



# The Watchmen

THE VOICE FROM THE WALL

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- Can Women be Pastors?
- Is Ezekiel 38 Imminent?
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## Stop & Think – Israel's Blockade

On May 27 a group of 6 ships carrying 10,000 tons of alleged humanitarian aid was dispatched by Turkey to run Israel's blockade of the Gaza Strip. The blockade was put in place since the militant group Hamas seized control in June 2007. Israel wants to weaken Hamas, end rocket attacks from Gaza, and ensure national security for the innocent civilians living within its borders.

In response to this flotilla, and utilizing civilized diplomacy, the Israeli government contacted each of the ships captains and the non-governmental organizations supporting the flotilla as well as the Turkish government, which appears to be the primary organizer of the mission. Israel offered to allow the shipments to be offloaded in Ashdod, to be inspected for contraband weapons and equipment. The legitimate aid supplies would then be transported into Gaza under the supervision of the sponsoring aid organizations.

The requests were ignored, and the flotilla continued steaming towards Gaza, despite the warnings that Israel would not permit it. When the flotilla was 80 miles off the coast, they were ordered to follow the Israeli navy escort into Ashdod, or be boarded.

When they refused, the Israeli navy boarded the first 5 ships without incident.

The whole operation took a turn for the worse when Israeli commandos rappelled aboard the 6th ship, the *Mavi Marmara* from a hovering helicopter. The Israeli Defense Force (IDF) commandos were primarily armed with paintball guns for crowd dispersion tactics - should they be necessary. (Now there's a tidbit that is left out of the mainstream media, because undoubtedly it would paint a nicer picture of Israel's actions, and defeat the

agenda of the liberal media and the root of anti-Semitism, being Satan himself.) Not expecting armed resistance, the Israeli forces primarily armed themselves with these non-lethal weapons, in this case paintball guns, in addition to their standard side arms.

However, when the commandos boarded the *Mavi Marmara*, they were ambushed by an awaiting mob. The mob individually attacked the arriving commandos armed with knives, metal bars, fire bombs, and in some cases the commandos own side arms taken during the ambush.

One soldier was thrown from a top deck to a lower deck located at least 30 feet below.



The video<sup>1</sup> clearly shows the 'humanitarian' mob beating the soldiers with metal bars in a violent and life threatening manner.



"A freighter escorted by an Israeli naval vessel towards the port of Ashdod" – Feb 5, 2009"

When the commandos were at last allowed to use their side arms, the outcome resulted in 9 activists dead and others wounded including 11 I.D.F. commandos. All these events are documented, and easily supported by true journalism, and yet everyone insists on referring to the flotilla as a humanitarian mission.

The United Nations, the United States, the European Union, France, Spain, Turkey and especially the media, all chose to overlook the plain truths, and paint this picture of Israel without explainable reason.

However, we can understand through the window of Bible prophecy that all Israel will be in fact be hated, that Jerusalem will indeed become a cup of trembling, and that the future for Israel holds at least two major wars in their near future, those being outlined by perhaps Psalm 83, and most assuredly by the events in Ezekiel 38. Bible prophecy clearly predicts that Israel will be hated by her neighbors, and that hatred will last until Christ himself sits on the throne of David in Jerusalem and reigns there as King. That is when the tides will change as Scripture documents the high honor promised to the Jew.

*"Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you." - Zech 8:23*

A spokeswoman for the "Free Gaza" movement Greta Berlin admitted to reporters in Cyprus after the clash,

*"What we're trying to do is open a sea lane between Gaza and the rest of the world. We're not trying to be a humanitarian mission. We're trying to say to the world, 'You have no right to imprison a million and a half Palestinians.'"*

- Greta Berlin (Free Gaza Spokesperson)

And yet despite this admission by the organizers behind the mission, the world press still favored the picture painted by the 'Humanitarian Aid' mission title.

And yet, here are some of the 'humanitarian aid' items discovered by the IDF on board the *Mavi Marmara* on which they were so brutally attacked.

- Knives,
- Slingshots,
- Rocks,
- Smoke bombs,
- Metal rods,
- Improvised sharp metal weapons
- Sticks and clubs
- 5kg hammers
- Firebombs
- Gas masks (in case IDF forces fired riot dispersal means at the activists as they violently attacked the soldiers)

Strange cargo for a ship bound for Gaza for humanitarian reasons only - as so painted by the media.

