

BIBLE BAPTIST BEACON



INDEPENDENT, FUNDAMENTAL, PREMILLENIAL, KJV

The Bible Baptist Church meets at the Richfield Holiday Inn Express 5171 Brecksville Road Richfield, Ohio

Service Schedule:

Sunday

10:00 AM - Bible Study
11:00 AM - Morning Service
6:00 PM - Evening Service

Friday

7:00 PM - Bible Study

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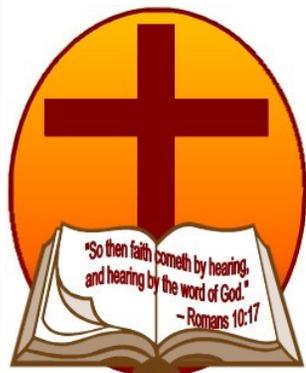
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The Russian Bear is on the Move

By Pastor Alfred B. Davis

The Russian Bear is on the move. As I write this, Russia is invading the Ukraine. They have carried out missile strikes and air raids on Ukrainian infrastructure and military command and control centers and are pushing into the outskirts of Kyiv. At the same time, Russia has expanded and modified its naval base in the Syrian port of Tartus, mounted the largest Russian naval deployment to the Mediterranean Sea since the Cold War, and deployed Long-range, nuclear-capable Tu-22M3 bombers and MiG-31 fighter jets carrying the latest Kinzhal hypersonic cruise missiles to its huge Hemeimeem air base in Syria's coastal province of Latakia, ostensibly to support a series of military exercises and drills in Syria and the eastern Mediterranean.

Russia's military movements and saber rattling have captured the world's attention, prompting many to wonder how this might tie into Bible prophecy and if we could be seeing the start of the prophesied Gog/Magog invasion of Israel in Ezekiel 38. This prophecy begins with a discussion of the invading nations in verses 1-6:

"And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine

army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee."

Now, when you first look at this passage you may not recognize too many of the nations mentioned right away. That's because the Bible uses the names of various people groups existing in Ezekiel's day instead of the modern place names. However, if we identify who these people groups are and where they were located, we can identify the modern nations represented by those groups.

First, we see "Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal" named. Gog is identified with the land of Magog and further described as the "chief prince of Meshech and Tubal". The word translated as "chief" comes from the Hebrew word, *rosh*. The Hebrew scholar Gesenius (1786-1842) identified *rosh* in his ancient Hebrew lexicon with Russia, as have other scholars. Consequently, it appears that Gog is a leader out of *rosh*, or Russia, who heads up the coalition of nations that invade Israel in Ezekiel 38.

Magog, along with Meshech and Tubal, is mentioned in Genesis 10:2 as being a son of Japheth, one of Noah's three sons. Magog's descendants migrated north of the Black and Caspian seas and the Caucasus Mountains to settle in the northern regions of central Asia.

(Continued on page 2)



Coming Events at the BBC

March 2022

- 13 - Daylight Savings Time begins
- Pie Day Fellowship following Sunday morning service

April 2022

- 10 - Palm Sunday Lord's Supper (AM)
- 17 - Easter Sunday
- 24 - Orthodox Easter

Please Note:

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MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

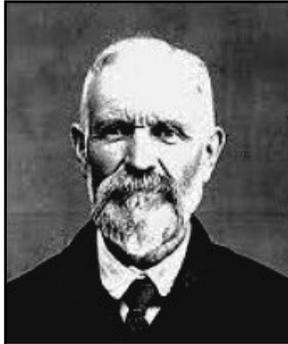
Apostle of Turkestan

"Nothing was to enter into his life unpenetrated by its central enthusiasm—Preaching the Gospel of Christ."

Such was George Hunter. He knew his God and nothing anyone could say or do shook his testimony or moved him from his one statement: "I am here solely to preach Christ crucified."

Known as the "Lonely Warrior," George Hunter lost many of those dear to him, including his mother, the woman he loved, and his best friend and coworker. As a young man he had a strong desire to be a missionary, and although he was rejected by the China Inland Mission after his first offer of service, he did not give up. He applied a second time and was accepted.

