
2. There are many people who present themselves as having knowledge as to when future events will happen. There was a book put out many years ago, "88 Reasons Why the Rapture Will Be in 1988." Well, that didn't work out so well, did it? There are many who make such claims. When we hear all these voices, how can we discern between fact and fiction? It really isn't as hard as you may think. It takes diligence and effort on your part. Here are some simple guidelines.
 - #1 Scripture never contradicts Scripture. It is the very Word of God and God's Word never changes. Therefore, whatever portion of Scripture someone may be quoting must agree with the whole counsel of God. Check out anything you hear, see, or read against God's plumb line and make sure it lines up to truth!

- #2 You can never separate a portion of Scripture from its context. In order to correctly interpret a passage, it must be viewed in light of its immediate context, the context of the chapter, and its place and position within the book as it is used by the author to bring forth what God desired the reader to understand. So as we continue through our study of Ezekiel, remember that the passage we are looking at currently is not the end of the book. There are still nine chapters to go, so clarity may still be yet to come as we continue to look at the message that Ezekiel is sharing in this portion of his book.
- #3 God is the God of history. It is His story. What he has planned will come to pass and nothing can stay His hand. Since He is the Author and Finisher, when He gives specifics of what must come to pass, occur, or be in place before a certain event happens, we cannot ignore that and create our own series of events. We must stay true to the Word of truth!
3. You marked the phrase “living securely” as you read these two chapters. What does Ezekiel 38-39 tell you about when Israel will live securely? What will be the circumstances surrounding that time? Let’s see if we can answer some of those questions.
- a. Read Ezekiel 38:7-9. When will God summon Gog? Record all that you learn about that time.
- b. Read the following verses and record what you learn about Israel living securely.
- 1) Ezekiel 38:10-16
 - 2) Ezekiel 39:25-29

c. Now let's look at some other passages that deal with this topic. Read the verses and record what you learn.

1) Ezekiel 28:25-26

2) Ezekiel 34:23-31

3) Jeremiah 23:5-6

4) Zechariah 14:9-11

d. According to what you have looked at, what do you know about the timing of Ezekiel 38 and 39?

4. Now that you have studied God's Word for yourself, it is time for you to consult your commentaries and see what they say about Ezekiel 38-39. Record anything that stands out to you. Did it add any information or clarify what you thought? Did they bring up things that contradict God's Word or take Scripture out of context? Did it cause you to think differently? Did it bring up more questions rather than answers? If so, what questions did it bring up?

Now you can catch your breath. I know that this is hard to process, especially if you are new to Bible study and prophecy specifically. Pat yourself on the back for persevering and trust that God will reward those who diligently seek after Him. Three more weeks until we come to the end of this spectacular book. I pray that it will continue to be a blessing to you as you study and allow God's Word to wash over you and transform your mind.

THE NATIONS ACCORDING TO EZEKIEL 38-39