As Hal Lindsey indicated on his report from June 11th,

*"The international community reacted to Israel's boarding of the blockade runners as if the Israelis had torpedoed a Red Cross hospital ship. They were immediately declared guilty - without the facts." - Hal Lindsey*

Can it be any wonder why Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the U.N. and the E.U. leaders "hypocrites" in an interview hosted on CBC news with Peter Mansbridge?

For the past 5 years since the withdrawal of Israel from the Gaza strip, Hamas has continued its relentless attack from the Gaza strip on Israeli civilian targets. Prior to the withdrawal, attacks existed throughout the area,

**"We're not trying to be a humanitarian mission."**

– Organizers behind the blockade run labeled "Humanitarian" by the media.

however, not with such a fervor as has been seen since Israel's withdrawal.

According to the BBC, between 2001 and January of 2009, over 8,600 Palestinian rockets had been launched into Israel leading to 28 deaths and several hundred injuries. Similar research documents over 800 deaths caused in Israel since 1993 by Palestinian suicide attacks alone.

Under international law a nation is permitted to blockade an enemy port to prevent that enemy from obtaining war materials to be used against them. In 1940 Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered a blockade of oil shipments to Imperial Japan. Any running of that blockade was deemed by international law to be an act of war.

John F. Kennedy did a similar thing in response to Russian ships heading toward Cuba in October of 1962. Had the Soviets attempted to run the blockade they would have been sunk in accordance with the rules of war under International maritime law.

In the case of the Gaza blockade, Israel sent commandos, armed with paintball guns, to board a shipload of alleged peace activists attempting to run a military blockade. The commandos barely escaped with their lives, and the world blames Israel for the violence?

I stand dumbfounded and in disbelief by the ignorance.

Now some would say that some of the Israeli imposed restrictions for incoming goods into the Gaza are paranoid and far too excessive. Perhaps, but one can certainly understand Israel's paranoia into these affairs when one considers her recent history. It is also important that we look deep enough into the problem to understand where the fault truly lies. In its most simplistic form, the hardships of the Palestinians in the Gaza cannot be blamed on the actions of Israel. If Hamas stopped their rocket attacks, suicide bombings and other forms of violence against Israel, and decided to live in peace within the borders given to them - Israel would have no reason to maintain the blockade in the first place. How is it acceptable that a neighboring nation (or peoples) can be so blatantly involved in acts of

war against another nation, when all the while the world blames the victim of those attacks for the aggression? The blame does not lie with Israel. The blame lies with those who do not take responsibility for their own actions or those of their fellow countrymen and stop the violence. If the Palestinian people rose up in one voice and defeated and arrested the terrorist organizations, there would be peace. But they don't. And when you realize that the goal of the average Palestinian is the same as that of the terrorist organizations (the destruction of Israel) it's no surprise.

Imagine if you will that Canada decided one day that the land of North Dakota was theirs. In an effort to bring about the expulsion of North Dakotans from Canada's newly claimed 'crown' land, we Canadians started lobbing rockets, and mortar fire into the major population centers such as Bismark or Minot. Through our attacks school children were killed, as were doctors, nurses, business men and women, farmers, innocent children playing in the streets and so on.

I would expect that diplomatic discussions would flare up immediately, however, with renewed attacks, even during the diplomatic discussions, it would only be a matter of time before the US would defend itself with military force.

Now what would the world say? You would expect that the world nations would condemn Canada's attack on the US, and it would certainly be justified for US military retaliation as a last resort after diplomatic talks failed. You would also expect protests within Canada against the aggression with the US. And perhaps this last line of reasoning is the real difference in our scenarios.

At face value nothing is apparently different between our scenarios. However there does exist a deep-rooted agenda in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as opposed to our fictional US-Canada conflict. That agenda? To completely destroy Israel. You see the Palestinian agenda, as with the other neighboring Islamic nations, is the total and complete annihilation of Israel - at all costs. Another issue of note lies within the




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***"It is also important that we look deep enough into the problem to understand where the fault truly lies."***





A Cup of Trembling

fulfillment of Bible prophecy in relation to Israel.