He arrived in China in 1889 and possessed an irresistible instinct to visit lands where he found no foundations laid by another man. Realizing that the only way to reach the traveling tradesman and nomadic peoples would be to become like them and to travel with



George Hunter
(1861-1946)

them, he journeyed across the Gobi Desert. He was recognized as a man who, having received an inward call, could not be restrained from answering it. He became known as the "Scotsman of the Gobi," preaching everywhere he went and spreading the Gospel in both oral and written form.

During a missionary conference, he noted sadly that "too much of the Conference was concerned with those parts of China which are largely evangelized, while vast fields outside this sphere were not very much referred to." He noted that God's open doors are frequently overlooked, and only when the opportunity has passed do mission authorities appeal for prayer and for ventures of faith to enter closed lands. He realized the urgency of entering the open door while it remained open and of buying up the opportunities rather than just talking about them.

(Continued on page 7)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Roger & Tammy Tooley
Church Planting in England
(Currently on the Field)

John Yingling
General Director
Baptist International Outreach
Jefferson City, Tennessee

Mike & Debby Drust
Church Planting in Albania
(Currently on the Field)

Mt. Pisgah
Bible Printing Ministry
Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church
Oliver Springs, Tennessee

Jim Robideau
Lighthouse Legal Ministries
@ Lighthouse Baptist Church
Ashtabula, Ohio

Jim & Emi Civale
Church Planting in the
Samoa Islands
(Currently on the Field)



"Cease meddling with God's plans and will. You touch anything of his, and you mar the work. You may move the hands of a clock to suit you, but you do not change the time; so you may hurry the unfolding of God's will, but you harm and do not help the work. You can open a rosebud, but you'll spoil the flower. Leave all to Him. Hands down. Thy will, not mine."
—Stephen Merritt

The Russian Bear

(Continued from page 1)

There they became known as the Scythians. Historians and archaeologists have determined that the Scythians, at their height, controlled an area from Ukraine in the west through Siberia in the east, north of Mongolia, and Iran. In other words, the land of Magog appears to represent Russia, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan.

The descendants of Meshech also migrated north and appear to have intermingled with the Sythians. They became known as the Moschi and then later as the Muscovs. Gesenius and others claim that Moschi and Muscov are derived from Meshech and gave rise to the name of the capital of Russia: Moscow.

Tubal's descendants also migrated north. They wound up in the area of modern-day Georgia and in southern and central Russia. In fact, the name of the capital of Georgia, Tbilisi, is derived from Tubal, as is the name of the river Tobol and the city of Tobolsk in central Russia.

Persia is the ancient name for modern day Iran and was commonly in use up until 1935. In fact, early maps produced after 1935 frequently had Persia in parenthesis under the name Iran since that is the name most people associated with that country.

Ethiopia in the Bible referred to the area south of Egypt, beyond the upper cataracts of the Nile River, about where the Aswan Dam is located. The second century Alexandrian geographer Claudius Ptolemy produced a map of the Nile River which shows Ethiopia encompassing the areas of today's Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, Somalia, Djibouti, and Eritrea.

Libya, like Ethiopia, also consisted of a much greater geographic area than what modern maps show as Libya today. In the Bible, Libya essentially referred to all of North Africa, between the Mediterranean Sea and the Sahara Desert. Ptolemy's map of the Nile River shows Libya extending west of both Egypt and Ethiopia. Consequently, we see that the Libya of Ezekiel 38 covers the modern countries of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco. It Ptolemy's map is accurate, it could also include Chad, Niger, Mali, Mauritania, and other sub-Saharan countries.

Gomer represents a large group of people who initially settled in the area of modern-day Turkey. Gomer's descendants then spread northwest, colonizing Central and Eastern Europe. From there they continued to spread throughout

(Continued on page 4)

Words Worth Considering...



"When men attack religious beliefs, they are following their emotions not their interests. Tyranny may be able to do without faith, but freedom cannot."