*"And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it." - Zechariah 12:3*

The world hates Israel and duly so, for the master of this world is hell-bent on Israel's destruction. Satan knows full well of all the outstanding promises to Israel. Satan knows that Christ will return and rule and reign from Jerusalem. Satan knows that Israel will be blessed again, and he knows that there are many promises of God that need yet to be fulfilled.

*"For this [is] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:" -- Heb 8:10*

*"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek and his rest shall be glorious. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth." - Isaiah 11:9-12*

*"Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Peoples shall yet come, Inhabitants of many cities; The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, "Let us continue to go and pray before the LORD, And seek the LORD of hosts. I myself will go also." Yes, many peoples and strong nations Shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, And to pray before the*

*LORD." "Thus says the LORD of hosts: "In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you." - Zech 8:19-23*

*"And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land; I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them in good pasture, and their fold shall be on the high mountains of Israel. There they shall lie down in a good fold and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel... And they shall no longer be a prey for the nations, nor shall beasts of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and no one shall make them afraid." -- Ezek. 34:13-14,28*

*"I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land." - Joel 3:2*

If you want the best proof that anti-Semitism and replacement theology is of the devil, the proof stands in the promises of God. Satan knows that if he can get rid of Israel, then God will be shown as a liar. Israel's promised future is why the devil is so hell-bent on destroying her. Throughout history the Jew has been persecuted like no other people on earth. Each attempt at eradicating those whom God has promised great things to in the future, stands as complete proof that those promises are longsuffering, and forever. Not to mention that God himself said they would be,

*"And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee." - Gen 17:7*

As the clock approaches midnight, we need to make sure that we know whose side we're truly on. Are we on the side of the media, and the lies, and the

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**"Israel's promised future is why the devil is so hell bent on destroying her."**

hypocrisy, or are we on the side of truth? Friends, pray for Israel and the wisdom of her leaders. Israel as a whole is still lost and without belief in the Messiah and she is not perfect in word and deed. Bible prophecy tells us that there are worse days ahead for Israel before they will get better. Don't fall into the deception of the media and the world. Ask yourself the question, "Do I side

with the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob?" For it was He and He alone that said this of Israel,

*"I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." - Gen 12:3*

Until next time, go serve your King.

- J.R. Hall

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**"Ask yourself the question, "Do I side with the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob?"**

## Revelation 12: The Woman and the Manchild

In Revelation chapter 12, we have one of the "parenthetical" chapters of the Revelation, which exist to describe - in more detail - the personages and events of this period of tribulation on earth. There is on-going debate over the identities of the figures discussed in chapter 12. Once again, remaining true to a literal format of using Scripture to interpret Scripture, we can easily identify the persons, places and events.

*Rev 12:1 And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:*

*Rev 12:2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.*

The first clue in identifying the woman and who she represents can be found in v.5. Here we see that the woman is bringing forth a man child who "was to rule all nations with a rod of iron". We know who this is, that will rule with a rod of iron, from the messianic prophecies (Ps 2:9; Rev 2:27; Rev 19:15). This man child in v.5 is none other than Jesus Christ.

Now, since we know who the child of the woman is we can also deduce and thereby know who the woman is – Israel.

For further evidence we can also turn to Genesis 37:9-10 where we see in a dream of Joseph imagery very similar to the imagery given here in Revelation 12. In Genesis we find Joseph and 11 stars which represent the 12 tribes of Israel. We also know of the messianic prophecy given in Genesis 3:15, speaking of the Woman's seed being at enmity with the serpent.

Even further to these facts we find that many times in the Old Testament, Israel is figuratively described as a travelling woman (Isaiah 26;17-18; Jeremiah 4:31; 13:21; Micah 4:10; 5:3).

*Rev 12:3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.*

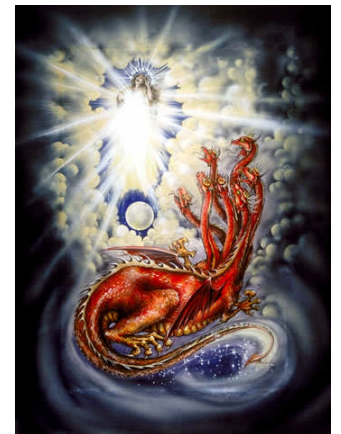
*Rev 12:4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.*

We can know who the Red Dragon is by referring ahead to verse 9, where we find that he is also called, "that old serpent, the devil, Satan". Interestingly enough it also tells us here that when Lucifer fell from grace, he took a third of the angels in heaven with him.

Insight is also gained from verse four when we know that from the time of Christ's birth Satan was trying to destroy Him, first by Herod's decree to kill all the males (Matt 2:13), and also when Christ started His ministry and Satan tried to destroy Him by tempting Him to sin. This also provides some important imagery for further discussion regarding the 7 heads and 10 horns etc.

*Rev 12:5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.*

Some proponents would suggest that the man child is 'the Church'. However, here it is very clear again, that the man child is Christ, NOT the Church. Christ is to rule with a rod of iron.



Artist's depiction of Revelation 12

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**“...this particular wrath that Paul notes can only refer to that period of seven years that is yet future”**

*Rev 12:6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.*

This passage aligns nicely with the events Christ Himself talked about in Matt 24:15-16 and Mark 13:14 which also confirmed the events prophesied in Daniel 9:27. I would suggest that verse 6 aligns precisely with the abomination of desolation (at the midst of the week, - 3.5 years into the Tribulation - with 3.5 years or 1260 days left in the Tribulation). At that point the remnant of Israel (a large portion of those in Jerusalem) will flee to the desert and God will protect them until Christ returns. We see David alluding to this time in Psalm 27.

*Rev 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,*

*Rev 12:8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.*

*Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*

*Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.*

*Rev 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

Currently, right now at our present state in history, Satan has access to the throne of God (Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7). He is the accuser (Rev 12:10) who accuses us before God. At some point, the Archangel Michael will stand up (Dan 12:1) for Israel - not the Church, but Israel.

Essentially, at this point (about the middle of the Tribulation) Satan gets tossed out of heaven and no longer has

access to heaven which then results in the events of Rev 12:12-13.

*Rev 12:12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.*

*Rev 12:13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.*

This would align with the description of the Antichrist possibly being indwelt by Satan for the second half of the Tribulation. He knows his time is short (3.5 years) and he's going to try his best to wipe out, not only the remnant of Israel, but also the Tribulation Saints (Rev13:7).

*Rev 12:14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.*

*Rev 12:15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.*

*Rev 12:16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.*

*Rev 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

Finally we see the effect of Satan's war against the protected remnant of Israel as being fruitless. Taking this literally it seems that God will directly intervene to protect them not only as they flee to the desert (to the place prepared by God Rev 12:6 and also Ps 27), but when that fails, his fury will turn toward the remnant of Israel throughout the world.

- J.R. Lawendowski



Artist rendition of Satan being cast from heaven

Sources:

1. J Dwight Pentecost, "Things to Come"
2. Edward Hindson & Mal Couch, "Revelation, Unlocking the Future"



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## Is Ezekiel 38 Imminent?

Current Middle East events are definitely stage setting for the final fulfillment of the Israeli War prophecies of Psalm 83 and Ezekiel 38-39. Turkey's recent newsworthy gyrations against Israel has got the "EZEKIEL 38 NOW" advocates rightfully at the edge of their seats. Now, Turkey and Iran, both members of the Ezekiel 38-39 prophecy, share a common enmity toward Israel.

Mainstream media has seized the opportunity to make Turkey's bid to embarrass Israel and Iran's nuclear aim to destroy Israel front page news. This media blitz has played an instrumental part in creating a significant amount of recent Ezekiel 38 newspaper exegesis.

Certainly, there is just cause to consider the Ezekiel 38-39 prophecy

in light of recent events, however, what about Hezbollah, Syria, Hamas, and the Palestinians? They also are at odds with Israel and likewise frequently dominate current Mideast headlines. Curiously, Ezekiel 38 describes nine distinct populations by their ancient names including Russia, Iran, Turkey, and Libya but omits the historic name equivalents of Hezbollah, Syria, Hamas, and the Palestinians

In light of the fact that these omitted populations are presently among Israel's most observable enemies, some "EZEKIEL 38 NOW" advocates have attempted to identify them in Ezekiel 38:6 among the "many peoples with thee" of the Ezekiel 38, Magog confederacy. However, there are three potential problems with this line of teaching.