—Alexis de Tocqueville

"The parents have a right to say that no teacher paid by their money shall rob their children of faith in God and send them back to their homes skeptical, or infidels, or agnostics, or atheists."

—William Jennings Bryan

"...Quantum cosmology implies the need for an intelligent agent to breath, if not 'fire into the equations,' then certainly specificity and information. Thus, it implies something akin to the biblical idea that 'in the beginning was the Word.' And that's not nothing—by anyone's definition."

—Steven C. Meyer

"The way to crush the bourgeoisie is to grind them between the millstones of taxation and inflation"

—Vladimir Lenin

"Today the socialist virus and poison gas generated by Karl Marx and Friedreich Engels have spread into every nation on the earth ... Their dogma is absolute materialism which defies truth and religious faith..."

—President Herbert Hoover

"On the whole, the American church has been compliant with government control and offered only a whimper of civil disobedience to the totalitarian tidal wave. This response in no way comports with the tremendous value the bible places on individual freedom. Sometime in the future, at least part of America will come out of their collective coma and realize the freedoms that have been lost."

—Roger Landrum

"Justin Trudeau is living proof that annoying-but-harmless wokeism can quickly evolve into dangerous authoritarianism. Never underestimate the force with which the self-righteous will act to suppress the freedom of others, especially under the guise of compassion."

—Congressman Dan Crenshaw

"Envy was once considered to be one of the seven deadly sins before it became one of the most admired virtues under its new name, 'social justice.'"

—Thomas Sowell

"In wartime, truth is so precious that she should always be attended by a body-guard of lies."

—Sir Winston Churchill

"One of the definitions of evil is 'The force in nature that governs and gives rise to wickedness and sin.' In our age of moral relativity where nearly everything is tolerated and justified — except people who oppose the new societal norms — who speaks of wickedness and sin? It's getting harder to find preachers known for sermons on the subject."

—Cal Thomas



MINISTRY FOCUS



SPAGHETTI FELLOWSHIP

Thanks to everyone who helped to make our annual Spaghetti Dinner a success!

We had a great turnout for a cold, snowy Sunday. In fact attendance was up over last year with some visitors as well.

None the less, we had plenty of spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, chips, veggies, and deserts. Everyone had plenty to eat, including some of the hotel staff. We even had enough to enjoy after our Sunday evening service as well.

Looking ahead: Pi(e) Day Fellowship

Looking ahead, our next fellowship is coming up on Sunday, March 13, as we celebrate Pi Day (March 14 = 3.14) with our annual Pi(e) Fellowship. We started our this fellowship several years ago for fun. And it is a good excuse to eat pie.

Join us after the morning service for sloppy joes, ships, salad, and PIE.

Here is a look at some of last year's pies to whet your tastebuds:



Great Hymns of the Faith



The God of Abraham Praise

Thomas Olivers (725-1799), written about 1770

First Part

The God of Abraham praise, Who reigns
enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of
Love,
Jehovah, great I AM, by earth and Heav'n
confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred Name forever
blessed.

The God of Abraham praise, at Whose
supreme command
From earth I rise, and seek the joys at His
right hand;
I all on earth forsake, its wisdom, fame,
and power,
And Him my only Portion make, my Shield
and Tower.

The God of Abraham praise, Whose
all-sufficient grace
Shall guide me all my happy days, in all
my ways.
He calls a worm His friend, He calls Him-
self my God;

And He shall save me to the end, through
Jesus' blood.

He by Himself has sworn, I on His oath
depend:

I shall, on eagles' wings upborne, to
Heav'n ascend;
I shall behold His face, I shall His power
adore,

And sing the wonders of His grace for
evermore.

Second Part

Though nature's strength decay, and earth
and hell withstand,
To Canaan's bounds I urge my way, at His
command.

The wat'ry deep I pass, with Jesus in my
view,
And through the howling wilderness my
way pursue.

The goodly land I see, with peace and
plenty blest—
A land of sacred liberty and endless rest.