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*"... these omitted populations are presently among Israel's most observable enemies"*

*“The Psalm lists ten entirely separate members not included among the Ezekiel 38:1-6 invaders.”*

1. Hezbollah, Syria, Hamas and the Palestinians along with Egyptians, Saudis, and Jordanians are identified in a distinctly different Israeli War prophecy described in Psalm 83. The Psalm lists ten entirely separate members not included among the Ezekiel 38:1-6 invaders. Thus it is probable they are not the “many peoples with thee” in Ezekiel 38:6, but are the “many peoples distinct from thee.”
2. The hordes of Ezekiel 38 invaders must cross over much of the land possessed by these Psalm 83 nations and/or territories presently occupied

when you consider that Ezekiel references all of the Psalm 83 members numerous times elsewhere throughout his prophetic book.

Case in point, Ezekiel lists Tyre twelve (12) times. Tyre is a member of Psalm 83 and likely represents the Hezbollah today. He alludes to Philistia and/or Philistines 4 times. They are probably the Hamas. Edom or the Edomites are referenced 7 times. Asaph, the author of Psalm 83, calls them the tents of Edom and I interpret that as today’s Palestinian refugees.

The other Psalm 83 members like, Moab or Moabites, Ammon or Ammonites, Amalakites, Egyptians, Assyrians, Gebal (Lebanon), and the Saudis under the ancient banners of Dedan or the Ishmaelites, are also referenced elsewhere in the book of Ezekiel. In fact, all together the above Psalm 83 confederates are mentioned 89 times by Ezekiel.

Not one of those 89 references shows up in Ezekiel 38-39, with the exception of a potential Saudi contingent represented by Dedan in Ezekiel 38:13. But in this instance, Dedan appears to abstain from enjoining with the Ezekiel invaders. This suggests they want no further part in an invasion of Israel. Ezekiel 25:13 declares many in Dedan will be killed in a war, which appears to be the result of the Psalm 83 war. If so, this could be the reason they apparently opt out of the Ezekiel invasion.

I believe the glaring omission of the Psalm 83 Arab confederates from the Ezekiel 38 list of invaders suggests they are not part of the Ezekiel 38-39 invasion. It is highly possible that they are defeated either prior to, or in the aftermath of, the Ezekiel 38–39 Israeli War prophecy. Listed below are a few of the reason I believe Psalm 83 precedes Ezekiel 38.

## The Psalm 83 Confederates

<b>Tents of Edom</b>	Palestinians & So. Jordanians
<b>Ishmaelites</b>	Saudis (Ishmael father of Arabs)
<b>Moab</b>	Palestinians & Central Jordanians
<b>Hagrites</b>	Hagarenes – Egyptians
<b>Gebal</b>	Hezbollah & No. Lebanese
<b>Ammon</b>	Palestinians & No. Jordanians
<b>Amalek</b>	Arabs of the Sinai Area
<b>Philistia</b>	Hamas of the Gaza Strip
<b>Tyre</b>	Hezbollah & So. Lebanese
<b>Assyria</b>	Syrians and Northern Iraqi's

by the terrorist populations in order to invade the nation of Israel. This beckons the question; Why aren't these nations, terrorists, or refugees listed among the Ezekiel 38 invaders?

3. Most importantly, Ezekiel 38 identifies nine specific invading populations but oddly doesn't mention any of the Psalm 83 Arab confederates among them. This conspicuous omission makes no sense



Ezekiel 38:8-13 mandates that Israel must be dwelling securely, without walls, bars, or gates, and in the center of the Genesis 15:18 landmass. Additionally, the Jewish State must be in receipt of great spoil. In my estimation, Israel today is not fulfilling these conditions.

Israel is unable to dwell securely as a result of their surrounding Psalm 83 hostile Arab neighbors. Walls, bars, and gates exist in Israel today in order to protect them from being terrorized by certain members of the Psalm 83 confederates, like Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Palestinians in general. Additionally, the goal of the Ezekiel 38 invaders is to destroy Israel and take plunder and great spoil. Israel doesn't presently appear to possess the great spoil that Russia and their coalition will someday covet.

However, in the aftermath of an Israeli Conquest over the Psalm 83 confederates, all of the above requirements could easily be met. A safe dwelling Israel could temporarily emerge. Arab spoils of war could be had, additional territory annexed, and walls, bars, and gates could be swiftly brought down.

Another important distinction between the prophecies of Ezekiel 38 and Psalm 83 is found in their differing motives. Psalm 83:12 declares that the Arab confederates want to destroy Israel to take over the Promised Land. Ezekiel 38:12-13 states the Ezekiel invaders seek to destroy the Jewish State and confiscate plunder and great spoil.

### **The Exceedingly Great Army of Ezekiel 37:10 Argument**

Another important difference between Psalm 83 and Ezekiel 38 may be understood by identifying the purpose of the "exceedingly great army" of Ezekiel 37:10. The Ezekiel 38 invaders are destroyed divinely,

but the Psalm 83 Arab confederates appear to be defeated by the Israeli Defense Forces according to Ezekiel 25:14, and Obadiah 1:18.

Interestingly, an exceedingly great army of Israel is mentioned in Ezekiel 37:10. This reference seemingly segues into the Ezekiel 38-39 prophecy. Logically, a reader might assume this army plays an instrumental role in the war of Ezekiel 38. However, Ezekiel 38:18-39:6 teaches that this army plays little to no part in Ezekiel's invasion.

Upon closer investigation, this army appears to be the tool empowered by God to defeat the Psalm 83 Arab confederacy. If so, the fact that the army of Ezekiel 37:10 is referenced prior to the Ezekiel 38-39 war passages infers that chronologically Psalm 83 precedes Ezekiel 38.

Some of today's expositors teach that Ezekiel 37:10 alludes to a "multitude" rather than an army. However, there are some important interpretive details to consider when deciphering Ezekiel 37:10. The Hebrew word Ezekiel uses in verse 10 for army is, "chayil" and it is used 12 times elsewhere by Ezekiel and over 225 times throughout the Old Testament.

All of Ezekiel's usages and many Old Testament renderings clearly depict it as either an army or riches acquired via the spoils obtained in the aftermath of a war. Nowhere else in the book of Ezekiel can it possibly be translated as a multitude. This establishes precedent that an army rather than a multitude is being described by Ezekiel.

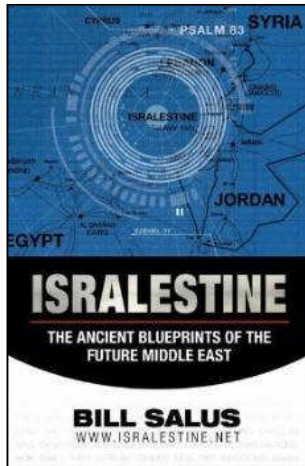
Ezekiel's 12 specific usages of the word "chayil" are as follows;

- Ezek. 17:17 Pharaoh's army
- Ezek. 26:12 Babylonian army taking "riches" or spoil from victory over Tyre
- Ezek. 27:10-11 armies of Tyre
- Ezek. 28:4-5 riches acquired

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***"Israel is unable to dwell securely as a result of their surrounding Psalm 83 hostile Arab neighbors"***





- by the ruler of Tyre
- Ezek. 29:18-19 Nebuchadnezzar's army
- Ezek. 32:31 Pharaoh's army
- Ezek. 37:10 Israel's army
- Ezek. 38:4, 15 armies of Gog of Magog

Further supporting the proper interpretation being an army, the following Bible translations interpret chayil to be an "army": King James Version, New King James Version, American Standard Version, New American Standard Bible, New International Version, New Living Translation, New Century Version, and The Living Bible.

Conversely, the Revised Standard Version translates the word as "host". The New Revised Standard Version calls it a "multitude". Obviously the reasons to interpret Ezekiel 37:10 as an army far outweigh the arguments for it alluding to a host or multitude.

In conclusion, the fulfillment of a Bible prophecy mandates that the episode meets the prophetic description of the event entirely and exactly. There can be no overlooking even the slightest detail given. The

growing tendency among eschatologists to recognize that current Mideast events are stage setting for the coming Psalm 83 and Ezekiel 38 wars is to be commended. However, newspaper exegesis can often cause us to overlook significant prophetic details and should be avoided.

Perhaps Ezekiel 38 will come soon and precede Psalm 83, but from the numerous points made above it is a doubtful. There are ten members listed in Psalm 83 not listed in Ezekiel 38. These ten represent Israel's most observable modern day enemies since becoming a nation in 1948. They should be considered carefully before elevating the Ezekiel 38–39 Gog of Magog invasion to an imminent event.