(Continued on page 7)

The Russian Bear is on the Move

(Continued from page 2)

Europe, reaching France, the British Isles, and the Scandinavian countries. Other people groups moved in, however, and weakened Gomer's domination of much of Western Europe and the British Isles. Gomer's descendants seem to be best represented today by Germany, the Baltic countries, and Turkey.

Togarmah, according to Genesis 10:3, is a son of Gomer. While most of Gomer's descendants migrated up into Europe, Togarmah and his descendants, primarily the Turks and the Armenians, mostly stayed south of the Black Sea. Consequently, Togarmah is represented today by the countries of Turkey and Armenia.

Now, having identified the countries noted in Ezekiel 38, what can we make of this? Well, the first group, made up of Gog, Magog, Meshech, and Tubal, appears to represent members of the old Soviet Union, such as Ukraine, Georgia, and Kazakhstan, led by Russia. And, when we look at what is happening in eastern Europe and central Asia today, what do we see? Well, we see a leader out of Russia, by the name of Vladimir Putin, who is seeking to control many of the former member states of the old Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

We also can see Putin establishing ties with and exerting influence over the other nations identified in Ezekiel 38; Iran, Turkey, and Germany in particular. With the waning influence of America in the Middle East both Turkey and Iran are cozying up to Russia and becoming more aggressive in the region. Germany is becoming dependent on Russia for energy, potentially giving Putin more influence over Germany than NATO. Furthermore, as mentioned above, Russia is building up its forces in Syria, using the takeover of Ukraine and unrest in Syria as a pretext. All of which could be setting the stage for a Russian led invasion of Israel as prophesied in Ezekiel 38.

However, Ezekiel's prophecy makes an interesting statement about conditions in Israel at the time of the Russian led invasion in Ezekiel 38:10-12:

"Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought: And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwallled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither

bars nor gates, To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land."

Notice the description of Israel as a "land of unwallled villages," "them that are at rest, that dwell safely," and "them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates". This is clearly not Israel today. Today, Israel faces enemies on every side, terror attacks from within and without, frequent missile strikes and border incur-



sions, and increasing threats from Iran, Hezbollah, and Hamas to wipe them off the map. This leads me to the conclusion that, while Russia may be laying the groundwork for the coming invasion of Israel, it is not likely to happen yet. Something else needs to happen first. Something that will change the situation in Israel dramatically.

A clue can be found in Psalm 83:1-8:

"Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God. For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head. They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones. They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the chil-

dren of Lot. Selah."

Again, we need to look at the names given in Psalm 83 to see who they represent today. Edom, also known as Idumea or Esau, stretched from the Dead Sea in the north and south and west into the Sinai Peninsula. This area today is part of Egypt, southern Israel, and Jordan. The Ishmaelites are the descendants of Abraham's son, Ishmael, and today are represented by the Arab people in general. Moab and Ammon, along with the children of Lot are Lot's descendants. They lived mostly in present day Jordan. The Hagarenes were a semi-nomadic people who eventually settled in a region north-

east of Ammon and Moab. According to *Forester's Geography of Arabia*, the Hagarenes settled between the lands of Gilead, Bashan and the Euphrates, which, today, is part of Syria. Gebal is possibly either a reference to an ancient Phoenician city known today as Jebeil or Byblos, located in Lebanon, north of Beirut, on the Mediterranean coast. Or, it could refer to a district southeast of the Dead Sea, which Josephus wrote of about as forming part of Idumea (Edom), which would identify it with Egypt and Jordan. Amalek was the grandson of Esau. His descendants dwelt in the Negev Desert and the Sinai, which is in modern day Egypt and the southern part of Israel. The Philistines occupied an area along the Mediterranean coast known today as the Gaza Strip. Tyre was an important Phoenician city that still exists today in Lebanon. And, finally, we have Assur. Assur, located in modern day Iraq, was the capital of the Assyrian Empire which stretched across today's Syria and Iraq.

It appears, then, that Psalm 83 represents a coalition of nations determined to annihilate Israel. This coalition consists apparently of Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and the Gaza Strip. Notice, also, that these are the very nations missing from the Ezekiel 38 prophecy. Which leads to the question of why. Did Ezekiel leave them out because he did not want to take the time to list all the nations involved or did he have a more important reason?

Notice that Psalm 83 goes on to indicate, in verses 13-18, that God intervenes in answer to Israel's prayers for deliverance:

"O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind. As the fire burneth a wood, and as the flame setteth the

(Continued on page 5)

The Russian Bear is on the Move

(Continued from page 4)

mountains on fire; So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm. Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek thy name, O LORD. Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish: That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth.”

Now, if Psalm 83 is referring prophetically to a future war, which I believe it is, then it would certainly explain why Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and the Gaza Strip are not mentioned in Ezekiel 38. They are not mentioned because they no longer exist. They have been destroyed by fire. But how can we be sure? How can we know that Psalm 83 is speaking of a future war rather than past events?

Well, first, we need to remember that God’s prophecies are always fulfilled. Although there may be types and shadows and what appear to be partial fulfillments, eventually all prophecy will be fulfilled. So, if we see a prophecy that has not yet been fulfilled, then it must yet be future.

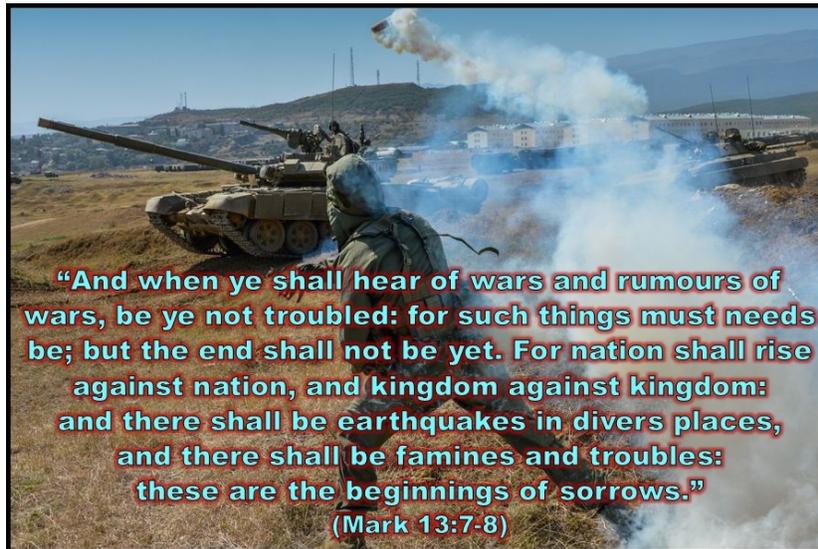
In addition, we can see other Bible prophecies involving the nations of Psalm 83 that have not yet been fulfilled as well. And a number of these prophecies involve these nations being destroyed by fire, just like in Psalm 83. Furthermore, the language in several of these prophecies strongly indicates that nuclear weapons might be involved.

For example, Isaiah prophecies that Babylon (Iraq) will be destroyed “as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah” (Isaiah 13:19) and that, in verse 20, “It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there.” Two cities of Moab (Jordan), Ar, which likely is today’s Rabba, and Kir, which is now Kerak, are said to be destroyed suddenly, “in the night”, in Ezekiel 15. Further, in Isaiah 34:8-10, it is said of Moab:

“For it is the day of the LORD’S vengeance, and the year of rec-

ompences for the controversy of Zion. And the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch. It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up for ever: from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it for ever and ever.”

Likewise, Damascus, in Syria, is foretold in Ezekiel 17:1 to become “a ruinous heap.” Verse 14 indicates that the city



will be there in the evening and “before the morning he is not.”

Egypt is also devastated and abandoned for 40 years. In Ezekiel 29:10-12 we read:

“Behold, therefore I am against thee, and against thy rivers, and I will make the land of Egypt utterly waste and desolate, from the tower of Syene even unto the border of Ethiopia. No foot of man shall pass through it, nor foot of beast shall pass through it, neither shall it be inhabited forty years. And I will make the land of Egypt desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate, and her cities among the cities that are laid waste shall be desolate forty years: and I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries.”