- Bill Salus



#### About the Guest Commentator:

Bill Salus describes himself as having a strong calling to discern Bible prophecies applicable today. He came to the inescapable conclusion that the Bible has many unfulfilled prophecies intended for today's international audience. He also believes prophecy is not just for the scholarly, but also for every person.

His challenging book "ISRALESTINE" shows his gift of understanding ancient Hebrew prophecies, where he presents the coming fulfillment of Psalm 83, setting the stage for the Ezekiel 38 (Gog/Magog) showdown with Israel. He is an eschatology researcher, speaker, teacher, author and host of Prophecy Update Radio.

You can learn more about Bill and his ministry by visiting his website at:

<http://www.isralestine.org/>

## News Bites

### Rare Earthquake shakes Ottawa, Montreal

Wed June 23, 2010

OTTAWA (AFP) — A moderate earthquake shook Ottawa and Montreal on Wednesday, forcing office workers out onto downtown streets in Canada's capital.

The US Geological Survey reported the temblor of magnitude 5.0 hit the Ontario-Quebec border area at 1741 GMT, rattling downtown Ottawa shortly after midday.

The USGS, which originally reported the quake at magnitude 5.5 before downgrading it, said the epicenter was 53 kilometers (33 miles) north of Ottawa.

It also shook Canada's most populous city Toronto, where

global leaders are to gather this weekend for a G20 summit of the world's top developed and developing economies.

The earthquake was also felt as far away as New York and the American midwest state of Ohio.

AFP journalists in Canada witnessed walls in downtown office buildings shaking for several seconds. Cracks appeared in the Parliamentary Press Gallery building in Ottawa, and outside some people appeared shaken up, but unhurt.

The quake interrupted a press conference at the press gallery by an

opposition MP who was shown in television broadcasts calmly gathering his notes before exiting, as journalists scrambled for the door to report on what was happening.

Continued at:  
[http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20100623/wl\\_canada\\_afp/canadaearthquake](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20100623/wl_canada_afp/canadaearthquake)

#### Editor's Note:

*Earthquakes in Diverse places (Luke 21:11), and I wonder if there is significance that the earthquake happened to rock the city that the G20 summit was going to be held at? Hmmm. Almost like God was bringing attention to Himself, "Hey... remember me?"*

*Don't want to go too far here, but it is food for thought none the less.*



Montréal, Quebec

### Ahmadinejad: Iran and Syria will create a new world order

Iran and Syria plan to create a new world order, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Thursday.

"Iran and Syria have a joint mission to create a new world order on the basis of justice, humanity and belief in God," Ahmadinejad told visiting Syrian Parliament Speaker Mahmoud al-Abrash.

Syria is Iran's main ally in the Middle East and both countries consider Israel to be their political arch-foe.

"At the current juncture, the role of Iran and Syria is historic and therefore bilateral cooperation should be increased," Mehr news agency quoted Ahmadinejad as saying.

The semi-official FARS news agency reported that Ahmadinejad said that "the resistance of nations including Iran and Syria has caused a deadlock in policies

of Arrogant System in economic, political and military sections."

He also turned to presence of bullying powers' forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and Yemen and said, "The enemies' plots will harm themselves."

Iran's president added that he felt that the United States would eventually be forced by the two states to stop interference in the region and withdraw its military personnel.

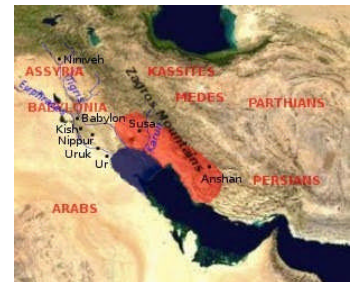
Continued online at:

<http://www.haaretz.com/news/ahmadinejad-iran-and-syria-will-create-a-new-world-order-1.260993>

**Editor's Note:** *All eyes are focused on the Middle East. Iran is threatening with nuclear capabilities and Syria continues to side with the 'Israel must be destroyed' crowd.*