Summing things up, then, there is a coming war, foretold in Psalm 83, where a coalition of nations including Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and the

Gaza Strip attempt to destroy Israel but are, instead, destroyed themselves. It may be that they are encouraged to do this by Iran, especially since there are prophecies indicating that a portion of present-day Iran, known as Elam, will be destroyed at the same time as Jordan, Syria, and Iraq.

However, getting back to Russia and their growing presence in Syria, it may be more likely that the real instigator of the Psalm 83 war is Russia, not Iran. After all, Putin has a history of instigating unrest in an area that he has his eyes on and then stepping in to guarantee the safety of Russian interests and people in the area. He did that in Georgia, which is now under his control, and he is doing that in Ukraine. And, with the waning influence of America in the Middle East, he is also doing the same thing in Syria. The next step could be to encourage Syria to reclaim the Golan Heights from Israel. After all, Russia’s Deputy Ambassador, Dmitry Polyanskiy, just told the UN Security Council on February 23, “Russia doesn’t recognize Israel’s sovereignty over Golan Heights that are part of Syria.” At the same

time, Putin may encourage Iran to push Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Gaza Strip to step up their attacks on Israel, while launching attacks themselves out of Syria and Iraq with the idea of sparking an Arab-Israeli war, sucking in Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq. Putin could then step in, with Russia’s overwhelming military presence in Syria to put a stop to the war and move troops into Israel, ostensibly to provide security and stability to the region.

Unfortunately for Putin, I do not think that it will work out quite that way. Instead, it may be that the war becomes a bit more intense than he plans and he loses control of the situation. Rather than simply reclaiming the Golan Heights and, perhaps, the West Bank, it may be that Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and the Gaza Strip decide instead to wipe Israel from off the face of the earth as it says in Psalm 83. They may say to themselves, “Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance (Psalm 83:4)”. Israel, facing possible annihilation, may unleash its nuclear arsenal against its enemies, raining

(Continued on page 6)

The Russian Bear is on the Move

(Continued from page 5)

fire and destruction down on them.

In the process, according to Isaiah 17, Israel is nearly destroyed yet survives. In fact, Isaiah 17:4-6 tells us:

“And in that day it shall come to pass, that the glory of Jacob shall be made thin, and the fatness of his flesh shall wax lean. And it shall be as when the harvestman gathereth the corn, and reapeth the ears with his arm; and it shall be as he that gathereth ears in the valley of Rephaim. Yet gleanings grapes shall be left in it, as the shaking of an olive tree, two or three berries in the top of the uppermost bough, four or five in the outmost fruitful branches thereof, saith the LORD God of Israel.”

However, before Putin gets a chance to move in and claim the spoils, it could be

that someone else steps forward with a plan to guarantee the safety and security of Israel. The world, shocked by the nuclear devastation unleashed in the Middle East, rallies around this plan, sidelining Putin for a time. Israel, its military and population depleted, willingly agrees to lay down its remaining weapons and accepts a seven-year security plan. It then becomes the “land of unwalled villages” populated by “them that are at rest, that dwell safely, ... dwelling without walls, and

having neither bars nor gates” described in Ezekiel 38:11, thereby setting the stage for the Ezekiel 38 Gog/Magog led invasion of Israel. But, before someone steps forward with a plan to guarantee the safety and security of Israel, the Bible tells us that the born-again Christians must be taken out of the way.

In 2 Thessalonians 2, Paul writes about an individual, whom he refers to as “that man of sin ... the son of perdition” in verse 3. This is the same person that John calls “the beast” in the Book of Revelation, and that Daniel refers to as “the prince that ... shall confirm the covenant with many for one week” in Daniel 9:26-27. (The week in Daniel 9 is actually a week of years, corresponding to the seven-year Tribulation period.) Interestingly, Paul, John, and David all speak of this person desecrating the rebuilt Jewish temple in Jerusalem, apparently by claiming to be God during the mid-point of the Tribulation.

However, this person, who is frequently called the Antichrist, cannot be revealed until something else happens. Paul puts it this way in 2 Thessalonians 2:6-10:

“And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.”



This Scripture tells us that the “mystery of iniquity” is already working in the world. In fact, the Devil is working feverishly to bring forth “that man of sin ... the son of perdition,” referred to here as “that Wicked” to power. But he is unable to do so because he is being actively restrained by the one whom Paul says, “will be taken out of the way.” This restrainer is none other than the Holy Ghost, who indwells Believers at salvation.

Look in 1 Corinthians 3:16 where Paul writes that we are “the temple of God” and that the Spirit of God dwells in us. He also says in Romans 8:9 that the Spirit of God dwells in Believers and that “if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.” The Spirit of God, otherwise known as the Holy Ghost, indwells Believers imparting spiritual gifts and empowering us for His service. Part of that service, according to Matthew 5:13-16, involves being salt and light in the world. As salt, we help impede spiritual decay and give

flavor to the society around us. As lights we allow the light of God to shine through us into the spiritually dark world around us. When we are removed the work of the Spirit of God through us will cease and the world will quickly descend into spiritual decay and darkness.

We know that the Believers will be taken out of the way when the Spirit of God is “taken out of the way” because we are sealed by Him until the day that we are delivered into God’s presence. Or, as Paul puts it in Ephesians 1:13-14:

“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”

Consequently, when the Holy Ghost is taken out of the way, the Believers will be taken out of the way too. This event is called the Rapture and it is described for us in 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 and in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. And, when that takes place, the mystery of iniquity will come to fruition and the Devil will bring forth the Antichrist as a global peacemaker and world ruler. Should the Rapture take place during the time of the Psalm 83 war, which will no doubt be a time of worldwide unrest and turmoil, it might make it easier for the Antichrist to deceive those left behind and convince many that he is the promised Messiah.

And, if the time of the Rapture is near, that might explain why a number of rabbis in Israel are claiming that Messiah is here and that they have met with him, but he is waiting until the time is right to reveal himself to the world. Furthermore, it could mean that the Revelation of the Antichrist coincides with the opening of the first seal in Revelation 6:1-2 where John writes:

“And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth con-

(Continued on page 7)

The Russian Bear is on the Move

(Continued from page 6)

quering, and to conquer."

Russia, though, may try to take advantage of the situation before the Antichrist can fully consolidate his power and decide to make his move on Israel, possibly corresponding to the red horse of war in Revelation 6:4:

"And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."

So, while the Russian Bear may be on

the move, what we are seeing today is not the prophesied Ezekiel 38 invasion of Israel. However, we may be seeing the geopolitical stage being set for that invasion. And, if that is the case, we are getting closer than ever to the catching away of the born-again Christians, which makes it all the more important to be sure of your salvation.

Time is short and getting shorter. As Jesus said in Luke 21:28:

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

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Apostle of Turkestan

(Continued from page 2)

George Hunter was passionate about preaching Christ to men and women who had never heard His name. Realizing the urgency of getting the Scriptures into the hands of every tribe in Central Asia, he translated Scripture portions, as well as a number of other books, into several of the nomadic languages and spent the majority of forty years traveling over rough terrain to get God's Word into the hands of people. His life of pioneering with Good News for everyone was a daily thrill, for his was the privilege of leaving behind the Book which is God's message of reconciliation to man.

Eventually known as the "Apostle of Turkestan," George Hunter was said to be always on duty; the results of his wide-sowing of the seed of life are immeasurable. He was a true Christian, for he was Christ obsessed. Imagine the impact that could be made if more such people might be found in the missionary force where too few are prepared to pay the cost involved, and some even resent the fact that such a price should be required of them.