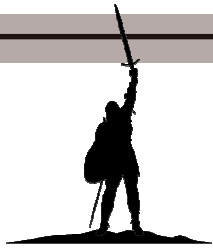
*What's most interesting in all this is the prophecies against Iran and Syria. Damascus will one day be a ruinous heap (Isaiah 17:1), and Iran has similar end times prophecies against her. Jeremiah and his contemporary Ezekiel both issue end time's prophecies regarding Iran. However, Jeremiah identifies modern day Iran as Elam (Jeremiah 49:34:39), and Ezekiel alludes to them as Persia (Ez. 38:5).*

*Keep your eyes peeled on the Middle East. Prophecy points to Israel.*



Elamite Empire shown in red





## Berean Watchmen Ministries

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*"...Now these [Bereans] were more noble... in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so."  
- Acts 17:10-11*

Berean Watchmen Ministries is a non-profit charitable corporation registered under the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.bereanwatchmen.com](http://www.bereanwatchmen.com)

## Letter's from our Readers

Q: Are women allowed to be Pastors? I quoted 1 Tim. 2:11 and was told that it was something old, from old times and didn't apply to today's life. - Mario

A: Well that's a tough question. Well actually, it's tough to deliver the answer; not because the answer is difficult to discern, but that the answer is oftentimes disliked by the hearer.

The bible says in 1 Timothy 2:11, *"Let the women learn in silence with all subjection. I permit not a woman to teach nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence."*

This passage leads into a whole discussion which includes verse 15 of chapter 3, which says, *"That thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."*

What this means is, in order to behave properly in the house of God, the church of the living God, you should not have women pastors.

Now, that answer may not be liked, but it is not my answer. I took it straight from the Scriptures, which indeed are the word of God.

I'm not a chauvinist, and this is not my opinion on the issue.

Likewise, I don't think we can label the apostle Paul a *chauvinist*

either. There must be a reason to this order that God himself has ordained.

1 Timothy 2 goes on to tell us that woman is confirmed in the submissive role both through the act of creation (v.13), and as evidenced by deception. (v.14). Now it is very important to recognize here that a more submissive role does not make that person less important than the other. Scriptures are clear that there is a hierarchy in the Trinity, and that the Son, submits to the Father. (cf John 14:28, John 6:38, 1 Cor. 15:28)

Woman was taken from man's side to be a helper. Man is incomplete without woman, and God Himself said it was not good that man should be alone (Gen 2:18). It is said that woman was take from the side, from the rib, so that she is close to man's heart, walking side by side and under his arm in protection.

1 Timothy 2 continues in verse 15 and tells us of something special that women do have influence over.

*"Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety." - 1 Tim. 2:15*

Although the man may be given to leadership, the women's role is extremely important. She is saved in childbearing. This does not mean soul salvation, but it's referencing saved from being second class to man. A woman's greatest influence is to her children. In essence women, more than men, have the greatest influence over the next generation. They say that a child is 95% 'shaped' by the time they are 5 years old. I would suggest that most of that shaping occurred through the bond, love and teaching of the mother.

God put man and wife in perfect balance. True, the husband has the headship, but the wife has the influence. This is the reason why I (and others) am very committed to the idea that mothers should stay at home when their kids are young. They ought to develop these intimate and long-term relationships that are so vital to the proper upbringing and development of children. Mother's influence the world by shaping the minds and personalities of the next generation. And if you ask me - this is an extremely important role that is unfortunately overlooked.

- J.R. Hall

## Upcoming Events...

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Saskatoon Bible Conference – DIGGING DEEPER 2010,**  
(Oct 15, 16 & 17)

Berean Watchmen are pleased to bring this event and have the following speakers booked: Dr. Randall Price (World of the Bible), Phillip Goodman (Prophecy Watch Ministries), Dr. Thomas Sharp (Creation Truth Foundation), Fred

DeRuvo (Study Grow Know) and J.R Hall & J.R. Lawendowski (Berean Watchmen)

Check out : [www.diggingdeeper.ca](http://www.diggingdeeper.ca) for more information and updates!

**2010 Christianity on Trial Conference – Regina, SK**

J.R. Hall will be speaking at this annual event held in Regina, Saskatchewan on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010. Other speakers include, Wilfred Hahn, Terry James, Rob Gottselig and more.

## Overheard

*"Christians don't tell lies they just go to church and sing them."  
- A.W. Tozer*