Quotations: *George Hunter: Apostle of Turkestan*, by Mildred Cable

Source: <https://baptisttranslators.com/apostle-of-turkestan/>

**Baptist Bible Translators
INSTITUTE**

Established 1973

Fifth Column Infiltration

"Winston Churchill mentioned Soviet use of 'fifth columns' in his famous 'Iron Curtain' speech at Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri, March 5, 1946..."

"Fifth column methods included: espionage, propaganda, infiltration of college campuses, getting Marxist professors hired, establishing student groups to recruit revolutionaries, infiltrate music and movie industries to produce entertainment eroding moral fiber, malign patriotism, gain control of the leadership of all political parties, place moles in government bureaucracies, and courts, and, finally, sway churches to de-emphasize salvation through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and replace it with social justice issues."

—William J. Federer, *Socialism: The Real History From Plato to the Present* (2021), p126.

The God of Abraham Praise

(Continued from page 3)

There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound,
And trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.

There dwells the Lord our King, the Lord our righteousness,
Triumphant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of peace;
On Zion's sacred height His kingdom still maintains,
And glorious with His saints in light forever reigns.

He keeps His own secure, He guards them by His side,
Arrays in garments, white and pure, His spotless bride;
With streams of sacred bliss, with groves of living joys,
With all the fruits of Paradise, He still supplies.

Third Part

Before the great Three-One they all exulting stand,
And tell the wonders He hath done, through all their land;
The list'ning spheres attend, and swell the growing fame,
And sing, in songs which never end, the wondrous Name.

The God Who reigns on high the great archangels sing,
And "Holy, holy, holy!" cry, "Almighty King!
Who was, and is, the same, and evermore shall be:
Jehovah, Father, Great I AM, we worship Thee!"

Before the Savior's face the ransomed nations bow,
O'erwhelmed at His almighty grace, forever new;

He shows His prints of love—they kindle to a flame!

And sound through all the worlds above the slaughtered Lamb.

The whole triumphant host give thanks to God on high;

"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost," they ever cry.

Hail, Abraham's God, and mine! (I join the heav'nly lays,)

All might and majesty are Thine, and endless praise!



The God of Abraham Praise was written by Thomas Olivers around 1770. The hymn is Yigdal (Leoni) an old Hebrew melody. The lyrics are based on the 13 creeds of Moses Maimonides (1130-1204), but with a more Christian perspective. First published in *The Gospel Magazine*, April 1775.

GOD'S SIMPLE PLAN OF SALVATION

- **WHO IS GOOD?** "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one." (Romans 3:10)
- **WHO HAS SINNED?** "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)
- **WHERE DID SIN COME FROM?** "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." (Romans 5:12)
- **WHAT IS THE PENALTY FOR SIN?** "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)
- **WHAT IS OUR HOPE?** "But God commended His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)
- **WHAT SHOULD WE DO?** "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." (Romans 10:9)
- "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)

SERVICES OF THE BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH:

- Sunday School 10:00 AM
- Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 AM
- Sunday Evening Worship Service 6:00 PM
- Wednesday Evening Prayer Service 7:00 PM
- (Call for meeting location)
- Friday Bible Study 7:00 PM

MINISTRIES OF THE BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH:

- Bible Studies & Expository Preaching
- World Missions & Local Evangelism
- Nursing Home Outreach
- Internet Outreach: BBCRichfield.com
- Radio Outreach Ministry on WHKW 1220 AM:
- "Late Night Live with Pastor Al" — Sunday, 11:00 PM
- "Live With Pastor Al" — Friday 1:30 PM

LOCATION OF THE BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH:

- The Bible Baptist Church meets at the Richfield Holiday Inn Express, located at 5171 Brecksville Road, in Richfield, Ohio.
- We are located on State Route 21 just off I-77 exit 146, north of the Ohio Turnpike (I-80) exit 173. The Richfield Holiday Inn Express is located next to the Pilot Truck Stop.

THE BIBLE BAPTIST BEACON

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 Sundays at 11:00 PM & Fridays at 1:30 PM
 on AM 1220 WHKW (Cleveland)
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And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)